

The Bridge

December 2018

*monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade*



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The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Articles

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

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

File types

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

Advertising

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

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

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

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

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Deadline

**Deadline for articles
or adverts for the next
issue of The Bridge is
4pm 7th December**

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

December

Saturday 1st

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches Christmas Coffee
Morning 10.30 – 12 noon Stable Cottage Chapmanslade

Monday 3rd

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

Tuesday 4th

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

Thursday 6th

Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' – 6.30 for 7.30 pm, St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Sunday 9th

Corsley Festival Choir Concert - 6pm St Margaret's Church

Wednesday 12th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches 12.30 pm – 2.00 pm Lite Bites Christmas Lunch
Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 13th

Corsley WI - Christmas Lunch for members – 12 noon, at the Royal Oak, Corsley
Cinema Corsley - 'Mama Mia - Here We Go Again' – 7 for 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Friday 14th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches - Carols in The Barn – 6 pm, Manor Farm, Corsley

Sunday 16th

Little Cuckoos Pre-School's Christmas Fayre – 10 am to 12 pm, at the school

Monday 17th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches - Carol Singing – 6 pm, Chapmanslade High Street

Thursday 20th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Three Horseshoes
Chapmanslade. Featuring the Bobby Van from 10.30 (see page 31)

Sunday 23rd

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches - Carol Service – 6 pm, St Margaret's Church

Saturday 29th

Chicken Chasers Walk – meet at 1.30 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade



Diary Dates

January 2019

Tuesday 1st

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

Thursday 10th

Corsley WI - OPEN meeting 'The Kennet & Avon Canal in Bath', with Gill Redman – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 12th

Frome Inner Wheel - Soup & Puds – 12 noon to 2 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Thursday 17th

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

Wednesday 23rd

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches 12.30 pm – 2 pm Light Bites Soup Lunch Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 24th

Parochial Church Council Meeting

Cinema Corsley - 'Edie' – 7 for 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

February

Tuesday 5th

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

Friday 8th

Charity Quiz Night in aid of Riding for the Disabled – 7 for 7.30pm, Royal Oak, Corsley.
Teams of 4 – £3 a head or £8 with supper

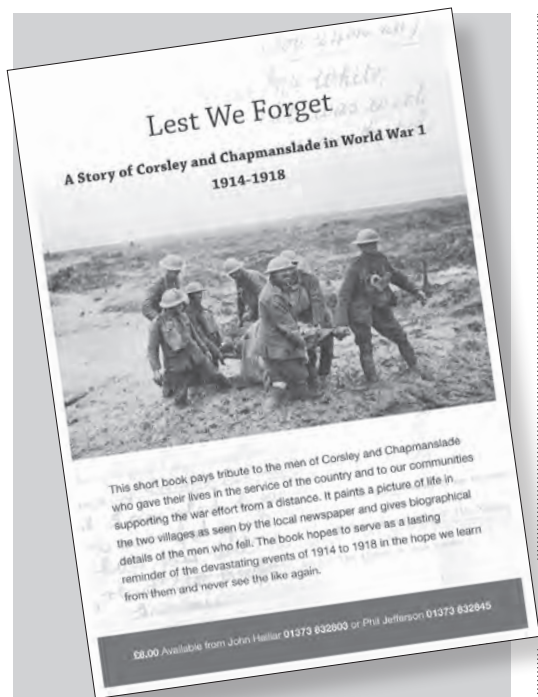
Thursday 14th

Corsley WI - 12.30pm, 'Soup & Puds' fundraising Lunch £7.50pp, followed by WI meeting at 2pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 21st

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

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS
FOR THE JANUARY EDITION OF THE BRIDGE IS
FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER**



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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
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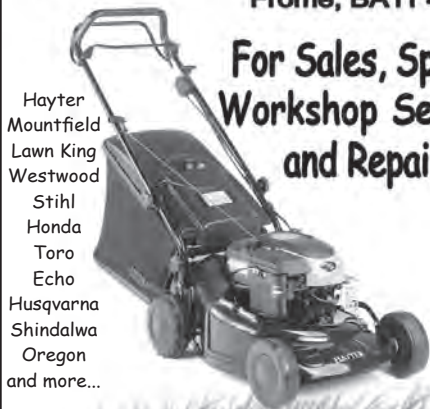
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Cinema Corsley

Mamma Mia! Here we go again

(Certificate PG, running time 1hr 54mins)

Thursday 13th December



We finish 2018 on a lighter note than previous months. The Mamma Mia sequel continues the story of Sophie (Amanda Seyfried) and her mother Donna (Meryl Streep), set on

the fictional Greek island of Kalokairi. The film is both a sequel and prequel, flitting between the present and past, unwrapping Donna's young life and how the friendships forged impact on Sophie's life today.

The colour and warmth of this feel-good, ABBA-based musical comedy gives us a taste of summer as the year's shortest day beckons.

We'll also be showing a touch of Corsley summer with the short film made at this year's 100th Corsley Show. Come and see if you were caught on camera as we celebrate this milestone anniversary in our village's history. DVDs available on the night, priced £10.

Looking ahead...

Edie

(Certificate 12A, running time 1hr 42mins)

Thursday 24th January 2019

No longer a full-time carer, 83-year old Edie (Sheila Hancock) takes on a challenge denied her for many years – climbing Scotland's Mt Suilven. With an old pack on her back, Edie leaves London for Inverness, where she meets a young camping shop owner who becomes a somewhat reluctant and unlikely walking companion. Forming a stereo-typical odd couple, Edie encourages Jonny (Kevin Guthrie) to take every opportunity as it arises while he kits her out for the trip and helps her develop a taste for Strongbow cider.



Being shown in the season of New Year resolutions, tenacious Edie shows us the importance of focusing on life's quality amid the quantity and never giving up on our goals. Described as a gently-paced, simple drama, telling an unapologetically sentimental tale, Hancock gives a poignant performance surrounded by the majesty of the Scottish Highlands. Carpe diem.

Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start at Corsley Reading Room. Tickets £6 from Acres Supply (cash only please) or on the door. Refreshments and a licensed bar.



Bob's bafflers

- 1 If you were born on Christmas Day, which star sign would you be?
- 2 Which ballet is about a young girl's broken Christmas present?
- 3 Which Eastender's character married Cat Slater on Christmas Day 2003?
- 4 According to the lyrics of the famous Christmas song, what was Frosty the Snowman's nose made from?
- 5 To which country does the territory Christmas Island belong?
- 6 Which European country began the tradition of exchanging gifts at Christmas time?
- 7 'The Trolley Song', 'Under the Bamboo Tree' and 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas' are songs featured in which classic musical?
- 8 In the song "The twelve days of Christmas", what were there eight of?
- 9 In which US State does much of the film "White Christmas" feature?
- 10 What is the name of the Christian festival that happens 12 days after Christmas?
- 11 In Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol", how many ghosts visited Scrooge?
- 12 In which Christmas song is a snowman pretending to be Parson Brown?

Answers on page 48

I would like to wish all who have been 'baffled' over the year a happy Christmas and to thank everyone for their kind wishes re my surprise stay at Southmead Hospital, Bristol, at the beginning of November. Bob

Chapmanslade Chicken Chasers

The Chapmanslade Chicken Chasers were greeted with a glorious autumn afternoon on their November outing. The sun shone, and the leaves fluttered as the merry band walked through Black Dog woods, past the playing field and down to Spring Farm. The adults chatted away, the children ran and played, and the dogs bounded across the fields enjoying each others' company, and hunting out mischief. The route continued left onto Mill Lane, and past Divers Bridge heading up past Corsley Church with a kick of the fallen leaves, before heading up the bridleway near Corsley Manor to the path heading across the fields towards Dye House farm. We finished with a small climb back to Southcroft and across to the pub at the end of the walk, enjoying a swift half before heading home.

The next walk will be on **Saturday 29th of December** at **1.30pm**, meeting at the Three Horseshoes. Join us to walk off some of that Christmas excess and enjoy our glorious countryside. The walk will be 3 to 4 miles; dogs and little chicken chasers are welcome!

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Biology: changing the world

HIV and AIDS

1st December is World AIDS Day - to raise awareness and funding to fight HIV

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and compromises the body's ability to fight infections. For several years in the 1970s, AIDS was thought to be limited to gay men. It was the issue that made headlines around the world, as there were many AIDS-related deaths among the gay communities in the US over the following two decades. However, HIV, and therefore AIDS, can be acquired in many ways – anyone actively infected with HIV can pass it on in bodily fluids, including blood and breast milk. A particular scandal has been the use of HIV-infected donated blood from the United States to prepare blood products to treat haemophilia in the UK and elsewhere. I wrote about this in August 2017.

HIV is a retrovirus, as it inserts a DNA copy of its genome into the host cell DNA in order to replicate and make more viruses, which are then released from the cell. The virus damages CD4 cells, which help coordinate the immune system to fight infection. Damage to or loss of CD4 cells severely weakens the immune response. AIDS describes the condition in which the CD4 cell count is very low and the weakened immune system allows other infections and cancers to take hold.



Although historically HIV infection often caused rapid degeneration and death because infected people were unable to fight other infections, remarkable advances in HIV treatment mean that infected individuals are now able to lead relatively normal lives. Anyone who suspects that they may have acquired an HIV infection is able to receive quick and effective treatment.

So why is this disease now manageable and not the death sentence that it was believed to be in the 1970s and 1980s? Drugs which specifically treat the viral infection have made this potentially terminal condition less threatening. They manage the infection, but do not eliminate it. The virus is not removed, but becomes quiescent, hidden in immune cells, and the individual is no longer infectious.

The drugs are usually taken in combination - known as antiretroviral therapy, or ART. People on ART need to take the drugs daily for the rest of their life, and to start

as soon as possible after HIV infection. During pregnancy ART also helps prevent the transmission of HIV from mother to child. These drugs are effective but very expensive and there is an ambition to develop drugs that can eliminate the virus completely, so that continued medication is not required. There has recently been some success in doing this in monkeys, which have a related Simian Immunodeficiency Virus, but no success yet in humans.

Although HIV infection and development of AIDS is manageable, there are two problems that affect the UK. First, there is a lack of understanding that managed HIV is not infectious and about a quarter of people would be concerned about working with someone with a managed HIV infection. Second, there is complacency about the possibility of transmission of HIV. Young people who were not born or were not socially aware during the 1980s may not understand the dangers and they, and older individuals, may take unnecessary risks.

Of course, the use of expensive drugs is limited to those societies that can afford them and, sadly, many healthcare systems in both the developed and the developing world cannot afford to treat all HIV-infected individuals. In some regions, HIV cases are still increasing. For these reasons World AIDS Day needs to continue raising both awareness and funding.

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

2018 Poppy Appeal Collection

During this WW1 centenary year, Corsley and Chapmanslade have so far raised £2692.63 for the British Legion Poppy Appeal. This is not the final total as we are still expecting some more donations and Gift Aid to be added on.

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

If anyone would like to volunteer to be a collector, especially in Chapmanslade, please do get in touch with me.

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
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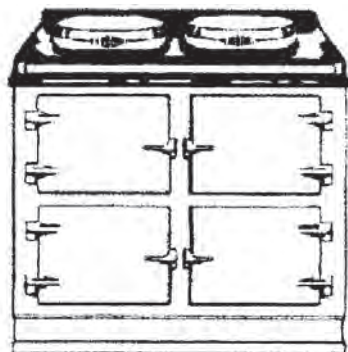


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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Chairman, Neil Britten, rounds up the PC's activity in November

There were no PC meetings in November, but two new planning applications were received and will be considered at the next quarterly meeting on 3rd December. There has also been significant progress with the Old School Playing Field projects and one key development in the efforts to improve road safety on the A362.

Planning applications received, awaiting consideration:

18/10388/FUL

Retrospective planning application for vehicle access and change of use of land to domestic curtilage, Deerleap Cottage, 112 The Hollow, Corsley, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 7PD

18/09853/FUL

Change of use from car sales to B1 offices and light industrial. Cavallino House, Corsley Heath, Warminster Wiltshire BA12 7PL.

The proposed use includes call-centre operations, product testing and 'low level' repair to consumer electronics.

Old School Playing Field (OSPF)

Wild flower meadow

As reported last month, work is now well underway by the Wildflower Meadow Team (WFMT) and the first seed planting took place over the last week end in October

by a team of volunteers. The results will not now be apparent until next Spring and no more work will now take place on the project until then. As ever, anybody wishing to join the team should contact either Judith Selman or Chris Johnson.

Fruit orchard

Neil Carpenter's bid for grant from the Area Board has now been approved and the planting plan is being developed for the fruit orchard on the OSPF. The general scheme is to plant round 30 fruiting trees of several varieties. A wide variety is currently under consideration, including apple, cherry, pear, damson, walnut and others. Most will be purchased using the grant money, but seven Corsley Pippin apple trees have been kindly donated, six by Paul Evemy and one by Malcolm Holley. Significant clearance work has been undertaken on the east side of the OSPF for make room for the orchard and planting is expected to start before the end of this year. Any queries on the orchard should be addressed to either Neil Carpenter or Gill Parkinson.

Gates

The new access gates to the OSPF have now been installed and are awaiting their final coat of paint. The PC is very grateful to Sam Allen for his work (see picture).

The intention is now to keep the double gates padlocked to prevent unwanted



vehicular access, but the adjacent pedestrian gate will remain open and to give continuing free access to what is now developing into useful and attractive recreational and nature conservation area for the village.

Streetscene/Road Safety

Bay Tree

The highway improvements associated with the new Bay Tree development are now complete and these include new bus stops on both sides of the A362, an improved crossing point and island to give safe access to the west-bound stop, and the new footpath from Bay Tree on to the Show Field and thence to Heathway. This is intended to allow pedestrian access to the Heath and the playing field avoiding the risks of the route along the A362. The PC is grateful for the assistance of the Hares family in the development of this new footpath.

Sturford Lane

Both Longleat and Sturford Mead have had tree surveys carried out on Sturford Lane and the PC has had a site meeting with the Longleat Head Forester and a number with Wiltshire Council. The Council have issued tree felling notices for two dead trees, one on Sturford Lane and one on Syndall's Lane. Longleat have undertaken to remove additional trees as indicated by the tree

survey and to repeat the survey on a two-year basis. The Sturford Mead survey has identified one tree set back from the road as having a 1:10,000 to 1:1,000,000 risk of failure; this will be dealt with by removing the crown of the tree as part of routine work. Their survey also revealed work required on two of the A362 frontage trees in the next 12 months. They are also committed to a survey bi-annually. The canopy over the lane will be increased to 5.2m and the neglected hedge just to the east of Chatter Alley will be brought under control. This work will require a Road Traffic Order to close the road while the work is being carried out. Because of the urgency involved Wiltshire Council are being asked to allow an emergency RTO to be issued to avoid the three month delay, which would otherwise be incurred. Longleat have been passed the Sturford Mead contact details to allow coordination to take place between the two. The specific issue of hedge cutting in the lane is being pursued with the Estate department at Longleat and an answer is awaited. Both landowners have been proactive in the process and I am hopeful of a good outcome.

Parish Steward

A considerable amount of work was done on the November visit including digging out of large grip/sump ditches just to the

west of Little Cuckoos and repair of recently damaged road signs on The Hollow. He also carried out an additional 24 routine tasks.

Corsley Heath A362 Safety

The recent Community Area Safety Group meeting agreed to fund the topographical survey, which is a precursor to plans being drawn up by the Council Traffic Officer for the Parish Council to consider. These relate to line changes, signing and pavement adjustment.

Highways news

Each month, Wiltshire Councillor Bridget Wayman, the Cabinet member for Highways and Waste, produces a comprehensive newsletter with a plethora of useful information about the responsibilities and activities of the Highways and Streetscene. The latest edition is substantially aimed at explaining the way in which these teams prepare for winter and also includes useful information for the general public on what they can do themselves to mitigate some of the worst excesses that winter can bring and the processes and contacts in the event of problems. I will not attempt to summarise the document here – it is 19 pages long – but it is available to view/download from www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk website. I would recommend reading it as it explains what issues to report, and to whom i.e. the difference between Highway issues and the Parish Steward's responsibilities.

Speedwatch

The response so far on our attempts to persuade Wiltshire Police to reconsider our application for Speedwatch have, so far, failed to get any response, However, I have recently made personal contact

with the newly appointed Deputy Police Commissioner, Mr Gerry Herbert, who agreed to take up our case. The PC has now written to him formally to enlist his help.

Annual Parish Meeting

As I am sure that most are aware, the Annual Parish Meeting takes place in March each year. This is not a PC meeting but is a statutory event for the village to allow you to bring up whatever subject you wish. The meeting is run by the PC and we try and engage a keynote speaker for the meeting. However, this is your opportunity to shape the agenda and this is an early call for any burning issues that you may feel that should be included in next year's meeting. March 2019 will be with us very quickly!

Bids for PC Grants

This is just a very short note to remind readers that the time is rapidly approaching for any bids for grants and donations from the PC to Village organisations and enterprises to be forwarded. John WILLCOX, PC Clerk (832171) can provide application forms.

Dates of next meetings

Quarterly Meeting
3rd December 2018 (Precept setting)

Annual Parish Meeting
March 2019 (date to be confirmed)

All regular PC meetings start at 7.30pm and are in the lower Reading Room.

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Seven Open Doors

Dear Friends,

I succumbed to temptation this morning. Very much against my better judgement I bought a Good Housekeeping magazine; well the cover looked so festive and bright and it was really gloomy outside! Every year I swear I will not waste my money again in purchasing this splendiferous ode to all things festive. Don't get me wrong, as a cook I really appreciate the lovely recipes and I have a very splattered copy of 'Get ahead for Christmas with Good Housekeeping 2006' that I turn to every year. But sadly, I do not need to know 'the new rules of party dressing' which include encouragement to purchase a leopard skin print frock with matching leopard print court shoes. Apparently it's the season to 'razzle and dazzle' with ladylike elegance.

Hmm, I'm partying at Horningsham church this year at the 10.30am service so my attire will be a little lacking in elegance I feel: vest, 2 jumpers, woolly tights, fur boots and squeezed on over the top of all this my fetching white alb and stole. Oh and all set off with a nifty pair of fingerless gloves. I must make it clear that I am really looking forward to taking the Christmas morning service, whilst it is still a communion service I've tried to make it relatively short with lots of interaction and a bit of fun, so please do come and join in.

Anyway, back to what I was trying to say. Razzle and dazzle is all very well but I don't think there was much of it in the stable that first Christmas, just a teenage mother giving birth in what would have been a very inhospitable environment, although I suppose the angels were quite dazzling actually. And I don't think we need to get too hung up about truth, about whether or not the above actually happened. The gospel writers were trying to communicate a much deeper, universal truth about God in the nativity story. Think of the two great pictures we are given of God in the bible; the vulnerable baby and the beaten crucified man on the cross. This is no divine oligarch nonchalantly observing the pain and suffering of human life from a safe distance but one who risks all to share what it means to be human, including the miracle of birth and the agony and loss of death.

You don't have to be in church for God to be part of your life. I sincerely hope that some of you will come and be part of our worship over the Christmas period but I know that for some that is not what you plan to do. But know that where ever you are on Christmas Day, at home with the children, stuck in front of cooker stirring the gravy, alone or wishing you were somewhere else or that someone you love was with you, know that you are loved and that God is with you wherever you find yourself in this amazing mysterious journey we call life.

Happy Christmas,

With love and prayers
Pauline

December Church Diary

Saturday 1st December

Christmas Coffee Morning

10am to 12noon at Stable Cottage, Huntenhull Lane, Chapmanslade



Sunday 2nd December: Advent Sunday

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

9.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Eucharist

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



Monday 3rd December

Home Groups Advent Reflection

10.30am at 5 Brimhill Rise, Chapmanslade



Thursday 6th December

Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'

performed by Chapterhouse Theatre Company

7.30pm at St Margaret of Antioch, Corsley



Sunday 9th December: Second Sunday of Advent

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

10.30am at St Mary's, Kingston Deverill: Eucharist

11am at St Margaret of Antioch, Corsley: 1662 BCP Matins



Wednesday 12th December

Lite Bites Christmas Lunch

12.30pm at Corsley Reading Rooms



Friday 14th December

Carols in the Barn , 6pm at The Barn, Manor Farm, Corsley



Sunday 16th December: Third Sunday of Advent

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

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

Monday 17th December

Carol Singing

6pm at the Old Post Office, Chapmanslade



Thursday 20th December

Church & Community Coffee Morning

10am at Three Horseshoes



Sunday 23rd December: Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

6pm at St Margaret of Antioch, Corsley: Carol Service

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



Monday 24th December: Christmas Eve

3.30pm at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Crib Service

4pm at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Crib Service

11.30pm at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Midnight Mass



Tuesday 25th December: Christmas Day

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

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

10.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Family Holy Communion

10.30am at St John the Baptist, Horningsham: Eucharist

11.15am at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Christmas Worship



Sunday 30th December: First Sunday of Christmas

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



Sunday 6th January: Epiphany

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

9.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Eucharist

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

Operation Christmas Child

We collected 56 shoeboxes this year. Our thanks to everyone who made up a shoebox.

WW1 & Remembrance Centenary Commemoration

The concert at St Margaret's was a great success. Andrew Campbell provided a historical commentary which was interspersed with musical numbers and community singing. Our thanks to everyone who made this evening such a wonderful success despite the awful weather.

On Sunday 11th November we held an Act of Remembrance gathered around the War Memorial in Chapmanslade. We were delighted that around 200 people took part on this special occasion and by assembling in front of the War Memorial we were able to connect with the people whom we were remembering. The Remembrance Service at Corsley was also very well attended. From the collections at the concert and the services, plus Gift Aid, we have been able to present a cheque to the Royal British Legion for £800.

After the Act of Remembrance there was a tree planting at the Memorial Hall in Chapmanslade followed by a Bring and Share Lunch.

The new book by Fiona Carruthers and Phil Jefferson 'Lest We Forget' is now available from either Phil Jefferson or John Helliars. The book gives an overview of life in Corsley and Chapmanslade during the period of the First World War as well as listing all the known details of the men from our two villages who lost their lives during the conflict. This excellent book is beautifully illustrated and has sixty pages and costs £8 and would make an excellent Christmas present!

Fundraising

Our now traditional Christmas Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 1st December at The Stable Cottage, Huntenhull Lane, Chapmanslade at 10am until 12 noon. There will be various stalls and produce as well as coffee and mince pies. The Christmas 50/50 Draw will also take place at this event.

Our Auction of Promises will be held on February 23rd at Chapmanslade Village Hall. With any items for the silent section, and promises of a service/experience - meals, picnics outings, transport, lessons, etc. For the main auction, please contact Dennis on 451519 or e-mail dennisandgwen@btinternet.com.

Welcome and Farewells

We welcome into our church family Matthew Thomas who was baptised at Chapmanslade on 18th November.

There was a Thanksgiving Service for Pamela Tyers at Longbridge Deverill on 8th November.

The funeral of Peter Baker took place at Brixton Deverill on 12th November. We offer our prayer and sympathy to the families of Pamela and Peter.

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Corsley WI

November news

Alice Hellier rounds up the November meeting and announces some forthcoming events



The ladies (about 35 members and guests) of the village descended on the Reading Rooms for another night of craft, this time Christmas wreath making.

There was a beautiful aroma of fir, eucalyptus, pine cones and a cheeky supply of mulled wine and mincemeat shortbread (purely for the purpose of getting the artistic talent flowing you understand!).

Under the guidance of Debbie Fraser, everyone set to covering wreaths with moss, fir, holly and then decorating with feathers, pine cones, baubles, Chinese lanterns (*Physalis alkekengi*... to impress you with my botanical knowledge!) and I have to say the results were amazing.

There was a certain table of esteemed flower arrangers who started way before the demonstration even began and who had finished early and were spotted relaxing back in their chairs sipping mulled wine and chatting whilst the rest of us less-experienced were getting tied up with flower arranging wire, ribbon and hessian and had feathers and leaves in everywhere...

The room had filled with Christmas cheer and once again, in the background of the hum of creativity that had swept through the Reading Rooms, the President reminded us of a number of trips, meetings and other forthcoming events in both WI and the village.

The most relevant was the Corsley WI Christmas Meal at 12pm on Thursday 13th December at The Royal Oak. Pre-booking, food ordering and money beforehand is essential for this one.

The competition for the best Christmas wreath made on the night was won by one of our lovely guests, Liz. There was stiff competition and it took the judges a while to decide on the winner.

The Corsley WI also have skittles, scrabble, bridge and lunch clubs which are also open to non-members. There are also numerous county and national trips, workshops and other activities that members can join in with.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact Judith Helliar on 01373 832803.

Alice Helliar



Scrooge moves south...

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by Charles Dickens

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The journey continues...

Corsley wildflower meadow

Since the idea of creating a wildflower meadow on the Old School Playing Field was conceived last January, there have been many hours of research, getting advice, visiting similar projects and putting forward proposals to the Parish Council

Having finally got the go-ahead from the PC in August it was all systems go! There was just a narrow window opportunity left to prepare the ground for sowing before the end of October.

The ideal way to prepare the ground for a wildflower meadow is to scrape off several inches of topsoil – this removes grass roots and reduces fertility in the soil. Wildflowers do best on infertile soil where there is less competition from vigorous grasses, nettles, docks and so on. However, the topsoil from half an acre amounts to nearly 200 tons of material – and we had nowhere to put it. The compromise solution was to scrape a third of the area and use the waste material to create bunds (banks) around two sides of the meadow, one metre high and two metres wide. These bunds are themselves good for invertebrate life and biodiversity. The remaining part was to be harrowed to create 70 percent bare soil and to sow extra yellow rattle into this. Yellow rattle parasitizes grass and reduces the competition. There was a strip in the middle that didn't get harrowed, so we sprayed that with weedkiller – not ideal but better than leaving the grasses there to spread. So the site has had three different treatments and it will be interesting to see how each develops as time goes on.

We were finally ready for sowing on 27-28 October, using brush-harvested seed from a similar meadow in the region. In total, some 15 volunteers came (not everyone on the same day) to broadcast the seed by hand and then stamp it in with our feet – a great community effort with hard work followed by hot chocolate and cake! Now we just have to wait till the spring to see the results.

We are enormously grateful to Neil Pullen of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and Plantlife for their patience in answering all our many questions and to Bright Seeds for their help in sourcing the best seed for the project.

Thanks also to our wonderful volunteers: Simon Baggs for harrowing; Alan Swain and son Max for their careful scraping and building of bunds; David Willis for raking off the harrowings by hand and Gini Nicholl for donating seed. Also to all those who gave up part of their weekend to help with the sowing. A big 'Thank You' to you all!!

Next year, we will need help with removing weeds, mowing and raking and possibly further sowing. If you would like to get involved, please contact:

Chris Johnson: chrismajo@btinternet.com
Judith Selman: Judith_selman@hotmail.com
or follow us on Facebook – Corsley Wildflower Meadow Group



Little Cuckoos Pre-School



Little Cuckoos Pre-School's Christmas Fayre

Sunday 16th December 2018
10am - 12pm

Bring along all the family, for a morning of festive fun!
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Little Cuckoos Pre-School
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Thank You

On behalf of St Margaret's Church may I thank everyone who participated and attended the concert celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day ending WW1. Despite the very wet evening, well over a hundred people supported the event and were entertained by organ music played beautifully by Geoff Titt then, accompanied on the piano, various other artists including David Prosser who played on the harmonica, David and Alison Arthur on accordion and flute. Robert Thackway sang two songs from the early nineteen hundreds. Dot Robertson reflected on the life of Harry Patch whose family still live in the village of Corsley.

Poems were read by Jonathan Cheal and Pauline Read; Andrew Campbell spoke in four slots reflecting the war years 1914-1918, bringing into his talk the 27 parishioners who perished.

Finally we all had a good sing-along together with the old favourite songs of WW1 including "I vow to me my country" and "Rule Britannia"

During the evening we launched the book "Lest We Forget", written by Fiona Carruthers and Phil Jefferson. It tells the history of the lives of the 27 men who perished in WW1 from both Corsley and Chapmanslade in great detail, along with press cuttings telling us what went on in both villages through that period. The book can be bought from Phil Jefferson or John Helliard at a cost of £8 – it is well worth a read!

Thank you for all your support.

*John Helliard
Churchwarden*

Chapmanslade Race Night

A race night held at Chapmanslade Village hall on 10th November raised more than £4000 for two charities – Chapmanslade village hall and We Hear You (WHY) charity based in Frome.

Local businesses dug deep and helped to make the evening a success. **H2O Plumbing & Heating, Pippas Pottery, EMW Maintenance, Thornbury Sports, Allsorts Fencing, Roman Glass, Pearn Tree Services** and **Leykers Café** in Trowbridge helped by sponsoring the six races and naming the horses.

Table wine was sponsored by **Allsops Carpet & Flooring** and **Acer Tree Surgeons**; after-dinner chocolates were provided by **Steve Martin Construction & Groundworks** and the tote was sponsored by **Whitefield Car Parts**.

Sam Gooding from **Gooding Accounts** in Westbury kindly helped with auctioning the horses. Wendy Elkins and her team of helpers including Katlin and Holly provided a delicious three-course meal for around 100 people! Claire, Sarah and Katy helped Jaimie on the Tote so that everyone could be winners on the night. Frank provided the technical know-how for the new projector and screen and Ken and Emma kept the drinks flowing in the bar.

Big raffle prizes donated by the **Three Horseshoes, Virginia Hayward Hampers** from Shaftesbury, **Iles & Vincent Funeral Services** in Warminster and **Beechfield House** as well as many more.

Thank you so much for everyone's support with this event. It has been terrific that we can support such good causes!

Old School Playing Field

Corsley Village Orchard

Progress at the old school playing field has continued throughout the autumn

The Warminster Area Board have supported a grant towards the cost of the fruit trees and protecting them from deer and rabbits. Thanks to Neil and Andy for turning up to support the grant application at the Area Board meeting.

The wild flower team have seeded their area.

The trees around the edge of the orchard are beginning to be cut back. It is expected that the orchard area will be cleared for planting by early December.

We would like to thank a number of residents who have donated trees for the orchard. To those of you who have trees or would like to donate towards the purchase of some, it is not too late to offer support!

We now have a long list of fruit tree varieties that we are working from which will be finalised by the team before being ordered from local nurseries.

Weather permitting, the plan is to plant the fruit trees as bare rooted specimens over the Christmas period.

Please let me know if you would like to come and help and I will keep you up-to-date with the schedule

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and protecting them from deer and rabbits. Thanks to Neil and Andy for turning up to support the grant application at the Area Board meeting.

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The plan is (weather permitting) to plant the fruit trees (as bare rooted specimens) over the Christmas period.

Please let me know if you would like to come and help and I will keep you informed of schedule?

Neil Carpenter
832314
neil@nmc2.co.uk

Piano Lessons

All standards welcome

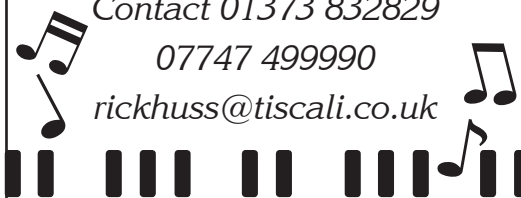
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Whitbourne Chapel

Have a joyous and peaceful Christmas!

Preachers for December

2nd Jim Short, Clink Evangelical Church

9th John Hobson, Clink Evangelical Church

16th (Morning) Chris Andrews, West Lavington Church

(5pm) Andrew Coxhead, Clink Evangelical Church

23rd P Atwill, Canal Ministries at Devizes

30th Russell Short, Clink Evangelical Church

Only a few people saw it...

During a recent stay in Cornwall we came across a film set. They were filming, we understood, a part of a feature film of a Dickens novel. The set was a boat in a little creek and the crew were trying to recreate a storm scene. This was a very small part of a much bigger film which potentially many will see, but on that day only a few people saw it, before going on their way.

It made me think of that first Christmas. The Bible records the truth of the Son of God being born behind an Inn in the little-known town of Bethlehem. Apart from Mary and Joseph, in time only a few Shepherds noticed. The town was busy, all of the tribe of David being there to register in the Census, but nobody noticed that the greatest event in human history was taking place right there under their noses - the birth of the Son of God, of whom the Angels said brings "good tidings of great joy which will be to all people."

You know, it's too easy for us to get so involved in Christmas that we can forget the true reason for the season. We can just look superficially at what is happening in the immediate without considering the bigger picture. That the Son of God was born, coming down from the glory of heaven, to save us. There is another great promise, because Jesus also promised that He will return one day. We are told then that all will see Him and appear before Him. The Apostle Paul writes "Every Knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

Have a blessed Christmas.

Mr Chris Andrews, visiting preacher

A message from James Mead, one of the younger Chapel members...

Christmas is a wonderful time of year, for people all around the world. For us at Whitbourne, it's a time of hope as we remember the tiny baby that was born into the world to save all mankind and we believe that's a reason to celebrate. Come along at 5pm on 16th December and join us in celebration at our Christmas Candlelit service with worship, prayer, the true Christmas message and a mince pie. Find out why Christmas really is wonderful! We'd love to see you there.

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

One Team

Community Policing

Warminster Town and Villages combined (Area Board)

Child safety online

Social networking is hugely popular; many young people are sophisticated in the way they use social media apps and websites, tailoring their communication for different audiences and accessing them from a range of devices including smartphones, tablets and games consoles.

But social media, like all forms of public communication, comes with some risks. Not all of these risks turn into actual problems and if children never face any risks, they never learn how to deal with them. By helping your child understand what the risks are, you can play a big part in preventing problems.

Understand the risks children may need to deal with

What they could see or do:

- Seeing or sharing of violent, sexual and pornographic content
- Inaccurate or false information and extreme views
- Promotion of harmful behaviours including self-harm, eating disorders and suicide
- Over-sharing of personal information
- Actively or unintentionally getting involved in bullying or hurtful behaviour

Who they might meet:

- People who might bully, intimidate or frighten

- People posing behind fake profiles for mischief making, sexual grooming or identity theft

How this could affect them:

- Fear of missing out leading to excessive use or exaggeration
- Getting upset by things they have seen and being uncertain about what to do
- Engaging, or being pressured into engaging in more risky behaviour either by accident or by design
- Developing unrealistic, and perhaps depressing ideals of body image and gender
- Becoming subject to peer pressure or interactions that are intense or too difficult to handle
- Creating an online reputation that may create problems for them in the future

Practical tips to minimise the risks your child might face

- It's good practice for apps and websites to have safety advice and well-designed safety features which can make a real difference to how safe your child will be when using them.
- Work through safety and privacy features on the apps that your child is using, or might use. Make sure they understand the point of these and how to use them. Don't be put off by believing your child knows

more than you, the tools are actually quite easy to manage.

- Ask them to show you which social media apps they use and what they like about them. Talk about how they use them and what makes them to engaging.
- Explain how you can use privacy settings to make sure only approved friends can see posts and images.
- Check if any of their apps have 'geo-location' enabled, sharing their location unintentionally.
- Show them how to report offensive comments or block people who upset them.
- Check 'tagging' settings so that when others are posting or sharing photos online, your child's identity is not revealed. Also, get people's consent before sharing photos.
- Encourage your child to come and talk to you if they see anything that upsets them.

Keep talking and stay involved

- In a mobile age, children can't be completely protected, even by the best privacy controls; another child may use different settings. So it's important to keep talking to your child about the implications of social media. Getting a sense of what they think is a useful place to start; you might be surprised by how much thought they may have given to the issues.
- Encourage your child to think carefully about the way they, and others behave online, and how they might deal with different situations.
- People may not always be who they say they are online, how can this create problems?
- Why is it unwise to meet anyone in the real world that you've only ever met online?
- Even if you think your messages are

private, remember that words and images can always be captured and broadcast

- People present themselves differently online – do they really look like that? Are they always having that good a time?
- Be aware that screens and especially being anonymous, can lead people to say things they wouldn't say to someone's face
- What does being a good friend and a likeable person online look like?
- There can be pressure to be part of a particular group online or to be seen to be following a certain set of ideas. How can you take a step back and make your own decisions?

For more information

You can find out more about how children use social media, the apps they use, the risks they face, how to use privacy settings and advice and tips about how to talk to your children at :

- www.childnet.com/sns
- www.internetmatters.org
- www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety
- www.parentzone.org.uk
- www.thinkyouknowhow.co.uk/parents
- www.askaboutgames.com

If you are concerned about online grooming or sexual behaviour online contact CEOP – www.ceop.police.uk

If you stumble across criminal sexual or obscene content on the internet you should report it to the Internet Watch Foundation – www.iwf.org.uk





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Corsley Tennis Club News



On Thursday 1st November Corsley Tennis Club held a tournament for over 70-year olds. This is a new event for us and we were delighted that 14 members entered the competition! The contestants did their best to appear sprightly and played some very absorbing sets. Trudi Hopkinson and Keith Glenn emerged as worthy winners with 25 points. Keith's effective spin blended with Trudi's consistency to give the pairing a decisive edge.

Sue Kerfoot and Geoff Levitt were second with 20 points. In their crucial encounter, Geoff and Sue required five games to prevail but could muster only two.

The event was organised by Sonia Glenn and Sue Newell with their customary flair and efficiency. As the encounter was on a coolish autumnal morning the hot coffee and chocolate biscuits were most welcome. Thanks also go to Andrew Hillier for some of the reporting.

I'll take this opportunity to wish all the readers of The Bridge a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

If you are considering joining the Tennis Club or coming along for a game to see how you would fare, contact any of the following for information, or give me a ring to arrange an informal practise session:

Senior or Junior coaching with professional coach Jon Dilena 07986 370080

Membership enquiries to Membership Secretary Emma Fox 07512 009580

For further information about the Corsley Tennis Club and an application form, see our website www.corsley-tennis.uk

Corsley children are offered free membership and any child may join for an annual Fee of £10.

*Marlene Latchem
Publicity Secretary, 01373 832357*

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Fencing

A view from over the hedge...



Countryside Matters

This year has been remarkable for its weather and the effects this has had on both farming and wildlife

The 'Beasts from the East' carried winter almost directly into a hot, dry summer which carried on well into October. Temperature and rainfall (especially lack thereof) are key features affecting anything that happens in the countryside.

The results of this unusual weather combination have been far-reaching and, in some cases, rather confusing. Swifts arrived later than normal to find few aerial insects available for food, but then had a successful breeding season as summer produced a bumper crop. Most insects, including butterflies, had a good year; despite most of the sources of nectar moving from full-flower to dessicated much more rapidly than in a normal year (whatever that is!).

Our resident Blue and Great Tits had a mixed year; those who had started egg-laying before the second icy blast sat it out, whilst the others waited for slightly warmer weather. The earlier broods were too early for their usual oak-eating caterpillars, so adults were searching a whole range of plants for food; the later broods had better timing. Nevertheless, fewer eggs were laid, and losses between hatching and fledging were higher than usual.

Blackbirds, thrushes and others that feed on near-surface living invertebrates had a very raw deal; the dry weather locked their food away as earthworms, etc. retreated further down into the soil to escape dessication. Many broods did not survive and, with the

ground still rock hard, these birds continue to have a difficult time as we move into winter.

By mid-October our first winter migrants were arriving, especially when snow and cold winds reached Scandinavia. By now there should be plenty of Redwings and Fieldfares around in the fields and gardens. There are plenty of berries for them to feed up on to keep out the winter chill; both these species, along with Blackbirds and Song Thrushes appreciate any less-than-crisp apples or pears that you can put out. Mistle Thrushes are more likely to claim a holly bush as theirs and defend it vigorously and noisily.

The other, most obvious, territorial birds are Robins. Unusually both genders sing and defend territories during the winter. Numbers are increased by migrants from colder areas, so a garden where food is provided can become a bit of a battle ground! Estimating numbers using a garden can be challenging; seeing three or four probably means a population of 10 or more. Additionally, with an average life-span of just two years, 'your' Robin is probably several individuals.

Feeding the birds will really help more of them survive the winter than if there were no supplementary food, so they reach spring in good breeding condition.

Enjoy your wildlife this festive season.

Eve Tigwell

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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

Of special note in December in the Reading Room is the hit movie *Mama Mia Here We Go Again* to be shown on 13th December along with a showing of the film made of this year's 100th Corsley Show. Sure to attract a lot of interest, buying your tickets early from Acres Supply is strongly advised. (See separate advert for more details).

We will, from time to time, advertise on this page specific events being organised by others at the Reading Room that are open to all, where the organiser has agreed we can promote, and we think may be of interest to many in the village.

Full details about the hall and its facilities including how to hire are on the website or call Gill Parkinson on 01373 832322 to discuss.

See 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 Club: *restarts in January*

Cinema Corsley: *Mama Mia Here We Go Again, 13th December, 7 pm for 7.30 pm*

Folk Night – 16th March 2019

The Reading Room Committee is pleased to announce that it has arranged for, ex Corsley Heath resident, Rosie Butler-Hall and her partner Danny Pedler to play in March. Danny plays the Hurdy Gurdy while Rosie plays the fiddle and sings. They play at folk clubs and festivals around the UK and abroad.

Tickets will go on sale in January.

IT Club

It is proposed to restart these in late January subject to the level of interest shown. As before they will be £3 a session. Intended for people to learn how to deal with day to day IT use. See RR website for details.

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First Tuesday of the month 10 am - 12 noon

IT Club: *restarts in January*

Cinema Corsley: *Mama Mia Here We Go Again, 13th December, 7 pm for 7.30 pm*

Regular events run by other organisations

Lite Bites Lunches: *4th Wednesday of the month*

Yoga: *Tuesday and Wednesday evenings*

Pilates: *Tuesday afternoons*

WI: *second Thursday of the month (evening)*

Committee members include: Vanessa Hyde, Jackie Jasper, Sue Kerfoot, Gill Parkinson, Jenny Ratty, Jill Westgate, David Carruthers.

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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- 3 Alfie Moon
- 4 A button
- 5 Australia
- 6 Italy
- 7 'Meet Me in St Louis'
- 8 Maids-a-milking (refers to the eight beatitudes)
- 9 Vermont (Pine Tree)
- 10 Epiphany
- 11 Four
- 12 Winter Wonderland

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Local organisation adverts

£2 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)

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4 spaces	(138mm wide x 66mm high)	£75.00
6 spaces	(half page - 138mm wide x 100mm high)	£104.00

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

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