

The Bridge

March 2022

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



*Don't forget to put
your clocks forward
on 27th March!*

Cheer on Dick Whittington at the pantomime, join the PCs for their meetings, get your pictures in to the Corsley Life Photo competition, have a go at the Crafternoons, munch on a Light Bite Lunch, 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 **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.

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Corsley

Deadline

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

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

Diary *Dates*



March

Tuesday 1st

Coffee Morning – from 10 am, Corsley Reading Room

Corsley Life Photographic Competition – get your entries in between today and Saturday 12th March!

Friday 4th

Deadline for Bids/Grants from Corsley Parish Council (see page 28 of the February edition)

Saturday 5th

Fun Quiz Night – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Monday 7th

Corsley Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room (followed by bi-monthly PC meeting)

Wednesday 9th

Crafternoon – 3 pm - 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

Thursday 10th

Chapmanslade PC meeting – 7.30 pm, village hall

Thursday 17th

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

Wednesday 23rd

Light Bites Lunches – 12.30 pm to 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 24th

Crafternoon – 3 pm - 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

Thursday 31st

Pantomime – Dick Whittington, Chapmanslade

April

Friday 1st

Pantomime – Dick Whittington, Chapmanslade

Saturday 2nd

Pantomime – Dick Whittington, Chapmanslade

Tuesday 5th

Coffee Morning – from 10 am, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 12th

Chapmanslade Village Hall AGM – 8 pm, at the hall

Thursday 21st

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

Wednesday 27th

Light Bites Lunches – 12.30 to 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room

May

Monday 9th

Corsley Parish Council Annual Parish Council Meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 19th

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

Wednesday 25th

Light Bites Lunches – 12.30 to 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room

June

Thursday 2nd

Bank Holiday to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Friday 3rd

Bank Holiday to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Thank you and Farewell!

We are writing with a heavy heart that, due to health reasons, we are having to close Mendip Mowers. Our last trading day will be Thursday 31st March 2022.

After another hip replacement, Andy will be seeking a new life challenge and Jeanette will have more time to spend with or help the family.

We would like to thank all our loyal customers for your continued business. The last 10 years have been challenging but rewarding with new friendships made.

Your support has been very much appreciated and we wish you all the best for the future.

Andy and Jeanette

Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School

Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 9th March

Wednesday 23rd March

Wednesday 6th April

Wednesday 20th April

Wednesday 4th May

Wednesday 18th May

Wednesday 1st June

Wednesday 15th June

Wednesday 29th June

Chapmanslade

Village Hall

Carol Lewis rounds up the latest activities at the hall

What changeable weather we are having – we hope everyone came through Storm Eunice without too much damage or other issues. It was lovely to see the offers of help in the villages, supporting one another.

Hall and field improvements

A third bench has arrived (thanks for funding from the Skittles Club) and will be installed in due course. Many of you will have seen the planing in the car park – these were from the road resurfacing and will be used as the base for the trim track. New external lights have been installed, as well as a new heater in the disabled toilet and some additional power points.

Events

Our next event is the quiz on Saturday 5th March; if you're reading this by the 1st March there may still be time to purchase tickets – £10 to include a hot supper (contact Carol

832975 or Frank 832678).

The pantomime has now been rescheduled and will now take place from Thursday 31st March to Saturday 2nd April.

A Platinum Jubilee event is to be planned – possibly a big picnic at the hall on Sunday 5th June. This will be organised in conjunction with the Parish Council and other interested parties – let us know if you would like to get involved.

AGM

This will be held at the hall on Tuesday 12th April at 8 pm – we invite everyone to come along.

Committee

The current committee members are: Frank Lake, Ken Davies, Tim Humphries, Adam Oakley, Wendy Elkins, Carol Lewis, Lou Knight and Andy Fowler.

Carol Lewis

For up-to-date information such as occasional parish council meetings, church services, previous editions of The Bridge, local clubs and activities, business listings, and other useful information, please visit

www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk

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

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St Margaret's Church

Saving face

Michael Attenborough appeals for clock repair funds

Bell ringing at St. Margaret's Corsley has nearly returned to normal now that we are making our cautious way out of lockdowns and restrictions – new ringers are always welcome to the tower. If you have an interest or are just curious about church bell ringing, please get in contact with me as we are always looking for new ringers.

The tower itself however, became a little quieter when the church clock decided to stop at 10 minutes to the hour and wasn't happy to continue.

David Pollard, who had completely overhauled the clock in 1992, kindly resolved this with a full service to the mechanism and the clock is functional and running well again.

However, the clock face is another matter as it has become rusted and worn by the weather over the years, resulting in it requiring repair and restoration.

A brief history

The church clock was provided in about 1885 (St Margaret's having been rebuilt in 1833) by a bequest of Robert Moody who had been the butler at Corsley House.

The plaque records *'This clock was erected in Corsley Church Tower under the provision of the will of the late Robert Moody, a parishioner (who died in 1884), by NF Burton his executor – February 1884.*

B Allard – H T Cookson, Churchwardens. R F Coles, Rector'

Featuring a cast-iron flat bed, the clock



was made by J Smith & Sons at the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby. Weekly winding is at present carried out by Paul Peche and me.

Just out of interest, the bells in the tower have been present in Corsley since 1732, five of which were cast by William Cockey of Frome (three in 1732 and two in 1746). The sixth bell was cast in 1779 by William Bilbie of Chew Stoke. Two of the Cockey bells needed recasting in 1903.

I return to the clock face

It will need to be removed from the tower, repaired, restored and regilded prior to replacement. I am going to have to find the princely sum of £1,800 + VAT to have this work carried out and would be very grateful for any donations to help towards this project.

If you would like to donate to the restoration of St Margaret's Church clock face, or would like to try your hand at church bell ringing, please do contact me.

Michael Attenborough

Tower Captain

122 Lyes Green, Corsley

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A L M's history of a family member

James Aylesbury

Royal Marine Artillery, 1793-1869

James was born in Chapmanslade in about 1793, his parents were William and Elizabeth Aylesbury. James stated that he was 15 when he joined the Royal Marines on the 27th February 1809, enlisting at Frome. His name was recorded as Alsbury. Physical description: 5 feet 1 inch tall, hair dark, complexion fresh, grey eyes. He signed on for unlimited service. His occupation on joining was Shearman (cloth industry).

James was on board HMS Hebrus at the bombardment of Algiers on the 27th August 1816. Several ships took part and 1303 medals were awarded. The battle lasted one day with 128 Britons killed and 690 wounded. On the frigate HMS Hebrus, four were killed and 15 wounded.

The bombardment of Algiers in August 1816 was undertaken by an Anglo-Dutch fleet in order to put an end to the practice by North African states of enslaving European Christians. After the attack, an ultimatum was sent to the Bey of Algiers, which he accepted, and a treaty was signed on 24th September. Thousands of Christian slaves were freed.

Men who were present during the action at Algiers were awarded the Naval General Service Medal 1793-1840. The medal was issued in 1848 to living veterans only who had to apply for it. James' name is on the list of those entitled to the medal.



*Naval General Service Medal
1793-1840
with Alsbury Clasp*

James was discharged from the Royal Marines on 3rd June 1825 and became a Chelsea Pensioner having served for over 16 years; the reason for his discharge was heart disease. His pension was £14 12/- per annum payable for life. It was paid quarterly and the first payment was on 23 July 1825. He was listed as being in the 3rd Division Royal Marines. James married Ann Keif in 1827 at Plymouth and signed the register 'James Aylsbury'. He and Ann had one child James* born in 1832 at Dysart, Scotland. Ann Keif died in April 1839. He then married Janet Dow in July 1839 at Dysart giving his occupation as 'seaman,' presumably in the Merchant Navy.

In the 1841 census, the family were living in St Clairtown, Scotland and James, aged 45, stated his occupation was Agricultural Labourer, living with Janet, his wife, aged 30, and James, his son, aged 5. Isabella Paul, aged 20, was also in the household; at this census, ages were rounded down to nearest 5 for adults.

When the 1851 census was held they were living at Dysart, Fife, and James' occupation was stated as Labourer and Greenwich Pensioner, aged 59. Janet, aged 45, was the only other person in the household.

At the 1861 census they were at Culpar Road, Fife, James was now aged 66 and his

occupation was stated as Labourer. Janet, was now aged 54.

James died by drowning after falling into the dock at Kirkcaldy Harbour on 18th October 1869. According to a press report he was seen around the harbour at 5am and some 30 minutes later his body was found floating in the dock. For a few years he had been “suffering from an aberration of the mind and occasionally wandered from his home.” As far as is known he had one child only. His wife Janet Dow died in 1871 aged 64; she was correctly named in the register as the widow of James AYLESBURY, reverting to the original spelling of his name.

*James, his son also went to sea and became a Master Mariner. He married and eventually emigrated to Australia with his large family.

The writer is a descendant of Jonah Aylesbury, James’ brother.

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Bob's bafflers

- 1 What sweet was first advertised 30 years ago featuring a polar bear?
- 2 Who starred as Private Benjamin in the 1980 film?
- 3 What kind of music is Scott Joplin most famous for?
- 4 In the Anglican Church, what is the rank of clergyman just below a Bishop?
- 5 How many US States start with the letter M - 4, 6 or 8?
- 6 Which monarch of the 20th Century's had the coronation postponed through ill health?
- 7 What is the name of the Princess Royal's husband?
- 8 Who did Fiona Bruce replace at the helm of the Antiques Roadshow?
- 9 “Hail to thee, blithe spirit” refers to which bird in a poem by Percy Shelley?
- 10 This Cornish pub is the name of a Daphne du Maurier novel and Alfred Hitchcock film.
- 11 In which hospital did Boris Johnson spend time after contracting Coronavirus?
- 12 Why don't Spaniards sing their national anthem?

Answers on page 44



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Memories of Corsley School

The BBC 'B'

David Ball recalls his tenure as Headteacher at Corsley School...

Whilst Headteacher of Corsley School I was also a Computer User Group Leader for the Warminster Area alongside a good friend, Dave Gollidge (of Chapmanslade panto fame). Our role involved leading meetings for teachers from the area primary schools to show them the latest educational software and related IT equipment. In the mid- to late-1980's, all village primary schools had one BBC Microcomputer; larger primaries had two or three, but good educational software was relatively scarce.

Compared to the plethora of educational software available today there were less than a couple of dozen worthwhile primary-age range programs.

When the BBC Micro first arrived in schools the programs were stored on tape and it took five minutes to load each one. By the mid-eighties Corsley, like most Wiltshire Schools, had a disk drive which loaded programs much more quickly, from a 'floppy' disc. Even so, with over 20 children in each class, they rarely got any individual time on the computer – working mainly in pairs or small groups. The software they used was primitive compared to that available today, but it was still very useful for reinforcing basic skills and thinking skills and became more challenging and informative as software programming progressed.

A couple of years after I arrived at Corsley



I asked the Corsley School Association (our PTA) if they would fund the cost of a second BBC Micro, so that each class had its own. It would mean the children had more opportunity for individual work on the computer and that we didn't have to waste time dismantling and carrying all the necessary equipment from one room to another each week. To my surprise they refused! Few people had computers at home at that time and the general consensus seemed to be that whilst the school computer was good fun for the children, they doubted its educational value. To try and persuade them of the computers value I organised a parents meeting led by a friend, Malcolm Ward (a local primary head who went on to become Head of Channel 4's educational programmes for Primary Science and Technology). Malcolm demonstrated the use and range of

software available to primary teachers and I remember him saying “If the combustion engine had developed as rapidly as the micro computer we would now be able to drive completely round the world on a gallon of petrol”. Today, primary-aged children walk around with hand-held computers vastly more powerful than the good old ‘Beeb’!

I decided to write to large local businesses to see if any of them would make donations towards the purchase of a new computer. I heard nothing, but one morning, Mave Stocking, the School Secretary, called me to the phone – someone from a Westbury company wanted a word. To my delight

they had recently raised some money for local charities and would like to give us the complete package – monitor, computer and disk drive – within a week it had all arrived! I didn’t tell anyone other than Boo what had happened, but the day after there was a CSA Committee meeting and the new computer, hidden under a curtain was ready to reveal. I admit it was with some trepidation that I explained how it had been acquired – I wasn’t at all sure how they might react, and at first there was a stunned silence. Then Dave Horsfall began to clap, the others joined in and the new computer won a round of applause!

Maridi News

Thank you to all who bought tickets or gave donations to our Quiz Evening supporting our link Diocese in South Sudan. We raised a marvellous £616 and had a fun evening with Bob and Bob giving us a well balanced quiz – thank you very much to the ‘Two Bobs’.

All being well I shall be off to see our friends in Maridi, South Sudan and also Yambio, a neighbouring Diocese, in May, with a Rooted in Jesus team who are running a conference by invitation of the Bishops of Maridi and Yambio. Rooted in Jesus brings resources to Christians in Africa to help the leaders disciple more leaders in small groups. It is an ongoing programme as groups produce leaders, which produce groups, which produce leaders, which produce...and so on! The conference is funded by grants and donations to around the tune of £3,500 but individual team members have to fund themselves.

This is a very significant year for the Diocese of Maridi as they celebrate the

centenary of the first Christian missionary, The Revd William Hadow, arriving alone in the heart of Africa (Maridi) to plant the seed of the Good News of God’s love for them through Jesus. Sadly, he died of black water fever after contracting malaria but not before seeing eight people baptized into the Christian faith. From those early beginnings Maridi now has 7 Archdeaconries, 17 Deaneries, 75 Parishes, 103 clergy, over 70,000 Anglican Christians and both the present and previous Archbishops of South Sudan have come from Maridi.

Photographs of their celebrations are vibrant with colour and the joy they share in having a living faith through Christ Jesus, despite their hardships (which are many). I look forward to sharing news of my visit with them later on.

If anyone would like to support our work with the Heytesbury Deanery/Maridi Diocesan Link please contact me – I will be delighted to hear from you.

Revd Gay Maynard

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Phil Holihead, rounds up the PC's activity in January and February

Headlines from the January and February meetings:

Road matters

A pavements maintenance plan for the High Street is being considered by Wiltshire Council (WC). Our long-standing request for a 7.5 tonne weight restriction through the Village will be considered at a meeting with the MP and Wiltshire Council Transport Heads on February 18th.

The road improvement request for the pothole outside 78 High Street was agreed by the Highways Department and a temporary patch was done in late January. A more permanent solution is yet to be implemented ahead of any major resurfacing of the High Street.

The proposal for a small uplift in the street lighting between Cley Hill Gardens and Wood Lane has had £4500 allocated by the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) and the PC agreed to meet the additional £1500 (25%).

The PC is having ongoing discussions with Newland Homes regarding the prevention of construction traffic from transiting the High Steet from the Frome end to the Barters development (Honey Glade) and has won some support in County Hall. Councillor Parks agreed to raise the issue with Newlands Homes as well as speaking with the Highways England about the yellow signage from Frome. A site meeting is being arranged to discuss this issue and review progress.

Other matters

- The PC was informed that the village website has been repaired
- A new bus stop sign will be erected at the stop on the High Street Frome end
- The PC agreed for John Foster to be co-opted onto the PC, thereby filling the vacancy
- The forthcoming Queen's Jubilee celebrations were discussed and it was agreed that a separate committee should be formed to plan celebrations for the village. A letter from the PC will be sent to all organisations within our community to this effect
- Some of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payments from the Barters development have now been received. The PC agreed to form a sub-group to consult with the village community to consider and approve ideas for its use and to form an action plan. At its February meeting, the PC requested the Village Steering Group take this forward for action to seek and prioritise proposals for infrastructure projects that could benefit from this funding and report back to the PC for allocation of funds in due course.

Carbon Impact Tool

Every parish in the UK has been assessed for its carbon impact and a Carbon Footprint Report generated. You can access Chapmanslade's (or indeed any others') by going to: <https://impact-tool.org.uk/> The PC is looking at what role it can play in improving

the carbon footprint in Chapmanslade, and is already considering environmental impacts when discussing planning applications, and is supporting better local transport by regenerating more bus stops and encouraging the use of public transport. Other proposals are under discussion.

Planning applications

January:

- ***PL/2021/11265. Cobb Farm, Mill Lane, Huntenhull Green, BA12 7QB. Stationing of temporary agricultural workers' dwelling.***

Support subject to conditions and clarification of whether 2 or 3 bedrooms are planned. The Local Planning Authority (LPA) addressed all the issues raised by the PC.

- ***PL/2021/11266. Cobb Farm, Mill Lane, Huntenhull Green, BA12 7QB. Full planning permission for erection of agricultural building.***

No objections.

- ***PL/2021/11548. Full Planning Permission, Thoulstone, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AQ. Proposed conversion of existing stables and small agricultural store and extension to create residential dwelling.***

The PC objected on the grounds that it should have an application for listed building consent as it within the curtilage and the relationship with the collapsed granary (which is a listed building).

- ***PL/2021/2191/FUL. Installation of solar park at land at Lodge Hill, Berkley, Frome.***

The PC objected on the grounds that an Environmental Impact assessment had not been conducted. While the PC recognises the environmental and sustainability agenda and supports the reduction on reliance on fossil fuels, Government guidance states that large-scale solar parks should be sited on non-agricultural land. Concerns over access

to the site and increased traffic through the village during the build phase were also raised and a request for a site routing plan avoiding Chapmanslade village was made.

February:

- ***PL/2021/06150. Water Farm, Corsley. Convert and extend two barns to create a dwelling house.***

This was supported subject to conditions. Chapmanslade PC was originally omitted from the consultation of this application but some of Water Lane lies within our Parish. The PC's concerns were mainly about access to dwellings on the lane during the building phase and then on an everyday basis thereafter. Off-lane parking for site vehicles and a permanent lay-by post-build were proposed in the response to the LPA. Other concerns were raised about light impact on the resident bat population and the lack of any mention about sustainability and heat sources in the application.

- The PC was concerned to receive reports that the green paper notices indicating upcoming planning applications were not evident at the Water Lane site, and separately heard of a similar omission at Cobb Farm. It asked Councillor Parks to take this up with the LPA as these notices are often the trigger for comments from residents.

The PC was pleased to see the outdoor gym facilities and table tennis being used and thanked the Village Hall Committee for this excellent initiative.

The next PC meeting is scheduled for 7.30 pm on Thursday 10th March at the village hall. Minutes of all meetings can be found on the PC website

www.chapmansladepc.org.uk

Correspondence should be sent to the Parish Council Clerk

chapmansladepc@yahoo.co.uk



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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

I write on the most glorious day of bright sunshine, the snowdrops are out in full force and indeed the daffodils are not far off joining them. It being March, we are nearly into Lent with Ash Wednesday on the 2nd. We all live such frantic lives, so even if you don't subscribe to the Christian faith, the six weeks of Lent are an opportunity to take stock; to perhaps slow down a little and appreciate the good things in our lives. An opportunity to be more alert to the unfolding of the natural world into spring, to consciously identify those moments of joy that often come unexpectedly, and to make every effort to facilitate those moments for others.

We haven't been able to have a proper Lent course for two years, so I'm thrilled that Revd Marian has agreed to run our course this year. You are warmly invited to join this year's Cley Hill Lent Course. We shall be meeting in person at Marian and Ian's home, Short Street Farm, 160 Short Street, Chapmanslade, BA13 4AA, but also with a zoom link for those who feel more comfortable joining in from their own home.

There will be five meetings: Wednesday 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th March and 6th April, at 10.30am. Each week is self-contained so missing one or some is not a problem.

After two very strange and challenging years, it felt good to use this opportunity to root ourselves into our scriptures, to reflect on how God's people in the past have found that their faith informed and guided them on their journeys, and what our faith might mean to us in our changing and uncertain times. So we will be following a York Course, the title of which is 'The Psalms - Prayers for Today's Church'.

The ancient poems we call Psalms are over 2000 years old. They were written in very different times from our own but they have stood the test of time, for they address many of the problems we still face: violence, injustice, anger – and bewilderment. Why do the wicked prosper? Where is God when we suffer?

For more information, and the zoom link nearer the time if you have not already been given it, please contact Marian, 01373 832654 or mariancurtis@btinternet.com. We look forward to seeing you then!

There are lots of other options available online if undertaking a course with other people isn't your thing; if you Google 'The Big Church Read' there are suggestions for Lent reading and the opportunity to link into some corresponding videos for some of the books. I'm going to read Rachel Newham's book 'And Yet: Finding Joy in Lament' Here's what the blurb says: 'In the depths of depression Rachel never thought she'd find herself writing a book on joy. And yet, if her journey with mental health has taught her anything, it is that lasting joy can only be experienced when we allow ourselves to enter into lament and be honest about our pain before God.' Lament seems very important in these difficult times so I'm really looking forward to immersing myself in the book and videos.

Whatever you choose to do during Lent, even if it's nothing, I pray that you may be able to experience something of God's love in these coming weeks.

Love and prayers

Pauline

March Church Diary

Wednesday 2nd March Ash Wednesday

10.30 am Eucharist Chapmanslade

10.30 am Eucharist Kingston Deverill



Sunday 6th March: First Sunday of Lent

8 am Holy Communion Kingston

9.30 am Eucharist St Margaret's

10.30 am Morning Worship Longbridge



Wednesday 9th March

10.30 am Cley Hill Lent Course

Short street Farm, 160 Short Street, BA13 4AA



Sunday 13th March: 2nd Sunday of Lent

9.30 am Eucharist Chapmanslade

10.30 am Eucharist Kingston



10.30 am Cley Hill Lent Course

Short street Farm, 160 Short Street, BA13 4AA



Sunday 20th March: 3rd Sunday of Lent

10.30 am Eucharist Brixton

11 am Matins St Margaret's



Wednesday 23rd March

10.30 am Cley Hill Lent Course

Short street Farm, 160 Short Street, BA13 4AA

27th March Mothering Sunday

9.30 am Eucharist Chapmanslade

10.30 am Eucharist Longbridge



Wednesday 30th March

10.30 am Cley Hill Lent Course

Short street Farm, 160 Short Street, BA13 4AA



Sunday 3rd April: 5th Sunday of Lent

8 am Holy Communion at Kingston,

9.30 am Eucharist at Corsley,

10.30 am Morning Worship at Longbridge



Wednesday 6th April

10.30 am Cley Hill Lent Course

Short street Farm, 160 Short Street, BA13 4AA

Church and Community Events in March

Church and Community Crafternoons

Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

3 - 5 pm, 9th and 24th March

Community Church and Coffee Morning

Thursday 17th March 10 am – 12 noon

Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

| | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Rural Dean | Rev Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com (day off is Fridays) | 01985 841290 |
| Associate Priest | Rev Gay Maynard revgmaynard@gmail.com (day off is Mondays) | 01373 832490 |
| Lay Pastoral Assistants | Barbara Hughes Claire Tanner | 01373 832273 01985 218099 |
| Pastoral Visitor | Alan Hopkinson | 01373 832393 |
| Churchwardens St Philip & St James' St Margaret's | Ian Buick Currently vacant (please contact Rev Gay Maynard) | 01373 832318 01373 832490 |
| Deputy Churchwardens St Philip & St James' St Margaret's | Janet Aylesbury Currently vacant | 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 | Currently vacant | |
| Choir Leader | Claire Tanner | 01985 218099 |
| Tower Captain | Michael Attenborough | |
| 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 |

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Ian Buick at ibuickuk@gmail.com or by phone on 01373 832318.
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Changes to the

Highway Code

Lavinia Mitchell reminds us of the recent changes implemented

By now, many of us are aware of the recent changes to the Highway Code. The aim of the changes is to make the roads a safer place for all road users, with emphasis on protecting the most vulnerable and highlighting the hierarchy of the road user.

The launch of the new improved Highway Code will hopefully serve as a pertinent reminder that it is all road users' responsibility to protect the safety of both themselves and others. Furthermore, that vehicle drivers have a higher responsibility to those more vulnerable. The new Highway Code is what new drivers have to learn to pass their test, and can be used in evidence at court to establish liability.

The changes are welcome news for walkers, horse-riders and cyclists who regularly meet motor vehicles on local roads and lanes. In and around our beautiful village the volume of traffic is magnified come holiday season with an influx of towed caravans and increasingly larger mobile homes.

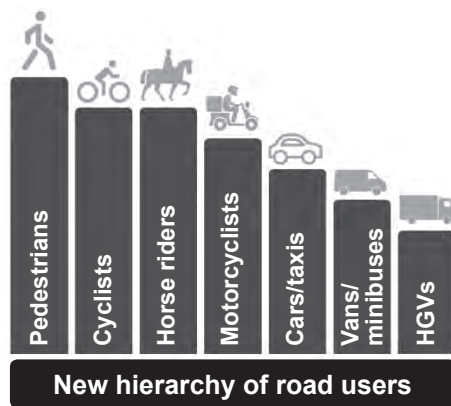
The Highway Code is written to guide us in the application of common sense. A low speed collision between vehicles can be embarrassing (and expensive); a low speed collision between a vehicle and a road user unprotected by seat belts and a steel carcass can be fatal.

Pedestrians, horse riders and cyclists are appreciative of considerate motorists and, as a horse owner, I am especially pleased with these new changes. I hope that they will

educate those who need it and will make our roads a safer, less frightening place to be.

Here are a small selection of rules from the Highway Code on the Government website. These particularly mention walkers, horse-riders and cyclists. The complete list, which should also answer any questions you may have, can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>



Overview

Rule 204: the road users most at risk from road traffic are pedestrians, in particular children, older adults and disabled people, cyclists, horse riders and motorcyclists. It is particularly important to be aware of children, older adults and disabled people, and learner and inexperienced drivers and

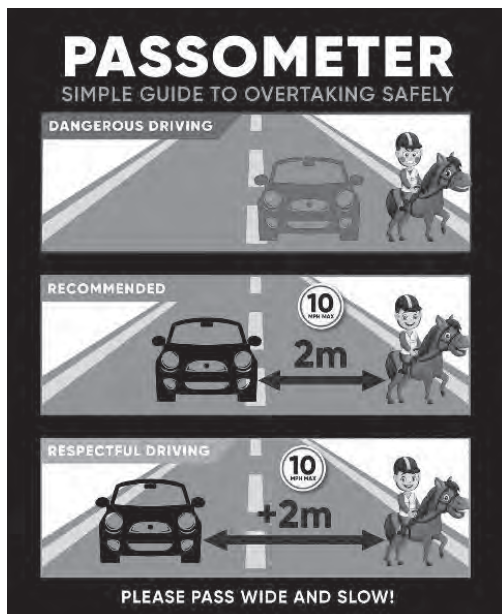
riders. In any interaction between road users, those who can cause the greatest harm have the greatest responsibility to reduce the danger or threat they pose to others.

Rule 214 Animals: when passing animals, drive slowly. Give them plenty of room and be ready to stop. Do not scare animals by sounding your horn, revving your engine or accelerating rapidly once you have passed them. Look out for animals being led, driven or ridden on the road and take extra care. Keep your speed down at bends and on narrow country roads. If a road is blocked by a herd of animals, stop and switch off your engine until they have left the road. Watch out for animals on unfenced roads.

Rule 215: horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles. Be particularly careful of horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles especially when approaching, overtaking, passing or moving away. Always pass wide and slowly. When you see a horse on a road, you should slow down to a maximum of 10 mph. Be patient, do not sound your horn or rev your engine. When safe to do so, pass wide and slow, allowing at least 2 metres of space. (This applies when approaching from the front as well as from the rear).

Feral or semi feral ponies found in areas such as the New Forest, Exmoor and Dartmoor require the same consideration as ridden horses when approaching or passing.

Horse riders are often children, so take extra care and remember riders may ride in double file when escorting a young or inexperienced horse or rider. Look out for horse riders' and horse drivers' signals and heed a request to slow down or stop. Take great care and treat all horses as a potential hazard; they can be unpredictable, despite the efforts of their rider/driver. Remember there are three brains at work when you pass a horse; the rider's, the driver's and the horse's. Do not forget horses are flight animals and can move incredibly quickly if startled.



Walking, cycling or riding in shared spaces

There is new guidance in the code about routes and spaces which are shared by people walking, cycling and riding horses.

People cycling, riding a horse or driving a horse-drawn vehicle should respect the safety of people walking in these spaces, but people walking should also take care not to obstruct or endanger them.

People cycling are asked to:

- not pass people walking, riding a horse or driving a horse-drawn vehicle closely or at high speed, particularly from behind
- slow down when necessary and let people walking know they are there (for example, by ringing their bell)
- remember that people walking may be deaf, blind or partially sighted
- not pass a horse on the horse's left.

Overtaking when driving or cycling

You may cross a double-white line if necessary (provided the road is clear) to overtake someone cycling or riding a horse if they are

continued on page 29...

Corsley WI

March news

Maggie Wobey reports on the Beatrix Potter talk given by David Stocks



David presented a comprehensive résumé of the life of Beatrix Potter by dispelling the myths and misconceptions of her life and work, saying he thought she should be a national treasure for her achievements throughout her lifetime.

Beatrix was born in 1866, in Kensington, into a wealthy family. Unlike her brother Bertram, to whom she was very close, she was educated at home and lonely. She was described as a difficult child, argumentative (particularly with her mother) and self-opinionated, but always polite and demur in company and outside; a dutiful daughter. She suffered ill health most of her life, latterly suffering with cancer. As a teenager, she contracted rheumatic fever and as it was considered that long hair sapped energy, a return to good health warranted her hair being cut off! Mrs Potter would not let her children play with others, but was happy for Beatrix to dissect a small animal to draw the skeleton.

As a wealthy family, they enjoyed many holidays (thirteen in one year!). The servants (except on trips to the seaside) would go with them, as would Beatrix's pets. At one time, she had 84 pets including a green lizard called Judy and a bucket full of snails. Beatrix was very interested in natural history, and from the age of seven painted and drew. At 16 she decided she had finished with education and would paint. Her mother disagreed, employing another governess, Annie Carter,

a few years older than Beatrix; they became good friends for the rest of their lives.

Beatrix's interest in natural history focused on fungi; illustrating them in watercolours. She wrote a paper about fungi, which was presented to the Linnean Society. However, she could not become a member (being female) and the paper was ignored then lost; many years later an apology was offered. She discovered some fungi had been wrongly classified, but was also ignored by the Natural History Museum and Kew Gardens, turning to German authorities, which were delighted with her work. In 1900, before she wrote 'The Tale of Peter Rabbit' she was the foremost authority on fungi; her illustrations remain so accurate that they are still used.

On 4th September 1893, she wrote a letter to Noel Moore, son of Annie Carter, and the letter contained line drawings and the antics of Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Peter Rabbit. Beatrix could not draw from imagination and it is possible she based Mr MacGregor on the local postman. Eight years later she reclaimed the letter and this formed the basis of 'The Tale of Peter Rabbit'. In 1901 Beatrix, aged 35, decided to publish the book with black line drawings, but no publisher would take the story. She published it privately printing 250 copies and a further 200. A short time later one of the publishers was seeking a child's story to rival the success of 'Little Black Sambo'. Frederick Warne remembered Peter Rabbit

and his son Norman contacted Beatrix. ‘The Tailor of Gloucester’ was published with coloured illustrations completed by Beatrix herself. Three years later Norman proposed to Beatrix; she asked her parents’ permission, which was refused (she was 39!). Norman was classed as being “in trade” (despite Beatrix’s grandparents making their wealth through trade!). They still became engaged; it lasted a month. Beatrix was taken away on holiday, probably to see the error of her ways, but within 10 days of Beatrix being away Norman fell ill and died. Beatrix was devastated; Norman was her life-long love and she wore his ring for the remainder of her life. They had intended to buy Hilltop Farm and Beatrix continued with the purchase. She used London solicitors and the deal was protracted and expensive. Beatrix never lived at Hilltop Farm, but used it for inspiration which can be seen in the illustrations. She bought Castle Cottage for her home using a local solicitor, William Heelis. In 1913 William proposed. Again, Beatrix asked her parents and again they refused due to perceived different social and religious beliefs. A family meeting was convened and a secret that Beatrix and her brother had kept was divulged; that Bertram (an alcoholic) had married a barmaid 11 years ago. The parents had no further recourse; Beatrix and William were married in London and they arrived back at the farmhouse with a calf.

Once married, Beatrix focused on farming and buying local farms; many were up for sale after WW1. Her plan was to protect the land from development; in all she had 15 farms and her husband owned two. Beatrix was teetotal and asked questions about the previous owners; if they were frugal and non-drinkers. If so, she would allow them to work the farm as tenants. Although it was thought she did not like children, those in the village feared her as a landlady; she did not like rude or undisciplined children. She formed a

relationship with the Girl Guides and allowed them to camp on her land.

She promoted the rearing of Herdwick sheep (the only ones that smile!) and, between 1920 and 1935, was so successful at winning at the local country shows that she was asked to take the role of President in 1944. It prevented entering her sheep in the competitions but at least it showed that she was accepted in the area. Sadly, she died on 22nd December 1943 at the age of 77, before she could take up the role. William Heelis died 18 months after Beatrix and all their property was willed to the National Trust – about £200 million in today’s money. Her books, however, were not included.

David completed his talk saying he thought that Beatrix should be a national treasure; she was an artist, a novelist, a naturalist, a mycologist, an agriculturalist, a conservationist and a philanthropist.

...continued from page 27

travelling at 10 mph or less (Rule 129).

There is updated guidance on safe passing distances and speeds for people driving or riding a motorcycle when overtaking vulnerable road users, including:

- leaving at least 1.5 metres (5 feet)* when overtaking people cycling at speeds of up to 30mph, and giving them more space when overtaking at higher speeds
- passing people riding horses or driving horse-drawn vehicles at speeds under 10 mph and allowing at least 2 metres (6.5 feet)* of space
- allowing at least 2 metres (6.5 feet)* of space and keeping to a low speed when passing people walking in the road (for example, where there’s no pavement).

* Wait behind them and do not overtake if it’s unsafe or not possible to meet these clearances (especially relevant in some of our narrow village lanes)

Lavinia Mitchell

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Where does it come from?

Chapmanslade

John and Tim investigate the origins of the village's name

With the help of a relative, I have been researching the origins of the name of our village Chapmanslade. It has already been established that the word 'Chapman' was used to describe a travelling trader, but the word 'Slade' proved to be more elusive.

A search on the internet revealed that, in a very old dictionary, 'Slade' was used to describe an area of low lying land with water. This description exactly fits Spring Gardens, which is the downstream area on the river at the northern side of Frome.

This area includes a ford through which all travellers would have had to pass - for hundreds of years - between the Mendip Hills and the Wiltshire chalk downland. There are two other similar areas on the river in Frome; one in the centre near the Cheese and Grain, the other near to ASDA - both of which were only locally used. This indicates that there would have been a need to be able to distinguish between one 'slade' and another.

As the Spring Gardens 'slade' was the principal one and would have been used by all of the Chapmen passing through, I suggest this one became known as the 'Chapman' 'Slade' and that it was the route that first acquired this name - with the village on the route adopting it at a later date.

The existence of a cluster of very old buildings at the junction of Wood Lane with the High Street leads me to believe this area was the site of the original village of

Chapmanslade. At the top of Wood Lane it becomes Godswell Grove, leading to Godswell Farm and the site of the former manor of Godswell. Further internet research by Tim George finds that, during the middle ages, this manor was usually called Godswell, but later became known as Godswell And Chapmanslade - eventually becoming just Chapmanslade.

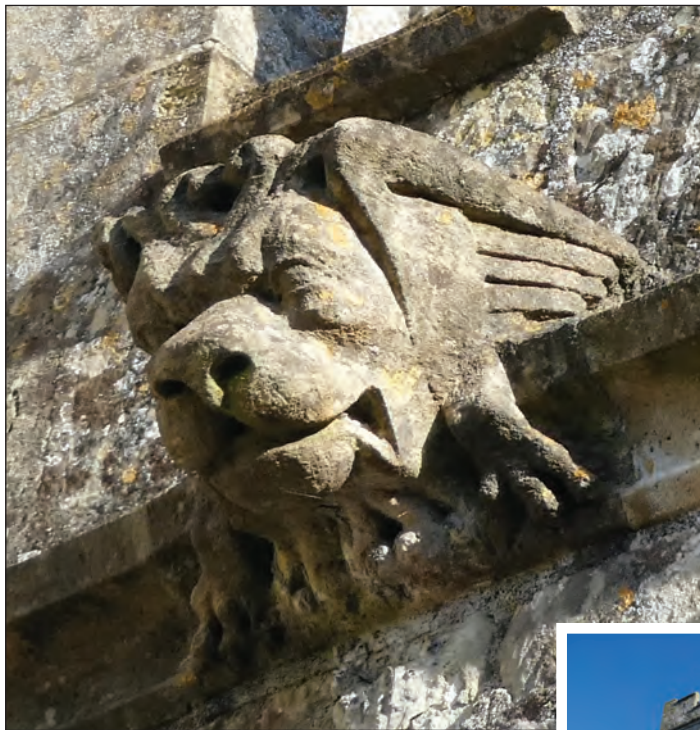
Duuring the 12th and early 13th centuries, Stanley Abbey received a number of grants of land in Godswell And Chapmanslade from Hugh Plucknet, one of the abbey's earliest benefactors. After the dissolution, the manor, then described as Godswell near Chapmanslade, was granted, with Heywood and most of the abbey's property, to Sir Edward Baynton of Bromham. It was passed down through the family until it fell into the hands of the Marquess of Bath. Interestingly, the field over the main road at Clearwood View is called Baynton's Ground.

It has been found that the name Chapmanslade, as a village name, is unique, there is no other village in the world with the same name! It's not the only feature connected with Chapmanslade to be unique - the geological structure of the area is also one of a kind - making Chapmanslade one of the most important areas in the south of England! But who is interested in that?!

John Candy and Tim George

Walking through lockdown

Two into one does go!



12th century.

When you leave the church, turn left and walk down the hill, for something like a mile. You'll actually walk from one Codford, St. Peter, to the next, Codford St. Mary. You should pass the Codford Tea Rooms on your left, opposite the Woolstore Theatre on your right, and later pass what was once the village school. You'll see a left turn to Chitterne, before reaching another left-hand turn. This one is signed Church Lane, it's a dead-end and you'll see signs for ANZAC war graves and Commonwealth War Graves.

For this month's walk, we're going to Codford, a village off the main A36 road to Salisbury. Before the current road was built, the Salisbury road weaved its way through villages like Codford and Wylde; now they're quieter places and easier to walk round. Take the first Codford turning left after Warminster, where Budgens and the fuel station are, and follow the road round right, into the village. As you descend the first hill, park on your left, somewhere near the church.

This is St. Peter's church and well worth a visit. Before 1928, this part of Codford was a village in its own right – Codford St. Peter. It's thought there's been a church here since the time of St. Aldhelm, in the eighth century and part of the current building dates back to the





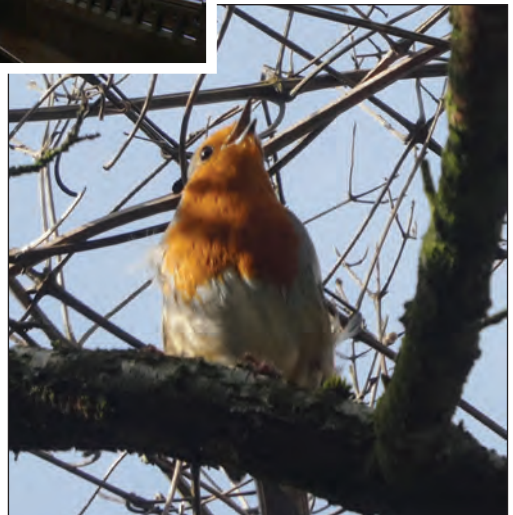
Turn up this lane and walk up to the dead end and visit the church, if possible. I did this walk to check the route weeks ago and was the first outsider to see the difference the removal of the Victorian organ has meant. The opening-up of a medieval archway into the chancel has improved the light inside the building; the fresh wall paint was still wet!

When you've seen the church (or if you don't!), follow the sign pointing to the Commonwealth War Graves; you can't miss them – the rows of stone are clearly visible from the track you're on. The furthest row of headstones, from the gateway, were soldiers who died in the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1919, after the end of World War Two. Follow the narrow path alongside the cemetery fence and you'll emerge onto a road. A sign at your right will tell you the path you used is called Beanis Path.



You're now on the Chitterne road with no pavement, but I've had no problems – and there's a verge to leap on if you think it's necessary! The road climbs slowly uphill, out into open country. At one point, on your right, there's a wide track to East Codford Farm, a private road, but stay with the road you're on, until you see the signpost for a road at your left – that's New Road.

Turn there and begin the slight descent, crossing a stream and climbing the gentle slope the other side. In the past, the land on your left was probably Army-owned, but now seems to be abandoned. You'll pass a row on houses on your right and walk uphill to crossroads. Although this walk goes left here, if you have energy to burn, cross the road and walk into Church Road opposite, alongside bungalows. This is an interesting diversion





As a morning walker, I'm ready for lunch at this point and call in at Codford Tea Rooms, formerly the George Hotel, when this was the main Salisbury route. I can recommend the lasagne, in vegetarian and meat versions, served with garlic bread, or the large salmon fishcake, with a poached egg on top and served with chips. If you're an afternoon walker, the Codford Tea Rooms' cakes are delicious, too!

perhaps, towards Chitterne. When you're ready, return to New Road crossroads and go straight over, into Green Lane.

You're now walking back into Codford, rounding a left-hand bend and finding former barns, now homes, on your left. The road bends right past these (don't go straight on), downhill to Codford High Street and bringing you out beside Codford Tea Rooms, with the Woolstore Theatre across the road. If you've followed the walk as described, you've done nearly three miles and deserve a 'comfort stop'!



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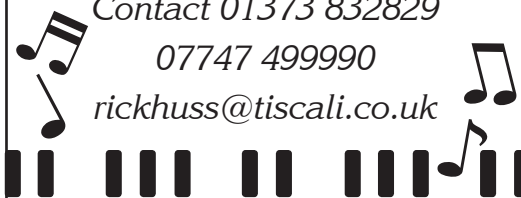
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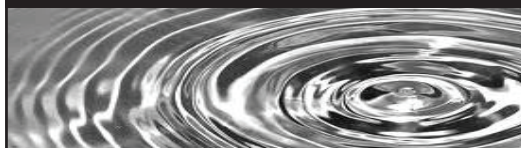
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Sheep are frequently killed by dogs. Chasing can cause extreme stress, miscarriage, mismothering of lambs, and horrific injuries resulting in euthanasia.

Stop & Think

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Whitbourne Chapel

*'The works of the Lord are great...'
Psalm 111 v 2, AV*

Gracious and Merciful...

If you've watched Michael Portillo's 'Great British Railway Journeys', you'll know what his colourful jacket and 'Bradshaw's Guide' means. On one such journey he visited Cambridge and the Cavendish Laboratory – the Physics Department of the University of Cambridge. Over the entrance to the building are these words from Psalm 111 v. 2: 'The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein' (Authorised Version).

To study the 'works of the Lord' whether it is physics, or any scientific discipline, can be a rewarding pursuit. But the works of the Lord cover a wide domain. Think of His miraculous works where He suspends the ordinary laws of physics. Miracles are spread throughout the Bible but they aren't spread evenly; there are concentrations at important points, such as Moses delivering the children of Israel from Egypt, or the ministries of prophets Elijah and Elisha. In the life of the Lord Jesus Christ and the apostles in the Early Church, we read that many wonders and signs were done by the apostles (Acts 2:43; 5:12).

Another area of the Lord's work is in His providential ruling over this world. Someone described it like this: 'God's rule operates in and through the choices and actions of human beings.' One of the great examples of this is the life of Joseph – sold as slave by

his brothers to Egypt; but eventually, through many twists and turns, becoming second in charge in Egypt. When his brothers later came to Egypt, seeking grain in years of famine, he was able to supply their need. When they thought Joseph would get his revenge on them, he looked back on God's dealings with him and said: you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good (Genesis 50 v. 20).

All God's works are for our good if we had but eyes to see it. Paul tells us that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance (Rom. 2 v. 4). His greatest work is that miracle of new birth, where the Spirit of God works in a person's heart to bring them into a relationship with Himself.

Have you experienced that work of God in your heart? Psalm 111 goes on to say the Lord is gracious and merciful; come to Him and discover how true that is.

John Hobson

Visiting Preacher to Whitbourne Chapel

The Miracle of Spring!

In mid-February I was amazed to find celandines in flower locally, as well as snowdrops! And, while walking the remains of the Somerset Coal Canal at Midford, I saw bluebell leaves thrusting their way through the mud! What a miracle Spring is! Thank you, God!

Gill Redman

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



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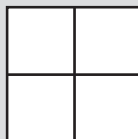
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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

Throwing caution to the wind (and rain!)

As I write this the last vestige of Storm Eunice is raging outside, bringing not just wind, but plenty of rain. Many people, including most of Corsley, are without power and likely to remain so for many hours to come. Several trees came down in our small part of the south west, blocking roads, damaging fences and other infrastructure. Such problems were widespread and in many cases very serious in other areas.

At least it didn't snow very much this far south, although the hail showers were quite horrid. Most of this winter has been dry, but the recent rains are starting to fill the streams and ditches, and the lower-lying fields are beginning to feel sodden.

Farmers and their staff make every effort to keep their animals safe and well, but these are really difficult times. Safety for the animals is a priority so cattle have to be kept indoors away from the fields that are bordered by woodland or hedges with large trees. Sheep, now in the process of lambing, will need to be housed too otherwise survival rates could drop off dramatically.

Spring-calving cattle, although now in the shelter of farm buildings, need more and more dry bedding (straw in most situations). Cattle facing the full blast of the elements outdoors are given fresh root crops and good silage in round feeders daily. Farmers and country people have always said that we have to work with our weather patterns. Two years ago, I wrote about the problems caused by

storms and high rainfall. Since then we have also survived a pandemic, but the effects of climate change are having a greater and greater impact on our rural life.

Spare a thought for our wildlife in this weather. Yes, the ducks and geese may be quite happy, but other birds and small mammals need to find shelter from the worst of the wind and rain, and they need food. So please do keep your bird feeders topped up; that will be greatly appreciated and you will have plenty of birds to watch in your gardens in the months to come.

The snowdrops and early daffodils are flowering bravely, albeit wind-blown, so spring is on its way!

Judith Helliar



Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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

Coffee Mornings

The February Coffee Morning was very well supported, and it was great to see some new faces as well!

If you've missed the 1st March Coffee Morning do make a note now for the next one on the Tuesday 5th April!

Photographers

We look forward to seeing your entries for the photographic competition. They will be on show on Saturday 26th March for you to vote on which you like best. See website for opening hours.

The aim of the competition is to have a number of pictures of Corsley life on display in the Reading Room. The rules and entry process are available on the website.

Entries to be submitted between 1st March and 12th March please.

Refurbishment programme

We made our first grant applications in March for the first project which is to renew the roof. Look out for more details in the April edition of The Bridge and on our website.

New window

One of the windows in the main hall has been replaced so it can be opened. If we're lucky enough to get warm summers, the ability to have some ventilation will be very much appreciated!

Hugh Deed

Chairman of Management Committee

Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

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Committee Members

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

Church and Community Coffee Mornings

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The Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

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Please note: no cash, no advert!

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Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Fox's Glacier mints
- 2 Goldie Hawn
- 3 Ragtime
- 4 Archdeacon
- 5 8 – Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana
- 6 Edward VII - an announcement was made that the overweight King was undergoing an operation. Shortly afterwards, a bulletin was released from Edward's medical team, stating that "The King is suffering from perityphlitis"
- 7 Timothy Lawrence
- 8 Michael Aspel
- 9 Skylark
- 10 Jamaica Inn
- 11 St Thomas, London
- 12 There aren't any words!

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!

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