

The Bridge

December 2015

*monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade*



*peruse the pre-schedule, sing some carols, buy a bit of a pub,
have a light-bites lunch, go to a coffee morning, listen to Gloria,
have your say on some bungalows, there's lots to do in December!*

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The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Articles

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

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

File types

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

Advertising

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

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

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

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

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Deadline

**Deadline for articles
or adverts for the next
issue of The Bridge is
4pm 11th December**

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

Diary Dates

December

Tuesday 1st

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

Saturday 5th

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

Village Carol Evening (with supper) – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Monday 7th

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

Wednesday 9th

Warminster mobile library

Thursday 10th

Corsley WI Christmas Tea – 2.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

'Light Up A Life' – 6 pm, Rook Lane Arts - a chance to remember loved ones who are no longer with us

Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade School

DUE TO THE PRINTER'S XMAS BREAK, THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE JANUARY 2016 ISSUE OF THE BRIDGE IS FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER

Saturday 12th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches - Christmas Coffee Morning – 10.30 am – 12 noon, Godswell Grove Farm

Sunday 13th

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

Wednesday 16th

Lite Bites Christmas Lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Thursday 17th

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

Monday 21st

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches – Carol Singing in Corsley and Chapmanslade

Tuesday 22nd

Frome Rotary's Father Christmas float visits Chapmanslade

Wednesday 23rd

Warminster mobile library

Bin collections

Corsley

Green bin

Wednesday 2nd December
Wednesday 16th December
Wednesday 13th January

Blue bin

Friday 4th December
Friday 18th December
Monday 4th January

Black recycling box

Thursday 10th December
Thursday 24th December
Friday 8th January

Black bin

Friday 11th December
Friday 28th December
Saturday 9th January

Bin collections

Chapmanslade

Green bin

Wednesday 2nd December
Wednesday 16th December
Wednesday 13th January

Blue bin

Wednesday 2nd December
Wednesday 16th December
Thursday 31st December
Wednesday 13th January

Black recycling box

Friday 11th December
Monday 28th December
Saturday 9th January

Black bin

Wednesday 9th December
Wednesday 23rd December
Thursday 7th January

These are the revised Christmas and New Year collection dates from www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-collection-days. All January dates will appear in the next edition

Mobile library has changed!

The timetable and locations of Wiltshire Council's mobile library service has changed. Please note that there doesn't appear to be a stop in Corsley any more and there's only one stop in Chapmanslade, at the school. The days have changed to Wednesday and the time slot is 1.30 – 2.30 pm. The service still runs fortnightly and these are the dates right through to early April next year, as published on the council's website.

Mobile library service

Chapmanslade, by the school

1.30 – 2.30 pm

Future dates for this round are:

WEDNESDAYS

9th and 23rd December

2016

6th and 20th January

3rd and 17th February

2nd, 16th and 30th March

13th April

<http://services.wiltshire.gov.uk/MobileLibrary/>

CLIC Sargent 23rd Carol Service and Auction

**7 pm, Monday 7th December
Frome Market**

A short service, lead by Reverend Ward Jones and Rotarian Hilary Daniel, an optional ploughman's supper, followed by an auction of a variety of seasonal gifts, cakes, wines and this year, a three-night stay in a large caravan by the sea!

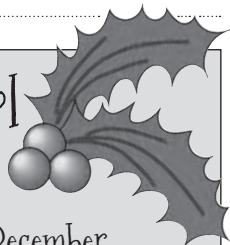
Jan and David Ball of Sturford Lane, Corsley, lost their son to Leukemia. The grandson of Bridget and Steve Pearce, formerly of Corsley Heath, is having treatment. Seven children in Westbury are suffering in the same way.

Please do come along to this enjoyable, informal evening and do bring something to be auctioned for this much-loved charity.

For further information, please contact
Dennis Barnard on 01373 832262

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

Village Carol Evening



**7 pm, Saturday 5th December,
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Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches

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CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING



**Saturday 12th December
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10.30 am until noon**

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Currently screening...

Cinema Corsley

Cinema Corsley enjoyed their first film night in November with a screening of 'Far from the Madding Crowd'

The evening was a huge success, near sell out and enjoyed by all ages! The bar did a roaring trade and larger stocks of ice creams will certainly have to be brought in for January. The Reading Room made nearly £100!

We have decided to move the film night to the third Thursday in the month. It has been tricky to find the right night of the week to avoid clashing with other village commitments, but we hope that this will suit most. We are not going to have a film in December as there is so much else going on in the build-up to Christmas, so the next Cinema Corsley will be on **Thursday 21st January**, not 6th January as previously stated.

We will start the new year off with the recently-released 'Suffragette', a period drama starring Carey Mulligan, Helena Bonham-Carter, Meryl Streep, Anne-Marie Duff, Romola Garai. One of the most eagerly awaited films of the year, Suffragette is "a drama that tracks the story of the foot soldiers of the early feminist movement, women who were forced underground to pursue a dangerous game of cat and mouse with an increasingly brutal State. These women were not just from the genteel educated classes; there were also working women. Radicalised and turning to violence as the only route to change, they

were willing to lose everything in their fight for equality – their jobs, their homes, their children and their lives. Maud (wonderfully played by Carey Mulligan) was one such foot soldier. The story of her fight for dignity is as gripping and visceral as any thriller, it is also heart-breaking and inspirational". Meryl Streep performs an impressively powerful cameo role as Emmeline Pankhurst.

Other choices include 'Dark Horse', 'The Martian', 'Sunset Song', 'Brooklyn' and the much written about 'The Lady in the Van' starring Maggie Smith. So keep a look out in the January edition of The Bridge for our 2016 programme!

Future Cinema Corsley dates

Thursday February 18th

Thursday March 17th



Biology: changing the world

Bovine TB – should we kill the badgers?

Professor Nigel Brown, President of the Microbiology Society, writes about this controversial subject, the last in the series being sponsored by the Royal Society of Biology

The control of bovine TB (bTB) in farm animals is complex. We have heard a lot about the role of badgers as a reservoir of bTB, which is then transmitted to cattle. This is the argument for culling badgers and several trials have taken place. Badger culling is an issue that raises passions on both sides – farmers who want to protect their cattle and naturalists who wish to protect the badgers. This article addresses only a few of the complex issues. As a scientific colleague puns “the evidence is not black and white!”

Certainly badgers do harbour bTB and about 25% of badgers in the South West are infected. Not only badgers and cattle can be infected, but also other animals, such as llamas, alpacas, goats and deer. Although the causative organism (*Mycobacterium bovis*) is different to that causing TB in humans, it is similar and people can catch bTB. This is a particular problem with camelids, such as alpacas and llamas, which show no signs of infection,

produce large amounts of the pathogen and spit when startled or challenged. A woman in Cornwall caught bTB from her alpacas and she now campaigns for compulsory testing in camelids.

So, what are the arguments for and against culling of badgers? If we ignore the issues of animal cruelty (how do you compare a badger and a cow?), we can ask how effective culling is. The recent trials in Somerset showed that it was difficult to achieve the anticipated cull rate and fewer badgers were killed than was planned. Even if the kill rate had been achieved, there is evidence from scientific studies that reducing the number of badgers just increases the range of an individual badger. So an infected badger may well cover a wider area and potentially come into contact with more cattle.

In Wales the incidence of bTB has decreased by over 25% in the two years to November



Image: Getty Images

2013 (the most recent reliable data). Some have suggested that this is due to the Welsh Government programme of vaccinating badgers instead of culling them. If true, this is a slow and expensive, but possibly effective, process. In England across the same period the incidence of bTB increased by about 10%. However, data comparing culling and vaccination across a longer period have not yet been obtained and these figures may be just fluctuations in the trends. In fact some scientists argue that badgers are a very small contributor to TB infection compared with cattle-to-cattle transfer, and it is the latter that alters the incidence.

So, why not vaccinate cattle? Simply, the existing vaccines do not allow vets to distinguish between a vaccinated animal and an infected one, so it is illegal to vaccinate cattle. Scientists are working on developing a new vaccine that could be readily distinguished from an infection, but EU regulations would also have to be changed before vaccinated animals could be used in the food chain.

In November 2015 Defra launched a plan to reduce the risk of bTB. The five action points are:

- 1 Restrict contact between badgers and cattle
- 2 Manage cattle feed and water
- 3 Stop infected cattle entering the herd
- 4 Reduce risk from neighbouring herds
- 5 Minimise infection from cattle manure.

The difficult task of keeping badgers and livestock separate requires good physical biosecurity. Scientific modelling studies have also shown that more frequent testing of cattle and culling of infected beasts could significantly reduce the incidence of bTB. However, increased biosecurity and increased testing are both major costs to farmers, many of whom are having difficulty making a living. We need new strategies.

Defra and the Research Councils are asking scientists to help develop these under a new programme

Whatever our view of the native badger, our farmers' livelihoods are at stake. I hope that novel strategies will help reduce this serious threat to South West cattle farmers.

Nigel Brown is a retired Professor of Microbiology, now living in Chapmanslade. He recently chaired the Defra/BBSRC Panel to fund novel methods for eradicating bovine TB.

This is the last in his series of articles sponsored by the Royal Society of Biology. They and he would be grateful for any feedback on this series of articles; please email nigelbrown48@gmail.com before 31 December 2015.

Sponsored by the Royal Society of Biology
www.rsb.org.uk

Errata

The homeopathy article in last month's edition had two editorial errors; the subheader was carried over from the Ebola article in September and 10²² appeared as 1022. Apologies to both Nigel and readers!

Winter Walk

Boxing Day December 26th at 10.30

Join Judith on a woodland and footpath walk starting from the Triangle at Friggle Street to the Horse and Groom, Woodlands for a one-hour (approx) walk.

Suitable footwear will be necessary.

Dogs are welcome but on leads please to protect wildlife.

Phone Judith Helliard 01373 832803 for more information and a weather check.

Bob's bafflers

- 1 In the song The Twelve Days of Christmas, '...my true love brought to me nine...' what?
- 2 The song White Christmas was first performed in which 1942 film?
- 3 London's Trafalgar Square Christmas tree is traditionally given by which country?
- 4 Which Christmas carol includes the lyrics '...To save us all from Satan's power, when we were gone astray..'??
- 5 Who was the first British monarch to broadcast a Christmas message to the nation?
- 6 In the inspirational 1946 film, "It's a Wonderful Life", what's the name of George Bailey's guardian angel?
- 7 Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean is a territory of which country?
- 8 How many points does a snowflake have?
- 9 In which year was the original Band-Aid's "Do They Know It's Christmas" a UK Christmas chart-topping record?
- 10 From which country does the poinsettia plant originate?
- 11 In Charles Dickens' novel "A Christmas Carol", who was Scrooge's dead business partner?
- 12 Name the original eight reindeer from the 'Twas the night before Christmas' poem.

*A happy Christmas, from Bob, to all who have been baffled over the last 12 months and more.
Long may you continue to be baffled!*

Answers on page 56

Household Recycling Centre opening hours

All household recycling centres will be closed from 1 pm on 24 December, and all day on 25 December, 26 December and 1 January. At all other times the centres are open during their revised normal opening hours, 10 am – 4 pm, five days per week. Please check when your local household recycling centre is open before travelling. You can check the opening times at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling or on 0300 456 0102.

Please note that all household recycling centres are likely to be very busy over the Christmas and New Year period. Remember you can put out extra black box recycling by your box in separate plastic bags.

Don't forget to recycle the following items this Christmas:

Blue lidded recycling bin – Christmas cards, cardboard tubes, wrapping paper (not foil or plastic).

Black box recycling– chocolate and biscuit tins, clean foil – including cake cases and washed foil turkey trays, Christmas card envelopes.

Green bin (paid-for only) – you can leave your real Christmas tree alongside your garden waste bin for collection between 9 and 31 January only. Alternatively they can be recycled at any of Wiltshire's 11 household recycling centres.

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Rotary Club Quiz Night

In October the Rotary Club of Frome held a Fun Quiz night in Chapmanslade Village Hall. The Rotary Club would like to thank all who attended and helped to raise a total of £530 for Rotary Charities.

Thank you all for your generosity.

Rotarian Ernie McKenna

Darrin Lovatt

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**DUE TO THE PRINTER'S
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BBC Children in Need 'Rickshaw Challenge 2015' comes to Chapmanslade

On Tuesday 10th November, Team Rickshaw came through Chapmanslade and stopped in the lay-by and did a change-over at about 6.45 am, staying for around 30 minutes. I filmed the event and there are some great interviews with One Show's Matt Baker plus Elliot and George D. What a privilege!

For those who missed it take a look at my film on YouTube – www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWSu8IDCbEg. Search for 'Ernie McKenna' or 'Rickshaw Challenge comes to Chapmanslade' to view.

Ernie McKenna



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Corsley Festival Choir

7.30 pm, Sunday 13th December

St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Gloria at Christmas!

Vivaldi's Gloria

Christmas Carols



Corsley Festival Orchestra

Conductor Stephen Smith

Soloists from

Trinity College of Music



Tickets – adults £12.50, children £5

from choir members and by phone 01373 836866

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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Chairman, Neil Britten, brings us his notes from the November meetings

We had one of our occasional meetings in November, to discuss a planning application, and took the opportunity of this meeting to discuss the Old School Playing Field with a view to finding more a suitable and profitable use for the land. We also discussed broadband in Corsley and the proposals for more social housing on Bay Tree Close.

Planning applications

15/10564/FUL

102 Corsley Heath (Old Post Office)

Sub-division to form two dwellings and associated works.

The old Post Office has been unoccupied for some years and has seriously decayed during this time. It is now in a dilapidated state and the garden is very overgrown. Currently the building has three bedrooms in the two storey end and one, externally accessed, in the single storey end. Longleat have submitted an application to divide the building into a three bedroom two storey house and single bedroom dwelling in the single storey end. Their main motivation is to make the property more lettable.

There will be little change to the outward appearance, other than replacement of window frames and doors by UPVC and an alternative external door giving access the single storey end. Entry to the plot will be unchanged, but parking will be in front of the house instead of at the side. The rear

garden will be separated into two plots.

The PC supported the application on the basis that it will provide useful additional housing in the village and restore a decaying building.

Old School Playing Field (OSPF)

The history and rationale for the PC lease on the OSPF has been discussed in several Bridge briefs over the last two years and at one of the Annual Parish Meetings. However, there remains concern within the PC that the current concept of the field's use is sub optimal. The lease exists to provide a quiet green spot in the village, open to all to enjoy, but the OSPF is also an asset which costs Corsley council tax payers about £1k per annum to maintain without any identifiable compensating income potential, now that the Steiner School has left.

Options for the OSPF have been reduced to six major possibilities:

- Retain the status quo, with the potential for more tree planting and self help to reduce maintenance costs
- Sub lease more land to Little Cuckoos – they have approached the PC with a proposal
- Sub lease part of the OSPF to the owners of the Old School – they have expressed an interest
- Convert part of the field to allotments
- Other
- A combination of the above

The OSPF PC lease from Wiltshire, for 125 years, is restrictive in its conditions relating to sub-letting part or the whole of the land and favours pre-school or similar bodies. Little Cuckoos currently has a sub lease with the PC for their use of part of the land, which reflects the conditions of the main PC lease.

The options were debated, with representatives of the Little Cuckoos, owners of the Old School and one member of the public in the audience, each participating in the discussions. The general conclusion was that, without significant changes to the lease between Wiltshire and the PC, uses of the OSPF were effectively restricted to the status quo and continuing use by Little Cuckoos, and/or similar bodies, but that the PC should talk to Wiltshire Council to 'test the water' with regards to the lease terms. It was also recorded that £30k of Village and Church funds had been invested in the development of the field and car park between 1995 and closure of the School in 2007.

Broadband

Enormous thanks are due to Neil Carpenter and Rob White who led the team that delivered nearly 300 internet survey questionnaires around the village. The deadline has now passed and the general result is that 29% responded, with 93% of this number wanting faster broadband and 73% of these being willing to pay more to get it.

What is more striking is that it is clear that the sustainability of the village is directly affected by the lack of decent broadband. There are key business and educational needs in the village, as well as the social and recreational ones. Small businesses in Corsley are either struggling to operate effectively with slow and variable broadband service or are having to pay large sums to

buy in their own service and the educational need has been eloquently expressed by the new Head Teacher of Chapmanslade School, Frances Chapman.

Neil Carpenter is now coordinating the production of a survey report which will be used to further the case for better service. Meanwhile the latest stated position on the Wiltshire website is *"We are looking at further opportunities to extend our coverage within the contract to include additional postcodes such as yours that are currently not planned for upgrade. We are constantly reviewing our progress and processes to ensure maximum time and cost efficiencies and any cost savings made will be reinvested into the programme to extend our coverage further"*. I have asked them for a clear statement on timescales and process for this review and will report in due course.

Social housing – Bay Tree Close

The PC has provided comments on Wiltshire's proposals for more social housing at Bay Tree Close and they have passed these on to their architects for action. The public consultation will be held prior to the next quarterly PC meeting on 7th December. See details on page 37 of this edition of The Bridge.

Date of the next meeting

Quarterly meeting – 7.30 pm, Monday 7th December, Corsley Reading Room.

Occasional meetings, at short notice, will also be held to discuss planning applications and other urgent business. Please watch the village noticeboards and The Bridge website for these.

**From the Parish Council, a very happy
Christmas and New year to all.**

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

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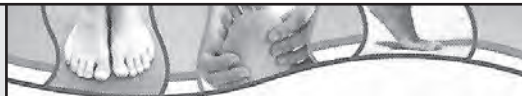
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Broadband survey results

Summary

The survey was distributed to all 292 homes in Corsley, covering all the hamlets (electoral register 2012/13) through a variety of means including hand delivery, electronic and The Bridge. As of 18th November, 84 households (29%) completed and returned the survey. The maximum distance from the cabinet (next to Corsley School) to the furthest house was 2.1 miles. However, the majority of the residents lived less than 1.5 miles from the cabinet. All the replies have been collated and tabulated.

Although there were a number of residents who were unable to measure the speed of their internet service, there is enough data collected to be positive about the conclusions and recommendations.

Internet speed

Every person who replied to the question confirmed that their internet varied significantly depending on what time of the day they were on line.

There was a significant variation in speed even between neighbours. Whilst Hugh Deed (our resident technical expert) has pointed out that there can be variation caused by infrastructure issues within homes, notwithstanding this variation, some of Corsley's residents are not being served well by their providers.

The table below shows the fastest and slowest speeds seen by residents by hamlet.

As you will see, some of these speeds are entirely unacceptable and residents with these low speeds should be talking to their providers to get problems addressed.

Internet speeds can vary due to the distance from the cabinet to the home. This has been used as the main reason Wiltshire have given for not upgrading Corsley. However, as can be seen from the results, none of the hamlets are significant distances from the cabinet. Moreover, the majority of Corsley residents (68%) should be capable of achieving internet speeds with our current cabinet in excess of 5MB which is enough to stream TV. An upgrade of the cabinet (as has been done in all other villages surrounding Warminster) would enable speeds of 10MB to be achieved, allowing streaming of HD TV.

Based on the data collected, the majority of Corsley residents would be able to receive this improved performance with an upgrade of the cabinet alone.

Home/business use

From the survey, around 60% of residents are using their internet for business use, whether this is working from home or as their actual place of work. This is much higher than expected. Feedback from businesses in Corsley clearly showed that poor internet speed and quality affect their business performance. The cost of dedicated lines into Corsley because of the poor internet speed is costing businesses tens of

Hamlet	Max speed/MB	Min speed/MB
Lyes Green	6.8	0.125
Deep Lane	6.77	.920
Heath	5.79	.060
Cley Hill	6.28	6.28
Lane End	3.44	.125
Temple	5.29	.7
Dertford	5.1	.156
Long Hedge	3.16	1.020

thousands of pounds each year. We also know that businesses are now not locating to Corsley because of the slow internet speeds experienced. This reduces job prospects for residents.

When is internet used?

Whilst the use of the internet during the evening was expected, in reality the majority of households are using the internet throughout the day. This may be a reflection of the number of people working from home as well as the number of smart devices within households and the variety of activities we all do online such as shopping and video calls (Skype and Facetime)

Internet uses

99% of residents are using the internet to do emails, view websites etc. 55% are now doing online shopping.

77% have mobile devices that are updated online. With upgrades being very large (the latest iPhone update was 1.3 GB) this can take all day and/or night. In addition, because of the poor stability of the village’s internet, updates often fail half way through and have to be restarted. In speaking to residents, there was an attitude of not

upgrading their devices because of the time taken and the number of times the process fails to complete. This clearly leaves devices less secure against attack from viruses and other malware.

46% listen to the radio online

68% watch videos online

A significant minority play games or stream TV online.

Faster internet

From the survey, 43% of residents do not know what internet speed they are paying for and a further 23% are paying for speeds that the current system is incapable of delivering.

93% of residents want faster internet in the village, with 73% being willing to pay more for improved speeds. It is worth adding that a number of replies stated that they did not see why they should pay more for an internet speed that other villages and towns in Wiltshire have been given for free.

Over half of residents would be willing to consider buying other services such as online TV if internet speeds were improved.

Neil Carpenter



The buzz from the Bee Hive



Welcome to the news feature from the 'Bee Hive' – Busy Bees Pre-School, Chapmanslade

Busy Bees Pre-School held their Annual General Meeting on the 18th November and the existing Committee members (Sally Evans - Chair, Shelley Meiling - Deputy Chair, Bob Davis - Treasurer and Lynley Gerrard - Secretary) were re-elected. The Committee were pleased to welcome a new parent (Lisa Heath) to the Committee. The Chair gave parents an update on the Committee's achievements over the last twelve months and what they hoped to achieve in the future. The Committee considered the key achievement was the Ofsted "Outstanding" assessment that the pre-school received in April. Kelly, our Setting Manager, and her team were congratulated on this excellent result. Over the holiday period Busy Bees was repainted, re-carpeted and both the kitchen and the garden received a makeover – the improvements have been welcomed by parents and staff. The Chair reported that the Committee is looking to make further improvements in the next twelve months. Bob Davis, Treasurer, gave a report on Busy Bees' finances and how funds had been spent. Parents were reminded that Busy Bees is a not-for-profit organisation and, apart from a contingency fund, any surplus funds are reinvested to improve the facilities and purchase new equipment and toys.

The children are looking forward to their Christmas party (with Father Christmas in attendance) on Friday 11th December at Chapmanslade School hall. Children who currently attend the pre-school and

those who have left are most welcome. The children are also learning how to make Christmas decorations and are busy practising for their nativity play which will be held in the village church. Busy Bees is holding a Christmas raffle which is sponsored by Chapmanslade Motor Services with Longleat vouchers as the first prize, a Christmas hamper and many other prizes. Tickets can be purchased from Busy Bees Pre-school.

The Committee, staff and children from Busy Bees would like to take this opportunity to wish readers a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

For further information on places at Busy Bees, please contact Kelly on either 07749 257608 or email her at busybeespre-school@hotmail.co.uk

*Sally Evans
Chair, Busy Bees
01373 832906*

Corsley litter pickers

We meet opposite the Royal Oak at 10am on the first Saturday of each month. Our next 'pick' is on Saturday 5th December– do come along and help keep our village beautiful.

Cath Aylesbury and Sue Taylor

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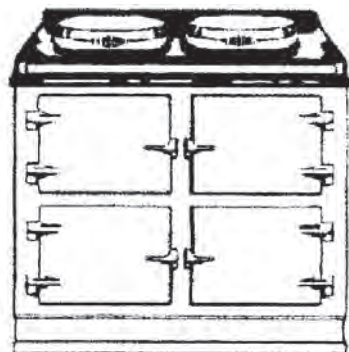


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Corsley Show



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Please note that the pre-schedule may be subject to alteration. The main schedule will be available from June 2016



Pre-schedule
www.corsleyshow.org.uk



8

Division A

Vegetables and Fruit - Open

1	Runner beans	6 pods	
2	French beans	6 pods	
3	A collection of salad items	in a container max size 20"/50cm	
4	Beetroots (globe)	3 roots, with approx. 3"/7cm of stalk	
5	Cabbages	2 green, approx. 3"/7cm of stalk	
6	Carrots	3 long, with approx. 3"/7cm of stalk	
7	Carrots	3 stump rooted, with approx. 3"/7cm of stalk	
8	Leeks	2, with roots	<i>New for 2016</i>
9	Container of mixed vegetables	a minimum of 4 kinds, max 24"/61cm square, height unlimited	
10	Parsnips	2, with 3"/7cm of stalk	<i>New for 2016</i>
11	Onions	3, each to be 8oz/227 grams or over	
12	Onions	5, each to be under 8oz/227 grams	
13	Potatoes	5 white, any variety	
14	Potatoes	5 coloured, any variety	
15	Shallots	9 bulbs	
16	Tomatoes	5, with calyx other than cherry type	
17	Cherry tomatoes	6, with calyx	
18	Cucumbers	2	
19	Spinach	6 leaves, in a jar	<i>New for 2016</i>
20	Swiss chard	6 leaves, any colour/s, in a jar	
21	Courgettes	3, max length 6"/15cm	
22	Peppers	2, with stalks	
23	Any other vegetable	not listed above	
24	Apples	5 culinary	
25	Apples	5 dessert	
26	Plums	5	<i>New for 2016</i>
27	Plate of any other kind of fruit	in a single layer, max 12"/30cm	

Novelty section

- 28 Heaviest potato
- 29 Heaviest marrow
- 30 Longest stalk of rhubarb
- 31 Heaviest onion
- 32 Most grotesque vegetable/fruit
- 33 Longest runner bean

Division C

Vegetables and Flowers - Closed

62	Runner beans	6 pods
63	French beans	6 pods
64	Rhubarb	3 sticks, with heel and 1.5"/4cm of trimmed leaf
65	Onions	5
66	Potatoes	4, one variety
67	Tomatoes	4, other than Cherry type, with calyx
68	Cherry tomatoes	5, with calyx
69	Beetroots	3, with approx. 3"/7cm of stalk
70	Shallots	6 bulbs
71	Carrots	3, with approx. 3"/7cm of stalk
72	Courgettes	3, max length 6"/15cm
73	Container of mixed vegetables	minimum of 4 kinds, max 24"/61cm square, height unlimited
74	Selection of grasses	10 stems max, in a vase
75	Gladiolus	1 specimen spike
76	Cut flowers	3 blooms of different varieties, in a vase
77	Rose	single bloom, in a vase
78	Roses	3 blooms, any variety or varieties, in a vase
79	Orchid	in a pot, max dia. 10"/25cm
80	Dahlias	3 blooms of same variety, in a vase
81	Sweet Peas	6 stems, any variety or varieties, in a vase
82	Garden flower	3 stems, one variety, in a vase
83	Begonia plant	max size of container 12"/30cm <i>New for 2016</i>

Division G

Art - Open

121	Painting in oils	}	any subject, please state size if over A3	<i>New for 2016</i>
122	Painting in watercolours			
123	Pen and wash			
124	Painting in pastels			
125	Painting in acrylics			
126	Painting in mixed media			
127	Drawing in any media			

Division I

Handicrafts - Open

157	Decorated egg		
158	Hand embroidered item	from a kit or chart	
159	Item of crochet	state size if over 36"/92cm	<i>New for 2016</i>
160	Hand or machine sewn item	not garment	
161	Hand or machine sewn garment		
162	Item of cross stitch	line stitches may be included	
163	Item of needle felt		<i>New for 2016</i>
164	Best use of 1/2 metre of fabric	one piece, may be cut	<i>New for 2016</i>
165	Hand-knitted hot-water bottle cover		<i>New for 2016</i>
166	Fabric postcard	max size 7" x 10"/18cm x 25cm	<i>New for 2016</i>
167	Article of soft furnishing	lampshade, cushion, etc. State size if larger than 27"/69cm	
168	Decorated iPad/tablet cover	in any medium	<i>New for 2016</i>
169	Greetings card		
170	Hanging Christmas tree decoration		<i>New for 2016</i>
171	Teddy bear or soft toy		
172	Needle case	in any medium	<i>New for 2016</i>
173	Item of jewellery		
174	Picture made with buttons and bows		
		in any medium, max size A4	<i>New for 2016</i>
175	Apron		<i>New for 2016</i>
176	Something new from something old	the most innovative use of recycled materials, in the opinion of the judge. Please state materials used	
177	Decorated box	max size 12"/30cm	<i>New for 2016</i>
178	Piece of decorated glass	max size 18"/46cm	<i>New for 2016</i>
179	Decorated pebble	in any medium. Max size 8"/20cm	
180	Item of metalwork	state size if over 36"/92cm	<i>New for 2016</i>
181	Item of woodwork	please state size on entry form	
182	Scarecrow	any materials. Not exceeding life size. Please state size on entry form	
183	Item of any other craftwork	i.e. pottery, sculpture, etc. Please state size on entry form	

For further information or for any queries regarding the pre-schedule, please contact
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Three Open Doors

Dear Friends,

Everyone loves a good story and it is the telling of stories that we try to make sense of the world and our place in it. As we approach Christmas I expect all of us have stories to tell of what this means to us, tales of family traditions and gatherings imbued with nostalgia and love. As I write my thoughts of full of Crib and Carol services, feeding the Christmas cake, making truck loads of mince pies and wondering what gifts to give our two grandchildren. And superimposed on that story are the horrific events in Paris that happened a few days ago as I write, along with images of the desperation of refugees who continue to try to find a better life for their families by risking everything on perilous journeys that take them to places where they are wholly dependent on the goodwill of others. What you might well ask, has that most famous story, of angels, shepherds and a teenage mother got to say to all that?

Firstly, let me say I love Christmas as much as the next person but it worries me when we skew the reality of the story to suit our own sentimentality. Jesus was born in a mucky stable to a child mother, who with her husband, was a refugee. The shepherds probably stank and were regarded as the lowest of the low and after presenting their gifts to Jesus the three wise men had to go home another way for fear of being murdered by a despotic ruler, a king whose crazed mind determined that every boy child under two years in the vicinity would be slaughtered, just in case the barmy idea that a new king was to be born was actually true. It's not exactly Jingle Bells is it?

No it isn't because it's infinitely more powerful than that. At Christmas God is born in the dark and mess that is the reality of human life to show us that love is more powerful than evil and that Emmanuel, God with us, is at the heart of what it means to be human.

What stories will we tell of our times? We must acknowledge the darkness that stalks our world; it is important that we face the reality of human sin, but we must not let this be the only story we tell, we must tell those stories of courage and love and goodness that are also at the heart of what it means to human, we must refuse to allow the darker tales to blot out the beauty and dignity of human life.

'The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it'

May I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas,

Love and prayers,

Pauline

December Church Diary

Sunday 6th December: Second Sunday of Advent

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

9.30 am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Eucharist

10.30 am at St Peter & St Paul, Longbridge Deverill: Christingle service

3.30 pm at St John the Baptist, Horningsham: Victorian Carol service



Saturday 12th December

Christmas Coffee Morning with the Christmas 50/50 Club draw

10.30 am to 12.30 pm at Godswell Grove Farm, Chapmanslade



Sunday 13th December: Third Sunday of Advent

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

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

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



Wednesday 16th December

Light Bites Christmas Lunch

12.30 pm to 1.30 pm at the Reading Rooms, Corsley

Please book your place with Pat Ryan on 832650



Thursday 17th December

Church and Community Coffee Morning

10 am to 12 noon at the Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Sunday 20th December: Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

6 pm at St Margaret's, Corsley: Carol service

6 pm at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: Carol service

Monday 21st December

Village carol singing in Chapmanslade and Corsley



Thursday 24th December: Christmas Eve

3 pm at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Crib service

4 pm at St Peter & St Paul, Longbridge Deverill: Crib service

11.30 pm at St Margaret's, Corsley: Midnight service



Friday 25th December: Christmas Day

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

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

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

10.30 am St John the Baptist, Horningsham: Eucharist

11.15 am at St Peter & St Paul, Longbridge Deverill: Christmas Family service



Sunday 27th December: First Sunday of Christmas

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



Sunday 3rd January: Epiphany

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

9.30 am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Eucharist

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

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Welcome and Congratulations

We welcome into our church family Hon John Alexander Ladi Thynn baptised at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill on November 19th; and Millie Robyn Hitshock also baptized at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill on November 22nd.

Congratulations on the birth of Rufus Lennon Cauchi to Maria and David, and grandson of Paul and Melena Wells of Corsley.

Prayers and Sympathy

Our prayers and special thoughts are with the family of John Puttick who, together with his wife Joan, lived in Lane End, Corsley for many years.

Fundraising Matters

Please do come along to our Christmas Coffee Morning which this year will be at Godswell Grove Farm, Black Dog, Chapmanslade on Saturday 12th December. Also welcome will be items for our 'bring and buy' stall which has a Christmas theme and there will be several other stalls. We would appreciate donations of produce, cakes, etc. We shall also hold the Christmas draw for the 50/50 Club – top prize of £200 in cash. You cannot win if you do not enter!! Please see the advertisement in the Bridge for more details.

Copy for 3 Open Doors should be sent to Keith Muston at
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If you would like to receive weekly news of Church events and activities, please send your email address to the above, with subject 'Through the Open Doors' or download a pdf from the 'churches' pages at www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk



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Cross Keys update

Following on from the article in the last edition of The Bridge, steps are being taken to give local residents the time to get together to buy the Cross Keys

An application to register the pub as a community asset has been made and we should hear by the 6th December if we have been successful. If it is, we have six months in which to raise the funds needed to purchase the pub and set up a formal means of doing so.

Whole community

The Cross Keys is an asset that is used by the whole community and one which over 160 people have already expressed their support to register as a community asset. It is clear that to raise the large sum of money needed, it will take the whole community. A number of residents have indicated they would be willing to invest sums of between £5,000 and £30,000 but without the whole community becoming involved with smaller

shareholders investing perhaps £1000 or less each, it will be impossible to raise the figure needed.

Finance needed

It is estimated that the sum of around £400,000 will be needed to cover the purchase price of the pub. This would include VAT, stamp duty and expenses such as legal costs relating to the purchase. It is anticipated that as a business, any VAT payable would be offset over time against future trade and therefore, whilst it is needed, it is not a long-term cost.

Invest in shares in a Limited Company

It is proposed that a Limited Company is formed to buy the pub freehold; it would



continue to trade as it is now with Shelley Rimmer as licensee. All members of the community, who invest in the pub, would become shareholders. Shareholders would elect one or more directors and a company secretary. The directors would be responsible for the proper running of the Limited Company. The licensee would be accountable to the directors, who in turn would hold regular shareholder meetings to ensure that the company was delivering the vision of the shareholders and villagers at large.

Enterprise investment schemes

We believe that the new Limited Company may qualify as an Enterprise Investment Scheme thereby providing investors with generous tax reliefs. Provided shares are held for a minimum of three years, investors qualify for 30% income tax relief on their investment. Shares are also free of Capital Gains Tax and Inheritance Tax which are significant benefits.

No investor can derive an income directly from the business, so if employees of the company chose to invest they may not be eligible for the tax breaks. No one can hold more than 30% of the shares. It is anticipated that initial profits would be used to make any necessary improvements to the buildings but then an annual dividend would be paid to all shareholders from any profits.

For further information, Google 'E.I.S.' and also study the government websites.

Show your support

For those of you interested in becoming shareholders, please supply your name, contact details and an indication of how much you would be prepared to invest and post this into the box located behind the bar at the pub. Initially, this would just be an indication of the sum you would be prepared to invest and would not commit you to anything. We can then assess if it is feasible to raise the finance needed. If there is enough interest, a meeting will be held to plan the purchase and I anticipate that funds would be needed by April or May 2016. If you prefer, you can supply the information directly to Neil Carpenter (neil@nmc2.co.uk) or to me.

Thank you

I would like to thank all of you for the support and interest you have shown so far and am reassured that so many residents support our endeavours to retain such a key part of our village life. If you have any questions, please direct them to either Neil Carpenter or me.

*Michael West
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Corsley WI

November News



Carol Seward rounds up the November meeting and announces some forthcoming events

Members enjoyed an afternoon with David Moon and his audio-visual presentation of gardens and flowers at the November meeting of Corsley WI. David is a member of the National Gardens Scheme, which helps to support many nursing, caring and gardening charities. The first video clip showed us how the NGS has developed since it began in 1927 into the large organisation it is today, with over 3,800 gardens open in 2015 and total donations of more than £43 million given to charities over the years.

David is an excellent photographer and had fantastic scenes of the snowdrops at Heale House and the formal gardens at Abbey House in Malmesbury, pictures from Beth Chatto's garden, Mary Berry's garden at Watercroft, the Bishop's Palace Garden at Wells and many other beautiful gardens, all set to a selection of music to complement the images shown. Judith Helliard gave the vote of thanks.

Wiltshire Federation events coming up include a cookery demonstration, a scrabble day, a Lake District holiday, a rock and roll singing workshop and a meeting with Black Rod. Full details are available at our next meeting.

The skittles team is doing well so far this season, with three wins out of four matches, the scrabble team is due to play its first match this month.

After our refreshments, members had fun folding paper napkins into the shape of a candle, as demonstrated by Mandy Bain, ready for our Christmas Tea next month.

The competition for a flowery card was won by Val Benbow, with Mary Purchase second and Carol Seward third.

At the next meeting at 2.30 pm on Thursday 12th November, we shall be having a Christmas Tea with the usual fun and entertainment instead of a dinner this year and hope all members will be able to come. On Thursday 14th January there is an open meeting at 7.30 pm – visitors are most welcome to join us and discover more about the night sky from a talk by Maggie Daniels entitled 'Looking at the Stars'.

If you would like to join our WI, please do come to one of our meetings; if you would like further information, please ring Carol Seward on 01373 832446.

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

Bridge Club	First and third Tuesdays each month, 2-4pm, Corsley Reading Room
Coffee Morning	First Tuesday each month, 10-12noon, Corsley Reading Room
Gardening Club	Third Wednesday each month, venues as per club programme
Lunch Club	Last Tuesday of the month, 12.30pm, various venues

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

Bay Tree Close

New social housing proposals

5 pm to 7.30 pm

Monday 7th December

Corsley Reading Rooms (upper)

Drop-in display and presentation

led by Helen C Taylor

Commissioning and Contract Lead, Wiltshire Council

- Come along and see some sketch designs for the proposed new bungalows
- Get an idea of what could be achieved on the site and potential layouts
- Give us your views on the principle of developing the site for bungalows for older people
- Come and register your interest in moving to a new bungalow
- Specially relevant for those living in larger council or housing association owned homes.



Local resident consultation is an important factor which will contribute to the final decision on the development of Bay Tree Close

Light Bites

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

Christmas Lunch

12.30 for 1 pm, Wednesday 16th December, Corsley Reading Rooms

Please phone either Pat 832650, or Dot 832059 to reserve your place



Possible changes to bus services and concessionary fares

Somerset Council are currently seeking views on proposals to reduce funding or change policy to transport services from 2016.

Bus Services

There is one consultation on proposals to reduce financial subsidy for some bus routes. The routes affected have been identified by the Council for possible reductions in financial support due to:

- Availability of services on other days of the week or proximity of alternative services
- Low passenger use
- Possible commercial replacement.

Affected services are listed in the Service table on the bus subsidy consultation website and you are urged to look at the list of affected routes before completing the questionnaire. In this way you can see if the list includes routes that you or your family and friends rely on.

The 53/58 service from Warminster to Frome, through Corsley is listed. The proposal is to 'withdraw Somerset Council's contribution to Wiltshire Council for the **Saturday service ONLY**. The Monday to Friday service remains'.

Concessionary Fares

There is a second proposal to review concessionary fares. "The areas of discretionary policy that will be reviewed with a view to reducing or removing for English National Concessionary Travel Scheme pass holders are as follows:

- The 50% discount on the cost of the fare (up to a maximum of £5 per single trip or £10 per return journey) when travelling on community transport (including car schemes) will be reduced to a 25% discount
- Travel between 9-9.30 am on public and community transport services (including car schemes) will be removed
- The companion free travel element will be removed."

Have your say by Monday 11th January 2016. Phone 0300 123 2224 to have the surveys posted to you. For full details of the proposed changes and to complete the surveys online:

- www.somerset.gov.uk/concessionaryfareconsultation
- www.somerset.gov.uk/bussubsidysurvey

A final decision on these proposals will be taken by the Council in 2016.

Liz Garrett



Thank you Corsley and Chapmanslade from Operation Christmas Child

A big thank you to everyone who so generously gave shoe boxes full of gifts for children in need throughout the world.

The 'GO' boxes have again proved very popular, although some of us still enjoy wrapping a shoe box. On Sunday 15th November we gathered all the shoe boxes together blessed them before sending them on their way. This year 43 shoeboxes were taken from St Margaret's Church, and delivered to the new warehouse in Southwick where they will be made ready for their final destination, which I believe to be either Liberia or Ukraine. Lorries for both these destinations are due to go out on Saturday 21st November.

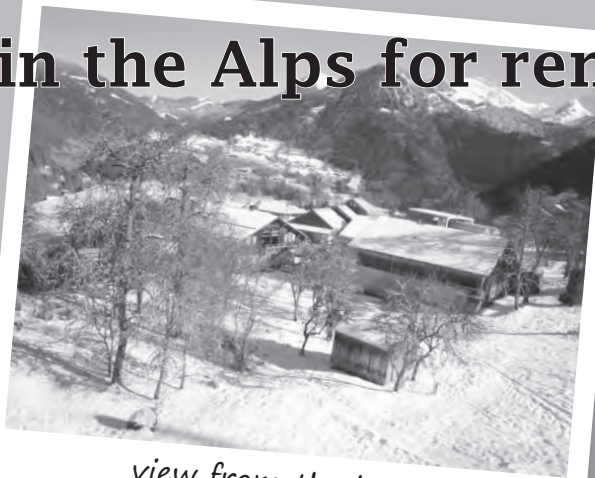
Each box is checked to ensure that all items included are suitable, and any that are not are re-distributed to other charities. The boxes are sealed and packed into large cartons then stacked onto pallets before being loaded on to lorries. Each vehicle will transport between 10,000 and 13,000 boxes which, at this time of year, travel out almost weekly.

Once again, a wonderful community effort; thank you to the residents of Chapmanslade, Corsley, and Little Cuckoos Pre-school, for giving not just the gifts, but also your time and thought in putting the boxes together.

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The perfect Christmas needs...

The Perfect Tree

Buying and decorating your Christmas tree can be a very exciting time when getting into the festive spirit. Preparations are under way here at Acres Supply, so I'd like to share with you a few tips that I have learnt to ensure you get the best tree to start your perfect Christmas.

✱ It's always a good idea to decide where you would like the tree to go before setting off to buy one. It is important to keep your tree away from any heat source, for example a fireplace or TV and to avoid siting it near a doorway as the draft will dry out it's needles.

✱ Measure the area you have chosen for your tree. This way, when you come to buying your tree you have a rough idea of the size it needs to be. There is nothing worse than coming home with your pride and joy to find that its too big or small for where you wanted it to be.

✱ Always look out for a tree that looks bright green, fresh and healthy. The needles should be flexible and not fall off as you touch them; a good tip is to lift the tree up a few inches and drop the trunk on the ground.



✱ A very popular Christmas tree is the Nordman Fir due to it being a 'non-drop' tree. We will be selling them here at the garden centre – they make the perfect family Christmas tree.

✱ Once you've chosen your tree and taken it home, I advise that you try to resist the temptation to take it inside straight away. The longer the tree is left outside or in an unheated garage away from the warmth, the longer it will last. By doing this, your tree should last you at least five weeks. When taking the tree inside, ensure that it's set in a stable stand and is supplied with plenty of water.

✱ If the temptation becomes too much, why not consider having an outdoor Christmas tree? It could be the centre-piece of your garden and bring outside warmth to the cold winter air with some simple decorations and energy- and money-saving solar-powered LED lights.

Remember, the perfect Christmas needs the perfect Christmas tree!

From everyone here at Acres Supply, we wish you a very Happy Christmas.

Kaylee Evans
Acres Supply Garden
Centre

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

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

The parish council met once, on the 12th November. About 20 residents were present.

Road safety

The perennial issue of road safety in the High Street, particularly outside the school, was raised once again. You will recall that some time ago Wiltshire Council, at the parish council's request, painted white lines and a Keep Clear sign at the school entrance, the aim being to provide a safe area for children and their parents to cross the road at the beginning and end of the school day.

The parish council has decided that it is now time to have another look at how we can make our High Street safer for young people as well as for residents and road users generally. We agreed to establish a working group, which will focus on the area immediately outside the school, to come up with ideas for improving road safety. The membership of the group will include representatives of residents, parents, school governors and the parish council. We will also draw on the expertise of the police and Wiltshire Council's highways engineers. The group will meet very shortly and will report back to the parish council. In due course it is hoped it will look at other road safety issues in other parts of the parish. We are, of course, mindful that, if the Barbers Farm development goes ahead, it is likely that funds will be made available

for traffic calming, and of course, we will also have the findings of the recent village questionnaire to refer back to. We will keep you updated.

A few more points about road safety. Last summer's questionnaire confirmed villagers' support for Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) as a means of reducing traffic speeds in the High Street. Until a few months ago, Wiltshire Highways brought a mobile SID to the village every two months or so, its presence being timed for it to be with us to fill the gaps between our speedwatch sessions. Wiltshire's funding for this has been withdrawn in the current financial year but now they have offered the SIDs to local communities. We agreed at the meeting to express an interest in sharing a SID with other parishes in the Warminster area. There will, however, be a cost implication.

We reported at the meeting that Wiltshire Council has now brought into effect an 18 tonne weight limit through the village. This is both good news and bad. Good because the old 17 tonne limit could not be enforced and bad because for a long time we have been promised a 7.5 tonne limit which the parish council feels would be more appropriate for our High Street.

We were promised a 7.5 tonne limit some years ago but it has never been implemented. Wiltshire Council has told us this is because the proposal is part of a package of changes also affecting other

communities in west and south Wiltshire and in Somerset which cannot be introduced until Highways England improve the junction of the A303 and the A351 at Willoughby Hedge near East Knoyle (a long way from Chapmanslade!). They also tell us that Somerset County Council is unhappy with the proposal because of the impact they say it will have on the movement of quarry lorries through Somerset. The parish council is not impressed with these arguments and will continue to press for the lower limit. In the meantime, please continue to report overweight lorries (i.e. if they have three or more axles) either direct to the police or via me. Maybe, like residents in Bradford on Avon and Westbury, we should set up a lorry watch scheme?

One of the 30 mph signs at the Frome end of the village was knocked over in a recent road traffic accident. I understand the driver concerned did not have a driving licence! Somerset Highways have been most co-operative and have provided us with a new sign: we asked them to deal with this quickly as the community speedwatch team had received some abuse from motorists who said we were acting illegally, which of course we weren't! Speedwatch's role is to educate motorists about the law. It doesn't have the power to enforce it. Hopefully the new sign is only a temporary one and will be replaced in due course.

Planning applications

We considered two applications. The first, **15/09596/FUL** and **15/096820/LBC**, was an application by the owners of 52 High Street (a listed building) to demolish a wood shed and to build a new house in the garden. Several of the immediate neighbours have objected to the application, principally because of their concerns about the loss of privacy and about the proposed arrangements to provide access to the new

property. We listened carefully to the points made by the applicants and objectors but decided that, on planning grounds, we could not lodge an objection.

The second application, **15/10708/FUL**, was an application from the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for permission to extend the churchyard. The present churchyard is now full, having served our community for almost 150 years. The PCC needs to extend the churchyard so that it can provide sufficient grave spaces to cater for the next twenty years or so. A small area immediately north of the present churchyard has been chosen for the extension: until a year or so ago the area was used as a children's adventure playground. The church owns the land. The parish council raised no objection.

We noted that the static caravan at Sienna's Valley has had an extension added to it and that this has been reported to Wiltshire Council's enforcement officer. The owner of Sienna's Valley has lodged appeals against Wiltshire Council's refusal to grant planning permission for the caravan (**14/09400/FUL**) and against the enforcement notice requiring the removal of the mobile home and restoring the land back to its original condition. These matters will be considered by a Government planning inspector at a public hearing to be held at some time in the coming months. We will keep you informed of developments.

Public footpaths

A public hearing concerning the appeal against Wiltshire Council's proposal to amend the route of Footpath 12 in our parish was held in the village hall on 10th November. The footpath leads from the field behind Southcroft to Dye House Farm. A number of village residents who use and enjoy the new route, which is now proving

very popular, attended to support Wiltshire's application and I spoke in support on behalf of the parish council.

The Government inspector who conducted the hearing on behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has now announced her decision to confirm the Order. In her letter she said *"I conclude that it is expedient to confirm the Order in the interests of the landowner. In terms of the effect on the public I am satisfied that the changes are not such as to have a negative effect upon users of FP12 and will be an improvement for many. Having regard to these, and all other matters raised at the hearing and in the written representations, I conclude that the Order should be confirmed"*. There is general agreement that the Inspector made the correct decision.

Defibrillator

The parish council is interested in setting up a buddy scheme in which residents would be available to come to the support of their immediate neighbours in the case of all medical emergencies, and not just suspected heart attacks. We will report back in due course.

And finally...

Do watch out for the carol singers from the church who will be in the High Street on the evening of Monday 21st and also for the Frome Rotary Father Christmas float which will be touring the village on Tuesday 22nd. And season's greetings to all of you.

Next meeting

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 10th December, 7.30 pm at the school. Do come along and join us, to listen or to speak.

Phil Jefferson 01373 832845 phil.jefferson@virgin.net

'Journey of a Lifetime' an autobiography

Richard Askew, Rector from 2001-2005, has just completed his book of memoirs. Richard's autobiography takes us from London's blitz to 1950's boarding school austerities; from National Service in Egypt (enlivened by a smuggling run) to an unexpected career – the defining experience of the author's life, coming to faith – which led to 50 years in the Anglican ministry; student chaplaincy in the 1960s, Surrey's Volvo and vodka belt, travels to Sudan and Ethiopia, the sublime seclusion of Salisbury Close, followed by city-centre Bath and finally our rural Wiltshire parish. All this makes up a layer-cake that would appeal to many palates.

The book usually costs £11.80 including P&P, however, books to be delivered to addresses in Corsley or Chapmanslade will cost only £10.

To order your copy, please email rgaskew@gmail.com, ring 01225 863350 or write to Richard at 46, The Pastures, Westwood, Badford-on-Avon, BA15 2BH.

After covering costs, £2 from each book will go to Bath Abbey and to Juba School.

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News from the Nest

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

This term's theme at the nest is autumn! The children braved the weather for an autumnal walk at Heaven's Gate, where they discovered autumn's treasures of chestnuts, lots of types of leaves and conkers. As part of the Cuckoo's learning ethos, learning about the local environment and outdoor education is an important part of the children's learning journeys.

This year the Corsley Cuckoos will be performing the annual Nativity play on 18th December at St Margaret's Church Corsley at 11 am. For many of our Cuckoos this will be their first experience of a Christmas nativity! Please do come along to join in with this special celebration.

Continuing the Christmas theme, we'll be holding our popular Christmas Fair on Saturday 12th December, 10 am-12 noon. Please join us and Father Christmas!

We are very excited to be using our revamped 'mud kitchen' in our external play area . Thank you to David Ball who built it for us. Learning through play is an important way children discover creative expression, problem solving, as well as being an outdoors play/ learning opportunity . We are looking forward to many hours of learning via mud!

Corsley Parish Council are the leaseholders of the playing field next to the preschool, which used to form part of the Primary School. It is currently intended to be used for community use. The Parish Council are deciding what to do with the field as they feel that the maintenance costs outweigh the public benefit of the land. We have made representations to the Parish Council that Corsley Cuckoos regard the land as an asset to not only the preschool but the community as a whole. We have suggested that Little Cuckoos lease a proportion of the land (including the old tennis courts – great for trikes and scooters!) to ensure our children continue to have access to the great outdoors, securing the future of the preschool for the long-term. Our discussions with the Parish Council have been positive and we believe that a solution that is beneficial for all parties can be reached.

The children and staff at Corsley Cuckoos would like to wish The Bridge readers a peaceful and Happy Christmas

If you would like to know more about what goes on at the nest, please feel free to contact us.

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

Term-time Mother and toddler group: Tuesday 10 am - 11.30 am

For more information, please contact us on 01373 832298

www.littlecuckoos@hotmail.co.uk

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Whitbourne Chapel

We wish all our readers a peaceful, joyous Christmas

Services this Christmas

We have a Service at 11 am every Sunday in Advent. On 20th December, our morning Service will be led by Chapel Secretary Ray Mead. This will be a presentation on the history of carols; members of the congregation will talk about the history of different carols before they are sung. At 5 pm that day, we have our Candlelight Service, led by Andrew Coxhead, one of our regular preachers. If you've never listened to Bible readings or sung carols by candlelight, do come along. Children love this service (and so do grown-ups)! For the real spirit of Christmas, come and join us!

Our Christmas Morning Service will be from 10.30 am to 11.15 am.

Love conquers fear

The doctor approaches the patient. He holds a silver bicycle pump. "Don't be afraid!" he says, "You'll only feel a slight prick from the syringe." "Don't be afraid," comprises the very first part of the Christmas message from the angels. Only after that do we get the good tidings, the glory, the peace and the goodwill.

"You've only one real enemy," said 80 year old Godfrey Mowat to 21 year old

Keith. "Your enemy is fear," said that great Anglican layman, speaking out of a long experience in the healing ministry. Fear threatened the birth and life of Jesus. King Herod was full of fear. So were the religious leaders when they heard Jesus' words, saw His works and marked His association with doubtful characters. Jesus wrestled with that self-same fear on the eve of his crucifixion.

This world is full of fear. There exists fear of the stranger, fear of war and religious extremism of immigration, of Russia, of Europe, of going out after dark, of a group of youngsters, of poverty and insecurity, for instance. Yet, "there is no fear in love, for perfect love drives out fear," says Scripture. The Prime Minister was absolutely right when he encouraged us to "love a hoodie". Punishment was not the answer. Understanding the hoodie's world and doing something about it WAS the answer. My! Didn't he get flak for saying that! God becoming man is perfect love. Trust Him and you will not be afraid.

Contributed by Reverend Keith Sobey, retired Baptist Minister.

Gill Redman
01985 215062
paradiselost@btinternet.com

Regular times

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

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Judith Helliard's view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

November's weather really brought us down to earth...

After a lovely autumn, we have had nothing but grey days interrupted by rain, wind and storms. Although we were luckier than those in the North of England and Scotland getting their first snowfalls and Hurricane Abigail, we certainly knew winter was upon us.

Work on the farm starts at around 4 am, bringing the cows into the parlour for morning milking. While they stand in the collecting yards waiting to go into the milking parlour, their sleeping cubicles, which are lined with fitted rubber matting, are cleaned out. To tempt the cows into the milking parlour they are given a concentrate feed to suit their individual needs. It is while the cows are being milked that the herdsman checks each cow for any health problems, and records are updated on milk yield.

Care of all farm animals is monitored daily by the farm staff. An annual audit is also carried out by an independent agency to make sure that the highest level of animal husbandry is achieved on each individual farm before the farm is allowed to use the Red Tractor symbol on any of its products.

By December, work caring for the animals both in the covered yards and out in the field is similar each day, with the weather playing an important part. Loss of electricity, flooding, hard frosts and snow bring the greatest worries during the winter months. Like most businesses we rely on good movement of products and staff in and out of the farm; snow and ice often has to be cleared by our own tractors. Frost can create

many problems in the milking parlour, and ensuring that readily available, running water for thirsty animals 24 hours a day is essential.

The shadow of yet another TB test on all the cattle in December hangs over the farm, and nothing we can do will change the results.

I hope that some of our readers will have seen the recent BBC Countryfile programme where our local farmers and food producers were so highly praised. Much of our beef and poultry will reach their prime condition in time for the Christmas market. For many farmers it's the time to present the best of their stock at the Frome Christmas Stock Show, when competition is high with the farmers and butchers buying the best animals: an essential part of their Christmas sales.

Recently I met a lady enjoying the birds in our churchyard and I have also heard the barn owl very close to St Margaret's. If you get the chance go out to look for our regular birds you'll find it much easier to see them now there are no leaves on most of the trees. The wintering thrushes will all be here by December, so you should see fieldfares and redwing in addition to blackbirds and song thrushes. Due to the very cold weather in Scandinavia and beyond, there has also been a major influx of other birds: look out for goldcrests, siskins, nuthatches, and plenty of owls.

Enjoy the last month of the year for all the right reasons, get out and see the wonderful countryside around us – it costs nothing!!



You are more than your intellect

Caroline Le Vine, Counsellor in Corsley

We are thinking beings; we use our powerful brains to great

effect. Crossing the road requires thought as does arriving at the latest scientific breakthrough. We need to plan our time, consider options available to us and solve problems. It's easy to believe that our intellect is the most important aspect of us. But we have physical bodies and we have emotional realms as well. These can be easily overlooked as we bustle through our lives. It's not unknown for me to ask someone how they feel about something and for them to begin their response with, 'I think...' Going straight to thinking ignores feeling. For some, the safest place to be is in thinking. It's rational, logical and tidy(ish). Feeling is messy, illogical and can be frightening because it's less controlled and not so easy for the mind to understand.

Ignoring the feeling world is a high risk option, though. It might seem like a good idea because you feel you are protecting yourself but, at some point, those boxed up, stuffed down feelings will emerge, possibly with some force. You may become suddenly and uncontrollably angry for no reason that is apparent; you may find yourself weeping torrents of tears, or you may succumb to deep depression. Your physical body will often offer clues to your 'disease' as well. Churning stomach, tight chested-ness, headaches, insomnia and so on; these can be manifestations of deep, unexpressed unhappiness.

If you recognise in yourself a reluctance to 'feel', it's important to acknowledge the fear that can be associated with overwhelming emotion and not to rush in. We need to go gently into that unfamiliar world and to be reassured that we can come back to a safer place when we need to rather than drowning. Generally, I'd suggest that you do this with a therapist who can be with you in the moments that scare you and who can help you back into a more comfortable place.

If, however, you suspect that there's a feeling lurking that you've yet to connect with but that probably isn't too much to handle alone, you could try spending some time (just a few minutes will do) focusing on your inner, emotional world and see what you find. You'll need a quiet space, away from distractions. Sit comfortably with both feet flat on the floor and close your eyes. Bring your attention to your breathing only, just for a few breaths, if your mind wanders, just gently bring it back to your breathing. Then start a brief body scan: begin with your feet and work upwards to the top of your head, pausing at each part and checking how it feels. Is it hot, cold, tense, relaxed, stiff, churning, soft and so on. Whatever you discover - comfortable or not - see what feelings are associated with that physical state. Try to remain curious and not judge what you find. If your stomach is churning, say, is there some irritation there, or anxiety? What might the feeling be connected with? What do you need to do about it? Express

it? Talk to someone? Explore or consider it further? Take some other action?

When you're ready to stop, bring your awareness gently back into the room. Focus on what you can hear, smell and touch. Finally, open your eyes and acknowledge what you can see. Pause a little and then gradually engage with the outside world again. I hope you'll have got to know a little more about your emotional and physical aspects and about the relationship between them. If you find this useful, do it some more!

If you'd like to come and see me, I practise at St Margaret's Church, Deep Lane, Corsley. Your first half-hour meeting with me is free.

07817 192008

enquiries@carolinelevine.co.uk

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or find me on www.counselling-directory.org.uk

Yoga Classes

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For more information and to
book classes please contact
Jackie Jasper
01373 832301

2015 Poppy Appeal Collection

The 2015 house-to-house collections and the static collections at The Royal Oak, The Cross Keys, Acres Supply, Little Cuckoos Nursery and Chapmanslade school, have raised £1151.76. The collections from the Remembrance Services at Corsley along with a donation from the Church charity fund raised a further £350, giving a total raised this year of £1501.76.

Even though many of our troops have been out of Afghanistan for over a year and therefore out of the news, there are still young men and women returning from active duty who need help with both physical and mental injuries. The British Legion places a high priority on helping these young veterans from recent conflicts as well as those veterans from the Second World War, Northern Ireland and the Falklands, to name just a few.

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. Therefore every penny raised makes a real difference to the lives of service men and women, veterans and their loved ones.

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the collections and to all of you who gave so generously.

Jackie Jasper

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!

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Pine **bunk beds** – 155cm x 100cm – easily converted to two single bed (77.5cm x 100cm) **£35**

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Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Ladies dancing | 11 Jacob Marley |
| 2 Holiday Inn | 12 Comet, Cupid, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Donner, Blitzen (or Dunder and Blixem) - the poem is alternatively titled 'A Visit from St Nicholas' and 'Twas the night Before Christmas' is the first line. Rudolph was created later in 1939 by copywriter Robert May for the Montgomery Ward department store chain, as the main character in a free Christmas promotional story, which extended the 1823 poem, and was subsequently turned into the popular song "Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer". |
| 3 Norway | |
| 4 God rest ye merry gentlemen | |
| 5 George V (in 1932) | |
| 6 Clarence (Oddbody) | |
| 7 Australia | |
| 8 6 | |
| 9 1984 (Band Aid II was 1989, Band Aid 20 was 2004) | |
| 10 Mexico | |

Local organisation adverts

£2.00 per month for a small boxed advert or £7.50 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)	£22.00
2 spaces	(69mm wide x 66mm high)	£42.00
3 spaces	(quarter page - 69mm wide x 100mm high)	£60.00
4 spaces	(138mm wide x 66mm high)	£75.00
6 spaces	(half page - 138mm wide x 100mm high)	£104.00

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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