

The Bridge

December 2017

*monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade*



Go to an auction, tuck into a Lite Bites Xmas lunch, enjoy the Festival Choir's Carol Concert, buy your presents at TWO Xmas Fayres, catch a film at Cinema Corsley, make a wreath or gingerbread house, 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.

In this issue...

8 Bob's Bafflers
a cunning quiz

12 Science
biology: changing the world

16 Parish Council briefing
Corsley

Seven Open Doors **21**
news from the pews

Corsley WI **26**
news from the ladies

Parish Council briefing **32**
Chapmanslade

35 News from the Nest
fledgling fun

37 Whitbourne Chapel
chapel colloquy

42 Waste collection changes
for Christmas and New Year

Deadline

Deadline for articles or adverts for the January edition of The Bridge is
9th December

Please note that no items will be accepted after this date



December

Monday 4th

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

25th Annual CLIC Sargent Carol Service and Auction of cakes gifts, hampers, donated vouchers, wines, spirits, etc. Free entry. Optional supper. All proceeds to CLIC Sargent. 7 pm, Frome Market, Standerwick. Details Dennis Barnard 832262

Tuesday 5th

Village Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12.00 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Wednesday 6th

Lite Bites Christmas Lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 7th

Cinema Corsley - Memories of Corsley and Chapmanslade – 7 for 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

DUE TO THE PRINTER'S XMAS BREAK, THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE JANUARY EDITION OF THE BRIDGE IS SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Saturday 9th

Little Cuckoos Christmas Fayre 10 am to 12 noon at Little Cuckoos Pre-school, Lyes Green
Chapmanslade Village Hall Annual Inner Wheel Carols by Candlelight. 7 for 7.30 pm, hot supper, puddings, cheese, wine/soft drinks included. Tickets £12.50 (yes really) from Gwen Barnard 832262

Sunday 10th

Wreath making or decorating a gingerbread house – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall
Corsley Festival Choir - A Ceremony of Carols Concert – 7.30 pm, St Margaret's Church

Thursday 14th

Corsley WI – 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room. Members only 'Bring & Share' Christmas Lunch

Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Sunday 17th

Chapmanslade School PTFA Christmas Fayre – 1 pm to 5 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Pub Quiz – 6 pm, Cross Keys, Corsley

Monday 18th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches – Carol Singing in Chapmanslade High Street from 6 pm

Diary Dates

Wednesday 20th

Little Cuckoos Nativity – St Margaret’s Church

Thursday 21st

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

Frome Rotary and Frome Lions Christmas Float tours Chapmanslade

Thursday 28th

Chapmanslade’s Big Christmas Party featuring the Cleyhill Stompers– 7.30 pm,
Chapmanslade Village Hall

January

Tuesday 2nd

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

Thursday 4th

Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Thursday 11th

Corsley WI – 2.30pm, Corsley Reading Room - ‘A Bite Of Delight’, celebration cakes by Mel
Colbridge

Wednesday 17th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches PCC Meeting – 7.30 pm, St Margaret’s church

Thursday 18th

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

Wednesday 24th

Lite Bites lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 27th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches Church Strategy Meeting – 10 am to 12 noon,
Corsley Reading Room

Sunday 28th

Pub Quiz – 6 pm, Cross Keys, Corsley

**DON'T FORGET THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS
FOR THE JANUARY EDITION OF THE BRIDGE IS
SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER**

2017 Poppy Appeal Collection

This year Corsley and Chapmanslade have raised **£2388.33** for the British Legion Poppy Appeal. This amount will increase once we have heard how much was raised from gift aid.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the house to house collections in all weathers and to The Royal Oak, The Cross Keys, The Three Horseshoes, Acres Supply, Little Cuckoos Nursery and Chapmanslade school. Also to the Parochial Church Council of Corsley and Chapmanslade and Chapmanslade Parish Council.

The Royal British Legion not only remembers and honours the sacrifice 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 has helped with the collections and to all of you who gave so generously.

*Jackie Jasper
Area Poppy Appeal Organiser*



Hundreds of bulbs planted in the village

Daffodil and crocus bulbs have been planted around Chapmanslade by volunteers to bring some wonderful colour to our street scene come springtime.

On Sunday 5th November, several hundred daffodil bulbs were planted around the perimeter of the Recreation ground by some 15 volunteers of all ages. Adam Oakley drilled the holes whilst the rest of the 'team' followed behind with the bulbs – many of which had been donated by local suppliers Barbers Plant Centre and Acres Supply. Other bulbs were donated by the volunteers themselves. Teas, coffees and delicious bacon sandwiches were also enjoyed by all.

On the following Tuesday, three of the Chapmanslade contingent of Frome Rotarians, Ian Buick, Chris Page and Ernie McKenna, planted 200 crocus bulbs at the phone box triangle. The bulbs were supplied by Frome Rotary as part of the Rotary International Purple4Polio worldwide polio eradication campaign.

Thank you to all those who attended and donated bulbs!

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Cinema Corsley

We are pleased to announce that the next film of the new season showing at **Corsley Reading Room** (using our new equipment!) is...

Thursday 7th December **Memories of Corsley and Chapmanslade**

We are planning a special evening focusing on the history of the Corsley and Chapmanslade area, and especially the village of Corsley itself.

We will be showing a short film called "The Death of a Sociologist," which was inspired by the story of Maud Davis and her research up to 1909 into Corsley village families and her resulting social history book "Life in an English Village".

The producer and director of this short film will give a talk about the making of the film and there will be a Q&A session afterwards.

This will be followed by Victoria Hutchings and Dennis Barnard discussing the book "Crocodiles and Chicken Chasers", which they wrote about the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade.

As well as other local short films from the Wiltshire/Somerset area, there will also be an exhibition of local photographs and documents for everyone to view on the evening in the lower room. Part of this exhibition will also be available to view from 11am – 3pm on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th December, in the Reading Room. Entry on the Friday and Saturday is free for the exhibition, with tea and coffee on sale.

If anyone has any village archives they would be happy to lend, please contact either Clare da Costa – 832825 or Liz Garrett – 839060

Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start at Corsley Reading Room. Tickets - £6 to include a free cup of tea or coffee. Refreshments and licensed bar also available. We advise buying tickets early from Acres Supply as we cannot guarantee any being available on the night.

Next year's Cinema Corsley dates are:

- Thursday 18th January
- Thursday 15th February
- Thursday 15th March
- Thursday 19th April



Bob's bafflers

- 1 Why should you stir a Christmas pudding clockwise?
- 2 Which old English coin was traditionally put in Christmas puddings to bring luck to the finder?
- 3 From which country did turkeys originate?
- 4 Which Christmas dessert features in the song "We wish you a merry Christmas"?
- 5 Which ballet features a young girl's broken Christmas present?
- 6 Who wrote the Christmas story "The Snowman"?
- 7 Which country was Wenceslas the king?
- 8 Which bird, now popular as Christmas dinner, was Elizabeth I said to be eating when told of the defeat of the Spanish Armada?
- 9 Which King of England was crowned on Christmas Day?
- 10 In Dickens' story "A Christmas Carol", how many ghosts visited Scrooge?
- 11 In which Christmas song is a snowman pretending to be Parson Brown?
- 12 To which country does the territory of Christmas Island belong?
- 13 In which film did the song "White Christmas" first feature?
- 14 If you were born on Christmas Day, what star sign would you be?
- 15 Which word associated with Christmas could be illustrated by
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

A happy Christmas to all who have been baffled in 2017, from Bob!

Answers on page 44

Corsley broadband

More of the village is now covered by high speed broadband capability. Things will hopefully develop quickly as we go into December. Please refer to hdwebsites.wixsite.com/broadband for up-to-date information.

For up-to-date information such as occasional parish council meetings, church services, previous editions of The Bridge, local clubs and activities, business listings, and other useful information, please visit www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk
Want something added? Just email the Editor with your request!

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Biology: changing the world

Have you had your 'flu jab? You should!

I don't know anyone who *likes* injections. At best, you tolerate them because they are doing you good. Even then, if you have never had 'flu you may not see the point of having the optional 'flu jab. "That is for people who get the 'flu, isn't it?" "Surely, even they don't need it, as once you have caught something, aren't you immune to it?" "Anyway, I've heard that the 'flu jab isn't effective." No, no and no!

Unlike many infections where the infectious agent is pretty much the same from year to year, such as the measles or mumps viruses, the influenza virus changes. Some years it gives a relatively mild infection, but at other times it can be devastating. For example, it is estimated that the infamous Spanish Flu of 1918-19 killed up to 50 million people world-wide; 228,000 in the UK alone compared with 700,000 UK deaths over the four years of the First World War. This is a problem when it comes to making the 'flu vaccine. The pharmaceutical companies that make the vaccine have to predict which strain of 'flu will be prevalent next winter, as it takes at least 6 months to create sufficient doses of vaccine. Sometimes the predictions don't quite work out, so the 2014 vaccine was not as effective as hoped against the main strain of influenza. However, most of the time the vaccine works well.

It is particularly important this year to be immunised if you are over 65, are very



young (who receive a nasal spray), or have certain medical problems. You could be more susceptible to influenza than many of the population because your immune system may not be as robust. It is also important if you work in day care, healthcare, or some other professions, such as teaching. This may prevent you passing the 'flu to someone less able than you to cope with the infection. The virus coming this winter is a nasty one.

How do we know this? The Australian 'flu season is out-of-phase with ours and it has been a particularly bad season on the other side of the world. There have been at least 170,000 cases and 72 deaths in a population of about 21 million. A similar proportion of the Australian and UK populations live in cities, so we might expect over half a million cases in the UK, and over 200 deaths.

However, things may change in future. Influenza vaccines have historically been raised against the proteins on the surface of the 'flu virus, and different variants of these proteins are found in the different strains that are most common from year to year. This is why the best 'flu vaccine has to be predicted and produced each year. Very recent work from Australia and the US, published this (Northern) summer, has shown that part of a protein that does not vary between strains may be used as a vaccine. This is the first time that there is a real chance of having a 'flu vaccine that works year-on-year. If this succeeds in clinical trials, the 'flu jab may become a single event, rather than an annual one. In the meantime, have your 'flu jab!

Nigel Brown is happy to receive comments, questions and suggestions for future articles at nigelbrown48@gmail.com.

Thank You

A big thank you from David Woolgar and family for the heartfelt condolences from friends and neighbours, and especially to Diana Britten for a beautiful service and to Richard Dean for reading our family memories. Thanks also to Rob and Sara at the Cross Keys for hosting the wake and the homemade cake.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to Julie's memory (Dorothy House/ Cancer Research) can do so at William Adlam Funeral Directors, Locks Hill, Frome.

Thank You!

Chapmanslade and Corsley
from
Operation Christmas Child



A big 'thank you' to everyone who so generously gave shoe boxes full of gifts for the children in needy countries.

The 'GO' boxes have again proved very popular, although some of us still enjoy wrapping our shoe box. On Sunday 5th November we gathered most the shoe boxes together and blessed them before sending them on their way. This year 61 shoeboxes were collected from St Margaret's Church, St Philip & St James' Church and Little Cuckoos and delivered to the warehouse in Warminster where they will be made ready for their final destination.

Each box is checked to ensure that all items included are suitable and that any unsuitable items 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.

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

Pat Ryan,
St Margaret's Church

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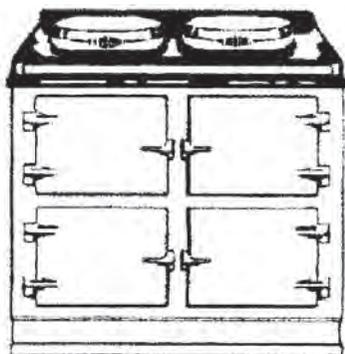


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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Chairman, Neil Britten, reports on the PCs activities and community info

Last month was a very quiet month for the PC, with no meetings. This brief is thus confined to planning application feedback and advance notice of two key items for next year.

Previous Planning Applications

The two applications below were approved with standard conditions. The PC had registered no objection to either of them.

17/08473/FUL – Gloworm Cottage, Heath Close – single storey side extension and new porch.

17/07555/FUL – Court Lane Farm – Conversion of outbuilding to workshop including associated works

Annual Parish Meeting 2018

All Parish Councils in England are required by law to hold an Annual Parish Meeting. It is not a PC meeting, but very much a village gathering, with the PC providing the Chair. The meeting is intended to allow the PC to explain what they have been doing over the last year and for local community organisations to do so if they wish. It is also the occasion for electors to have their say on anything which they consider is important to the people of the parish. The meeting will take place early in March at a date yet to be confirmed.

In the recent past, the PC has offered the subjects for discussion, with broadband and Longleat's plans the mainstays. However,

the PC would very much like to hear from the village what its concerns are and what it would like to see on the agenda. There will be another notice in *The Bridge* next month with deadlines for input.

Grants and donations

Each year the PC invites bids from village organisations for grants and donations towards their costs, with a deadline at the end of January. There will be a formal notice inviting bids in the January edition of *The Bridge*, with further explanation of the process; this short notice is included here as an encouragement to get people thinking in advance of the festive season.

Dates of next meetings

Quarterly meeting	4th December 2017
Annual Parish Meeting	March 2018 <i>exact date to be confirmed</i>
Annual PC Meeting	7th May 2018 <i>election of Chair/Vice Chair</i>
Quarterly Meetings	4th June 3rd September 3rd December

There may be occasional meetings at short notice; please watch the village noticeboards.

*Best wishes to all from the PC
for the Christmas season*

*Neil Britten
Chairman*

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Chapmanslade's

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Dear Friends,

Early November, and I am driven crazy attempting to shop in a supermarket stuffed to the hilt with 'Christmas treats'. I honestly want to run away and hide until Christmas morning; well perhaps Christmas Eve as the midnight service is my favourite. Any mention of the 'C' word results in a rolling of eyes and expressions of horror at the unmitigated slog that is purported to be necessary if the big day is to be a 'success', which would be laughable really if it wasn't so sad. Peel back the layers, stop fussing about the wretched turkey, forget about what on earth you are going to buy ancient Auntie Flo, stop, just for a minute. If possible wrap up warm and go outside when it's dark and you can see the moon and the stars...

'O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens -----
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
4 what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

'When I look at the heavens, the work of your fingers' writes the psalmist, inviting us to look up, to lift our eyes beyond the crushing concerns of our broken world to the glory of the night sky, to the moon and stars, inviting us consider that being beyond all time, that being who created each and everyone of us, who knows each and every one of us at the deepest level, whose spirit inhabits each and every one of us. And that being, who created all things, who loves us whoever we are and whatever we have done, came to share what it means to be human in the most vulnerable way possible, in the form of a baby.

Whether or not you consider the Christmas story to be 'true', whatever that means, is immaterial, the question we need to be asking is what is the gospel writer trying to tell us through the story. The posh word for God coming to share our humanity is the incarnation, and one of the posh words for Jesus is Emmanuel, which means, God with us. God with us and for us, not as some pie in the sky old man wagging his finger at us but as one whose love means he shares everything about what it means to be human, even the messy dark bits, because after all, a smelly dark stable is about as messy as it gets.

The Christmas story isn't about success it's about love.
'The Advent bells call out "Prepare"
Your world is journeying to the birth
Of God made man for us on earth.' (Bentjeman)

May God's love surround you and your family this Christmas tide,
Love and prayers,
Pauline

December Church Diary

Sunday 3rd December: Advent Sunday

8am at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: 1662 BCP Communion
9.30am at St Margaret of Antioch, Corsley: Eucharist
10.30am at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Christingle & Posada



Monday 4th December

10am at 131 High Street, Chapmanslade
Advent Meditation



Wednesday 6th December

12.30pm at the Reading Rooms, Corsley: Lite Bites Christmas Lunch – please
book your place with Maureen Willcox on 832171



Sunday 10th December: Second Sunday of Advent

9.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Family Holy Communion
10.30am at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: Eucharist
11am at St Mary's, Temple, Corsley: Matins
6pm at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: From Darkness to Light



Sunday 17th December: Third Sunday of Advent

10.30 at St Michael the Archangel, Brixton Deverill: Eucharist
6pm at St Margaret of Antioch, Corsley: Carol service
St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: Carol service



Monday 18th December

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



Thursday 21st December

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

Sunday 24th December: Christmas Eve

3pm at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Crib service
4pm at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Crib service
11.30pm at St Margaret's, Corsley: Midnight Mass



Monday 25th December: Christmas Day

9am at St Mary's, Temple, Corsley: 1662 BCP Holy Communion
9.30am at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: Eucharist
10.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Family Eucharist
10.30am at St John the Baptist, Horningsham: Eucharist
11.15am at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Christmas Worship



Sunday 31st December: First Sunday of Christmas

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



Sunday 7th January: Epiphany

8am at St Michael the Archangel, Brixton Deverill: 1662 BCP Communion
9.30am at St Margaret of Antioch, Corsley: Eucharist
10.30am at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Family Worship

Fundraising

We held our Autumn Coffee Morning at 47 High Street, Chapmanslade on 18th November. The Fear's house was filled with people enjoying coffee and homemade biscuits and having a good natter. The Christmas Draw was made for the 50/50 Club and ten people won prizes totalling £650 in cash ranging from £25 to £200.

As usual, we will be carol singing along the High Street in Chapmanslade on Monday 18th December raising funds for the Children's Society. We shall meet at the old Post Office at 6pm so if you want to join us please do come along and sing your favourite carols. Please bring a torch and make sure you wrap up warm. We normally finish with a final flourish at the Three Horseshoes with a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie.

Two years ago we held a very enjoyable musical evening at St Margaret's. Plans are well advanced for another evening on Friday 16th March. Do please keep this date free in your diary.

Messy Church

We shall be present at the Chapmanslade School Christmas Fayre being held in the village hall on Sunday 17th December from 1pm until 5pm. The church will be providing some craft activities and we will be entertaining children and their parents with carol singing.

Strategy Meeting

On Saturday 27th January from 10am to 12 noon at the Reading Rooms we shall be holding a meeting on the future strategy of the church in the Parish and the community. We shall be discussing how we can meet the spiritual needs of people, young and old, in a changing world and ensure that we hold the community at the heart of our church. We will investigate how we might be able to ensure that our church buildings meet the changing needs of the community and where any funds would be best invested. Everyone is invited to come along and join in the discussions. Coffee and cakes will be provided!!

Welcome, Congratulations & Farewell

We welcome into our church family Harlow Wheeler, baptised at Corsley on 5th November at Corsley; and Henry Beck baptised on 26th November at Longbridge Deverill.

The funeral of John Pearce took place on 15th November at Kingston Deverill. We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family.

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PCC Secretary	Phil Jefferson	01373 832845
PCC Minute Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074

Copy for Seven Open Doors should be sent to Keith Muston at themustons@btinternet.com subject 7ODs or phone 01373 832755.

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

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Corsley WI

November news



At the November meeting of Corsley WI, members were treated to a demonstration entitled 'All Wrapped Up for Christmas' by Ann Campbell. Ann brought with her a selection of all kinds of gift bags, wrapping paper, tissue paper and ribbons and showed us how to make several kinds of bows. Two items exactly the same can look so different just because of the paper used and the choice of bow or ribbon used for finishing off. Ann was once part of a team wrapping presents for Harrods and her best tips were to measure the paper carefully, to position the join of the paper on the edge of the parcel and to use double-sided tape to seal the edges and hold bows and ribbons in place. If a gift bag is used for a very small item, a sheet of crumpled tissue paper can be placed in the top. Amanda Bain gave the vote of thanks to Ann for showing us her beautifully wrapped presents and for her helpful advice.

The competition for a gift-wrapped parcel was won by Caroline Higham, who wrapped up and decorated her present of a ball to make it look just like a Christmas Pudding on a plate! Carol Seward came second and Val Benbow third.

We have a coach trip, open to all, on Friday 20th April, to the Royal Mint Experience. To book a place to the Royal Mint, please ring Carol Seward on 01373 832446, or email carol.seward@talktalk.net for details and any other information about Corsley WI.

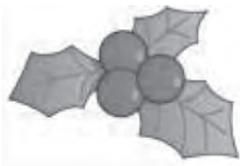
There is to be a workshop on Patchwork Quilting in January. Full details of this and future events organised by the Federation

are available at our meetings, including a visit to the Poppy Factory, a basket-weaving workshop and a morning with Mendelssohn. Through the Federation, we all have access so much more than we can provide in our WI locally and it gives us many great opportunities.

The meeting of Corsley WI on Thursday 14th December, takes the form of a members-only 'Bring and Share' Christmas Lunch, starting at **12 noon** in the Reading Room, with entertainment as usual and a Secret Santa. The competition is for a Christmas Table Arrangement - to include a candle.

Are you new to the area? Don't know anyone? Can you play skittles or scrabble, or would like to learn? We are looking for new team members. To find out more, why not come along to our meeting on **Thursday 11th January at 2.30pm**? The speaker will be Mel Colbridge, who is to give a demonstration about celebration cakes, called 'A Bite Of Delight'. We meet in the Reading Room at Corsley on the second Thursday each month at 2.30pm until March 2018, then in April the time will change to 7.30pm. We can usually help with travel if needed or arrange for someone to come with you. The competition for members is for a tea-towel.

The Bridge Club, Gardening Club and Lunch Club are open to both members and non-members and are run by Pauline Scott. Phone 01985 215760, for meeting dates and venues.



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Cross Keys News

A community Free House

There is plenty to look forward to at the Cross Keys during December, so we hope to see you at some time over the festive period – you're sure of a warm welcome. Our usual menu will be available throughout December apart from Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Lighter portions are available for children and those with smaller appetites.

Our **Christmas menu** is available from **1st – 24th December** at a cost of **£20 for two courses** and **£25 for three courses**. You must pre-book. You can see the menu on our website or ask when you're next in the pub. We can also host parties and private functions in the Oak Apple Room.

Our popular **Quiz Night**, will be held earlier in the month on **Sunday 17th December**. Why not make up a team with your friends or neighbours? Starting at 6.30pm; a maximum of 5 people per team at a cost of £2 per person, or £5 per person to include a light supper of chips and sandwiches. Book your place by calling the pub. If you'd like supper, you will need to **book by Saturday 16th December**. From January, the quiz night will be held as usual on the last Sunday of each month, the first in the New Year being **Sunday 28th January**.

There are a few **changes to opening hours** over the festive period. Booking is advisable on these dates.

Christmas Day – drinks only 11-3

Boxing Day – open 11-3, special lunch menu available

New Year's Eve (closed 4-6pm) – The Great Gatsby buffet supper

New Year's Day - open 11-3, special lunch menu available

We will close between 4pm and 6pm on News Year's Eve and re-open at 6pm for our '**The Great Gatsby**' themed **New Year's Eve Party**. Tickets for the **buffet supper** are a very reasonable **£10**. In the usual Cross Keys style, there will be fancy dress, music, dancing and a great atmosphere to see in the New Year with your local community. Again, you will need to pre-book for the buffet.

As a Community pub, we welcome your suggestions. We want to provide a welcoming venue for you, your friends and families. There is a suggestions box in the pub and if you have any events you'd like to see hosted at The Cross Keys, pop down and let us know. Dogs are welcome in the bar, we have a jar of dog biscuits for them with a suggested donation of 10p towards the defibrillator fund.

Usual opening hours

Monday – Saturday 11 am to 11 pm

Sunday 11 am to 10 pm

Food served

Monday – Saturday

12 noon to 2.30 pm and 6 pm to 9 pm

Sunday 12 noon to 4 pm

Keep checking the website www.crosskeyscorsley.co.uk or our Facebook page Cross Keys Inn Corsley for details of all these events and other news. Alternatively, contact the pub on 01373 832406 to book a table. We look forward to seeing you soon.

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Notes from the Parish Council meeting held on 16th November

Westbury Waste Processing Plant

Ian Curtis raised the issue of the emissions from the chimney at the proposed waste plant in Westbury, It was agreed that the PC would make further enquiries about the environmental conditions for this proposed plant.

Weight restriction and associated road signage

Continuing correspondence between Highways England, Wiltshire Council and the Parish Council but no positive action yet!

Speeding

Speedwatch very active and recording record numbers of cars and offenders.

Drainage and flooding

The Parish Council had written to the Highways Department and the Planning Department about concerns relating to the drainage in Huntenhull Lane. The Highways Department responded by confirming they had passed the correspondence to the Environmental Agency.

Planning applications and issues

The application for the erection of a garden shed at the rear of 52 High Street 17/08328/FUL. This is shown on the WC website as "withdrawn at present".

The application was for a single storey dwelling on land at 26 Southcroft 17/08031/FUL. This application has been approved with conditions.

The application for 43 Clearwood View has been approved with conditions.

Communications

The Chairman had discussed with several parties the question of communications within the village. With new technology it was essential for all communications within the village to be properly synchronised. It was agreed to have communications as an agenda item for our January meeting.

Village Plan

The Parish Council meeting finished promptly to permit the presentation of the Village Questionnaire. This second meeting was attended by nearly fifty people and the meeting on the following Sunday by ten. Both meetings gave rise to lively discussions and many ideas were put forward. The challenge now is to translate the ideas into action!

Next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on **December 14th at 7.30pm.**

Keith Muston, Chair
01373 832755

themustons@btinternet.com

www.chapmanslade.org.uk

Friends of Chapmanslade School PTFA

Christmas Fayre

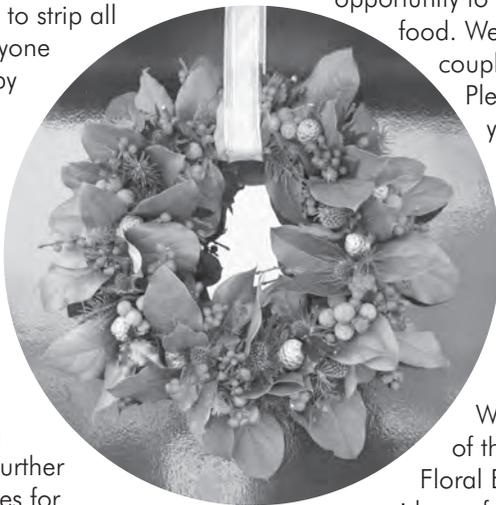
This month we have been busy preparing for our Christmas Fayre which will be held on **Sunday 17th December** at Chapmanslade Village Hall. It will be the weekend before the children break up for school, parents thinking they can't wait until December, too much money spent! This Christmas we would love to strip all of this back and get everyone into the Christmas spirit by relaxing with a drink and eating some food whilst listening to our very own Chapmanslade carol singers! We will have a few stallholders who are local and connected with the village or school. We also have the pleasure of Messy Church offering craft activities. We have further activities, crafts and games for adults and children. Aveling Adventures have kindly offered to attend with their new game, Hoverball Archery so come and give it a try! We'll also have a special guest when Father Christmas makes an appearance! We also have an amazing raffle for which you can buy tickets prior to the event. Contact details below.

Wreath making or decorating a gingerbread house

We have also been busy preparing for our two dates – Wreath Making or Decorating a

Gingerbread House! Because of the success of the 30th November we have now put on a further date of Sunday 10th December at 7.30pm at Chapmanslade Village Hall.

There will be Christmas songs, a drink on arrival and nibbles. There will be an opportunity to buy more drinks and food. We will also be playing a couple of Christmas games! Please feel free to wear your Christmas jumper!



Decorating the gingerbread house £15pp, A simple structure to put together but you can have lots of fun creating your own decorations.

We have the pleasure of the company of Blooms Floral Emporium for expert guidance for the wreath making which is £30pp. If you require a lift to either event please contact us (see info below) and we can arrange transport for you.

For raffle tickets or to book for activities contact 07964 880841 or 01373 832021 or PTFA@chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk or pop by 60 High Street, Chapmanslade.

Many thanks

*Charlene Ridler
Chair of the PTFA*

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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

The Cinema Corsley event on 7th December about Corsley and Chapmanslade (see page 7) is likely to be a sell-out, advanced ticket purchase is strongly recommended to be sure of a place. The website will advise if we are sold out for the December showing, so please check there to avoid turning up and not being able to get in (we are limited on numbers by our licence). The exhibition of historical information about the two villages (on display on film night) will also be showing on the Friday and Saturday (8th and 9th) from 11 to 3pm with tea/coffee available. Do come along and see it.

The dates for 2018 cinema season up to April are: Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar 15 and Apr 19, put them in your diary now!

Why not come along to our coffee mornings on the first Tuesday of the month to catch up on what's happening in the village and meet new people and old friends? The December 5th one will also have mulled wine available and mince pies!

We WILL hold a coffee morning on Tuesday January 2nd 2018 so why not get back in the routine after the Christmas festivities by coming along.

The next IT Club is on 13th December at 10am. Want to get answers to 'How do I...?' then why not come along? £3 a time and that includes coffee/tea and a biscuit.

Vanessa has decided to stay in the village a while longer so there is now no urgency to find a new Treasurer. However, we remain keen to have some new committee members; there are always jobs to do. If you would be interested please let me or Jenny Ruddy know, or talk to any member.

The hall and facilities are available to hire. Full details about the hall and its facilities including how to hire are on the website or call Gill Parkinson (832322) to discuss. See our website www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

Hugh Deed

*Chairman of Management Committee
Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk or
01373 832897*

.....

Events run by the Corsley Reading Room Management Committee

Coffee Morning:
First Tuesday of the month 10 am - 12 noon
IT Classes/Club:
13th December 10 am - 12 noon
Cinema Corsley:
7th December, 7 pm for 7.30 pm start

Regular events run by other organisations

Lite Bites Lunches: *Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 6th December. Usually 4th
Wednesday of each month*
Yoga: *Tuesday and Wednesday evenings*
Pilates: *Tuesday afternoons*
*Committee members include: Vanessa Hyde,
Jackie Jasper, Sue Kerfoot, Gill Parkinson,
Jenny Ruddy, Jill Westgate, David Carruthers.*



News from the Nest

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

As autumn merged into winter, Little Cuckoos Pre-School embraced the changing seasons with fun-filled activities from learning about scarecrows and hibernating animals, to stepping outside into their Willow Wonderland play area. The children also managed to fit in a seasonal walk through Heaven's Gate with staff and parents to explore nature before warming up over a much-needed hot chocolate!

This month, the little ones will each be given their role to play in the annual Nativity performance which will take place on 20th December at the pre-school's neighbouring St Margaret's Church. From shepherds and stars, to kings and angels, staff will be getting creative with the children as they learn more about their role and practice their festive songs.

Little Cuckoos will be transformed into a winter wonderland on Saturday 9th December for the Christmas Fayre which will bring together a fantastic variety of festive activities, including 'make your own reindeer food', face-painting and the much-anticipated arrival of Father Christmas as he makes his way to his cosy grotto. The event starts at 10am until 12pm and creates a wonderful morning of family fun for those who already attend the pre-school or who would like to come along and support our fundraising efforts.

An exciting visitor has been spotted enjoying some time in the grounds of the pre-school. Sitting proudly on the fence post before swooping down into Willow Wonderland to sit on top of the #Bug Hotel, a resident bird believed to be a falcon has made a fabulous addition to the variety of wildlife that can be found at Little Cuckoos. Keep your eyes out for the beauty next time you visit the pre-school!



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.co.uk

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Whitbourne Chapel

A very Happy Christmas to all our readers!

December preachers

3rd – Mr Andrew Coxhead, landscape gardener and preacher, based at Frome Evangelical Church

10th – Mr John Hobson, regular contributor to this page for the Chapel and also based at Frome Evangelical Church

17th – At 11am Mr Russell Short, a regular preacher for us from Frome Evangelical Church, will lead the Service

****** At 5pm, we will have our Candlelight Service. Come along for well-loved carols, with tea and mince pies afterwards!**

24th – Mr Colin Chapman will lead our Service on Christmas Eve; there will be no Service on Christmas Day

31st – Mr Chris Andrews, author of our Christmas message below and based at Ebenezer Baptist Church, West Lavington.

The indescribable gift!

As we approach Christmas, a perennial debate will be held in homes up and down our land. What is the question, the one on which everyone will have a view, but not everyone in a household will agree? It's "when is the Christmas tree put up?"

So where are you on this apparently important question? Are you one who

puts it up in November, two weeks before Christmas or on Christmas Eve? I've been called Scrooge-like as (allegedly) I'd put it up on Christmas Eve and take it down again on Boxing Day (by the way, we settled on about 2 weeks before!)

We all like a decorated Christmas tree where we sit in a warm room, lit by the coloured lights shining on the tree, though the Christmas tree is a fairly recent addition to Christmas. It reminds us of our Lord Jesus, the One who described Himself as the Light of the World coming into the world. The Bible tells us that, as the Angel spoke to those frightened shepherds, the "glory of the Lord shone around them". The wise men followed the star to find the young Christ child.

To see the lights lit on our tree, we have to find a source of power; we plug them in, don't we? As you celebrate this Christmas remember, as you look at those lights, the Son of God coming into the world to save us. Don't forget to plug in to the truth of the Christmas story and say with the Apostle Paul, "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9 v15).

*Chris Andrews
Preacher for our last service of the year!*

*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)

Chapel Prayer meeting every Sunday morning from 10.20 - 10.40

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

Bible study sessions as announced



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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters



December and January see us working on the farm half in daylight and half in powered light. By late afternoon, the milking cows are either going through the milking parlour or enjoying the high-energy and protein food harvested from the farm, mixed with some bought-in food such as soya. Each feed ingredient is weighed and put into mangers in the collecting/exercise yards.

Whilst the cows are feeding or being milked, the rubber matting in their cubicles are cleaned – each cow has the freedom to walk around or enjoy the comfort of their very own cubicle for the night .

Security lights are essential for the animals and for those caring for them; doors and gates are locked against the elements and wandering animals.

High winds, heavy rainfall and snow can cause lots of problems as does frost when it freezes the drinking water. The milking parlour also freezes up and the yards are like an ice rink.

Heaters are now installed to automatically switch on in the milking parlour when the temperature falls below 5 degrees to allow the milking of the cows whatever the weather

The pregnant cows are loose-housed on fresh straw bedding and, when doing the late-night check, it is a joy to hear the gentle snoring of the cows. Amongst them, a calf may naturally come into the world, with just a few of the cows looking on in wonderment.

Outside the warm, enclosed barns you become aware of the sounds of the countryside at night. Owls hooting and screeching bats swooping around, feeding on insects. Foxes will slink around the hedges to find pheasants that failed to get back to the pens or up to roost in woodland cover. Once alerted, the pheasants put up a tremendous racket which reverberates throughout the woodland, so the fox has to make the most of his first opportunity to get his supper or he goes home hungry.

During the last 20 years since badgers became a protected species, their numbers have exploded and they just love our green-sand soil for burrowing. As they have very poor eyesight, they find their way to food and water with their excellent sense of smell and sensitive snout, feeding on earthworms, cereal crops waiting to be harvested and, just like an urban fox, will find their way into food storage areas in farm building. On a regular night-patrol, it is not unknown to find a badger shuffling towards you at quite a pace, quite oblivious of your presence until really close up!

The countryside at night can be very busy whilst most of us are slumbering!

Judith Helliar

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Christmas and New Year waste and recycling collection changes

Normal collection day	Revised household waste, black box, plastic bottles and cardboard collection day	Revised garden waste collection day
Mon 25 December	Wed 27 December	No collections
Tues 26 December	Thurs 28 December	No collections
Wed 27 December	Fri 29 December	No collections
Thurs 28 December	Sat 30 December	No collections
Fri 29 December	Tues 2 January	No collections
Mon 1 January	Wed 3 January	No collections
Tues 2 January	Thurs 4 January	No collections
Wed 3 January	Fri 5 January	No collections
Thurs 4 January	Sat 6 January	No collections
Fri 5 January	Mon 8 January	No collections
Mon 8 January	Tues 9 January	Tues 9 January
Tues 9 January	Wed 10 January	Wed 10 January
Wed 10 January	Thur 11 January	Thur 11 January
Thur 11 January	Fri 12 January	Fri 12 January
Fri 12 January	Sat 13 January	Sat 13 January
Mon 15 January	Back to normal	Back to normal

There will be no waste or recycling collections on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

There will be catch-up collections on Saturday 30 December, Saturday 6 January and Saturday 13 January.

Garden waste collections will be suspended from Monday 25 December for two weeks and resume on Tuesday 9 January. Collections will be one day later than normal during this week.

All collections, including garden waste, will return to normal from Monday 15 January 2018.

If you have paid for a garden waste collection you can leave your real Christmas tree alongside your garden waste bin on your first garden waste collection day in January, and we will ensure it is composted.

All household recycling centres will also be closed from 1PM on 24 December and all day on 25 December, 26 December, and 1 January. At all other times normal opening hours will apply, 10 am - 4 pm, five days per week. We encourage residents to visit at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres to check which days your local centre is open.

Emergency Contact List

Non-emergency (Police)	www.wiltshire.police.uk	101
NHS	www.nhs.uk	121
Environment Agency	www.environment-agency.gov.uk	
General enquiries		03708 506 506
Floodline		0345 988 1188
Incident reporting		0800 80 70 60
Met Office	www.metoffice.gov.uk	0370 900 0100
Wiltshire Council	www.wiltshire.gov.uk	0300 456 0100
Salisbury District Hospital	www.salisbury.nhs.uk	01722 336262
Royal United hospital Bath	www.ruh.nhs.uk	01225 428331
Highways England	www.highways.gov.uk	0300 123 5000
Samaritans	www.samaritans.org.uk	116 123
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Wessex Water	www.wessexwater.co.uk	0845 600 44600 or 0871 909 0182

Small ads

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

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- 4 Figgy pudding
- 5 The Nutcracker
- 6 Raymond Briggs
- 7 Bohemia
- 8 Goose
- 9 William I in 1066
- 10 Four
- 11 Winter Wonderland
- 12 Australia
- 13 Holiday Inn (1942)
- 14 Capricorn
- 15 Noel!!(sorry – couldn't resist it!)

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 (Barbers 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/
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