

The Bridge

March 2023

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



See Jack and the Magical Beanstalk, enjoy a crafty afternoon, sup on a Lite Bites soup lunch, get Messy in church, pop along to some coffee mornings, have your say at the Chapmanslade PC meeting, 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 Barbers Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley by the deadline – and with the fee!

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 £2.50 per month for a boxed advert.

Full page ads cost £8, are subject to space availability and cannot be guaranteed,

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

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Deadline

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

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

March

Tuesday 7th

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

Wednesday 8th

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

Thursday 9th

Corsley WI - 'Annual General Meeting and Stayin' Alive – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room
Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting – Chapmanslade Village Hall

Tuesday 14th

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

Thursday 16th

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

Sunday 19th

Pilates workshop – 10 am to 12 noon, Chapmanslade Village Hall
Messy Church – 10.30 am, St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Wednesday 22nd

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm to 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Wednesday 23rd

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

Thursday 30th

Jack and the Magical Beanstalk – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Friday 31st

Jack and the Magical Beanstalk – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

April

Saturday 1st

Corsley Memorial War Memorial Playing Field Spring Clean – 10 am to 3 pm
Jack and the Magical Beanstalk – 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Tuesday 4th

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

Friday 7th

Messy Church – 11 am, St Margaret's Church, Corsley



Diary Dates

Tuesday 11th

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

Chapmanslade Village Hall Annual General Meeting – 8 pm, at the hall

Thursday 13th

Corsley WI - 'How well do you know Wiltshire?' Alive – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 20th

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

Saturday 22nd

Silent Auction and Sale of Promises – 7 for 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Wednesday 26th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm to 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 29th

Quiz Night with Bob & Bob – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Dolce Singers - Mozart Requiem – 7.30 pm, St Margaret's Church, Corsley

May

Tuesday 2nd

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

Tuesday 9th

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

Sunday 7th

Coronation Big Lunch at Chapmanslade Village Hall

Coronation Big Lunch at Corsley War Memorial Playing Field

Sunday 14th

Corsley Tennis Club tournament season begins

Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School

Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 8th March

Wednesday 22nd March

Wednesday 5th April

Wednesday 19th April

Wednesday 3rd May

Wednesday 17th May

Wednesday 31st May

Wednesday 14th June

Wednesday 28th June

Wednesday 12th July

Wednesday 26th July

Wednesday 9th August

Wednesday 23rd August

Change of advertising rates

Trade adverts

We last changed our advertising rates in 2013 and since then our print run has increased from around 700 to 732 and will shortly exceed 750 as the new Honey Glade estate in Chapmanslade becomes occupied. In addition, the printer increased his rates by 10% at the end of last year. We regret that, in order to continue to deliver the magazine free of charge to all households, we will have to increase our rates from April. Our new rates appear on the inside cover.

Other advertising

The fee for all 'boxed' adverts for notices, coffee mornings, etc., will also be increased to £2.50 from April.

Christian Healing Prayer in Westbury

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News from Chapmanslade Village Hall

The hall continues to be well used.

Regulars include childminder and home education groups, Brownies and Guides for the young people; pilates and Zumba and short mat bowls for those looking for exercise. Children's parties are very popular at the weekends. Pantomime rehearsals are now in full swing – performances are 30th & 31st March and 1st April. A few film evenings have been held – convivial evenings complete with popcorn, ice cream and other refreshments, not to mention a bar! The bookings calendar is now available on the Wiltshire Village Halls' website.

Work has resumed on the trim track – a small group of volunteers are slowly progressing with this. The gent's toilets have been cleaned and are due to be repainted. It is also planned to decorate the ceiling and upper walls of the hall this year.

Our next Quiz Night with Bob & Bob will take place on 29th April (see advert elsewhere in this edition of The Bridge). It has been decided to go with a fish & chip supper again – tickets must be bought in advance to order food. As usual there will be a licenced bar and a raffle.

A village lunch is planned for 7th May to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III, along the same lines as last year's jubilee lunch. If anyone has any new ideas for this or would like to help out in any way, please let a member of the committee know.

Last, but by no means least, the AGM will be held at the hall on Tuesday 11th April – it would be great to see lots of you there!



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*subject to eligibility

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches

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£10 per ticket to include a hot supper
Bring your own drinks

Tickets available from

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Sue Fear 832074

Judith Helliar 832803

Chapmanslade Players Presents

Jack AND THE MAGICAL Beanstalk

by Brian Luff

a Giant family pantomime!

Fee Fi Fo Fum

Join us at

Chapmanslade Village Hall

Thursday 30th March 7.30pm

Friday 31st March 7.30pm

Saturday 1st April 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Tickets to be purchased in advance from Chapmanslade
Village Hall Box Office on Thursdays 7-8pm and Sundays 2-3pm

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Community First Responders

Have you ever thought of working for the emergency services as a volunteer?

The South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust's Volunteering and Community Services Department is looking for new volunteers in Wiltshire to join our existing Community First Responder (CFR) teams. CFRs are members of the public that are provided with first class training, equipment, uniform and support to respond to 999 calls in their community ahead of the arrival of an ambulance. Sometimes the difference is providing reassurance prior to the arrival of an ambulance; sometimes it is delivering critical care.

The Trust covers one of the most rural areas of the UK and we are committed to providing the population of the South West with the highest standard of out-of-hospital care. We are extremely grateful to the many volunteers who support us and help members of their local community in their time of need.

Every day, volunteers from across the South West support us in many roles. CFRs attend emergencies within their local communities.

For further information, please visit www.swast.nhs.uk/welcome/community-first-responders/tcommunity-first-responders or contact Dave Wilmot, Community Responder Officer for Wiltshire at David.Wilmot@SWAST.NHS.UK



Update on the Corsley Fayre

Following the success of the 2022 Fayre, the Corsley Fayre Committee, at their February meeting, confirmed that the intent is to run a Fayre on September 2nd 2023. As in 2022, the Fayre will run from 12 noon to 4pm. It will be sited on the part of the 'showfield' that is adjacent to the A362 and will include as many as possible of the elements that last year's successful show did.

We would welcome all the organisations and traders who participated last year as well as any others who would like to be involved in this local community event. Anybody interested should contact Sandy Parrish at **sandyparrish@hotmail**.

Additionally, we would be very happy to discuss sponsorship opportunities with businesses who would like to take advantage of the significant numbers of local people who have traditionally supported this popular event. Please contact the Chair of the committee, David Hood, or the Treasurer, Alan Hutton at **davidhood100@gmail.com** or **adhutton@btinternet.com** respectively.

Anybody wishing to volunteer their services to assist in the organisation and running of the Fayre, who have not already made themselves known, should also contact Alan or David.

John Willcox
Secretary

01373 832171

corsleyshowsec.jdw@gmail.com

Bob's bafflers

- 1 Knotty Ash is an area of which English city?
- 2 Lieutenant Pinkerton appears in which opera?
- 3 Which is the smallest planet by mass and volume in the solar system?
- 4 What element is denoted by the chemical symbol Sn in the periodic table?
- 5 Gouda is a popular cheese originating from which country?
- 6 Pret a Manger is a sandwich chain in the UK. What does the French name mean in English?
- 7 Who discovered penicillin?
- 8 American author Zane Grey was best known for adventure novels and stories on what subject or genre?
- 9 Who or what was "Greyfriars Bobby"?
- 10 The Royal Mint has its headquarters in which Welsh town?
- 11 Which city in Nevada USA has a name which means "the meadows"?
- 12 Who was known for her catch-phrases 'walkies' and 'sit' in the early 1980s?

Answers on page 44

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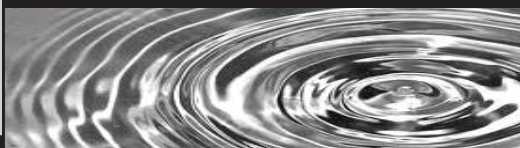


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Practical help

- Changing library books
- Small household tasks (e.g. changing a light bulb)

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- Our phone line is usually open **Monday to Friday from 9 am to 1 pm.**
- Your call will be answered by a coordinator who will take details of your request, then contact a volunteer who will help you and they will phone you back to confirm the arrangement. Please tell the coordinator if you have any special needs, i.e. you use a walking frame or you'd like a companion to accompany you. If possible, give an idea of how long your appointment may take
- Please give us as much notice as possible!
- What does it cost? There is no set charge, but we invite you to make a donation towards the cost. A mileage allowance is

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Volunteering

- Want to help the community you live in?
 - Want to meet interesting people?
 - Have time to spare on weekdays?
- You might be our missing link!

How would you help?

- Volunteer as a driver to be available only when and for what you choose, using your own car
- Chauffeur clients to and from hospitals, doctors' surgeries, dentists and other important places
- You can volunteer to be a coordinator, manning our phone line at your home on a weekday morning agreed with you
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Coleridge – Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis

Parry – I was Glad

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

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

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Corsley Tennis Club News



Dig out your rackets. It's a new year and we've got exciting plans for 2023.

Tennis courses for children will be back from April on Sunday mornings.

We have a new coach Martin Ellacott who will be running those courses and also offering some sessions for adults.

Martin, who now lives in Frome was the senior coach at Newtown Tennis club, in Mid Wales. He is LTA approved and has coached all ages focusing mainly on beginners and improvers. He says he ensures all his coaching sessions are enjoyable and interesting and encourages and motivates players to develop their tennis skills. Martin was awarded Tennis Wales' Disability Coach of the Year in 2015 and believes everyone, whatever their ability can hit a ball.

Mark Richards has joined the committee to help us develop junior coaching opportunities and later we also hope to offer some summer tennis camps. Watch this space and our website for more on that. The website will also be the place to see details of

how you book for the
taster sessions and courses...

[https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/
CorsleyTennisClub](https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CorsleyTennisClub)

We are really hoping to see the children and young people who previously attended classes at Corsley returning and some new faces too.

The taster session will be free and the courses priced at £36 for six sessions.

And if you are wondering how children can continue to play after the course, don't forget membership of the club is free for those up to 18 in Corsley and Chapmanslade.

And for the grown ups: again, check the website for adult classes Martin will be offering. We've also set the tournament dates for 2023, starting 14th May. So time to get in shape for those.

See you on court!

*Liz Garrett
Club Secretary*

Chapmanslade Village Hall

Quiz with Bob & Bob

7.30 pm Saturday 29th April

£10 to include supper

(fish, fishcake or sausage with chips)

Tickets must be purchased in advance to order food

Licenced Bar

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Contact: Frank 832678

Corsley War Memorial

Playing Field update

Neil Carpenter reports on the latest state of play

Winter is nearly over and we have just cut the cricket square for the first time. In the next few weeks we will be planting a new hedge of wild harvest trees (hazel, blackthorn, crab apple, elder, dog rose, rowan) which we were gifted as part of the Queen's green canopy.

We also have our first pavilion booking in the next few weeks, a sure sign that spring is coming.

As you know the Playing Field is looked after by a team of volunteers who work hard to ensure it is available for villagers to use all year round. This is a big task and starts with our spring tidy to get the field looking great for everyone to use through the summer.

This year, the field spring clean will happen on the 1st April between 10 am and 3 pm as part of Cricket England's Get Set weekend.

It would be great if you could come along and support the field and village by giving us a hand to get all those spring jobs done from sorting the pavilion out, taking the badger fence down, cutting back the dogwoods after they have given such great winter colour, to putting the shade sail back up on anticipation of another hot summer.

This year it is especially important as we will be celebrating King Charles' coronation with a picnic lunch on Sunday 7th May. Details have not been released by Wiltshire Council yet but the Palace have let it be known that they would like "Neighbours and communities across the United Kingdom are invited to share food and fun together at Coronation Big Lunches on Sunday 7th May 2023, in a nationwide act of celebration and friendship. From a cup of tea with a neighbour to a street party, a Coronation Big Lunch brings the celebrations to your neighbourhood and is a great way to get to know your community a little better".

Details of our plans will be in The Bridge next month but please put both dates in the diary and come along on the 1st April and help all those who work so hard to keep this brilliant village asset open for everyone to use for free.

If you have any questions or thoughts about what to do on for the coronation picnic please get in touch with either Marion or myself.

Neil *Marion*
01373 832314 07796544565

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Third Thursday of each month
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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

As I sit writing this, I am 'basking' in the sunshine. The ice and frosts of January and early February have gone and today we are in double figures on the thermometer. Spring has sprung, the churchyard in Kingston Deverill is awash with snowdrops and in my garden, I have seen more snowdrops, the first crocuses, primroses and daffodils, a real boost in these gloomy, dark and short days, and as we reflect on world events in Ukraine, Turkey and Syria and those suffering, we also feel their consequences in our lives.

By the time this is published Lent will have started, we will have eaten our pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, the Carnivals will have been celebrated across America and Europe and we'll have been Ashed on Ash Wednesday. Then we will be looking forward to Easter in early April. Lent and Easter are two of the most significant events in the Christian calendar, a time when we reflect on Christ's journey, his message and ministry of salvation, the route to his trial, crucifixion, death and glorious resurrection.

The season of Lent lasts for forty days (not including Sundays). It is a time when Christians reflect and prepare for the celebrations of Easter. Some people fast, eat frugally or give up treats following the example of Jesus, who fasted for forty days in the wilderness.

People also give to charity, set aside time to study the Bible and meet with other Christians to reflect on Jesus' life and prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter. There will be a number of Lent activities in the parish, as well as a Mothering Sunday Messy Church in Chapmanslade for families on 19th March.

As it says in Ecclesiastes – there is a time and season for every purpose under heaven. We have time in Lent to reflect and prepare, then celebrate with joy the central tenant of the Christian faith, the Resurrection of Jesus who died to save the world.

Love and prayers

Robert

Licensed Lay Minister and Church Warden Kingston Deverill

March Church Diary

5th March: 2nd Sunday of Lent

8 am Holy Communion Kingston Deverill

9.30 am Eucharist Corsley

10 am Morning Worship Longbridge



12th March: 3rd Sunday of Lent

9.30 am Eucharist Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist Kingston Deverill



19th March: Mothering Sunday

10 am Eucharist Brixton

10.30 am Mothering Sunday Messy Church Chapmanslade

11 am Matins Corsley



26th March: Fifth Sunday of Lent

9.30 am Eucharist Chapmanslade

5 pm Evensong Longbridge

Church and Community Coffee Morning

Thursday 16th March, 10 am – 12 noon

Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Crafternoons

Wednesday 8th & Thursday 23rd March, 3 – 5 pm

Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

Lite Bites Soup Lunch

22nd March 12.30 pm – 2 pm

Corsley Reading Rooms

**Messy
CHURCH**



Messy Church



Come and have fun
making something
on Mothering
Sunday morning
19th March in
Chapmanslade
Church at 10.30am

With drinks and biscuits



Next month!
Good Friday
Messy Church
Friday 7th April
at 11.00 am



Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

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

Copy for Six Open Doors should be sent to Di Britten at dianabritten69@gmail.com
Please contact Di if you would like to receive weekly news of Church events and activities

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Adam Oakley rounds up the PC's February meeting

The parish Council meeting on 9th February opened with an announcement that the planning application for a new house on land behind 92 High Street (Item 9 on the agenda) would be deferred to the next meeting because new drawings and detail had been submitted that same day and neither councillors or members of the public had had the opportunity to consider them.

Several questions were asked by members of the public regarding the previous meeting and the planning application mentioned above. Councillors, the clerk and members of the public clarified the situation and explained procedures.

Highways progress

A request for funding for a topographical survey to be carried out on the High Street in the area of the school was approved by the Warminster Local Highway and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) and the parish council agreed to fund 25% of the £2000 cost.

Gore Lane flooding

The wet weather this winter had seen areas of the bridle path, Gore Lane, with a considerable amount of water flowing along it. Efforts are underway to try to reduce this problem by diverting some of the flow away from the sunken lane.

Planning

The application PL/2022/09808 Land south of 92 High Street, Demolition of stables and

construction of new house, has been deferred until the next parish council meeting on 9th March.

The council considered an appeal to the refusal decision for application PL/2022/05649 for demolition of existing agricultural building and erection of two residential dwellings and garage at Thoulstone Farm. The parish council decided to stand by its original comments and objections and added further objections against the appeal arguments.

Next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday **9th March** at Chapmanslade Village Hall.

More details can be found at the PC website www.chapmansladepc.org.uk

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
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Corsley WI

February news

Patricia Sharrocks and Liz Garret round up the February meeting and announces some forthcoming events



The meeting this month was held in the Reading Room and the speaker was Jen Gale, who described herself as a 'knackered Mum of two' who has become an expert in living a more sustainable(ish) life.

About ten years ago Jen and her family decided to live a whole year without buying anything new. She kept a blog throughout the year and has since written two books on how all of our actions can make a difference.

She began by saying only 10% of people are taking steps to stem the climate crisis and suggested we should all do one thing to help.

Most people realise the world is warming and Jen said it is only possible to limit that warming by bringing about unprecedented change.

Pushing the planet beyond the temperature range it can deal with results in damage to ecosystems. As evidence of this she pointed out that we no longer have to remove the bodies of insects from our windscreens after a journey because there are now fewer of them than there were twenty years ago.

She told us that as citizens and consumers we have influence over Government and institutions as well as our neighbours and friends, suggesting for example, that we use our voice to ask retailers what they are doing to reduce their negative impact on the planet.

Using 'The Buyerarchy of Needs' diagram, by Sarah Lazorovic, Jen talked about the actions we could consider before buying

anything new.

She told the meeting about a zero waste shop in Frome called Denude (Bath Street) where you can refill your own containers. She also recommended using community hire shops, websites like Freecycle, Olio and Vinted and, of course, charity shops.

Another idea was to leave things in the basket when shopping online. Coming back later can often make you realise the purchase is not necessary.

Talking about waste, Jen told us that half of all food waste occurs in the home. She suggested a shelf in the fridge labelled 'Eat Me First' for leftovers and half used packs of food.

Food packaging should be recycled whenever possible and supermarkets are now offering recycling facilities for flexible plastic.

Jen told the meeting that changing your bank to one whose investments are more sustainable has more influence than reducing the number of flights we make.

And finally who knew that emails had a footprint and their storage uses a lot of energy? So you can reduce the imprint by deleting old ones!

At the end of the meeting everyone was challenged to make one change in their lives to be more sustainable (ish) That means making the best choices you can; you're aiming for 'progress not perfection'. *cont...*



For more information visit

www.asustainablelife.co.uk/

the-sustainableish-living-guide/

The Corsley WI AGM will be held in the Reading Room on 9th March. It will be

Time to get walking again!

With spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Wiltshire www.walkinginengland.co.uk/wiltshire has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

followed by “Stayin’ Alive”: Nigel Insel will demonstrate how to use the defibrillator.

Please contact Alice on 07989 339632 or email: alicecambridge40@gmail.com if you would like more information.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said ‘There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Wiltshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you’.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

John Harris

*www.walkinginengland.co.uk
john@walkinginengland.co.uk*

Mothering Sunday Fundraiser for Walk the Walk

Breast Cancer Research

I will be running a two-hour Pilates workshop on Sunday 19th March from 10 am to 12 noon at Chapmanslade Village Hall with all funds raised going to my fundraising page for the Moonwalk this year.

The aim of the morning will be to work on key parts of the body to improve overall wellbeing, including feet, breathing and pelvic floor health. We will have a break for tea/coffee halfway through, but aim for it to be a relaxed, informal space to tune in with your body. No previous Pilates experience required and you will learn how

to assess your own body and work with any limitations you may have.

There will be limited space, so if you would like to join me, let me know and I will confirm your space, which will then be yours following a minimum donation of £15 to this link:

<https://walkthewalk.enthuse.com/pf/jo-lintern...>

(If you would like to join me and have already donated to me, just let me know!)

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Wonderful Walks

A watery walkabout



You won't get wet unless it rains, or you fall into the Kennet and Avon canal or River Avon! This walk at Bradford on Avon uses the canal towpath, so park along Moulton Drive because it's free, checking you aren't on double yellow lines. Cross the grass where cars are parked; descend onto the towpath and turn right.

You'll pass a war-time 'pillbox' on your right, then go under a road bridge, and walk till a boatyard appears on your left. The first turf for the Kennet and Avon canal was cut here, in 1794. This area is Bradford Wharf, which had a gauging lock for boats to be weighed. Tolls were worked out and paid for in Canal Cottage, now Kennet and Avon Canal Trust's café. Walk past the lock, cross this busy road on the crossing and turn left, then go right alongside the Lock Inn, where I have my second (yummy!) breakfast!

Past the Lock Inn, the wide muddy path returns you to the towpath. Walk on, passing

the 14th century Tithe Barn, where local people's church tithes were stored before Henry VIII's Dissolution of Monasteries. Now walk a mile or so, to a modern swing bridge and footbridge over the canal. The swing bridge is for Water Board vehicles needing the far side of the canal, but its Chief Engineer, John Rennie, designed the original swing bridges used on this waterway; there's still one near Dundas Aqueduct and the Limpley Stoke Canal Centre.

If you want a wilder walk (in boots, mind!), use the footbridge and go right, through woods and fields, to a road downhill to Avoncliff Viaduct, an awesome piece of engineering! John Rennie designed this, too, an aqueduct with right-angled bends at each end. Avoncliff had its own railway station, built in 1854 and necessitating a fourth span addition to the aqueduct; hopefully, the station and the canalside pub near the towpath, survived the pandemic. When you've

explored, re-join the towpath and go left, back to the footbridge.

Exit the towpath here, using the tarmacked road downhill into Barton Farm Country Park. Turn right on the road and head towards town, watching out for occasional traffic. Where the river's close to the path, look for kingfishers in the trees, waiting for fish to catch! The path curves left and you'll see Canoe Club buildings across the water, plus a packhorse bridge. The Tithe Barn complex is on your right, but stay on track and head under the ugly railway bridge. When the path splits, stay left, alongside the river. You'll see the Parish Church tower and an old boating launch 'pad', across the river, and pass the town's swimming pool and buildings on your right. Next comes 'Timbrell's Yard' restaurant: where their patio ends, go right, into a car park with public toilets.



Looping left round the car park, you'll reach the riverside and ahead is the McKeever footbridge, named after a local gold medallist kayaker at the 2012 Olympics. Go right before that, on the Jazz Carlin path,





Tythe Barn

named for another local winner, of two silver swimming medals at the 2016 Olympics. This path passes through an old wall 'doorway' into gardens, where an iron-fenced archway has a plaque recording the flood level here in October 1882. Stay on track, with the town bridge ahead, and the 'blind house' or lock-up at its right-hand end. Finally, you'll emerge onto the town's main road, turn right and head for Westbury House, built in 1720 for a clothier and the site, in 1791, of a riot against scribbling machines, by local workers fearing for their jobs. Charles Timbrell, a dyer by trade, bought everything here in the mid-1800s.

Pass the house and traffic lights, take the right-hand turn into the station car park, with Harlees excellent fish and chip restaurant

across the road (more yummy!). The station's a rare, complete example of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's station style, built in 1848. Enter the platform and use the footbridge over the tracks, then the path with yellow safety railings, into a new estate. Follow the road left to its end, then go left



Bradford on Avon station

and right to the main road; turn right here. Past the recreation ground, turn right again into Pound Lane and look out for the Red Man! Back on the towpath, walk to the main road and cross it, go right, cross again and turn left beside the bridge. You should recognise where you are now, after a good three-mile walk (more if you visited Avoncliff)..!



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Whitbourne Chapel

It is God who arms me with strength...

2 Samuel 22, v33

Benaiah and a snowy day (2 Samuel 23:20-23)

Benaiah is only known because “he went down into a pit on a snowy day and killed a lion”. The name Benaiah means ‘God has built’ and if ever a man was ‘built’ well and ‘armed with strength’, it’s this little-known warrior. I wondered, “why, how and what does this tell me”?

Be supportive and encourage people

Benaiah was a contemporary of King David, leader of his bodyguard and one of his ‘Mighty Men’, the only one who killed a lion in a pit on a snowy day. David also killed a lion and a bear before he killed Goliath, so Benaiah’s mentor believed and challenged him, earned respect and inspired his men.

Look at problems as challenges

A man-eating lion was terrorizing Israel. They could hold a meeting and brainstorm for solutions, form a lion task force, discuss how to protect themselves from the lion. Benaiah acted; he pursued the lion. There’s no indication anyone else was with him. Had he failed we wouldn’t know about Benaiah, but he took a chance, and is today just one hero in the most-read book in history.

Take on challenges and build on success

Before the lion, Benaiah killed two fierce warriors at the same time, odds of 2:1. He

already had a reputation, as he once killed an Egyptian giant, using a spear wrenched from the giant’s own hands. He didn’t jump into the lion pit without previous training, experience, and success. Success breeds success.

Do not be afraid to fail

What would be more tragic at the end of your life, regrets for things you tried and failed, or for things you never tried?

Benaiah chased opportunities; success was huge. It not only put him in the Bible, he achieved the highest position in his profession, general of the nation’s army.

Jump into the pit

The Bible doesn’t tell us Benaiah was afraid, but I’m sure he was. Fear’s natural, but nothing indicates that he hesitated. My belief is, he never thought he’d lose.

Do not wait until it stops snowing

Don’t wait till everything’s perfect in your life. Momentum is defined as the impetus gained by a moving object. Move and kick-start other things to move, or do nothing and nothing happens.

Benaiah is so understated. Overshadowed by King David, and by David’s son, Solomon, Benaiah lived to serve both kings. My final thought? Live a life worth remembering, and worth others telling stories about.

Andrew Coxhead

Occasional preacher at Whitbourne Chapel



Please remember:

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’.

RSPCA Wiltshire Mid Branch and Cats Protection Frome and District Branch

CAT NEUTERING?

- WE CAN HELP!

From now until 31st March 2023

RSPCA Wiltshire Mid Branch

offer to help you with the cost of neutering and microchipping your cats and kittens if you live in

**Devizes, Melksham,
Warminster and Westbury
or the surrounding villages
and are eligible to receive Government benefits**

For details of the help we can offer please visit:

www.rspca.org.uk/local/wiltshire-mid-branch/latest



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Registered charity no. 205925

To apply please send a blank
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We will reply with a link to the
on-line application form.

If you prefer you can
telephone

07748-468355

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Registered charity
no. 203644

Get around for £2 this winter

Whether you are heading for work or into town, from 1st January to 31st March a single bus journey will cost no more than £2 on most routes across England.

To find out how you could save more this winter
Search 'Help for Households'



Recycling let's sort it!

Wiltshire Council's 'Recycling-let's sort it!' campaign is now underway as they aim to make it easier for you to understand which items go into the correct bins. Some of the common items incorrectly placed in blue lidded bins include:

- Carrier bags and bin bags - put these in the general waste bin for energy recovery
- Hard plastics, such as toys and plant pots - take these to a household recycling centre for recycling; or put in the general waste bin for energy recovery.
- Scrap metals - take these to a household recycling centre for recycling.
- Nappies - put these in the general waste bin for energy recovery.

Corsley Parish Council

**Fed up with HGV's
travelling illegally
westbound along the
A362 to Frome?**

**Willing to give up 30/40
minutes a week/fortnight
to stop the problem?**



The police are understaffed and can only give an on-the-spot fine of £50, but will support us in a plan to hit drivers and their employers where it hurts.

All we need is a small team of people willing to give up a little of their time once or twice a week/fortnight collecting information.

If you are interested, please email me at corsleypc.djb@aol.com for full details.

Help us take a step toward getting HGV's off the A362 for good!

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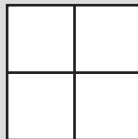
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Gray

THE ELIZABETHAN EVENING AT MANOR FARM, BA12 7QE

Sunday 30th July at 6.30 pm

Tickets: ILLYRIA.CO.UK or 01373 832113

Gates open: 5.30 pm. Performance approximately 1 hour and 50 mins (including a 20 minute interval).

Seating IS PROVIDED. Picnics welcome. Licenced bar. Adults £16, children £10.

Tickets are non-refundable. Cancellation in dangerous weather only, when performance will be rescheduled.

A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

As I write this on the 18th of February, I am aware that the countryside is waking up from its winter sleep. Already the hazel catkins are blowing in the wind (it's so obvious why they are called lambs tails!) they readily spread their pollen attracting and feeding early bees.

Down by the river the willow trees are showing their sticky buds and the moles who have been buried down low during the cold and wet weather are now rising in search of the worms now closer to the earth's surface. For gardeners this is a blessing and a scourge – mole hills on your lawn is a sign of healthy worm movement and the hills make wonderful seed potting soil, but they do rather spoil the appearance of the lawn.

In the next month or two the silage and hay fields will be harrowed and rolled so that the mole hills are scattered and will not get into the silage or hay crops and make them unpalatable.

We have enjoyed seeing flocks of birds on the recently harvested fodder beet fields, the harvester has obviously just turned over the good sandy soil removing the beet and leaving lots of worms and insects on or near the surface for hungry birds and mammals.

The cock pheasants are attracting the hen pheasants in numbers, their plumage looking very attractive to the rather plain hen pheasants; I wonder they know that the shooting season is over?

It's too early for blackbirds to be mating, but there is a lot of activity in the hedgerows, I do hope this is not a false spring especially since the winter hedge trimming is still being carried out,

This last week we have been able to let the

cows out for some exercise – they have been smelling the spring air as they are confined to their warm covered yards. Their joy of running to the fields to taste the fresh grass and feeling the sun on their backs is quickly forgotten when the temperature drops and the wind and showers come and, after just a few hours, they are glad to be back in the covered yards! As the weeks push further into spring they will enjoy longer daytime hours in the fields.

Cattle have been responsible for a number of deaths to dog walkers; cows may now be in fields that have been empty all winter, so please check if it is safe to enter a field and make sure that dogs are on leads (unless you are being chased in which case you should let your dog off the lead). Dogs enjoy smelling newborn calves and lambs and their mothers will be very defensive of their young. Pheasants, partridge and ground nesting birds will soon be laying eggs and hatching their young, dogs and people can easily frighten them causing the birds to abandon their nests and chicks.

Frogs and toads will be migrating to their spawning wetlands and ponds so do take care on the roads if you see a group trying to cross.

For those who missed my rainfall records last month, I recorded 33.67" in 2022 and 33.39" in 2021. Nature has its ways of balancing out our rainfall, we just have to adapt to new wetter and hotter weather in the months that we are not accustomed to.

Enjoy the coming months with the late snowdrops and early daffodils brightening up our verges.

Judith Helliar

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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

Coffee Mornings

The next Coffee Morning on Tuesday March 7th (10 am – 12 noon). Please do join us – we had a good turn out in February, please don't be put off by the scaffolding!

Children's parties just got easier...

If you are thinking of holding a children's party at the hall and want to hire a bouncy castle then you will have found that taking out the 'hirer liability' insurance can be expensive. We have now taken out additional insurance for the hall meaning that you don't need to, provided certain insurance requirements are adhered to. We will charge an additional fee for a hire to include this insurance, but it will be less than you would have paid independently. See website for more details

Refurbishment programme

This should be underway by the time you receive this edition of The Bridge or shortly after. The scaffolding should have been installed and the work itself should commence on March 1st. Check the website for latest. We will remain open for most purposes while the work is ongoing. Traffic lights will be up for a few days at some point on the A362 for safety reasons. Hopefully some of the lorries will decide to go another route while these are operating and so bring some peace to that part of Corsley!



'Photographs of Corsley' competition

The photos submitted are currently being judged and the results will be posted on the website soon. Ten photos were submitted by two photographers.

Reading Room Electricity meters and prices

The lower room now has the same style of coin machine as the main hall so £2 coins can be used. We are contractually unable to change supplier until end of May so we are stuck with the current rate until then.

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

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

Hugh Deed

Chairman of Management Committee

Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

01373 832897

Committee Members

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

Small ads

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Liverpool
- 2 Madam Butterfly
- 3 Mercury
- 4 Tin
- 5 The Netherlands
- 6 Ready to eat
- 7 Alexander Fleming in 1928
- 8 Westerns
- 9 A Skye terrier who in 19th-century Edinburgh became known for spending 14 years guarding the grave of his owner
- 10 Llantrisant
- 11 Las Vegas
- 12 Barbara Woodhouse

Local organisation adverts

£2.50 per month for a small boxed advert or £8 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 (Barters Plant Centre or Acres Supply Garden Centre) by **4pm** on the **19th** of the month. Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

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

1 space	(69mm wide x 33mm high)	£24
2 spaces	(69mm wide x 66mm high)	£47
3 spaces	(quarter page - 69mm wide x 100mm high)	£68
4 spaces	(138mm wide x 66mm high)	£85
6 spaces	(half page - 138mm wide x 100mm high)	£120

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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