

The Bridge

December 2020



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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 Barters 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 (Barters 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 19th December**

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



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Christmas Window Greeting – Re-use cardboard from a delivery box to create a firm backing for your design, decorate with whatever you've got in the house.

Winter Walks – Check out many beautiful walks around our village

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Prize for best window greeting and hanging star donated from Chapmanslade COV-AG group

Happy Christmas Everyone

Food boxes

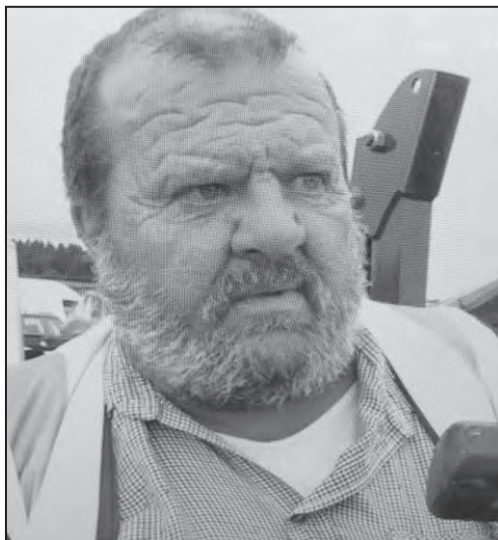
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Whilst completing the form using the link above is preferable, you can call one of the following HELP LINES to place an order or have a conversation in complete confidence.

07964880841 (Charlene)

07967639306 (Ian)



Andy Joynt

It is with great sadness that we report that Andy Joynt died on Wednesday 18 November after a short illness. He was 56.

Andy lived most of his life in Corsley and had a great memory for its history and stories. He was known to many for his great work for the village not least at the Corsley Show and the Memorial Playing Field.

Andy was a great gardener and plantsman, although not in his own garden, he was always willing to share that knowledge with others, often over a cup of tea. In recent years the glorious flowers at the playing field and baskets at the pub were Andy's work. One of our favourite memories was Andy helping with our Corsley Show entries, choosing our best carrots, potatoes or tomatoes and advising how best to present them, so that we became award winning gardeners!

We will all miss his friendly face, unassuming manner and willingness always to help others. He was one of the nicest people that we have met in his quiet way.

*Marion Liquorice
Neil Carpenter*

Christmas Communion at St Mary's, Temple

COVID-19 restrictions permitting, the Friends of St Mary's will be holding the usual communion service again this year in the church at 9.30 am on **Christmas Day**.

We are grateful to Canon Tony Watts for agreeing to conduct the service and to David O'Connor for playing the organ.

It is hoped that as many people as possible will take this rare opportunity to join us on this special occasion in our lovely church.

2020

Poppy Appeal Collection

Many thanks Corsley and Chapmanslade!

Even in a Covid year with no house-to-house collections we raised approximately £1365.00 (I'm still waiting for some cheques) and this isn't the 'real' total! Many of you paid directly via online payments or bought poppies from supermarkets.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who normally do house-to-house collections, but this year collected from friends and family. Also to The Royal Oak, The Cross Keys, The Three Horseshoes, Acres Supply, TMTI, the churches and Chapmanslade school. Particular thanks go to Acres Supply who let us have a stand under cover, to Catherine Aylesbury who helped run it and to Di Britten who had a stand in her garage on a very wet and windy day.

Our Wiltshire Community Fundraiser has let me know that as of 18th November, £60,695.37, has been collected in Wiltshire with an additional £17,375.20 raised through contactless payments.

As I mentioned in my November article, 2021 will be the Legion's 100th anniversary. I am hoping to organise some mini-events locally and if anyone would be interested in getting involved in these or some of the national events, please do let me know. The legion's website www.britishlegion.org.uk has

details on some of the challenges and events they hope to hold next year and also an online shop.

I am very short of collectors in Chapmanslade so please, if anyone would like to volunteer to be a collector, get in touch with me. I try to keep 'patches' small so that collecting isn't too onerous.

Our local fundraising all goes to the Royal British Legion to help provide serving men and women, veterans and their families with lifelong care.

Therefore, every penny raised makes a real difference. Many thanks to everyone

who has helped, in a particularly challenging year, with the collections and to all of you who gave so generously.

Jackie Jasper

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Corsley Tennis Club News



Thank you to all of you who have remained members of the club and to those who have joined us in this difficult year. It's been great to be able to use the courts while other aspects of our lives were constrained and many of us have learned new skills – like picking up a ball and returning it to play without touching it!

It seems that the nets need little adjustment and we can manage without shaking hands at the end of a game or hugging our partners when a win is achieved. Whether the standard of play has improved or deteriorated has not been measured through tournaments, and no cups have been awarded. They are, however, much deserved by those who have continued to maintain the courts, provide the hygiene and safety equipment needed and just keep us all informed.

With the help of the Lawn Tennis Association, we have deciphered and communicated the complicated rules which make play safe and setting up the club Whatsapp group has made it easier to find a partner or make up a four.

Even though we couldn't play once more through the second lockdown period, we still have costs such as the replacement of noticeboards. So, in the interests of generating some funds and keeping your brains active we are launching a...

Christmas Cryptic Quiz

This has been compiled for you to enjoy and mull over through the Christmas period, until just before the Club AGM in January.

It is a sporting quiz, not just tennis focussed. For a mere £3 you will receive 50 questions set by the renowned Two Bobs of Corsley and Chapmanslade. There is a prize of £20 for the winner.

To enter online, please send an email to either Di Britten at

chair@corsley-tennis.uk

or to Keith Glenn at

membership@corsley-tennis.uk

and then pay £3 by BACS to the Club bank account with the reference of your name. Di or Keith will then email an official form to you. For use, the form should be printed out.

You may also enter by contacting Di Britten or Keith Glenn by email or phone and sending a cheque or cash for the £3 entry fee.

You may make as many entries as you like but each one must be on an official quiz form. Remember 'careless talk costs prizes and balls have ears', so don't brag too loudly when you work out an answer!

*Liz Garrett
Club Secretary*

Bob's bafflers

- 1 Stille Nacht is the German version of which carol?
- 2 Who was the first ghost to haunt Scrooge in a "Christmas Carol"?
- 3 In which pantomime would you find Wishee Washee?
- 4 In which famous Christmas Song is a snowman pretending to be "Parson Brown"?
- 5 For which TV soap did actress Noele Gordon, born 25th December 1919, gain fame?
6. What is the name of the Simpson's pet dog?
- 7 From the Carol "Good King Wenceslas", where was Good King Wenceslas the King of?
- 8 In which Christmas film does the line "Every time a bell rings, an angel gets its wings" come from?
- 9 Which member of "the Rat Pack" died on Christmas Day 1995?
- 10 Who wrote the Christmas story "The Snowman"?
- 11 'Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas' is a song from which MGM musical?
- 12 Christmas Island is a territory of which country?

Answers on page 40

A happy Christmas to all who have been baffled during the year and of course to our hard working editor who has worked miracles in producing The Bridge during difficult times.

Thanks Bob (Ed)

Reflections on a sporting life

Cricket

Barry Richards was, by some way, the best batsman that I saw; he made it look so easy! Garry Sobers was a brutal hitter, while Sunil Gavaskar was brave and totally dependable.

Alan Knott raised wicket-keeping to new heights of athleticism, taking brilliant catches.

Jack Russell was a vital part of an impressive Gloucestershire team. I rate Ray Illingworth as the best captain thanks to his ability to exert pressure by conceding no easy runs.

Shane Warne could spin the ball more than anybody else, while Andy Roberts combined speed and menace. Michael Holding had a beautiful action, suggesting he might have become a track athlete.

John Snow was a deceptively clever bowler who played a large part in regaining the Ashes for Illingworth's team in Australia.

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Science: changing the world

Will you eat mainly organic food this Christmas?

I will not be doing so, and here are some of my reasons...

There is no evidence that eating organic food is better for you than the same food produced by intensive agriculture. There may be small nutritional differences, but it is not clear that these are more beneficial for many organic foods.

Hundreds of studies have been performed and organic foods do not seem to have significantly more vitamins, minerals or carbohydrates than food produced by non-organic means. However, organic fruit or vegetables may have more antioxidants.

There is a perception that organic farming does not use pesticides. This is incorrect. Certified organic farms can use pesticides, as they have to manage pests and, in the UK, are limited to 20 natural pesticides but cannot use synthetic ones. One approved pesticide that does give me concern is the use of copper sulphate as an antifungal agent. If it is used persistently over several years, copper will accumulate in, and eventually poison, the soil.

To my mind, the distinction between natural and synthetic pesticides is arbitrary. Some synthetic chemicals are perfectly safe at very high doses and have to be tested before being

approved, yet some natural chemicals are quite toxic. The old joke is that cyanide is a natural chemical (produced in almonds, for example) and is certainly not normally considered to be safe!

Although organic certification does reduce the use of pesticides, preservatives and additives, this comes at a price. Yields of organic farms are lower than conventional agriculture. A recent estimate is that if England and Wales moved over entirely to an organic diet, food yields would be reduced by 40% or at least five times as much land

would be required, as much of it would be of low agricultural potential. The increased land use means that some of the potential benefits, such as reduced carbon emissions per hectare compared with conventional agriculture, are



negated, as farm equipment needs to cover a larger area and more natural habitat has to be turned over to agriculture. No-till intensive agriculture, with prevention of weed growth by herbicides, may give better carbon emissions due to lower equipment usage, as well as providing better soil quality and less erosion.

Fertilising with manure, rather than synthetic fertilisers, has also caused problems. A fatal outbreak of *E. coli* infections in Germany a few years ago was due to contamination of organic bean sprouts. Manure may also give rise to more greenhouse gas emissions than synthetic fertilisers, therefore contributing to global warming.

The final reason that I do not buy organic food is the relative cost. A brief glance across supermarket shelves reveals that the price of an organic vegetable or, say, an organically-produced chicken may be three times that of the conventionally-produced item. At present I am sufficiently confident in the safe supply chain of food through conventional agriculture, including the use of pesticides and preservatives, that I see no reason to pay the extra costs for organic produce.

Although the sales of organic foods have been booming in recent years, the economic damage caused by COVID-19 and potential increases in food prices due to Brexit, may reverse this trend over the coming months. Health considerations have led many people to buy organic produce, but the important thing is to eat healthily, whether the food is produced by organic or intensive farming practices.

Nigel Brown is happy to receive comments, questions and, particularly, suggestions for future articles at niglbrown48@gmail.com

As always, this is a personal viewpoint



Hello! Are you self-isolating? We can help!

The Chapmanslade COVID-19 Action Group would like to help you with your self-isolating needs. We can provide support to the residents of Chapmanslade with basic food supplies, prescription collection, dog walking, posting mail or just a friendly phone call.

Simply text or call one of the contact numbers below and give detail of your requirements (name, address, how we can help and when you need the service).

Main contact

Charlene Ridler 07964 880841

Alternative contacts

Ian Buick 07967 639306

Louise Bell 07773 431213

We will do our best to ensure no one in our community is left to face COVID-19 isolation alone.

For more information, please visit
[www.facebook.com/groups/
Chapmansladevillage](https://www.facebook.com/groups/Chapmansladevillage)

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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 during November and no planning applications to consider. Updates on one recent planning application and the Bay Tree development are included below, some data on COVID-19 cases in Wiltshire, plus a note about next year's national census, and the December quarterly meeting.

The Christmas season seems to start earlier every year and we are already being bombarded by advertisements encouraging us to start the festivities. The nights are rapidly drawing in and town and city Christmas lights are being turned on. As ever, writing this on the 19th November, it feels far too early but I would offer Christmas greetings to one and all with the hope that sense prevails in the right quarters and we are all able to enjoy a Christmas celebration in the company of our families.

Recent planning applications

20/06581/FUL: Rear two storey extension, 114 The Hollow

Approved with standard conditions.

Bay Tree Development

Under the original plan for the next phase of the Bay Tree development, outline planning consent was to have been achieved by Spring 2020, ready for the contractor to commence construction in the of Summer 2020. The programme has slipped significantly, but the PC has recently received an update from Christine Brown, Wiltshire's Residential Development Project Manager, which reads:

"I am pleased to say that things are progressing in relation to the design for the Corsley site and we are about to submit a planning pre-application to further guide the design process. I am also about to receive a draft layout design that I would be happy to share with you."

Christine has kindly agreed to attend the quarterly meeting on 7th December to brief the PC on the plans for the next phase of development and will also be communicating directly with the residents of the existing Bay Tree housing.

COVID-19 – Wiltshire Data

Wiltshire has published summary data for Wiltshire rates of COVID-19 infections and these are shown below for information. Please note that they were received in the second week of November and refer to data accurate up to the end of October. These are reproduced below for information.

Total number of cases in Wiltshire	2948
Number. of cases in last 7 days	447
Rate of cases per 100k population in last 7 days	89.4
Rate of cases per 100k population in previous 7 days	63.2
Rate of cases per 100k population in England in last 7 days	224

2021 National Census

The PC has received notification that the next national census will take place in March 2021.

It happens every 10 years and is intended to provide a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales, to help planning and funding of public services, such as transport, education and healthcare. Wiltshire emphasise that, by taking part and encouraging others to do the same, contributors will help the community to get the services it needs. Nearer the time, more information will be provided and plenty of help is promised to help those who might need help to take part. More information can be found at www.census.gov.uk.

December quarterly meeting

As previously notified, next quarterly meeting is on December 7th, mainly to consider and approve the annual expenditure, the precept bid for the following year and the three year budget plan. Other routine items will be on the agenda, which will be published on village noticeboards and The Bridge website. Assuming that current restrictions remain in force, this will be a “virtual” meeting, using Zoom, beginning at 7.30pm. Those members of the public who wish to attend should contact the Parish Clerk on 832171 or corsleypc_jdw@aol.co.uk (note the underscore “...pc_jdw...”) who will provide access details.

*Neil Britten
Chairman*

*pc.corsleynb@gmail.com
01373 832515/07810 764714*

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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

I am sitting here writing this letter in the middle of November when we are still in lockdown number two with no idea whether or not we will be able to have any Christmas services or sing any carols. Usually at this time of year I am busily preparing the Christmas cake, (I have done this and I'm dutifully feeding it brandy) shed loads of mince pies, chocolate roulades, bread sauce, gravy, roast potatoes, pigs in blankets and other delights to stuff into an increasingly groaning freezer. And what size turkey to buy? I don't eat any of this stuff as I'm vegan so I have this awful picture in my head of poor Ian sitting in front of a massive turkey and nobody else there to eat it. Ah well, I live in hope, but I don't think we are going to be able to have all four of our children and their partners and the four grandchildren all at the same time.

So when I thought about writing this letter I was a bit worried about coming up with something helpful to say in this time of uncertainty and anxiety. I'm not a very impulsive person, I like to know what's what so I can prepare for it and, along with the majority of the population, I really like to be prepared for Christmas, unlike my children. When they lived at home they would inevitably announce on Christmas Eve, 'I'm going into town to do my Christmas shopping', a statement which would reduce me to a state of wordless anxiety at the thought of them trying to park, etc.

We do like to have Christmas all wrapped up and sorted, and we hate it if our plans are thwarted. All the above still applies but in a revelatory moment of clarity it dawned on me that actually, living with this uncertainty and anxiety about the future, we just might be better able to see the Christmas story as it really is, not as some pretty fairy story that feeds the sentimental images that adorn our Christmas cards, but a story of homelessness, fear and uncertainty.

Like everybody else I love the traditional story of Mary and Joseph, the donkey, the crib, and the shepherds following the star to Bethlehem. But when you really think about it Mary and Joseph must have been terrified; her about to give birth with no idea where they would find shelter, probably having been thrown out of her family home in disgrace, Joseph full of anxiety in the face of his responsibility to look after Mary.

The story is not a neat and tidy one, essentially Mary and Joseph are refugees who have to throw themselves on the mercy of others and who, later on after Mary has given birth, have to flee from the despotic Herod. In the massacre of newborn babies and any child under two in Bethlehem found in the nativity story, King Herod is portrayed as a tyrant prepared to kill infants who could eventually challenge him.

At this point I have to say that people sometimes get cross with me for 'spoiling' a lovely story; we can still keep the images that are so dear to us, but we're grown ups now, we need to engage with the nativity story in an honest way and ask ourselves how it intersects with the painful and unjust world we live in today, and how the light of the world came to share that pain, and the joy of what it means to be human.

Have a peaceful and blessed Christmas,
Love and prayers, Pauline

December Church Diary

All these service details are subject to Government restrictions in force at the time. We will notify everyone if changes are necessary.

Sunday 6th December 2nd Sunday of Advent

8am St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill; Holy Communion

9.30am at St Margaret's Corsley; Eucharist

10.30am at St Peter and St Paul Longbridge Deverill; Morning Worship



Sunday 13th December 3rd Sunday of Advent

9.30am St Margaret's Corsley; Eucharist

10.30am St Mary the Virgin Kingston Deverill; Eucharist



Sunday 20th December 4th Sunday of Advent

10.30am St Michael the Archangel Brixton Deverill; Eucharist

11am BCP St Margaret's Corsley; Matins

3pm Drive-in Carol Service at Chapmanslade Village Hall car park



Thursday 24th December Christmas Eve

3pm Crib Service in front of St Philip and St James Chapmanslade

Because of limitations on numbers attendance at this service will be by ticket only. Please see the separate notice in this edition for details.

4pm Crib Service at St Peter and St Paul Longbridge Deverill (in the porch)



Friday 25th December Christmas Day

9.30am St Mary the Virgin Kingston Deverill; Eucharist

10.30am St Margaret's Corsley; Family Eucharist

10.30am St John the Baptist Horningsham; Family Eucharist



Sunday 27th December 1st Sunday of Christmas

10.30am St Michael the Archangel Brixton Deverill; Benefice Eucharist

Some services at St Margaret's Corsley are also being shown on Zoom.

Details will be made available in the weekly parish newsletter.

Quiz! It Grows in the Soil

Our 'It Grows in the Soil' quiz is now closed. A big thank you to everyone who took part and an even bigger thanks to both Sue Fear and Judith Helliar for organising it. The winner will be announced in the January edition of The Bridge.

Join our 50/50 Club

Help our churches survive

For only £24 a year or £2 per month, you can join the Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches 50/50 club. Half of the payment is returned as prizes and the other half goes to supporting church funds. There is a £100 prize to be won each month! If you would like to take part, you can sign up with Neil Britten on 01373 832515 – you can pay by cash, cheque or standing order. The November lockdown stopped further prizes being drawn, so there will be an even bigger catch-up this month!

Our monthly BCP service is continuing

Our regular monthly BCP matins service will resume again this month on the third Sunday in December at St Margaret's (subject to government regulations). Thanks to everyone who joined us on Zoom last month. We are delighted to see all our regulars – anyone who enjoys a traditional service is more than welcome to come along!

Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

Rural Dean	Rev Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com	01985 841290
Associate Priest	Rev Gay Maynard revgmaynard@gmail.com	01373 832490
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Richard Dean Barbara Hughes Claire Tanner	01373 832594 01373 832273 01985 218099
Pastoral Visitor	Alan Hopkinson	01373 832393
Churchwardens		
St Philip & St James'	Ian Buick	01373 832318
St Margaret's	John Helliar	01373 832803
Deputy Churchwardens		
St Philip & St James'	Janet Aylesbury	01373 832752
PCC Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
Planned Giving Officer	Judith Helliar	01373 832803
Choir Leader	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
Tower Captain	Michael Attenborough	
After Alpha Home Group	Trudi Hopkinson	01373 832393
Time To Think Home Group	Renee Cole	01373 839008

Christmas isn't cancelled!

We are having to be ever more creative in our thinking this year as to how we will mark the season of Christmas and the birth of Jesus. How to sing carols when we are not allowed to have communal singing is an interesting one!

However, providing restrictions allow, on Saturday 12th December at 4pm there will be 'Carols on the Lawn' at the Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade. The Dolce Singers, a new chamber choir based in Chapmanslade, hope to bring you some seasonal cheer. If you live in the vicinity of the pub please listen from your open doors or your gardens. For those who are out of hearing reach there will be some limited access to the car park in front of the lawn. We are very grateful to Ben for allowing us to sing on the lawn. Thank you Ben!

On Sunday 20th December, 3pm at Chapmanslade Village Hall, we are planning to hold a 'Carols in the Car Park' service which will be a 'drive-in' - there will, of course, be social distancing between cars. Do join us in the safety of your cars and maybe add some sparkle with some tinsel! Donations to this and the above event will go to The Children's Society.

Thursday 24th December, 3pm at St Philip and James' Church porch, will be a 'Crib in the Porch' Service and held outside - watch out for the crib and hopefully some artwork from the school

to appear in the last week of school term. Unfortunately, we will have to limit numbers attending due to social distancing; therefore, it is going to be necessary to make it a 'ticket only' event, please contact me if you would like to book. Please book early so that we can plan ahead.

The service will be shorter than usual, we are presently not able to allow communal singing but hopefully we will have some recorded carols. If you would like to bring a small symbolic 'gift' to leave at the crib there will be an opportunity to do this. It could be a small wrapped box (empty), or a heart, or a figure like a sheep or lamb. If you wish, the box could contain a prayer or one could be written on the heart but that is optional. Another idea could be a card with a message or a picture, whatever has meaning for you, but do keep it simple. There will be an opportunity for a short time of reflection before leaving your gift for Jesus at the Crib.

Obviously, these events can only go ahead if restrictions allow, alternative arrangements will be made for the Carol and Crib services if necessary; social distancing must be observed at all times.

I look forward to hearing from you

Revd Gay Maynard
01373 832490

revgmaynard@gmail.com

Copy for Six Open Doors should be sent to
Ian Buick at ibuickuk@gmail.com or by phone on 01373 832318.
Please contact Ian if you would like to receive
weekly news of Church events and activities

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No food

**Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday and Saturday**

12 noon to 3pm and 6pm to 11pm
Food served 12 noon to 3pm and
6pm to 9pm

Sunday

12 noon to 8.30pm
Food served 12 noon to 4pm

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Salisbury Cathedral exhibition

A collection of treasures that tell the story of Salisbury Cathedral's move from Old Sarum to its present site has been put on display.

The exhibition in the cathedral's north transept, entitled *The Cathedral that Moved*, is part of a programme of events to mark the 800th anniversary of the move.

The artefacts, from the library and archive, include the papal bull permitting the cathedral to move from Old Sarum, a 19-foot list of all the food eaten by the canon treasurer in the year 1256-57, and a book from the scriptorium at Old Sarum written in the early 1100s, making it older than the cathedral itself.

The papal bull - or letter - sent by Pope Honorius III, is bound into the Register of St

Osmund, which contains documents from the cathedral's earliest history, including the 1091 foundation charter for the first cathedral at Old Sarum and a description of the laying of the present cathedral's foundation stones on 28th April 1220.

The exhibition, curated by cathedral archivist Emily Naish, includes two information boards and a four-minute animated film by Bournemouth University students. Also on show is an 'Indulgence' issued by Archbishop Stephen Langton around the time building began on the present site. It grants forgiveness for 30 days of sin to anyone who contributes towards the cost of construction.

The exhibition runs until spring 2021.



Forrester Sylvester Mackett

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Successful and essential community project...

Warminster Foodbank

There is a thriving local community project, based in Warminster; the Warminster and District Foodbank. Staffed entirely by volunteers, it provides emergency food and support to local families and individuals in crisis. This can be as a result of redundancy, benefit delay, homelessness, illness or simply an unexpected outlay that means people will be going hungry in order to pay their bills. Increasingly, parents are missing meals to ensure their children are fed as they're being forced to choose between eating and paying rent.

Unsurprisingly, the coronavirus pandemic and resultant lockdown have meant that many more people are in crisis and in need of food. The amazing ladies at the Foodbank are working exceptionally hard to meet the growing demands – nearly 2,100 kgs of food are distributed each month. Likewise, local communities are being fantastically generous to provide what is needed. So, how have things changed during 2020? As you can see,

the Foodbank distributions have increased by a staggering 52%...

Average for
January/February
167

Average for
October
254

So, how can you help support our neighbours who are finding life particularly tough right now? It is so easy! There's a food donation box inside the H&H milk station, by the Cross Keys pub, in Corsley, where you can drop off tinned, bottled or dried food (all within sell-by dates please). I collect these donations regularly and deliver them to the Foodbank every week. I am also very happy to collect food parcels from your home. Just give me a call on 01373 832270. If you prefer to support this effort by making a financial donation, I can give you all the information needed and Gift Aid forms. Any help is really appreciated.

Thank you for your kindness.

Julia Parker

Macmillan Cancer Support 2020

The results are in!

Another great year for Macmillan fundraising across Corsley and Chapmanslade. Over a number of mini coffee mornings carefully planned to meet COVID-19 restrictions, we managed to reach and exceed the target of £1,300.

THANK YOU to those who hosted events in garages and gardens and provided cake or donated items for sale; the Wellie Wheelers and their wags for completing their cycling challenge and for the many generous donations on and before the day.

We received a letter of thanks from the treasurer of the Warminster Area Committee who also said Macmillan would earmark the funds raised here to be spent in Wiltshire.

Thank you again

Janet Buick, Anne Good and Liz Garrett

Corsley

Wildflower Meadow

What's been happening at the meadow this year?

We began the year well with a mow in March to keep the grasses down and allow flowers to come through. To begin with, dandelions were most dominant, but these were soon followed by buttercups, cowslips, cuckooflower and red campion.

With lockdown coming into effect on 23rd March, we were unable to organise work parties as we had done the previous year and nature was largely left to its own devices through the spring and summer. As lockdown restrictions eased in June, we were able to arrange some wildlife surveys to identify plants, bees, butterflies and moths in the meadow. The bee survey found five species of bumblebee - one of which, *Bombus Hortorum*, is not often seen – as well as an interesting *ichneumon wasp*. Some 15 species of flowering plant were found in the meadow which had not been seen in 2019 (perhaps they were present but not flowering before), including black knapweed and goatsbeard. In total we have found 12 different species of butterfly and 47 species of moth. On the nights we were moth trapping, we also recorded pipistrelle bats.

We continued to see plenty of yellow rattle in the meadow: a species that's important for preventing dominant grasses from proliferating. However, there was less this year than last year, and we have sown extra this autumn in patches where it was needed, as well as on the banks.

The meadow was mown in early September and, while removing the mowings, we were pleased to note the huge numbers of invertebrates such as spiders, grasshoppers and crickets, beetles and hoverflies making their home in the new habitat. We also came across a frog and a couple of toads.

On the banks, where fertility is greater than on the meadow, we have seen an unwanted incursion of dominant grasses as well as some thistles and nettles. While the flowering annuals we sowed last year have been successful, we have had rather a predominance of oxeye daisy and red campion. So this autumn, some of the oxeye daisies have been transplanted to the edges of the meadow by the boundary fences with Little Cuckoos. At the same time, we have laid weed suppressant membrane along the back of the banks to prevent grasses spreading up from the orchard area. We have also taken the decision to change the balance of plant species on the banks. In 2021, only a small section of the bank will have cornfield annuals (as in previous years). Instead, there will be a section for herbs such as thyme, marjoram and basil and an area for teasels, while the rest will have a mix of perennial wildflowers and wild grasses. We hope this approach will provide plenty of colour, greater biodiversity and even better habitat for wildlife. The teasels and berries from the hedge plants will provide food for birds too.

We are pleased to have had help in our activities this autumn from students of Farleigh College of Further Education (part of the Priory Group). Some of the students are working for their Duke of Edinburgh Award and some are following bushcraft courses. They have helped us with raking, clearing weeds from the bank and tidying, gathering seeds for sowing, planting plug plants and laying weed suppressant membrane. They also helped to prepare enclosures where we plan to plant hedgerow plants such as spindleberry, guelder rose, hawthorn and dog rose this winter. As well as being enormously helpful to us, the students are hopefully gaining useful experience and a sense of purpose and achievement. It will give them the chance to connect with nature, especially when they come back next summer to see the results of their work. We hope they will continue to join in the cycle of caring for the meadow in the future.

Census 2021

**The census is taking place
in March 2021**

It's a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. It helps plan and fund public services, like transport, education and healthcare.

By taking part and encouraging others to do the same, you'll help make sure you and your community get the services you need.

Nearer the time, you'll receive more information. There'll be plenty of help to take part for people who need it.

Find out more at **www.census.gov.uk**

Office for National Statistics

community news

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

At the time of writing we do not know what we will or will not be allowed to do after 2nd December.

While many of the normal uses of the Reading Room remain impossible due to the rules, we are happy to discuss any specific requests to hire which are allowed within the law and within our COVID-19 secure building restrictions.

All the latest rules and guidance are on our website and regularly updated based on the latest guidance to village halls.

At our recent committee meeting we decided to reduce costs by cancelling the broadband/wifi service now that it is out of

contract. We will look at taking out a new contract when things return to normal and if there is a requirement/demand.

As it is unlikely we will be able to have any kind of social event at the Reading Room for the remainder of 2020, the committee wishes all residents and users a safe and happy Christmas and New Year!

See website www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk for more details.

Hugh Deed

Chairman of Management Committee

Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

01373 832897

Salisbury Cathedral installs solar panels

More than 90 solar panels have been installed on Salisbury Cathedral's south cloister roof and are already pumping electricity into the building. The 93 panels, covering 150 square metres, cannot be seen from the ground, but will be visible to those on tower tours.

It is estimated that they will produce more than 30,000kw hours each year, the equivalent of the usage of eight British households.

The project is part of the cathedral's aim to be carbon neutral by 2030.

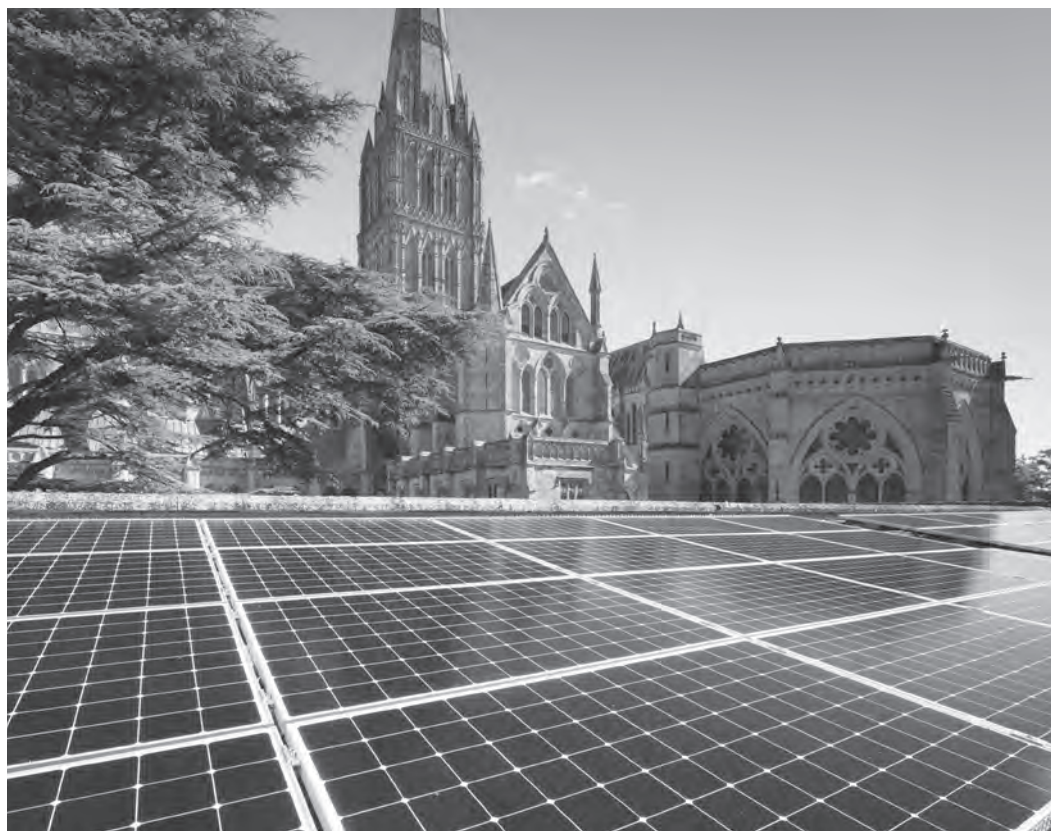
Bishop of Salisbury the Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam said: "The Church of England is

working hard towards a net zero carbon footprint by 2030.

"As the Church of England's lead bishop for the environment I am delighted that Salisbury Cathedral is making a contribution that takes us towards this."

Other green initiatives include draught-proofing the building, moving to green tariff energy and installing LED lighting.

A display panel in the cathedral shop shows how much electricity the solar panels are producing.



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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Charles Thackway reports on the PC's activities in November

Chapmanslade PC met virtually on 12 November, chaired by Cllr John Lewis; there were no members of the public present. The PC also met with Rt Hon Dr Andrew Murrison, MP for South Wiltshire, on 17th November.

Councillor vacancies

The PC was pleased to welcome Mr Adam Oakley, Mr Colin Bell and Mr Tim Humphreys as new members of the PC as Co-opted Councillors.

Planning applications

20/08581/FUL and 20/08470/LBC.

The PC supported the planning application and listed building consent to convert and extend a disused large vehicle store to a single dwelling at Thoulstone Farm, with the comment that the attached drainage plan appeared to be from a different development.

Gander's application

It was noted that the latest planning application at Ganders had been refused by Wiltshire Council.

Parish Plan

The PC reviewed the Parish Plan together with its actions and initiatives, and noted its impressive list of positive actions and achievements to date. In addition, the PC discussed the superb work conducted by the

Chapmanslade COVID-19 Action Group. It was notable that these have both contributed to a very positive community spirit within the Village and Parish. The PC would like to extend its congratulations and thanks to all involved and will discuss in future meetings how to develop the Parish Plan further.

Meeting with our MP

The PC met the Rt Hon Dr Andrew Murrison, MP for South Wiltshire, on 17th November and discussed pertinent issues for Chapmanslade, in particular:

- Introducing a lower weight limit on the A3098 in the village to prevent HGVs using the High Street as a short cut, and prioritising the resurfacing of the A3098 between the A36/A3098 junction and the entrance to the village. *Dr Murrison understood these issues and said he would write to Wiltshire Council.*
- Wiltshire housing allocation and Wiltshire Council's planning process. *Dr Murrison recognised that the approved development of 43 houses at the Barter's Plant Centre site, the development of Thoulston Farm and Thoulston Park as well as in-fill housing developments are significant developments for a small village such as Chapmanslade.*

Charles Thackway
Parish Councillor

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Walking through lockdown

On the level!

Having written last month about the views to Sutton Veny from Cotley Hill, it seems apt to visit the village for this month's 3-mile walk. Park your car at the far end of St. John's church railings, well away from the school entrance. Be warned: don't be here when school finishes, as things can be difficult!

Walk back to the churchyard gates. If you've never been before, enter and walk past the western (left hand) end of the church, to spend time studying the Commonwealth War Graves and the board beyond them. 169 men and women from the Commonwealth are buried here and over 140 are Australian soldiers. Most died in late 1918, during the 'Spanish flu' epidemic. The church is usually open on Wednesdays, from 9am to 1pm.

Beyond the graves notice board, there's an opening into a new burial ground; when I visited there was a little maze cut into the grass! Look left and there's a gate into the Alexander Playing Field. Go that way. I cross the field at a 90° angle and use the field exit by the far-left hedge, purely because I like walking as much of the lane beyond the field as possible. Turn right at the exit and you're on a wide flat path, with the hills we climbed last month away to your left.

Walk on and you'll reach farm buildings. I follow the road right here, but the wide grassy lane left goes to the Sutton Veny-Norton Bavant road; simply walk the road left, back to your car from there. Go right, though, on the tarmac road and you'll reach a parting

of ways. On the right is a curved cream-plastered long-house and to the left there's a wide muddy track. Follow the track, which takes you to the Old Church of St. Leonard.

Detour into the graveyard, because the graves are old and interesting, but also because the ruined church is well worth seeing. This church dates back to the 1100s and was used till the late 1800s; only the chancel's in a useable condition now. If the building's open, pop in as it has an amazing collection of memorials on the walls.

Leave the churchyard





by a gate beyond the burial ground and turn left, onto another muddy track. As you walk, the views around you will open up; to your left is Cotley Hill and to your right are the Downs, with Dorset beyond.

Follow the wide track ahead, through fields with electric fencing and cows - the ones that look like pandas! After, say half-a-mile, there's a cottage ahead and an ancient burial mound in the field at your left. Go through the kissing gate near the cottage, pass the building and you're on a tarmac private road. Both sides of the road have ditches with running water in (depending on recent rainfall). These 'streams' may once have delivered water from the Wylde to local mills, either for cloth or for corn. At the road's bend right, both sides have large ponds; water was probably held here and controlled by sluice gates, which opened to allow water through, when required. See if you can find the 2-feet wide 'gates' and the grooves where the sluices were!

To your left is a footpath sign to Tytherington. If you have a dog with you, put it on the lead, because there are horses in this field (behind electric tapes). Cross the field and two dovecotes are in view. Turn right and follow the tarmac road through Tytherington and you'll pass another church on your left. This is St. James' church, founded before 1100. It's sometimes open, if you're keen to peek inside.

For the return walk, turn right and walk along the road, the mile or two back to your car at Sutton Veny. Otherwise, retrace your steps until you're back at the long-house beyond the old church of St. Leonard. Join the road going left there and follow it to the old Salisbury road, turn right and walk back to your car by St. John's, the church with the Commonwealth War Graves.

Gill Redman

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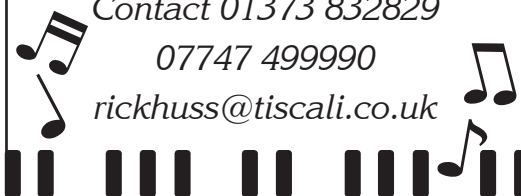
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Whitbourne Chapel

'Call him Immanuel ... God with us.'

Matt 1:23 (NIV)

God sent his Son...

Have you finished your Christmas Shopping? Are you one who prepares early or do you leave it to the last minute? Like many others your plans have probably been disrupted this year by lockdown 2; or maybe this isn't an issue as you have gone down the online shopping route.

The Bible reminds us "But when the time had fully come God sent his son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons" (Galatians 4 v4 NIV Bible).

This reminds us that the central truth of the Christmas story is of the Lord Jesus, born of a woman. This was no ordinary baby. He was God in human form. For thousands of years before the people had worshipped God, but under the law originally given to Moses which required them to offer animal sacrifices for the forgiveness of sins. But now in God's mercy and timing, the Lord Jesus came and would freely give His life, taking the punishment we deserve, before rising and ascending to sit at His Father's right hand.

There is more though because the verse also reminds us that because of Jesus' coming if we will put our trust in Him we are redeemed; made clean before God. We are His sons (and daughters). We can address Him as Father. We

can depend upon Him for all things. We have a certain hope that we will see Him one day.

At the end of this year in which we have all been challenged in so many ways, this reminds us that God doesn't change. His love, His ways and His timing are perfect. Let's be those who, in all the rush to be ready for this Christmas, take a few moments to remember the Lord Jesus, to celebrate and to give thanks from our hearts that He came and gave Himself for us.

Chris Andrews

Occasional Preacher at Whitbourne



Sylvia Carpenter

Chapel members were very sad to hear of Sylvia's passing in October. Her parents and grandparents were members before her and, as she walked through the building, Sylvia would recount which relative made which pieces of chapel furniture.

Sylvia's husband Fred was a Chapel stalwart for many years, too, and they returned to us, from France, for their Golden Wedding anniversary service. After Fred's passing, Sylvia came back to Warminster and to Chapel; I would take her out in the car and she'd bring her artists' materials, creating sketches from her seat in the car while I went for walks.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Linda, Lesley and Andrew at this sad time.

Gill Redman

Please remember:

If you need help or simply someone to talk to, ring 01373 464244 or 07980 013685 and we'll do our best to help you. Otherwise, visit our website www.whitbournechapel.org.uk or google 'Whitbourne Baptist Chapel'

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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

As we look back on 2020 we realise that our lives have been much affected by world problems

Pictures of floods and fires were constantly on our TV screens early in the year, followed by news of a lockdown in a city in China because of a new virus...

Since then, our lives have been turned upside down; so many lives lost, businesses closed – some for months, some never to open again – careers of our young people affected by their education being disrupted and stress and strain being experienced by every household. Initially, our countryside was a great escape as the good weather encouraged people to use their allotted hours of exercise to discover access to the lovely countryside that surrounds us. Sadly, as the spring and summer months disappeared, the virus has been just as active and the optimism of the virus disappearing has left many looking toward the winter months with trepidation.

Here, in this lovely part of England, we should be aware of the concerns of everyone living and working in the countryside around us. Working in agriculture and horticulture during the winter months is never easy – daylight hours are short, the rain, wind and cold affect both people and equipment.

On our own farm, we have members of staff who are shielding – their ages put them in a category where, if they caught the virus, any decline in their health could be serious. Our Polish staff have to be quarantined on their return to the UK – neither working or living with the other staff. Everyone in the agricultural industry realises what an essential job they do everyday by providing food for the nation, but it is not always appreciated by the general public. There is real isolation of people living and working in the countryside at this time, and we must all be aware that all generations are indeed suffering .

With Christmas on the horizon, we hope that essential items such as meat, poultry and vegetables and dairy products produced locally will all be readily available, so do shop locally, or at least buy British where you can.

When out for your winter walks, look out for redwing , field fare, song thrushes and blackbird who are flying over from Scandinavia to enjoy the winter harvest of berries and our less severe temperatures.

May I wish you all a safe and healthy Christmas.

Judith Helliar



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Small ads

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

For 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!

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Silent Night
- 2 Jacob Marley
- 3 Aladdin
- 4 Winter Wonderland
- 5 Crossroads
- 6 Santa's Little Helper
- 7 Bohemia
- 8 It's a Wonderful Life
- 9 Dean Martin
- 10 Raymond Briggs
- 11 Meet me in St Louis
- 12 Australia

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

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

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

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