

The Bridge

December 2022

*monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade*



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a very merry Christmas!*



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The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Articles

Please submit articles either by email to **paradisefound86@icloud.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.

In this issue...

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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**

December

Saturday 3rd

Christmas by Candlelight - with the Dolce Singers –
7.30 pm, St Margaret's Church

Tuesday 6th

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

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning – 10 am to 12 noon, Temple, BA12 7QN

Wednesday 7th

Light Bites Christmas Lunch – everyone welcome but please phone Maureen Willcox on 01373 832171 to secure your place!

Thursday 8th

An Evening of Carols – 7 to 8 pm, Chapel of St Lawrence, Warminster

Corsley WI - 'It's Christmas Time – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Saturday 10th

Christmas Extravaganza – 2 to 4 pm, Community Hall, Warminster Town Park

Christmas Candlelight Supper – 7 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Sunday 11th

Candlelight Carol Service – 5 pm, Whitbourne Chapel, Temple, BA12 7QN

Tuesday 13th

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning – 10 am to 12 noon, Temple, BA12 7QN

Wednesday 14th

Crafternoons – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

Thursday 15th

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

Sunday 25th

Communion Service – 9.30 am, St Mary's Church, Corsley – a rare opportunity to attend a service at this lovely church

January

Tuesday 3rd

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



Diary Dates

Friday 6th

Deadline for bids for donations and grants from Corsley Parish Council

Monday 9th

Corsley Parish Council Bi-monthly meeting - 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room (lower room)

Tuesday 10th

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning – 10 am to 12 noon, Temple, BA12 7QN

Wednesday 11th

Deadline for volunteers to join the Corsley Fayre committee

Thursday 12th

Corsley WI - 'Medical Detection Dogs – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 19th

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

Missing

Some items were mislaid at the Corsley Fayre Horticulture and Crafts marquee – these items were not claimed when the marquee was cleared down for the Ceilidh but, nevertheless, are precious to the exhibitor. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the items, could they please let the Editor know? They are:

Pale green/mint-coloured crochet blanket made for Kari's grandson; it has hearts on it and a decorative edging.

Knitting bag – displayed with the crochet blanket – which belonged to Kari's mother (now deceased).

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning

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Candlelight Carol Service



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Lite Bites Christmas Lunch

By the time you read this the date will be nearly upon us:

Wednesday 7th December

12.30 pm for a 1 pm lunch

Would you like to come?

It's not too late if you ring Maureen on 01373 832171
by 3rd December.

We look forward to seeing faces old and new
to enjoy a Christmas lunch with friends

*We do not make a charge for the lunch, we only ask for a donation to our
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Bob's bafflers

- 1 In which Christmas chocolate tub would you find the green triangle??
- 2 What is the alcoholic ingredient in a Snowball cocktail?
- 3 Which English leader banned Christmas in 1647?
- 4 Who wrote the book which became the cartoon classic "The Snowman"?
- 5 The French call it "Buche de Noel", by what name do we know this Christmas dessert?
- 6 Christmas panto - What is the name of the father of Cinderella and the Ugly Sisters?
- 7 In which fictional land is it always winter but never Christmas?
- 8 In which ocean does the Australian territory Christmas Island lie?
- 9 What is the name of the German/Austrian yeast cake served at Christmas?
- 10 What was the poor man collecting in the carol "Good King Wenceslas"?
- 11 Which Soviet leader resigned on Christmas Day 1991, signaling the end of the USSR?
- 12 Which actor, born on Christmas Day 1899, said the famous line "here's looking at you kid"?

Answers on page 40

A happy Christmas to our Editor with thanks for all the hard work she puts in each year so that we can all enjoy The Bridge each month. Well done Viv

Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School

Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 14th December

Wednesday 28th December

Wednesday 11th January

Wednesday 25th January

Wednesday 8th February

Wednesday 22nd February

Wednesday 8th March

Wednesday 22nd March

Christmas Communion St Mary's, Temple

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

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Corsley Fayre

The Corsley Fayre cannot continue without new committee members

This year's Corsley Fayre was judged a great success by all. However, following the lack of additional attendees at the public meeting/AGM, the committee decided that, unless more people came forward to volunteer, then with great regret, it would be impossible to continue and run future Fayres/Shows of any form.

The committee decided a decision has to be taken on the future of the Fayre no later than **11th January, 2023** so this is a final appeal to try and identify new people to get involved in making it happen. You don't even need to live in Corsley to become a committee member!

If you want to help save the Fayre, then please do consider taking on a role on the committee. Contact info@corsleyshow.org.uk for more information, to express interest in a role, or just an informal discussion.

Without additional help, there is no doubt that the Fayre will not happen next year and it will sadly have to be wound up after more than 100 years...

Vacancies

Project Lead

- Overall management of the Fayre
- Allocation/coordination of tasks
- Procurement of insurance
- Chair main committee meetings

Field Coordinator

- Coordination of the showfield – layout, acquisition of facilities, ie. marquees, toilets, etc.
- Leading up to the show and on the day.

Marshals/Stewards Coordinator

- Identify and agree stewarding requirements with H&S Coordinator and Field Coordinator
- Manage acquiring those volunteers/ resources and scheduling i.e. parking, traffic flow, pedestrian flow/safety, etc.

Sponsorship

- Identify potential (local) sponsors and obtain sponsorship to help offset the costs of the Fayre.

Press/PR/Publicity

- Create copy and ensure pre-event press coverage in local publications/radio
- Social media
- *Please note that this role will require a good standard of written communication*

Entertainment/Trade Stand Support

- Active assistance to the Entertainment/Trade Stand Coordinator i.e. emails/letters of engagement, supplier's insurance certificates, food hygiene certificates, etc.

Membership Coordinator

- Historically, the Society had paying members who, in return, had free entry to

the Show (as was). This situation is fluid and may or may not be continued. Previously, the role included:

- Maintenance of the membership roll
- Emails/letters to members
- Collection of payments, etc.

For most roles, guidance/advice is available to help you into the position and better understand what is expected, if required.

*On behalf of the Corsley Show Society/
Corsley Show Ltd*

Please note that the committee members and helpers give up their time freely and receive no remuneration

Cancer Research UK Warminster Group



An evening of Carols

7 to 8 pm, Thursday 8th December
Chapel of St Lawrence, Warminster

£5.00

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1 Course - £10 or 2 Courses - £11.50 (Pre-booking Price Only)

Friday 9th—Roast Chicken, Dauphinoise Potatoes & Gren Beans + Crème Brûlée

Friday 16th—Shoulder of Lamb, Sauteed Potatoes & Minted Peas + Sherry Trifle

Friday 23rd—Salmon Fish Cake, buttered Vegetables & New Potatoes + Lemon Cheesecake

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Raffle

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Corsley Parish Council

BIDS FOR DONATIONS AND GRANTS FOR 2022/2023

Each year the Parish Council provides donation or grants to a variety of community and village organisations.

In recent years these have included:

Little Cuckoos

War Memorial Playing Field

Corsley and Chapmanslade Parochial Church Council

Corsley Tennis Club

The Parish Council budgets on spending between £3,000 - £4,000 in areas such as community groups, sports and recreation, open spaces, entertainment and local issues.

Donations and grants will be made on the basis of bids to help us spend this (your) money in appropriate areas. These should be by application to our Parish Clerk (he can provide the relevant forms) and include financial accounts where appropriate.

Bids for defined projects are preferred, but this is not to the exclusion of others.

Bids should reach John Willcox, Parish Clerk, on paper or email by
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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

I'm writing on a very dark, rainy day; the chickens are huddled forlornly under their shelter and even an excursion to the garage to fetch the papers demanded that waterproofs should be worn.

Of course, as we approach the winter solstice the days will get progressively darker and probably colder. I know some people find this winter darkness very difficult to live with, but I actually love it. There is something mysterious about the deep darkness of winter that encourages a turning inward, it's a time for reflection and pondering on the year that is ebbing away. As T.S. Eliot writes: 'Between melting and freezing /The soul's sap quivers'

There is not much pondering going on in my life at the moment as I prepare for Christmas in church, and try to get ahead with the baking etc. Last year for the first time ever, in an attempt to lighten the load, I bought a Christmas Cake; there were howls of outrage at this dereliction of duty. Needless to say a Christmas cake is now sitting in the pantry being regularly fed with brandy. We do love our traditions don't we, and all of us have deeply held ideas about what should happen at Christmas. Rest assured we've got some lovely traditional events happening in church in December.

On Friday December 16th Chapmanslade School will be coming into church for their Christmas service. This is always a lovely occasion with the church full to bursting with excited children.

Everyone loves singing carols; do join us at St Margaret's church on Sunday 18th December at 6pm for our traditional Carol Service.

On Christmas Eve at 3.30pm there will be a Crib service at St Philip and St James. This is great fun and often complete chaos; a wonderful service for the little ones, and big ones too of course!

Our final Christmas service is a 10am Family Communion at St Philip and St James. Whichever service you choose to go to you will be warmly welcomed, children are particularly welcome and it's perfectly ok for them to wander around the church if they want to.

So, lots going on to enjoy. We are so lucky to be able to live as we do, but I don't really need to point out that for some families this Christmas will be very, very difficult as people struggle with horrendous household bills and ridiculously expensive food. At the heart of the Christmas story is love given and shared, let's do all we can to share something of the good things we enjoy this Christmas.

May you enjoy a happy and peaceful Christmas,

Love and prayers,

Pauline

December Church Diary

2nd December: Advent 2

8 am Holy Communion, Kingston

9.30 am Eucharist, Corsley

4 pm 'From Darkness to light', Longbridge



11th December: Advent 3

9.30 am Eucharist, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Kingston

6 pm 'Carols at The George, Longbridge



18th December: Advent 4

10 am Eucharist Brixton

6 pm Carol Service Kingston

6 pm Carol service Corsley



24th December: Christmas Eve

3.30 pm Crib Service Chapmanslade

4 pm Crib Service Longbridge

11.30 pm Midnight Mass Kingston



25th December: Christmas Day

9.30 am Eucharist St Mary's Temple Corsley

9.30 am Eucharist Kingston

10 am Eucharist Chapmanslade

11.15 am Eucharist Horningsham

11.15 am Christmas Worship Longbridge

Lite bites Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 7th December, 12.30 pm for 1 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms
To book a place contact Maureen Wilcox on 01373 832171

Community Church and Coffee Morning

10 am – 12 noon, Thursday 15th December, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Crafternoons

Wednesday 14th December, 3 - 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)



Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

Rural Dean	Rev Pauline Reid (day off is Fridays) revpauline@btinternet.com	01985 841290
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Barbara Hughes Claire Tanner	01373 832273 01985 218099
Pastoral Visitor	Alan Hopkinson	01373 832393
Churchwardens St Margaret's	Vacancy – contact Shane C R MacKean	01373 832506 07763 915620
St Philip & St James'	Ian Buick	01373 832318
Deputy Churchwardens St Margaret's St Philip & St James'	Vacancy Janet Aylesbury	01373 832752
PCC Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
PCC Treasurer	Ian and Janet Buick	01373 832318
Planned Giving Officer	Judith Helliar	01373 832803
Benefice Administrator	Vacancy	
Choir Leader	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
Tower Captain	Michael Attenborough	01373 832777
Electoral Roll	Di Britten	01373 832515
50/50 Club	Neil Britten	01373 832515
After Alpha Home Group	Trudi Hopkinson	01373 832393
Time To Think Home Group	Renee Cole	01373 839008
Light Bites Lunches	Maureen Willcox	01373 832171
Benefice Webmaster	Mike Palmer	mjp.mikepalmer@gmail.com

Copy for Six Open Doors should be sent to Di Britten at dianabritten69@gmail.com
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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

John Willcox, Parish Clerk, rounds up the PC's activity in September and November

Since the last report the Parish Council (PC) have met twice; on the 5th September and 7th November.

Planning

At the meeting on the 5th September the PC considered five planning applications:

PL/2022/05035 Replacement dwelling at Rose Cottage, Lyes Green, Corsley

It was agreed that the PC have no objection to the application but concern was expressed at the visual impact caused by the increased height and the significant amount of timber cladding on the road side of the dwelling.

PL/2022/05739 Proposed replacement of detached garage roof and addition of solar panels. (Resubmission of 20/09969/FUL) at Mews Cottage, 2 Knapps Gate, Corsley.

It was agreed that the PC support the application.

PL/2022/05948 Proposed Rear Extension & Alterations at 3, Birchwood Close, Corsley

It was agreed that the PC support the application.

PL/2022/06055 Proposed dormer extension, car port and workshop, driveway extension with associated works at 67A Lane End, Corsley

It was agreed that the PC support the application.

PL/2021/05441 Proposed Extension

(amended plans/additional information) at 1 Heathway, Corsley

It was agreed that the Parish Council have no objection providing that the back elevation is as described in Drawing No: 003_GA_018 of the revised plans dated 23rd August 2022.

It was reported that planning application **PL/2022/00665** – Longleat Safari Park, had been approved with conditions. The PC had objected to this application. Following discussion it was agreed that a representative of Longleat Estates be invited to attend the next meeting of the PC.

At the meeting on 7th November the PC considered two applications:

PL/2022/06522 Installation of 12 all-black solar photovoltaic (PV) panels to the south-facing roof of the garage at Temple Farm Barn, Temple, Corsley

The PC confirmed the recommendation that had been agreed following email consultation – No Objection.

PL/2022/07299 Proposed rear dormer windows to dwelling at 55 Dertford, Corsley
The PC raised no objection to this application

It was reported that application **PL/022/01934**, land next to the development at Baytree Close, had been approved by Wiltshire Council. The Clerk reported that

the PC had the opportunity, if it so chose, to make a recommendation on the name of the development. It was agreed that the village should be made aware and suggestions sought. It was agreed that the village Facebook page be used to circulate the opportunity.

Streetscene

Villagers will know that there have been a number of meetings along with representatives of the villages of Maiden Bradley and Chapmanslade with officers of Wiltshire Council and Dr Andrew Murrison, our MP, to try and relieve the increasing levels of HGV traffic through the villages. The latest of the meetings took place on 2nd September, following a number of postponements of meetings since May. Unfortunately, and disappointingly from our perspective, the representatives were told that nothing had been done and it was unlikely that anything would happen before the next meeting, scheduled for December. Both our County Councillor and MP expressed their disappointment at the apparent lack of activity by the County Officials on what is an area of significant concern to the villages communities involved.

Following the meeting in September the representatives of the villages met to discuss how best to move the issue forward and agreed to write to Wiltshire Council to suggest that a Temporary Traffic Order (TRO) be implemented imposing 'temporary' lower weight limits on the three village roads in question with a view to measuring the impact of this. To date, no response has been received from Wiltshire Council. However, with the support of our Councillor (Bill Parks). The concerns of the villagers and suggested way forward was presented to the Warminster Area Board and the Council Leader on the 10th November. The TRO was fully supported by the Area Board and the Council Leader confirmed that he could see no problem with the suggestion and would

go back to his officials to understand why this could not be implemented quickly.

It was also reported that the seeming reluctance of Wiltshire Council to address traffic issues extended to their continued refusal to consider the proposed solution of a 40 mph limit throughout the length of the village on the A362, despite the sound arguments that have been put forward.

In addition, despite having approved funding for the installation of sockets for the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) at the White Hart and the Old Piggeries, Wiltshire officials have now advised that Road Traffic Speed surveys were required before installation could take place (on highways land) and these surveys were unlikely to be carried out before 2023. The Parish Council is speaking to land owners about installation on private land (as we have done in Corsley Heath) to get over this potential delay.

Rights of Way

An updated report on the Rights of Way throughout the parish was discussed. The state of the paths and bridleways and the kissing gates and styles was discussed and the recommendations for maintenance, repair and/or renewal approved.

Finance

The PC confirmed that they would continue the practice of making donations/grants to village-based organisations. See page 17 in this edition of The Bridge for details of the procedure to be followed and the deadline.

Notification was received from the external auditors, PKF Littlejohns that the accounts were approved.

At the meeting on 7th November the PC were pleased to welcome Jon Timney and Ben Short from Longleat. They explained that COVID and Storm Eunice had made for a very difficult few years for Longleat both commercially and environmentally. As a result they were reviewing their business

continued...

model which could mean that local residents would notice some changes e.g. one of the aims would be to try and 'flatten out' the visitor numbers, spread the numbers over more months. One of the things that had 'slid' was the ongoing contact with the PC, which they were keen to maintain and, which had probably contributed to the concerns about the planning application for the safari 'tents' at Knapps Gate. Also, they were going to review the parking arrangements at Heavens Gate and Shearwater.

Bus Stop

Villagers will not have failed to notice the new bus stop at Corsley Heath. It has been commented that it is a considerable improvement over the previous incarnation, which needed to be removed as it was unsafe due to tree root damage.

The building itself is considerably more robust being double thickness and now has seating at both ends (made with ash from

Corsley School). The shelter also now benefits from having solar powered lighting, which we hope will make people feel safer during the dark winter months. We have also designed and built the shelter to be bird and bat friendly.

Whilst the Parish Council has paid for the new shelter we wanted to thank a number of businesses and individuals who have supported us. Firstly, thank you to both Graham and Roy (aka Ped) for doing such an amazing job building it, John White and Acres for all their help with demolition as well as providing and storage of materials. Olly Hares for the amazing roof tiles and Jason at Premier Installations for the windows and finally Garth at Nunney Saw mills for providing the oak.

Next meeting

Bi-monthly meeting – 7 pm, 9th January 2023
Corsley Reading Room (lower room)

John Willcox (Parish Clerk)

Cancer Research UK Warminster Group



Christmas Extravaganza

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Corsley WI

November news

Patricia Sharrocks rounds up the November meeting



In November, members of Corsley WI took to the road, headed over the border into Somerset, and met in Frome! We visited The Still Sisters Gin Distillery to learn a little about how the business began and how gin is produced. Some members and their guests enjoyed sampling the end product, while others stuck to the more traditional WI tipples – tea and coffee!

The roots of Still Sisters gin goes back to 1996 when four local businessmen set up Friary drinks at Witham Friary, producing liqueurs. That business continues with the daughters of one of them: Hannah is the mistress distiller while Tori focuses on creating their logos and marketing the brand. Still Sisters Gin has developed as a secondary business. In early 2020, they moved to designated premises in Frome where the gin is made, bottled and sold.

The key ingredient in gin is juniper to which other base ingredients such as coriander, orange peel, cloves or lemongrass are added. Less common base ingredients include angelica and liquorice root. These are steeped in alcohol for 24-48 hours to produce a London Dry Gin which is used as the basis of the gins produced by the Still Sisters.

Any herb or flavouring can be added to the London Dry Gin. The Still Sisters use local botanicals to create their gins. The first gin they produced was watercress gin which is made using watercress grown at Longbridge Deverill. Besides this signature gin they also

make lavender gin using Whitbourne lavender, rose and hibiscus, watercress and citrus flow, Somerset cider apple gin and a Christmas gin. All the botanicals used are sourced locally.

At the heart of the business is a gleaming 50 litre still. Apparently all stills have a name, and this one is called 'Storm'. From this still 150-250 litres of gin can be produced at one time, although Storm was having the night off when we visited. The process begins with 96% proof alcohol to which reversed (pure) water is added. The base botanicals are steeped in this liquid before it is heated and the alcohol begins to evaporate, then cooled, resulting in a very concentrated gin which is later diluted.

After adding the local botanicals the gin is bottled on site in beautifully-designed bottles with artwork by Louise Collis. The Still Sisters are currently very busy producing gin for the Christmas season as they prepare for stalls at various Christmas Markets, including Bath. They are also topping up their in-house supplies for those who may pop along to their premises in Frome as part of their local Christmas shopping.

All in all, it was a thoroughly enjoyable and informative evening, and I'm sure many of us will head back there for gifts, or just to treat ourselves, in the future.

In December we will gather for a Christmas meal. We look forward to welcoming new members and guests in the New Year. For more information please contact Alice Helliard: 07989 339632

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Wonderful Walks

Destination – Dorset!



Let's change counties for December's walk! Use the A350 from Warminster towards Shaftesbury and look for the right turn to Motcombe, after the East Knoyle bypass. The village is two or three miles off the A350, but once there, find the village Post Office and Stores on the right of the main street and park somewhere near; I turn on a side street and park near the shop. From there, walk the pavement a few yards right and find a lane on your right, with the sign: 'Shorts Green Lane, leading to Frog Lane and Shorts Green Courtyard'. Head that way, past a railed path on the right to houses, beside a black bin. There's no pavement from here and regular vehicles use the lane, but I was safe. Shorts Green Courtyard is next on your left and then there are red-brick houses on both sides of the road. I suspect these are, or were, 'estate' houses, as the design is uniform, semi-detached gabled fronts with a small stone date-block set high up the wall; I

managed to decipher the year 1924.

Eventually, there's a bend in the road and the houses cease; you're out in the country now, though the landscape still has that 'estate' feel. Keep walking and a big farm will come into view on the left, though I couldn't find a name-plate for it. Between the red-brick farm buildings, there's a concreted yard – and a bridlepath sign points that way. Stay with





the road, however, and on the right side, plonked against a hedge, is a 'Welcome to Motcombe' sign-board, a strange place for such important information! It seems the village is one of the largest parishes in North Dorset and has twenty miles of public footpaths and bridleways. At one time, most of Motcombe was owned by the Dukes of Westminster and a Lord Stalbridge owned Motcombe House, now a private school at the far end of the village, towards Gillingham.

Walking on, you'll pass a new red-brick house on the right, Sir Sidney Brooke House and, after that and a gentle climb uphill, emerge from Frog Lane onto something approaching a main road. Traffic becomes more frequent and faster here, despite the speed-notifying machine and a definite 30 mph speed

limit, with a sign stating 'Caught? No excuses'. Along the right-hand side of the road is a row of red-brick-and-stone houses; these may be houses mentioned on the earlier sign-board as belonging to the Dukes of Westminster. Keep walking, past cream-coloured Brook House and a black sign, high on the wall of a house on the left side of the road, stating that there's no footpath through to the field beyond the house.

You should soon reach a three-way junction; turn right here, where a sign in the hedge opposite points the way to the village shop. Cross this road carefully, as 30mph didn't feel like the speed most traffic did as it passed me!

You're heading for the village shop now, but somewhere on this left-hand side of the road you'll soon see a tarmacked footpath, called 'Church Walk'. Go that way and visit the church; see if you can spot the Dukes of Westminster graves; churches are always worth a visit, anyway! When you've explored both church and grounds, look at the lovely school



building next door and the sign on the wall for motorists – no idling! After that, use Church Walk and return to Motcombe's main thoroughfare, called 'The Street'. Turn left, keep walking and the Village Hall and War Memorial are on the right, with a play park beyond. In the hedge here on the left, there's a milepost for Shaftesbury, two miles, and Mere, five-and-a-half miles.

Pass Forge Cottage on your left and the Village Shop and Post Office come into view ahead. After three miles walking, I needed facilities and sustenance and was allowed to use the facilities here, as I declared a need for food and drink! There's an under-cover area in front of the shop, with tables and chairs, so I sat there and enjoyed a snack lunch

and mug of tea. Looking round the shop later, I found a range of vegan offerings, perfect for my grand-daughter, whose nine-month-old daughter has a milk allergy; Mum's become vegan, to cure the baby's problem! Here



I found 'Free and Easy' vegan cake mixes, intended for big brother and sister to 'cook' when they're bored, but Mum tells me she and Daddy cooked the Brownies version last night and scoffed half themselves!

Corsley Ceilidh dances for Charity

The organisers of the Ceilidh are thrilled to announce that they have raised £4,836.16 for the BCUSG and would like to thank all those who helped and participated in such a fun and worthwhile event.

On Saturday 3rd September, the villagers of Corsley and others 'Stripped the Willow' and 'Dosey Doed' as they threw themselves into the music of Bowreed and danced the night away.

Following on from the day's very successful Corsley Fayre, the Horticulture and Craft marquee was utilised to provide the perfect venue for the Ceilidh which was being held to benefit the Bath Cancer Unit Support Group (BCUSG). They are raising

money to provide state of the art radio therapy equipment that will revolutionise the treatment of patients at the Bath RUH Cancer Unit.

The idea for this jolly fundraiser originated with the Corsley Book Club. As one of their members, Lisa Tolson, the Radiotherapy Service Manager at the RUH, explained "The current challenge is for this charity to raise £580,000 to purchase surface guided radiotherapy technology (SGRT) systems. Surface-guided radiotherapy can track a patient's position with pinpoint accuracy during treatment. This helps to ensure that radiation reaches exactly the right place while avoiding vital organs."

Whitbourne Chapel

*And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.*

Luke 1:46-47 (KJV)

Singing Praises to God

As we look forward to the coming Christmas Season, I guess one of the many things just about all of us enjoy is singing the Carols.

We have all participated at some point, from learning Away in a Manger at infant school (and no doubt looking very angelic singing it to our parents!), to carol services or maybe in a haze state after the office Christmas Party.

Singing Praises to God, which is what we are doing, is found in the accounts of the Birth of our Lord Jesus recorded in the Bible. Remember Mary, the mother of Jesus, sang in thanksgiving to God that she had been chosen to be His Servant? We are told the Shepherds praised God after seeing Him. Later, the Wise Men came and saw the Child Jesus and “Worshipped Him”.

The Westminster Larger Catechism asks “What is the chief and highest end of man?” and the answer is “Man’s chief and highest end is to glorify God and fully to enjoy him forever”.

God created us in His image, to enjoy the beauty of the Creation, to receive His blessing, to bless Him as we love Him and Serve Him. He wants that relationship with Him where we regard and love Him as our Father. And that relationship should bring in us the desire to sing out our Praises to Him.

So as we sing the Carols this year, let’s be those who think about what we are singing

and do so genuinely, from our hearts, to give back to God our thanks for the birth of His Son Our Saviour as we celebrate this Christmas Season.

Chris Andrews, occasional preacher at Whitbourne Chapel

Our Candlelit Carol Service

This will be held on Sunday 11th December 2022 at 5pm. I (Gill Redman) am so looking forward to it, the highlight of the year for me! It’s always great to arrive at Chapel and see candlelight shining from within, rather than electric light! Come along and join us for an hour of praise to God, for his kindness to us, and stay for mince pies and coffee or tea afterwards.

Do you have a favourite carol? Chris mentions Away in a Manger in his piece and I hope to hear that, not locally, but at Marshfield, where my two great-grandchildren go to school and have the school Christmas Service in the local church.

My personal favourite carol is one celebrating the Feast of Epiphany, Twelfth Night. I love ‘Brightest and Best are the Sons of the Morning’. The tune isn’t easy and my voice can’t do it justice, but I love to hear the words calling the faithful: Star of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid. I hope and pray we all follow that star this Christmas and into 2023.

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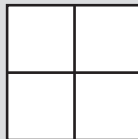
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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

Here we are the end of another year, with the weather and war in Ukraine affecting us all in so many ways

Due to the mild weather in Europe in the autumn we are still seeing birds flying in from Scandinavia, Iceland and Russia, where the freezing conditions push the birds south to warmer climes and better feeding conditions. Redwings, fieldfares, bramblings, snowbuntings, snipe, woodcock, gold crests and short eared owls are still arriving. Since developers began planting trees and shrubs on new roads, motorways and even supermarket car parks; rowan, hawthorn, blackthorn, fruit trees and wild roses all produce food in the form of berries for hungry wax wings, siskins and crimson tipped redpolls which we would have rarely seen in such public areas 20 years ago. Sadly, the joy of seeing these migrating birds has also increased the losses of our own native birds through Avian Influenza. It is now compulsory that all domestic fowl, ducks, geese and turkeys are kept indoors but, sadly, our own wild birds in some areas have been decimated in numbers and poultry farmers are having to slaughter thousands of stock if they become infected.

Poultry farmers are also finding the cost of foodstuffs imported from Ukraine is pushing up their costs, so your Christmas dinner of chicken, turkey or goose is likely to cost more. The price and availability of eggs is also a concern, due to the increased cost of feed stuffs when housed indoors, along with the extra heating and lighting costs.

Sadly, the supermarkets are once again increasing prices of these products over and above what they are paying the producers and even buying in eggs from countries such as Italy where animal husbandry in some cases is nowhere near the standard of care as here in the UK - and what about the air miles? Please do check where your fresh, farm produced food is coming from.

If you fancy a change from poultry, why not treat your family to beef this year? The Christmas Fatstock Show at Frome Market will be selling the finest animals, produced by West Country farmers and bought by local butchers for you to enjoy at this festive time.

In the last few weeks our weather has changed back to the norm of grey, windy and wet weather; thankfully the storms in our area have been far less disruptive than some parts of the UK.

With Christmas drawing near, do remember that stock farmers, producers of fresh dairy products, vegetables growers, etc., are working all hours to supply us with our fabulous UK-produced food that we take for granted.

If you want to use holly with berries to decorate your homes, cut it early and keep it in a shed before the wild birds descend and devour the lot – this year there are plenty of berries for us all to share!

Judith Helliar

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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

Coffee Mornings

The next Coffee Morning on Tuesday 6th December (10 – 12) , why not join us for a coffee/ tea and a chat? The following one is 3rd January 2023!

Refurbishment programme

**** STOP PRESS ****

The National Lottery has just awarded us a grant of £10,000 towards the roof refurbishment so we expect to place contracts soon. More details on the website about this and how you can support through the buy-a-tile programme.

Christmas Fair

This was hailed as a great success by the stall holders and those who attended. Watch out for an announcement of the date for 2023 in due course.

Land

We are very close to final agreement with Longleat to rent some of the field behind the Reading Room for our use. More details when finalised.

New trustee

At the AGM we were pleased that Caroline Hutton agreed to join as a trustee and will replace Vanessa Hyde as Treasurer when she departs the village in 2023.

Next photographic “competition” opportunity

New submissions will be in January. See website for full details on when your photos can be submitted and other information.

Festive Greetings and Best Wishes to all our users, past, present, and future.

See website www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk for up to date information and more details about the Reading Room.

To hire, see the website or call Gill Parkinson (01373 832322) to discuss.

Hugh Deed
Chairman of Management Committee
Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk
01373 832897

Committee Members

David Carruthers, Hugh Deed, Claire Firman-Ford, Liz Garrett,
Vanessa Hyde, Jackie Jasper, Gill Parkinson, Mark Richards

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!

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Quality Street
- 2 Advocaat
- 3 Oliver Cromwell
- 4 Raymond Briggs
- 5 Yule log
- 6 Baron Hardup
- 7 Narnia
- 8 Indian Ocean
- 9 Stollen
- 10 Winter fuel
- 11 Mikhail Gorbachev
- 12 Humphrey Bogart

**A happy Christmas to all who have
been 'Baffled' over the year!**

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)

1 space	(69mm wide x 33mm high)	£22.00
2 spaces	(69mm wide x 66mm high)	£42.00
3 spaces	(quarter page - 69mm wide x 100mm high)	£60.00
4 spaces	(138mm wide x 66mm high)	£75.00
6 spaces	(half page - 138mm wide x 100mm high)	£104.00

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

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

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