

# The Bridge

March 2017

monthly magazine for the villages  
of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Don't  
forget...  
clocks go  
forward on  
Sunday 26th  
March!

*pick some litter, go on a lent walk, see 'Allied' at Cinema Corsley,  
get some gas in Chapmanslade, stomp with the Cley Hill Stompers,  
there's lots to do in March...*



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

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

## File types

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

## Advertising

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

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

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

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

**Please note: no cash, no advert!**

## Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

## In this issue...

**8 Bob's Bafflers**  
a cunning quiz

**12 Science**  
biology: changing the world

**18 Parish Council briefing**  
Chapmanslade

**Seven Open Doors** **25**  
news from the pews

**Corsley WI** **30**  
news from the ladies

**Parish Council briefing** **38**  
Corsley

**41 News from the Nest**  
fledgling fun

**45 Whitbourne Chapel**  
chapel colloquy

**50 Countryside matters**  
views from over the hedge

## Deadline

**Deadline for articles  
or adverts for the next  
issue of The Bridge is  
4pm 19th February**

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

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## March

### Thursday 2nd

Warminster Area Board – 7 pm, venue to be confirmed

### Saturday 4th

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

Lent Walk 1 – see page 22

Chapmanslade's Little Village Litter Pick – 2.30 - 3.30pm, The Three Horseshoes

### Tuesday 7th

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

### Thursday 9th

Corsley WI - Annual Meeting and 'Jewellery Making' – 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Chapmanslade Parish Council. 7.30 pm Chapmanslade Village Hall

### Saturday 11th

Lent Walk 2 – see page 22

### Monday 13th

Corsley Annual Parish Meeting – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

### Thursday 16th

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

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

### Saturday 18th

Chapmanslade Barn Dance – 7 for 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade village hall

### Wednesday 22nd

Lite Bites lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Lent Walk 3 – see page 22

### Thursday 23rd

Mains gas supply discussion night – 6.30 - 9.30 pm, Chapmanslade village hall

### Saturday 25th

Cley Hill Stompers - Up the Stompers! – The Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade



# Diary Dates

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## April

### Saturday 1st

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

### Tuesday 4th

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

Deadline for submission of nomination papers for Corsley PC election on 4th May

### Saturday 8th

Field Day – 10am - 3pm, Corsley Memorial Playing Field

### Thursday 13th

Corsley WI – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room, OPEN Meeting with Karen Hayter: 'Who Do You Think You Are?'

Annual Parish Meeting and Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

### Good Friday 17th

Little Cuckoos Pre-School Easter Egg Hunt – 10 am - 12 noon

### Thursday 20th

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

### Wednesday 26th

Lite Bites lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

### Saturday 29th

Chapmanslade Quiz, Village Hall

## May

### Monday 1st

150th anniversary of St Philip and St James' Church, Chapmanslade

### Tuesday 2nd

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

### Thursday 4th

Corsley Parish Council – election of councillors

### Saturday 6th

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

### Monday 6th

Corsley Annual Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room *continued...*

### **Thursday 11th**

Corsley WI – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room, Resolutions Meeting

### **Thursday 18th**

Chapmanslade Parish Council  
Annual General Meeting – 7.30 pm,  
Chapmanslade Village Hall

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

### **Saturday 20th**

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches –  
May Fayre

### **Wednesday 24th**

Lite Bites lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley  
Reading Room

## **June**

### **Saturday 3rd**

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

### **Tuesday 6th**

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

### **Thursday 8th**

Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30  
pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Corsley WI – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading  
Room

### **Thursday 15th**

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

## **July**

### **Sunday 2nd**

Chapmanslade Fete, Village Hall

### **Tuesday 4th**

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

### **Thursday 6th**

Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30  
pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

### **Thursday 20th**

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

## **August**

### **Tuesday 1st**

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

### **Sunday 6th**

Chapmanslade Cream Tea, Village Hall

### **Thursday 17th**

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

## **September**

### **Tuesday 5th**

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

### **Thursday 7th**

Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30  
pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

### **Thursday 21st**

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

# **Corsley litter pickers**

We meet opposite the Royal Oak at 10am  
on the first Saturday of each month. Our  
next 'pick' is on Saturday 4th March – do  
come along and help keep our village  
beautiful.

*Cath Aylesbury and Sue Taylor*



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# Corsley Parish Council

# **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

13th March 7.30pm  
Corsley Reading Rooms

## **LONGLEAT PLANS FOR 2017**

A presentation by  
**Bob Montgomery, CEO and  
Geoffrey Wheating, Business Consultant**

followed by

## **The Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report and Any Questions**

All Parish Councils in England are required by law to hold an Annual Parish Meeting each year. The meeting allows the Council and local community organisations to explain what they have been doing over the last year and electors can have their say on anything which they consider is important to the people of the parish. Note that It is not a Parish Council Meeting although it is chaired by the PC.

# Bob's bafflers

- 1 Into which sea does the River Jordan flow?
- 2 Which novelist is credited with the introduction of pillar boxes?
- 3 Which size of paper is half an A4 sheet?
- 4 Brian Bennett was the drummer with which primarily instrumental group?
- 5 Which South American country was named after an Italian city?
- 6 The Isle of Sheppey is part of which English county?
- 7 What bodily function can exceed a speed of 200 miles an hour?
- 8 Immortalised by a rhyme, the bridge at Avignon crosses which river?
- 9 Betsey Trotwood is a character in which Dickens' novel?
- 10 In boxing, which is heavier, featherweight or flyweight?
- 11 The Brenner Pass links which two countries?
- 12 What can be part of the large intestine or a punctuation mark?

Answers on page 52

Chapmanslade Village Hall

## Barn Dance

7 pm for 7.30 pm, Saturday 18th March

Hot supper served at 7.30pm Licensed Bar



Tickets    Adults – £12.50    Under 14s – £8  
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## Biology: changing the world

# Traffic and pollution



A reader has suggested that I write about pollution caused by cars. This has been particularly high profile recently, with the news of the high levels of traffic-generated atmospheric pollution in UK cities, particularly in London, where Brixton Road had already exceeded its ANNUAL limit for 2017 by the 5th January!

Of course, this is an international problem, with many large cities suffering even worse levels of pollution than London. Beijing has one of the highest levels of atmospheric pollution and the authorities there issued a 'red alert' in December 2016, requiring all schools to close and all private cars to stay off the roads for five days. In China the level of air pollution is exacerbated by coal-burning power stations, whereas in London it is mainly vehicles that are to blame.

So what about Chapmanslade and Corsley? We are fortunate to live in the country with

fewer cars passing than in the city, but all cars cause atmospheric pollution. Both petrol and diesel engines emit oxides of nitrogen (particularly nitrogen dioxide,  $\text{NO}_2$ ), which can inflame the lining of the lungs, and reduce immunity to lung infections, causing wheezing, coughing, colds and bronchitis. It is thought also to reduce life expectancy, but other pollutants from traffic, such as inhaled particles from tyres and brake linings contribute to this.

Modern petrol cars emit relatively low levels of  $\text{NO}_2$ , but pre-2005 vehicles may emit much higher levels, particularly those pre-2000. However, diesel vehicles have become MORE polluting, with post-2006 cars emitting over three times the amount of  $\text{NO}_2$  than in 1996 and over 12 times more than a post-2006 petrol or petrol-hybrid car. Only recently has this begun to decline. You may remember that Volkswagen provided

software on some diesel cars that reduced the apparent pollution during testing.

Diesel fuel also gives rise to very small particles, less than 2.5 microns ( $\frac{1}{400}$  millimetre). These can get into the lower reaches of the lung and cause respiratory problems, particularly in children but also in adults. The Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants estimate that on average these particles contribute to 29,000 deaths annually across the UK.

Cars are necessary if we live in the country with a limited bus service. However, if we can minimise their use, not run our engines when stationary for long periods, and ensure our next car is less polluting, we would minimise the damage to our health that they cause.

Nigel Brown is a retired Professor of Microbiology, now living in Chapmanslade. Please send comments, questions and suggestions for future articles to [nigelbrown48@gmail.com](mailto:nigelbrown48@gmail.com)

## BARTERS PLANT CENTRE

### Job opportunity

**Barthers Plant Centre**  
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We are looking for someone to join our team at weekends from March to June. The work would involve operating the till, watering and helping customers.

The job would suit a 16-year old student saving up for a gap year or university.

Please email [diana@barthers.co.uk](mailto:diana@barthers.co.uk)



## Corsley Parish Council

# ELECTION

## Thursday 4th MAY 2017

**All nine seats on the Parish Council are up for election on this date**

Anyone on the Corsley electoral register may stand for election and nomination papers must be submitted by

**4 pm on Tuesday 4th April.** Forms may be obtained from the Parish Clerk, John Willcox, by phone 01373 832171, or by email [corsleypc\\_jdw@aol.com](mailto:corsleypc_jdw@aol.com)

If there are nine or fewer nominations there will no ballot and all will be deemed elected.





# ***Corsley Show Horticulture and Crafts***

## ***Division B - Flowers***

***Open to all residents of the British Isles***

---

Now's the perfect time for all you budding exhibitors to start thinking about your planting plans. Why not include some of the flowers in Division B of the Horticultural and Crafts Show? We have two brand new classes for 2017; **Penstemon** – spectacular, easy-to-grow perennial available in a broad spectrum of colours - perfect for all types of garden. **Hanging basket** – let your imagination run wild and wow us with your beautiful creations!

34	<b>Roses</b>	3 blooms (not floribunda)	
35	<b>Rose</b>	1 specimen bloom, named (not floribunda)	
36	<b>Floribunda Rose</b>	1 stem	
37	<b>Garden flowers</b>	3 of same variety	
38	<b>Cosmos</b>	3 stems in a vase	
39	<b>Pelargonium/geranium</b>	specimen, max dimension of container 12"/30cm	
40	<b>Mophead type flower</b>	e.g. sedum or hydrangea	
41	<b>Sweet Peas</b>	6 stems in a vase	
42	<b>Penstemon</b>	3 in a vase	<i><b>New for 2017</b></i>
43	<b>Flowering pot plant</b>	max dimension of container 10"/25cm	
44	<b>Flowering fuchsia</b>	any cultivar, max dimension of container 10"/25cm	
45	<b>Cactus or Succulent</b>	max dimension of container 10"/25cm	
46	<b>Fresh cut herbs</b>	1 vase any variety or varieties	
47	<b>Gladiolus</b>	1 specimen spike	
48	<b>Single stem from a shrub in flower</b>		
49	<b>Hanging basket</b>	max dimension of basket 12"/30cm diameter	<i><b>New for 2017</b></i>
50	<b>Orchid in a pot</b>	max dimension of container 10"/25cm	

## Cups and Prizes

Exhibitor gaining most points in Classes 34-50

### **The Margaret Gough Challenge Shield**

Exhibitor gaining most points in Classes 34-36

### **The W F Pearce Perpetual Challenge Cup**

Exhibitor gaining most points in Classes 51-61

### **Wheatley Challenge Cup - Dahlias**

Meritorious exhibits in Classes 51-61

### **National Dahlia Society Silver and Bronze Medals & Certificates**

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 51 | <b>Dahlia, giant, large decorative or semi-cactus</b>     | 1 bloom, any variety  |
| 52 | <b>Dahlias, small or miniature</b>                        | 3 blooms, any variety or varieties  |
| 53 | <b>Planted Dahlia in a pot</b>                            | max dimension of container 10"/25cm   |
| 54 | <b>Dahlias, pompon</b>                                    | 5 small pons  |
| 55 | <b>Dahlias, water lily type</b>                           | 3 blooms in a vase  |
| 56 | <b>Dahlias, medium decorative, cactus or semi-cactus</b>  | 3 blooms, any variety or varieties  |
| 57 | <b>Dahlias, small or miniature, cactus or semi-cactus</b> | 3 blooms, any variety or varieties  |
| 58 | <b>Dahlias arranged for effect</b>                        | any variety or varieties, container max 8"/20cm<br>maximum of 12 blooms; can include natural<br>foliage and grasses |
| 59 | <b>Dahlias</b>  | 3 blooms in a vase, any variety or varieties  |
| 60 | <b>Dahlia</b>   | one large pompon  |
| 61 | <b>Dahlia, bedding</b>                                    | single bloom  |

*Entry Fee  
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*Note: Dahlia classes will be judged in accordance with National Dahlia Society Rules*

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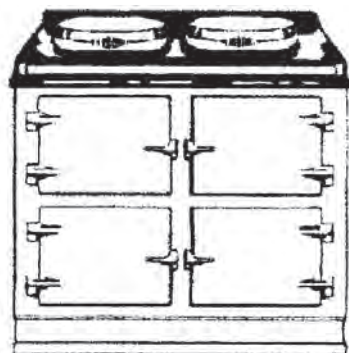


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**Chapmanslade Parish Council**

# Parish Council Briefing

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

The parish council met on 16th February. Ten members of the public were present.

## **Road Safety Outside the School**

As you know, over the years there have been numerous attempts to solve the issue of road safety in the High Street, particularly the area outside the school. But so far we seem to have made little progress in finding a solution that everyone is comfortable with and which is capable of being funded and implemented. Some years ago we persuaded Wiltshire Council (and part-funded this ourselves) to provide some traffic calming measures: 'virtual gates' at the eastern end of the village, repeater 30 mph signs, 30 mph roundel and 'SLOW' signs painted on the road surface. And of course we regularly conduct Speedwatch checks at each end of the village.

All of this has helped to slow traffic down but has not led to us finding a permanent solution to the congestion problem. However, the current parish planning exercise, especially the Voice of the Village initiative, has shown that the issue will not go away. And so, at our meeting we discussed what the parish council should do next in an attempt finally to make our High Street safer for everyone – children, parents and village residents.

After a lengthy debate, in which everyone present at the council meeting participated, and many different views were expressed, we agreed that there is no instant solution to the issue. Our High Street will always be busy and is getting busier with 600 or more vehicles an hour passing through at peak times, compared with 300 or so when we started Speedwatch a few years ago. The school is busier too, with over 100 pupils on roll and, of course, the Busy Bees pre-school is a thriving and successful village asset, but it does generate extra traffic.

We did decide, however, that we would investigate thoroughly the possibility of introducing a 'walking bus' arrangement at the Westbury end of the village. A significant number of the school's pupils live in the Westbury area. Legh Walker, at Barters Farm, has kindly offered the use of his car park and there is a continuous footpath from there to the school premises, apart from the Wood Lane junction. We felt there would be value in running this initiative as an experiment, beginning in the summer term or perhaps in September. If successful, it would mean there would be less congestion outside the school, hopefully making the area much safer. At the moment I am discussing the suggestion with the school's

[www.chapmanslade.org.uk](http://www.chapmanslade.org.uk)

PTFA to try to judge whether or not the proposal will have the support of parents.

Wiltshire Council has announced that, in order to encourage children to walk to school they are prepared to give funds to schools so that a 20 mph speed limit can be introduced in the vicinity of schools. We have not looked at this offer in detail yet but we have, of course, noted that speeding outside the school is not an issue, at least at peak times.

The parish council will continue to monitor the position concerning road safety outside the school and we will report back in due course. If the Barters Farm housing development goes ahead we should have some funds to help us introduce more traffic calming measures in the village. In the meantime, please let us have any ideas or suggestions you may have to help solve the problem.

A dead badger on the road outside the school caused children some distress on two days last month. Various public spirited residents reported this to Wiltshire Council via the “my Wiltshire” app but it took an urgent phone call to Fleur de Rhe Philippe, our Wiltshire Councillor, before it was removed. Our thanks to Fleur for her swift action in responding on our behalf.

### **Overweight lorries and 7.5 tonne weight limit**

The Voice of the Village responses have also raised the issue of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) using our High Street as a rat-run. At present, the A3098 through Chapmanslade has an 18 tonne weight limit. In simple terms, this means that an HGV with three axles should not be using the High Street unless it is delivering within the area of the weight restriction. Many drivers ignore this restriction, either by accident or design. Often this is because they are using satnavs

designed for use in cars rather than in HGVs. The Local Government Association is currently lobbying the Government to make this practice illegal. As a consequence I have been in touch with Andrew Murrison, our MP, asking him to lend his support to this campaign. You can see my letter, which is posted on the village website.

The parish council has long campaigned for a 7.5 tonne weight limit through the village and will continue to do so. Wiltshire’s justification for not doing so is because the junction between the A350 and the A303 north of Shaftesbury is substandard and they are not prepared to introduce lower weight limits for villages such as ours, Corsley and Maiden Bradley until Highways England improves the junction in question. There is no hope of this happening in the near future so the parish council will continue to apply pressure on Wiltshire Council in the hope of a change of mind.

### **Planning**

**1.** We noted that, as we had been told at our November meeting by a representative of Longleat Estates, a planning application has now been submitted for a 240 bed hotel with conference centre, water park and “immersive animal experience” to be located at Tascroft near Warminster. We considered that this would have little impact on our parish in terms of extra traffic but noted that the local economy might benefit once the hotel is opened. You can view the application at **17/01124/OUT** on Wiltshire Council’s website.

**2. 17/00258/FUL/** Wood Cottage, 115 High Street. Proposed single storey rear extension and new entrance porch. We considered this planning application and raised no objection to it.

**3.** Barters Farm development: As I mentioned last month, the parish council





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was concerned that we had heard nothing concerning this proposal for many months. We now understand there is a delay in Wiltshire being in a position to issue its new Housing Land Allocation Plan, which apparently accounts for the hiatus. Fleur de Rhe Philippe has indicated that, in principle, if the developer wishes to submit an application and it has the support of the local community, that application might 'succeed against policy'. We will await any developments and keep you informed.

## Chapmanslade Plan

Adam reported on progress being made in the current parish planning exercise and mentioned a number of initiatives. First, the long wait for mains gas in the village may be coming to an end. A public meeting is planned for **Thursday 23rd March** which we hope you will all attend. And second, **4th March** has been chosen for the **Village Spring Clean**, to coincide with a national event which aims to rid our towns, villages and countryside of the mountains of litter which currently are a blight on the landscape. See details of these events elsewhere in The Bridge or on the village website. Finally, Adam gave us a progress report on the possibility of constructing a cycle route between Chapmanslade and Warminster. The village website has full details of progress being made with the plan. Shortly, as part of the planning exercise, you will be receiving a questionnaire asking for your response to a number of issues. We had an overwhelming response from the community when we did this in Chapcap 1 fourteen years ago and we hope for the same this time around.

## St Philip and St James' Church

Our village church will be celebrating its 150th anniversary on Monday 1st May. The Parochial Church Council is planning

an afternoon 'Songs of Praise' service, which will be led by the Bishop of Ramsbury and this will be followed by a party. The PCC hopes all the village will join in this celebration. Do you have any treasured memories of the church that you could share with us, or photographs of Sunday School outings, weddings or christenings? An exhibition is being planned and anything you could lend the PCC will be much appreciated. Please contact me or Ian Buick, our churchwarden, if you can help.

Our next scheduled parish council meeting is due to be held in the village hall at **7.30 pm on Thursday 9th March**. So, do come along to the meeting if you can, to speak or maybe just to listen.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will take place on **Thursday 13th April**. Fleur de Rhe Philippe has promised that she will attend and will respond to any queries you have about Wiltshire Council's services. This is your opportunity to tell the parish and the unitary councils your views on how they are performing, so please mark the date in your diary.

The parish council's April meeting, which follows the Annual Parish Meeting, will be our last before we stand down at the end of our four year term. Some of us will not be offering ourselves as candidates for the next four years so there will be some vacancies. Perhaps you could be one of our next parish councillors and serve the community in this important way? It would be really good if there were enough candidates to warrant an election, so please give it some thought in the next few weeks. We will let you know details of the application procedure shortly.

Phil Jefferson  
832845

[phil.jefferson@virgin.net](mailto:phil.jefferson@virgin.net)

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# **Three Lent walks across the benefice**

visiting our seven  
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---

## **Walk 1 – Saturday 4th March Chapmanslade to Horningsham**

Starting 10 am from St Philip & St James' calling at St Margaret's Corsley, St Mary's Temple. Finishing at St John the Baptist, Horningsham.

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## **Walk 2 – Saturday 11th March Horningsham to Kingston Deverill**

Starting 10 am from St John the Baptist Church finishing at St Mary's Kingston Deverill.

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## **Walk 3 – Saturday 18th March Kingston Deverill to Longbridge Deverill**

Starting 1.30 pm from St Mary's Kingston, calling in at St Michael the Archangel Brixton. Finishing at St Peter & St Paul Longbridge Deverill (back in plenty of time to watch England & Ireland rugby match!)

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Maps available from Di or Neil or download from Benefice website. Some routes may vary on the day because of weather conditions and mud! Cars will have to be placed at either end of each walk for the return journey so come in groups to share cars. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear and bring your own refreshments.

No dogs because of nesting birds and lambing



## **Cross Keys News**

**Corsley's very own community-owned  
free house**

February was a busy month at The Cross Keys with two theme nights (a Curry Night and Fizz and Chips Night) and a special Valentine menu on the 11th February. The menu is regularly updated, there are always delicious specials to try and guest beers too.

As well as the welcoming bar area and dining rooms, we also have the Oak Apple room available for hire for parties and events. Enquiries are always welcome.

As the weather improves, what could be nicer than a walk through our beautiful countryside with a delicious lunch or supper at the end? Dogs and wellies welcome in the bar area.

Keep checking the website [www.crosskeyscorsley.co.uk](http://www.crosskeyscorsley.co.uk) or our Facebook page – Cross Keys Inn Corsley – for forthcoming events and news, or contact the pub on **01373 832406** to book a table .

**Please note we are closed all day on  
Tuesday and on Sunday evenings.**

We look forward to seeing you soon.

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# Seven Open Doors

Dear Friends,

The unfolding seasons of the year are one of the great joys of living in this country I think and similarly I really enjoying the unfolding of the church's year, a year whose colours and themes echo and embrace the earth's seasons.

On the 1st day of March we begin the solemn six-week season of Lent with a service of penitence and ashing on Ash Wednesday. I don't think the word 'penitence' features very heavily in our collective vocabulary these days does it, but whether you believe in God or not there is something incredibly powerful and cathartic about acknowledging our past failings in ritual action, and committing ourselves to a given time of deeper attention and reflection.

The ancient rite of the 'imposition ashes' – marking the sign of the cross in oil and ash on penitents' foreheads – is an incredibly powerful and moving moment and the words that accompany it are equally powerful: 'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ'. Crikey, pretty heavy stuff isn't it. But in our achingly beautiful, sad old broken world anybody can see that as human beings we haven't made a very good job of caring for the created order, nor for each other. A reminder that we are 'but dust' is no bad thing I feel because it's a reminder that we are not the centre of the universe and that we need to take responsibility for our actions if we are to go any way towards building a better world. There is another word in there that we rarely use outside of church, 'sin'. Now I would be the first person to say that the Church has been a bit too focused on sin over the centuries to the detriment of God's message of grace and love. But, a bit of self-examination and a realisation of our own shortcomings before we get to the Easter promise of resurrection and hope is no bad thing. One of the prayers in the service talks about God rescuing us from 'the chaos of sin'; we do need rescuing from the mess we create do we not?

It's good to gather together to discuss and our thoughts and feelings so as usual over Lent we will be running our Lent Course. This year we will be using a course entitled 'Christ and the Chocolaterie' which was inspired by the film 'Chocolat'. We'll be using clips from the film to stimulate our discussions about God, the world and ultimately what it means to be human. And yes I know traditionally people give up chocolate for Lent; personally I've never found that a very helpful thing to do as I then spend the whole time desperately craving it which is totally counter productive. Rather, I prefer to do something positive to deepen my relationship with God or think of something really lovely to do for people who are not so well. Do come along and join in, you don't have to have come to church, we'd love to see you, and there will be chocolate-themed refreshments on offer too.

Love and prayers,

Pauline

# March Church Diary

## Wednesday 1st March: Ash Wednesday

10am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Eucharist with Ashing  
6pm at St Peter & St Paul's, Longbridge Deverill: Eucharist with Ashing



## Saturday 4th March

Lent walk 1: from Chapmanslade to Horningsham  
Start from St Philip & St James' Church at 10am



## Sunday 5th March: First Sunday of Lent

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



## Thursday 9th March

Lent Course 1: Christ and Chocolaterie  
10.30am at 131 High Street, Chapmanslade



## Saturday 11th March

Lent walk 2: from Horningsham to Kingston Deverill  
Start from St John the Baptist Church at 10am



## Sunday 12th March: Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Family Communion  
10.30am at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: Eucharist  
11am at St Mary's, Temple, Corsley: Matins



## Thursday 16th March

10am to 12noon at Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade  
Church & Community Coffee Morning  
10.30am at 131 High Street, Chapmanslade  
Lent Course 2: Christ and Chocolaterie

## **Saturday 18th March**

**Lent walk 3: from Kingston Deverill to Longbridge Deverill  
Start from St Mary the Virgin Church at 1.30pm**



## **Sunday 19th March: Third Sunday of Lent**

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

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

**10.30am at St Margaret of Antioch, Corsley: Family Worship**



## **Wednesday 22nd March**

**12.30pm to 1.30pm at Corsley Reading Room**

**Church & Community Lite Bites Soup Lunch**

**7.30pm at St Margaret's, Corsley**

**Parochial Church Meeting**



## **Thursday 23rd March**

**10.30am at 131 High Street, Chapmanslade**

**Lent Course 3: Christ and Chocolaterie**

**Sunday 26th March: Mothering Sunday**

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

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



## **Thursday 30th March**

**Lent Course 4: Christ and Chocolaterie**

**10.30am at 131 High Street, Chapmanslade**



## **Sunday 2nd April: Fifth Sunday of Lent**

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

**9.30am at St Margaret of Antioch, Corsley: Eucharist**

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

## **Baptism and Wedding Congratulations**

We welcome into our church family Jacob Wells who was baptised at Longbridge Deverill on 12th February.

Our warmest congratulations to Lucien Thynne and Chloe Honeyman who were married at Longbridge Deverill on 4th February.



## Lent Talks

This year our theme is chocolate! 'Not very Lenten!' I hear you say. Well, our Lent course beginning on Thursday 9th March is entitled 'Christ and Chocolaterie'. It's a course inspired by the film 'Chocolat' and uses the film as a starting point to explore issues about God. Do come along.

Dates: 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th March and 3rd April

Time/venue: 10.30am at 131 High Street Chapmanslade  
2.30pm at The Rectory, Longbridge Deverill (not 30th March)

## 150th Centenary of St Philip and St James'

We will be celebrating the 150th birthday of St Philip and St James' church on May 1st, the exact date of the church's consecration by the Bishop of Salisbury in 1867. The Bishop of Ramsbury will be joining us on the day to lead a service of celebration at 2 pm, which will be a 'Songs of Praise'. The celebrations will continue with a party afterwards, which we hope everyone will come along to.

Do you have any special memories of St Philip and St James' church that you would like to share with us? A baptism or a wedding, perhaps, a Sunday School outing or a harvest supper. Have you got some photographs that you could lend to us for the day that we could put into an exhibition for everyone to see? If you have, please get in touch with Phil at 832845.

## Family Communion Services

Our service on the second Sunday of each month at Chapmanslade will be a Family Holy Communion which will use the family friendly version of the communion service.

## Fundraising

Our fundraising Auction on February 4th at Chapmanslade Village Hall was a great success. Eighty plus people enjoyed a good meal and the wonderful spectacle of Dennis Barnard taking the gavel for the auction. We raised the magnificent sum of £4,121 for the work of the church in the villages.

Our next event is the May Fayre which will be held on Saturday 20th May at Manor Farm, Corsley.

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

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



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**Corsley WI**

# February news



“Blue-Footed Boobies and Other Exciting Wildlife of the Galápagos Islands” was the subject of a fascinating talk with pictures by Eve Tigwell at the meeting of Corsley WI in February. On a cold wintry day, the pictures taken by Eve on her travels were a welcome sight, with stunning photos of some amazing creatures. Due to the fragility of the environment, the islands are being protected from too many visitors at any one time, with the number and size of tourist boats regulated, as are the activities that tourists can enjoy as a group. Plastic in all its forms is the major source of litter and danger to wildlife and visitors are encouraged to pick it up wherever they find it. Judith Helliar gave the vote of thanks and Eve was warmly applauded.

Caroline Higham won the Hilda Guy Arts & Crafts Cup, awarded this year for the ‘Best Decorated Cup Cake’. Caroline’s cupcake was made to look like ‘Curly Shirley’ the sheep, with a black face and marshmallow rollers in her fleece, standing in a saucer field of green. There were some superb entries for this competition, including one of a frog, cakes in teacups, and others sewn or knitted, a very impressive display. The competition for a pair of fancy socks was won by Hilary Vallis with Amanda Bain second and Joyce Wightman third.

A social skittles evening for members and partners has been arranged for **Friday 24th**

**March** and the Annual Outing this year will be a visit to Windsor on **Wednesday 5th July** with an early start! The outing is open to all, so book your places promptly. Lists will be out at the March meeting or ring Carol Seward on 01373 832446 to reserve a seat on the coach.

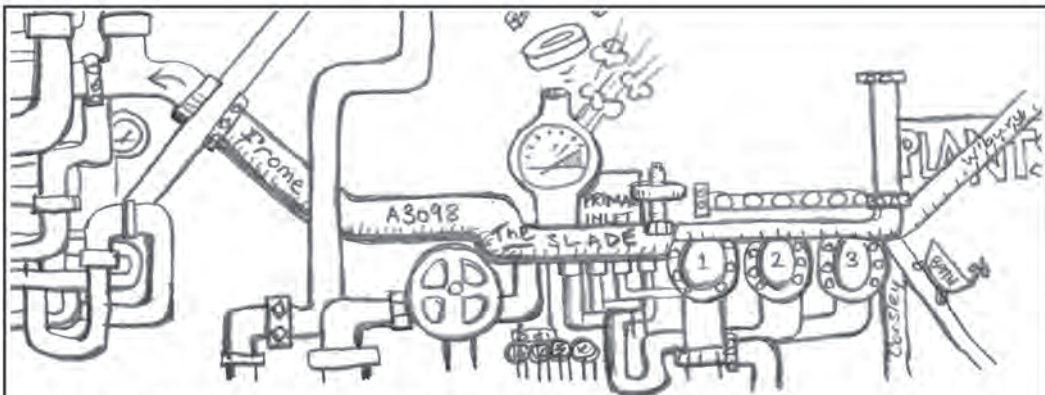
There are lots of other forthcoming events organised by the Wiltshire Federation, including tours of King’s Cross and St Pancras stations, visits to Hidcote Manor and Kiftsgate Gardens and an outing to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

The Annual Meeting of Corsley WI is on **Thursday 9th March** starting at 2 pm in the Reading Room and the lovely Rose Bowl will be presented to the overall winner of the monthly competitions held throughout the year. There will also be a demonstration by Kathryn Smith about making jewellery; packs of beads, etc., will be available for purchase for those wishing to make their own.

Why not come and see us? We are a friendly group, so for a warm welcome, just come and visit us at any of our meetings, held on the second Thursday of the month in the Reading Room at Corsley. The exact times are mentioned in this monthly WI meeting report and also in The Bridge Diary Dates or ring Carol Seward on 01373 832446 for information.

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Would you like to learn Bridge? Beginners are very welcome and anyone over 18 can come. Maybe you’re interested in visiting gardens or would like to join us for lunch once a month? These events are not just for WI members, so for further details please contact Pauline Scott on 01985 215760 as the venues vary each month.



## COME PIPE UP ABOUT GETTING GAS.

**Come To The Chapmanslade Mains Supply Discussion Night.**

- Wales and West Utilities will share plans, costs and answer questions as well as details on the Warm Homes Assistance Grant.
- Our own local gas installers are also on hand for advice.

Thurs 23rd March 6.30pm-9.30pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall  
More info: [www.chapmanslade.org.uk](http://www.chapmanslade.org.uk)

**Have Your Say  
Chapmanslade!**

*Village Voice*



**Karina**

Mobile

Hairdresser

Tel. 01373 832823

Mob. 07742 690337

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](http://www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk)**

Want something added? Just email the Editor with your request!

## WHSmith Community Grant

Voluntary organisations, charities schools and pre-schools can apply for grants of up to £500 from the WHSmith Trust.

The WHSmith Trust is an independent registered charity that uses the proceeds of the compulsory carrier bag charges across the UK to offer the grants to support good causes in the local communities where WHSmith operates.

Visit <https://blog.whsmith.co.uk/community-grants-application/> to find the application form. The first of this year's two application rounds ends on 31st March...

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**We need your help to get the field  
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**10 am - 3 pm, 8th April 2017 at the Playing Field**

**Any questions?**

Ask Barbara 01373 832273, Dot 01373 832059 or Marion 01373 832314 [marion@nmc2.co.uk](mailto:marion@nmc2.co.uk)



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**Sat 4th March 2.30-3.30pm Three Horseshoes pub**

**Please sign up by emailing: [litter@chapmanslade.org.uk](mailto:litter@chapmanslade.org.uk)**

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*Village Voice*



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# Cinema Corsley

We are pleased to announce that the next film showing at Corsley Reading Room in association with Moviola is...

**'Allied' (Certificate 15)**  
**Thursday 16th March**  
**Doors open 7 pm**

This film was released in November 2016 and was eagerly anticipated, not just for its story line but also for the gossip that surrounded it!

Reportedly based on a true story, the film tells the story of intelligence officer Max Vatan, who in 1942, whilst in North Africa, encounters French Resistance fighter Marianne Beausejour on a deadly mission behind enemy lines to assassinate a German

official. They fall in love and when reunited in London, marry and begin a family together, but there's a nasty twist in store: one of the couple is a double agent, who has been secretly working for the Nazis all along.

Cotillard plays French freedom fighter Marianne Beausejour and Pitt plays officer Max Vatan, while the Robert Zemeckis-directed film also stars Lizzy Caplan, Jared Harris and Downton Abbey's Matthew Goode.

Tickets now available from Acres Supply.

Our next film will be **'A united Kingdom'** on **Thursday April 27th.**



# The problem with Chapmanslade is that it's hard to tell some people anything...

Stay up to date with everything that's happening to make our village an even better place to live!

Send us an email to [villagers@chapmanslade.org.uk](mailto:villagers@chapmanslade.org.uk) and we'll add you to our mailing list.

Initiatives: Safer, less congested roads & better pavements • Clubs  
• Skate park • Cycle path • Shop • Music festival • Street lighting & more!

Have Your Say  
Chapmanslade!

Village Voice

## Theft in Corsley

Sometime during night of the 16th February, thieves uprooted and stole from our front garden more than 20 laurel bushes that we had planted last November.

We reported the matter to the police, who advised us that we should alert our neighbours and not to hesitate in noting the registration numbers of any vehicles in the locale that might be regarded as acting suspiciously.

G Simms  
Birchwood Close  
Corsley

## Corsley Manor

I'm curious to know if there's anyone who could enlighten me about the history of Corsley Manor in the 19th century or if there are any records that might be hidden away somewhere.

I'm intrigued because my ancestor, James Spicer (1811-1855), was a farmer who lived there in the 1840s. The 1851 census says he lived at 'Corsley Farm Ho' and was leaving, which he did; he died in Dorset a few years later, a fairly young man.

Steve Spicer  
Gary, Indiana, USA

*If you have any information, please contact the Editor who will pass the information on to Steve.*

**Corsley Parish Council**

# Parish Council Briefing

Neil Britten reports on the parish council's activities in February

There was one occasional meeting in February to deal with two planning applications and applications from Village organisations for grants and donations, plus updates on routine ongoing issues.

## **Planning applications**

**16/11626/FUL**

**Extension to existing garage to form garage with attached farm office and additional storage.**

This application relates to Malthouse Farm, Court Lane and sought permission to construct a single storey timber clad office cum store-room at the rear of, and attached to, the existing double garage. The application also included blocking in the existing garage double door and replacing it with an new double door and windows to match the farmhouse. The garage would be used to house dog kennels.

No representations had been received and the PC resolved to support the application. It has now been approved subject to standard conditions including a limitation of the number of kennels to six, above which change of use should be sought.

**16/11254/FUL**

**Recladding of existing main and secondary entrance of the Plaza building, Located centrally within the Center Parcs Longleat Forest site. Cladding to include red render, timber cladding and timber slats, to be in line**

**with current Center Parcs branding located centrally within the Center Parcs Longleat Forest site.**

This building is just inside the boundary of Corsley Parish, well inside the Centre Parcs site and not visible from points outside. No representations had been received and the PC resolved to offer no objection to the application.

## **Tascroft Court**

We have now received notification of Longleat's outline planning application for this development, comprising a 240 bed hotel and other attractions, and there will be a PC meeting early in March to consider the plans. Please watch village noticeboards for the date/time of this meeting and come to the meeting if you wish to hear more. It should be noted that this development lies outside the Corsley Parish boundary, but will be visible from points inside. There could also be impact on the traffic flow along the A362 between the Warminster bypass and Picket Post roundabout.

## **Grants and donations**

Three applications had been received:

Corsley and Chapmanslade Parochial Church Council (CPCC) – a grant towards ongoing maintenance costs for St Margaret's churchyard (amount unspecified).

Reading Room – help to defray general running costs for the hall (amount unspecified).

Corsley War Memorial Playing Field – contribution to insurance costs.

Each applicant had provided full accounts and, following the reduction in the PC contribution to the broadband project, there was a total of around £3.5K available for grants and donations, as originally budgeted.

It was agreed that £1000 be donated to the Corsley War Memorial Playing Field, £1200 to CPCC and £1200 to the Corsley Reading Rooms.

## Broadband

This should be the last of the PC briefs on this topic, as the project to fill the broadband ‘gap’ is now in the hands of BT Openreach and Corsley Broadband Ltd (CBBL), the company set up to deal with BT. The latter is quite independent of the Parish Council and updates should be available on the Corsley Broadband website (details published in earlier editions of The Bridge, from Wiltshire on Line and BT Openreach sites.

As far as the PC is concerned, its contribution has been received by CBBL, and the Company has, in turn, handed over the full amount of the Corsley contribution to the gap cost to BT Openreach. The latest information from BT puts activation of the area covered by gap in the final quarter of this year.

## Annual Parish Meeting

The date for this meeting is now fixed as **Monday 13th March** and there is a notice elsewhere in this edition of The Bridge giving details. As previously reported, Longleat will give us a presentation on their rapidly developing plans for both the existing and new attractions. They have some exciting projects in the pipeline which should come to fruition next year and Bob Montgomery, CEO, has agreed to come and speak,

along with his business development consultant, Geoffrey Wheating. The Tascroft Court development will be included in this presentation. He will also be very happy to answer questions on any other Longleat issues that affect Corsley.

The Annual Parish Meeting does not have to be exclusively based around Longleat’s contribution and any additional inputs from village organisations are welcome. It is not too late for any additional contributions; please contact either myself or John Willcox if you have any specific inputs.

## Parish Elections

Time is marching on and, by the time that this edition of The Bridge goes out, there will be a little over two months to go before the elections on 8th May. The notice seeking nominations is published again elsewhere in this edition of The Bridge and will be repeated in the April edition.

Anyone over the age of 18, and who has appropriate residential/place of work/electoral role qualifications can be nominated and courses explaining the role and responsibilities of councillors are available, paid for by the PC, after election. If you are at all interested, then please contact myself, or any of the sitting councillors, or come along to a PC meeting.

## Streetscene

A few highlights from Simon Jasper:

**Geys Hill:** passing place to be completed 10-18 February (now completed).

**Sturford Lane/A362 junction:** adjustment to lining and additional signing to improve safety at the junction will be done, with a financial contribution from the PC

**Signs:** reported and awaited for Whitbourne Moor (bend); Fuzzy Hill A362 junction; Derford finger post; The Hollow – passing

place sign. The A362 temporary reflector has been reported again.

**Sturford Lane:** mud removal by volunteers, hedge cutting from Longleat and potholes. Work ongoing.

**Corsley Heath:** triangle cut; Reading Room to Royal Oak – turf cut back and removed, widening path significantly, hedge trimmed where necessary; TMTI/White Horse Motors verge: mud and weeds removed.

**Corsley St Margaret’s:** verge and drains cleared and spoil spread.

**The Hollow:** passing place cleared of six inches of mud.

**Parish Steward:** six days work so far – two days a month (one of the few villages to be given two days). He completes tasks against our priority task list which is updated monthly. Work completed so far:

Ditches, grips and drain covers (the biggest, ongoing task).

Annual effort in Temple to clear vegetation from large ditches and keep culverts running.

Grass control at Sturford Lane A362 exit to ensure visibility.

Bus shelters swept.

**Bay Tree development**

We have had updates from Wiltshire on progress with the Bay Tree development and here are two extracts from recent emails from Andrew Mead, the Commissioning Officer for the project:

“Full Planning Package ready to be submitted for some time now (since last summer) and have been waiting on an Environment Agency Permit for approval of the on-site drainage proposals. This has taken some time and much work to

receive, however the draft permit was indeed received late last week. It is now safe to say the Environment Agency will grant permission to our drainage proposals and I will therefore now have a conversation with our build team and Architect shortly about submitting the Planning Application imminently”. *(Dated 7th February 2017)*

“In addition to the planning application, we previously discussed the provision of a footpath to the recreation ground, an upgrade to the nearby crossing point on the A362 and installation of bus stops close by to the development. With these in mind, I have attached my notes on the proposals (as these measures fall outside the submitted planning submission), however rest assured should we be successful in receiving planning approval, I will progress accordingly as detailed within the attachments.” *(Dated 16th February 2017)*

PC consideration of the planning application is likely to be the subject of a occasional meeting, though I have asked Andrew MEAD to try and give us maximum notice so as to allow us to give maximum notice of the meeting.

**Future meetings**

- Annual Parish Meeting 13 March
- Annual Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm, 8 May (subject to election)
- Quarterly Meeting 7.30 pm, 5 June
- Quarterly Meeting 7.30 pm, 4 September
- Quarterly Meeting 7.30 pm, 4 December

There may be occasional meetings at short notice; please watch the Village notice-boards.

Neil Britten  
Chairman  
01373 832515/07810 764714  
neil.britten@btinternet.com





# News from the Nest

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

The children and staff have been enjoying painting bird and bat boxes ready to be installed in the trees of the field that is being transformed into an outdoor play and learning area. This coming week, a willow den is being created in the field for the children. They will watch part of its construction and then enjoy plenty of opportunities to play inside it.

The warmer weather has meant that the snowdrops and daffodils are springing up across the field and planters, making a great learning and teaching experience for our children

The annual Stories by Starlight takes place on the evening of Friday 3rd March to coincide with World Book Day. The children will enjoy getting together in their pyjamas at Little cuckoos for stories under the stars and a hot chocolate before heading home for bed. If you're joining us feel free to bring your teddy and blanket to secure your space in this very popular event.

Please join us for some Easter Egg hunting!



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

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

For more information, please contact us on 01373 832298

**[www.littlecuckoos@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:www.littlecuckoos@hotmail.co.uk)**

# Chapmanslade Plan Update

The Chapmanslade Plan Steering Group has been very busy gathering and collating all the feedback we have had from the community. The full list can be found on the village website ([www.chapmanslade.org.uk](http://www.chapmanslade.org.uk)). The questionnaire is still being assembled and has already gone through several drafts. It is taking a bit longer than we originally anticipated but we have only one chance to get it right. This delay is not stopping some of the initiatives progressing and I have detailed some below.

We have been really lucky to receive some help from some talented villagers. They have come up with some fantastic ideas to approach the challenges we have, and brilliant suggestions about the way we can get everyone involved. More details on this over the coming months.

## Litter

One of our first activities is Chapmanslade's involvement in the Great British Litter Pick. Taking place at **2.30pm on 4th March** we will gather at the Three Horseshoes and then send teams out along sections of the High Street and into the side streets and the village hall playing field. At most we intend to spend only one hour so we will need lots of help to make sure we get our village looking really good.

## Mains Gas

This is once again back on the agenda, at the last attempt we secured 56 interested households, only three short of the required 59. We have started the process again and this time we are holding an information evening at Chapmanslade Village Hall on **23rd March between 6.30m and 9pm.**

Wales and West Utilities staff will be in attendance with displays showing design plans, budget costs and details about the Warm Homes Assistance grant. We will also have several local gas heating installers who will be able to provide advice about individual properties and systems. All of this will be accompanied by tea and cakes. Around the same time Chapmanslade residents will receive a letter asking them to indicate an interest in having mains gas connected. It is **IMPORTANT** that even if you registered before that you register **AGAIN!** If you need a copy of the letter please email [gas@chapmanslade.org.uk](mailto:gas@chapmanslade.org.uk) or telephone 832437

## Facebook page

We understand some people would like to know more about the Chapmanslade Village Community Facebook page. Some people have concerns and other are not sure how it works. If you would like an informal training session to be held in the Three Horseshoes one afternoon, please let us know.

## Cycle route

We have been working on the possibility of creating a cycle route between Warminster and Chapmanslade. It is in the very early stages but if you would like to be involved email [cyclepath@chapmanslade.org.uk](mailto:cyclepath@chapmanslade.org.uk)

The New Plan for Chapmanslade has so much coming up and happening there is too much to mention here. You can find out more on [www.chapmanslade.org.uk](http://www.chapmanslade.org.uk) or to join the news list email us at [plan@chapmanslade.org.uk](mailto:plan@chapmanslade.org.uk)

*Chapmanslade Plan Steering Group*

## Corsley Reading Room

# Your 'village hall'

Chairman of the Management Committee, Hugh Deed, reports on events and further improvements to the Reading Room

The idea has been raised of resurrecting 'The Villages have Talent' night at the Reading Room later this year on 7th October. So we are looking for people who would like to perform: read a poem, sing a song, play the guitar, dance, entertain us...!

We already have two people signed up but we know there is a lot of talent in the villages, so go on let us see it or hear it! Whatever your talent please call Vanessa 01373 832700 and book your slot.

The **Silver Surfers IT Club** restarted in February and is open to all to come along and learn or bring their IT problems and get help. Next one is on **8th March at 10 am**.

The **Indoor Car Boot Sale** on 18th February was a success with all tables being booked and many items sold.

**Corsley Cinema** was again well supported in February, buy your tickets early for the next film on 16th March (Allied).

While the vast majority of dog owners do clear up after their animals, not all do so. As a result some "mess" was trodden in and walked into the Reading Room. We plan to put up more prominent signs to remind dog owners that this is not only inconsiderate, but is also an offence to allow dogs to foul verges, pathways etc. and can result in a fine of up to £1000.

If you would be interested in joining the committee please let me or Jenny Ruttly know, or talk to any member.

Remember the facility is available for hire, details on the website [www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk](http://www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk) for more information/booking process contact details etc., or call Gill Parkinson to discuss

*Hugh Deed*  
Chairman of Management Committee  
[chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk](mailto:chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk) or  
01373 832897

---

### Events run by the Corsley Reading Room Management Committee

Coffee Morning:  
*First Tuesday of the month 10 am - 12 noon*  
IT Classes/Club:  
*Normally second Wednesday of the month 10 am - 12 noon*  
Corsley Cinema  
*Dates as advertised – doors open at 7 pm*  
Talent Night – 7th October (TBC)

---

### Other regular events not organised by the Management Committee

Lite Bites Lunches: *third Wednesday of the month at 12.30 pm*  
Yoga: *Tuesday and Wednesday evenings*  
Pilates: *Tuesday afternoons*

---

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

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# Whitbourne Chapel

*...the open pastures are becoming green. Joel 2:22*

## Hedgerow flowers

Did you see the splendid display of snowdrops in the village throughout February? Patches of them were everywhere and not a hamlet seemed to be without their share. At the Chapel, we always have a plentiful display of snowdrops, but this year they looked more widespread than ever. We used daffodils in our window displays last month, though they were shop-bought; however, the leaves of the wild daffodils are through the surface and several inches tall, so we're hoping for a good display of golden flowers in the coming weeks.

At the end of March, the Gill Redman holiday season begins, with a trip to Lake Garda in northern Italy. I already know the flowers in bloom, round the lake, will be pansies and the tulips will be going over, even though the Lake isn't far from the Dolomites, which will still be snow-covered. Antirrhinums will also star in flower beds, but I've never seen a daffodil there.

Mr Jim Short from Clink Evangelical Church was one of our February preachers. Jim's a member of the Gideon Prison Prayer partnership and talked to us about his work with the inmates of Guy's Marsh prison at Shaftesbury. Jim also brought us the latest copy of 'Gideon News' and I read about the International Scripture Blitz to Uganda, by a group of Gideons; I also studied the many photos accompanying the report. No daffodils are evident in any of the pictures,

in fact, no flowers at all. Trees are abundant and some grass, but no blooms. Although there's plenty of greenery, ten million people in Uganda have no access to clean water. It seems impossible to me, when I can turn on a tap and get clean water at will, that in some countries, such a thing isn't possible. In Uganda's bush communities, water – not necessarily clean – is carried from source to home by women, in faded yellow water carriers on their heads.

I'll try, in future, to think of those women when I turn on the chapel taps to top up the flower vases, or to fill the kettles for the pre-service teas and coffees. I'll also thank God, each time, for our access to clean water, and for the colours of nature available to us in Britain.

If you'd like to know more about the Gideons, ring 01455 554241 or email [hq@gideons.org.uk](mailto:hq@gideons.org.uk).

## Feeding your dog

*(see Mark 7.27-28)*

Fussy Jane became much thinner;  
She barely touched her lunch and dinner.  
Her spaniel scoffed it down so that  
He quickly grew three times too fat.  
Sausages with mash and mustard,  
Jam roly-poly, apple pie and custard.  
The Bible says dogs may eat CRUMBS  
*Not plates of everything that comes.*

RH

*Gill Redman 01985 215062  
[paradiselost@btinternet.com](mailto:paradiselost@btinternet.com)*

## Regular times

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

**Chapel Prayer** meeting every Sunday morning from 10.20 - 10.40

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



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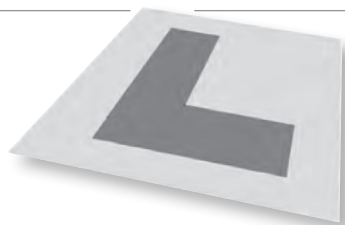
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# Tales from the passenger seat



There are many myths abound regarding easy methods of learning to drive and just as many on what to do to pass the test. I have heard various tricks, dodges and what you must or must not do in order to get a licence.

*Fridays: never take a test on a Friday, because if the examiners have passed too many people that week, they have to fail everyone on a Friday.* Hmmm, that's strange, having taught 3698 people, I think I would have worked it out not to take any pupils for a test on a Friday...

*Wear something smart...* er no, actually it's best to wear something practical and comfortable that you are used to driving in.

*Don't take a test in the afternoon, because if they've passed people in the morning, they have to fail the afternoon people.* Or, *it's best to take the test in the afternoon, because if the examiner has had a nice lunch, they will be better disposed towards passing you.*

*The examiners have to fail a certain number of people to keep their fail statistics accurate.* Ah, so as an instructor, I might as well say and do nothing with my pupils, because it's all done on the flip of a coin and nothing to do with my tuition input and the pupils performance during the test. Wish I'd known this years ago, it would have saved me bending the ear of various pupils to get them to drive nicely.

*If you lean forwards in the car when going up a hill, it will make it easier for the car and*

*you don't need to change down a gear so much.*

*Go extra slow on the test to prove how careful you are.*

*Go extra fast on the test to prove that you are not hesitant, are very confident and are quite happy to get a move on.*

*Keep up with the flow of the traffic, therefore if the car in front of you is speeding, you are duty bound to keep up with it to prove you are keeping up with the flow of the traffic.*

*If a vehicle is following close behind, you must accelerate away from it to maintain a reasonable distance, even if this means you have to approach junctions and roundabouts far faster than you normally would.*

*Always move your head and make it obvious you are looking in the inside mirror so that the examiner can see you looking.* Nope! This merely tells the examiner you do not have the inside mirror correctly adjusted. If you genuinely need to move your head to get a better angle on, perhaps, a cyclist behind you, then fair enough, but you do not need to put on such an obvious moving your head act. Examiners watch pupils eyes, not their head movement.

*Funnily enough, the best way to pass the test is to give a normal competent drive with good observations and deal with whatever situation arises.*

*And no, a bottle of whisky left for the examiner down by the handbrake is not a good idea!*

Steve Dayman-Johns

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**A view from over the hedge...**

# Countryside Matters

Mid February and already the birds are chattering away. A lot of their natural food has now been eaten so it's even more important to put out bird food and check water bowls regularly.

Wow! Can you remember when our hedgerows and verges looked so good? The snowdrops are so bright and cheerful even on a miserable day – we are so fortunate that over the years they have multiplied either by airborne seed or natural division of the bulbs. The soil where they grow is free-draining with lots of leafmould from trees and hedges feeding the bulbs for better displays year-on-year.

By the time this edition of *The Bridge* lands on our doorsteps we will be enjoying some wonderful displays of daffodils on the verges – some were planted for the Millennium and, thanks to donations from the Parish Council and the Elizabethan Evening Committee (and the volunteers who planted them) we have even more to enjoy this year!

Watching the news this morning, I was reminded of the concerns of dog walkers and farmers, especially here in the countryside. Even the best behaved dogs, if not on a lead, could run off to play with other animals. Sadly, their play will not be understood by heavily pregnant sheep or those protecting their young lambs; cattle can turn from docile animals to being aggressive in a matter of moments and can turn on dogs and their owners. Dogs

worrying sheep and cattle is a matter of great concern and in extreme circumstances they could be shot; as the dog walker on the TV report said, it is not the dog's fault – it is the owner of the dog who fails to keep it under control.

This winter has made life hard for poultry keepers with avian flu being carried over from Europe. Hopefully, with migrating birds retuning to their summer homelands, our free range poultry will once again be able to enjoy the freedom of outside life.

Do enjoy the beauty of our countryside this month even if those March winds are blowing. Look out for cock pheasants as they put on their finest feathers and display themselves and call out to all the rather plainer hen pheasants. If you are really lucky you may also see hares boxing – a sight well worth standing quietly to watch.

Enjoy our lovely countryside in March.

*Judith Helliar*

# Give your lawn some love

Now's the perfect time of year to improve your lawn and, with the Easter bank holiday just around the corner, there's no reason not to get out into the garden and give your lawn some love and attention.

If the lawn is more than four years old you may start to see weeds which have self germinated such as dandelions, clover, etc. Also in poorly drained areas of the lawn you may see moss.

There are lots of products on the market to help improve your lawn either by conditioning it or by removing problematic weeds.

A great place to start is with a Weed, Feed and Moss killer, which does exactly what it says, handling all three tasks in one go. However sometimes this three-in-one application can fail to deal with persistent weeds.

My tip is to use the Weed, Feed and Moss killer initially to kill off the moss and less established weeds, as well as feed the lawn followed by an application of Doff Lawn Spot Weeder" to kill back those more troublesome weeds.

If your lawn is very old and contains more than a third of moss then I would recommend hiring a scarifier which will pull up all the unwanted moss. Once the lawn has been scarified, rake up the moss and clear it from the lawn. By scarifying you also help aeration of the lawn, it also lifts grass which has grown horizontally, encouraging upright growth which can be chopped back when you next mow.

## Repairing your lawn

- If your Lawn has become patchy and bare in places then you may consider re-sowing with grass seed or for instant results; turfing.
- To seed a bare patch you need to lightly dig over the area, rake flat and remove any stones. Lightly consolidate and rake again to loosen the surface, broadcast good quality lawn seed followed by Growmore fertiliser, water well. The seed should germinate within a week, keep moist for best results.
- To turf a bare patch or disused piece of ground carry out the same level of preparation, unroll and lay turf in strips, staggering the joints. Use planks to walk on the turf which will aid good root to soil contact, ensuring quick rooting. Water well and prevent from drying out, keep everybody off for up to 3 weeks to prevent damage to the newly rooted turf.
- With any new lawn ensure that the grass is mowed slightly longer than normal so that the new grass can shade itself and stop itself drying out. If you have a dog who likes to wee on the lawn then by add Tomato juice to the dogs water bowl this will stop any burn marks on the new lawn caused by the dogs wee.

*Rob White  
Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley.*

# 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 SALE

Pedestal, pine **dining table** top diameter 3ft (91cm) with **four dining chairs** – **£80** ono (buyer collects) **01373 832170**

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Secure, dry **storage building**, 20 x 12 – **£80** per month **01373 832803**

## FOR SALE

The Corsley Reading Room has a **petrol mower** for sale, please note that it is NOT self propelled. In full working order and in good condition, the mower can be viewed via Hugh Deed. First reasonable offer accepted, otherwise it will be disposed of on 31st March.

Hugh Deed **01373 832897** or **07799 417918**

## Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Dead Sea
- 2 Anthony Trollope
- 3 A5
- 4 The Shadows
- 5 Venezuela – the terms original sense would have been that of a "little Venice"
- 6 Kent
- 7 A sneeze
- 8 Rhone
- 9 David Copperfield (his great aunt on his father's side)
- 10 Featherweight
- 11 Austria and Italy
- 12 Colon

---

## Local organisation adverts

£2.00 per month for a small boxed advert or £7.50 for a full page. Full page adverts are allocated depending on space available and cannot be guaranteed. All monies must be at one of the two drop-off locations (Barter's Plant Centre or Acres Supply Garden Centre) by **4pm** on the **19th** of the month. Please note: no cash, no advert!

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## Trade advertising

Annual trade advertisements (12 issues, when space is available)

1 space	(69mm wide x 33mm high)	£22.00
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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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