

# The Bridge

May 2014

monthly magazine for the villages  
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



*Turbulence ahead – join the proposed wind turbine debate [p32](#)*

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# The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

## Articles

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

## Advertising

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

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

**Larger ads** are subject to space availability and by arrangement with the Editor who will advise on the price.

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!**

## Deadline

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

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

## In this issue...

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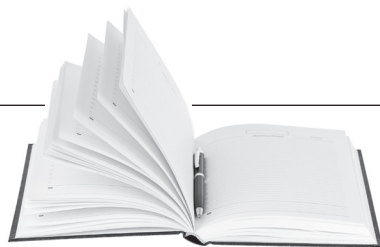
**Check the websites  
for the latest news,  
updates and events in  
your village**

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

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

---

## May



### Thursday 1st

Warminster mobile library (see page 4 for times)

### Saturday 3rd

Corsley litter pick – 10.00, meet opposite the Royal Oak

### Tuesday 6th

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

### Thursday 8th

Warminster Area Board – 7pm, Chitterne Village Hall

Corsley WI - 'Canapes' – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

### Saturday 10th

Chapmanslade Litter Pick – 12 noon, meet opposite The Three Horseshoes

### Sunday 11th

Bird Song Walk – 7.00am, meet at St Katherine's Church, East Woodlands

Corsley Festival Choir Spring Concert – 7.30pm, St Margaret's Church

### Monday 12th

Corsley Parish Council - Annual General Meeting – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

### Thursday 15th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10.00am - noon, The Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Warminster mobile library (see page 4 for times)

Chapmanslade Parish Council Annual General Meeting – 7.30pm, Chapmanslade School

### Saturday 17th

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches May Fayre and Table Top Sale – 2.30pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

### Wednesday 21st

Corsley Gardening Club - visit to Westdale Park to see the Bougainvilleas, assemble there at 2.30pm

### Wednesday 28th

Lite Bites Bread and Soup Lunch – 12.30pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

### Thursday 29th

Warminster mobile library (see page 4 for times)

# Diary Dates

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## June

### Tuesday 3rd

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

### Saturday 7th

Corsley litter pick – 10.00, meet opposite the Royal Oak

### Monday 9th

Corsley Parish Council - Quarterly Meeting – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

### Thursday 12th

Corsley WI - speaker TBA – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

Warminster mobile library (see page 13 for times)

### Saturday 14th

Chapmanslade Litter Pick – 12 noon, meet opposite The Three Horseshoes

### Thursday 19th

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10.00am - noon, The Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

### Wednesday 25th

Lite Bites Bread and Soup Lunch – 12.30pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

### Thursday 26th

Warminster mobile library (see page 4 for times)

### Saturday 28th

'New to You' clothing sale – 10am - 4pm, Corsley Reading Room

### Sunday 29th

Benefice Pet Service – 10.30am, St Peter & St Paul, Longbridge Deverill

## July

### Tuesday 1st

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

### Thursday 3rd

Warminster Area Board – 7pm, venue to be confirmed

### Saturday 5th

Corsley litter pick – 10.00, meet opposite the Royal Oak

### Thursday 3rd

Warminster Area Board – 7pm, venue to be confirmed



*continued...*

### **Thursday 10th**

Corsley WI - 'Blood Bikes' – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

### **Saturday 12th**

Chapmanslade Litter Pick – 12 noon, meet opposite The Three Horseshoes

### **Thursday 17th**

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10.00am - noon, The Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

### **Wednesday 23rd**

Lite Bites Bread and Soup Lunch – 12.30pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

## **August**

### **Saturday 2nd**

Corsley litter pick – 10.00, meet opposite the Royal Oak

Elizabethan Evening - Pirates of Penzance – Manor Farm, Corsley (time TBC)

### **Saturday 9th**

Chapmanslade Litter Pick – 12 noon, meet opposite The Three Horseshoes

### **Thursday 14th**

Corsley WI - 'Flower Arranging' – 7.30pm, Corsley Reading Room

### **Thursday 21st**

Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10.00am - noon, The Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

### **Monday 25th**

Corsley Show

### **Wednesday 27th**

Lite Bites Bread and Soup Lunch – 12.30pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

### **The mobile library service visits next on:**

#### **Thursday 1st May**

10:10 - 10:30

Corsley, by the Royal Oak pub

10:45 - 11:00

Chapmanslade, outside 132 High St

11:05 - 12:00

Chapmanslade, by the school

Future dates for this round are:

**15th and 29th May, 12th and 26th June**

# **Litter pickers**

## **Chapmanslade litter pickers**

We will be meeting opposite the Three Horseshoes at noon on Saturday 10th May. We provide all the necessary equipment and spend about an hour or so collecting litter from the High Street and surrounding area.

*Phil Jefferson*  
01373 832845

## **Corsley litter pickers**

We meet opposite the Royal Oak at 10am on the first Saturday of each month. Our next 'pick' is on Saturday 3rd May – do come along and help keep our village beautiful.

*Cath Aylesbury and Sue Taylor*



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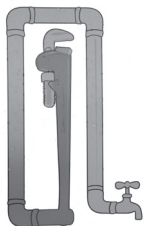
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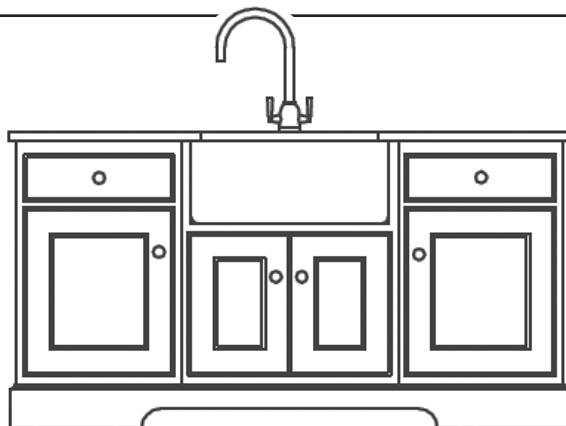
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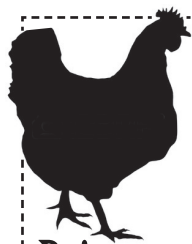
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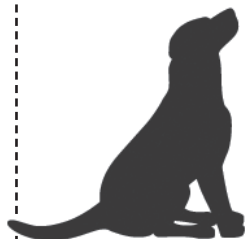
# 'All creatures great and small'

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June 29th 10.30am

St Peter & St Paul, Longbridge Deverill



## New To You

Sale of Nearly New Clothing

Corsley Reading Room  
Saturday 28th June  
10 am – 1 pm

A great chance for you to have a good look through your wardrobe and donate those items that you really like but 'aren't quite you' and then replace them with some good quality clothing that has been 'previously loved'

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## Have you ever thought about trying your hand at bowls?

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We're located at the top of Park Road, next to the Mary Bailey Playing Field. Turn left at the top of the road and we're about 100 yards along the lane.

All you need is a pair of flat soled shoes – we will supply everything else (including tuition).

So give it a try – who knows, you might enjoy it! We are a social crowd and have our own bar for you to relax in after the game.



For more details, contact either  
Mike Geake on 461298  
Brian Lye on 465802  
Sue Simenton on 472316

or visit [www.fromeselwoodbowlsclub.org](http://www.fromeselwoodbowlsclub.org)

# Bob's bafflers

- 1 Who composed 'Eine Kleine Nachtmusik'?
- 2 What is the last book of the Old Testament?
- 3 6.35 kilograms is the equivalent of which imperial measurement?
- 4 "Check in, relax. Take a shower" is the tag line to which 1960 film?
- 5 In Scrabble, how many tiles are worth 8 points?
- 6 From which musical does the song 'Oh what a beautiful morning' originate?
- 7 William Hartnell played the first Dr Who. Who played the second?
- 8 What is listed in the Miller's Price Guide?
- 9 The Owl and the Pussycat were married by whom?
- 10 What type of animal is a natterjack?
- 11 Who is the largely silent purveyor of disaster created by Rowan Atkinson?
- 12 Complete the proverb – "One man's .... is another man's ....."

Answers on page 43

## Bird Song Walk

Everyone is welcome to come and join the early morning bird song walk at **7.00am on Sunday 11th May**. Meet at St Katherine's Church, East Woodlands.



## Rogation Sunday

Everyone is welcome to come and join us for our Rogation Sunday celebrations, **10.30am at St Margaret's Church on Sunday 25th May**, when the blessing of the crops and animals takes place.

*Judith Helliar*  
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# Corsley Tennis Club News



Tennis activity is increasing with many entries to tournaments, the draw for Wimbledon tickets and junior coaching for two groups. We would like to run a third coaching session for juniors and need more 6 to 8 year olds to make up the beginners group. Please telephone Sandra Whatley on 01373 832202 or Jon Dilena, the coach, on 01373 859755 for further information. Junior coaching takes place on Saturday afternoons.

The singles tournaments and the league matches for our three teams commenced in April and the very popular American Tournament is planned for Sunday 18th May at 2.00pm. This is traditionally a charity event with the entrance fees and any profits from book sales going to charity. This year the Committee decided that, as part of the commemoration of World War 1, the benefiting charity would be the Royal British Legion. We would be delighted to welcome spectators to this event.

Some adult members have expressed an interest in coaching sessions and we are investigating the possibility of holding coaching sessions on Wednesday or Thursday evenings. Any tennis club members interested in adult coaching may contact Jon Dilena on 01373 859755. Ideally a group of eight would allow the cost to be shared so that it would not be too expensive.

Many of our retired members are playing several times a week and on some mornings all three courts are used.

If you are interested in playing tennis, the Tennis Club uses a system that allows prospective members to attend three club sessions at a cost of £2 per session. After this trial we would expect potential members to decide whether to join or not. Club sessions are held on Tuesdays and Sundays between 10.00am and 12.00 noon. Just turn up and introduce yourself – you will be most welcome. We play doubles and after six games we change partners and opponents so that everyone mixes in – it is a very social event! We look forward to seeing you.

*Marlene Latchem*

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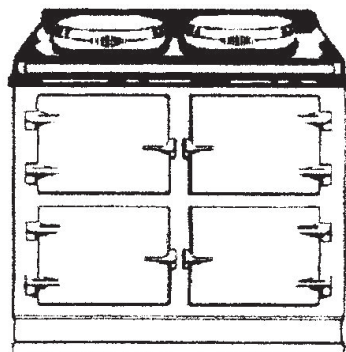


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# Range Cooker Servicing

**Corsley Parish Council**

# Parish Council Briefing

An 'occasional meeting' was held on 8th April, to consider two planning applications and to discuss a number of other live issues, not least of which was the developing plans for a wind turbine at Thoulstone.

## **Planning applications**

The two planning applications were:

**3 Knapps Gate** – a grade II listed building application for replacement of a single conservatory block wall in a rear facing conservatory by a aluminium bifold door and other associated minor changes.

**High House Farm** – creation of a new silage clamp on an existing hard standing. The PC had no objections to either application.

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

This was fully reported in the April Bridge and updates on two issues were discussed: Steiner School (SAF) traffic and the Old School Playing Field (OSPF).

SAF had been approached and were ready and willing to receive a deputation on the traffic issues raised at the APM, particularly the need to drive carefully and respect villagers' safety. In the event, the parishioner seeking PC support at the APM felt that the subject had been sufficiently aired. The fact that SAF were due to leave the site at the end of the Summer term was also a key factor.

As offered at the APM, I met with Malcolm Holley on the OSPF to clarify the PC position and was able to explain that the PC fully supported the Jubilee tree plantation and were committed to ensuring that it thrived

and was adequately maintained. The PC's major concerns were to ensure that if the grass was regularly cut, the thistles were kept at bay and that the northern 'hedge' was brought under control. For the last, the plan had been to use a young offender volunteer group to do this work, but they were unable to respond before the bird nesting season was upon us. This part of the plan will now be delayed until the Autumn, when the potential for laying the trees will be re-assessed. This position was generally accepted.

## **Longleat Caravan Traffic and badgers**

It remains the intention of the PC to seek an alternative scheme for the caravan traffic entering and leaving the Caravan Club site in Longleat's grounds and we are currently waiting for the Caravan Club area management to offer meeting dates. Further public consultation will depend on the outcome of such meetings and subsequent further discussions with Longleat. This could be a long process.

However, as many of you will already be very much aware, another more pressing issue has arisen, affecting the caravan traffic and much more. This is the collapse of the Lane End to Stalls Farm road, about a quarter of a mile beyond High House Farm. This

has been caused by badgers undermining the road which is now the subject of a emergency temporary closure order. In accordance with the Badger Protection Act 1992 interference with a badger sett is a criminal offence and Natural England (NE) have the legal responsibility to issue licences for the kind of work that will be needed to sort this one out. At the time of writing, a licence has been issued which has been reported to me, by NE, to allow temporary repair and re-opening of the road. I have yet to receive Wiltshire Highways interpretation and they currently believe that they have permission only to 'excavate and explore'.

In the meantime, this closure has exposed the number of visitors who, improperly, use this route to get into Longleat; some 150 cars recorded over a two-day period before Easter. We have been working with the Highways department, Longleat and the Caravan Club to get suitable signage up to prevent this traffic using all the back lanes, with all the concomitant safety issues that this presents. At the time of writing more signs were promised.

This closure is also presenting practical and economic difficulties for High House, Longleat and the Caravan site. All are working hard with Highways to deal with the immediate issue and getting the road repaired and re-opened as soon as possible.

## **Deep Lane closure**

This will already be under way by the time the May Bridge appears, but the good news is that Wessex Water have now confirmed the intended working method for replacement of the water main. This will allow through traffic to use the lane before 9.30am and after 3.00pm, locals' access to their property and heavy farm vehicles to use the road by arrangement with Wessex Water.

Affected properties have received letters, signs are out and the closure notice is on the Bridge website.

## **Thoulstone Wind turbine**

This was discussed at the meeting in the context of the pre-planning information provided by Seren Energy, the developer. Fleur de Rhe Philipe joined us for this item and gave us her very strong views against the proposal. The major issue was to ensure that Corsley PC was formally consulted, even though the development site is outside the Parish, and I have now received such confirmation from the Wiltshire Area Development Manager, Mike Wilmott.

The PC will provide a formal view on the proposal once it is received, but an informal conclusion, based on the pre-planning information was against the development.

There is a drop-in 'Community Event' on the 28th April in Chapmanslade Church, between 3.30pm and 8pm, at which the developer will be on hand to make his case. There is well formed and strong minded protest group leading the objections and the community event is your chance to express your own strong personal views directly. The more people that turn up, the better are the chances of the development being stopped. You can see the pre-planning information on the Bridge website. Personally, and unfortunately, I have a pre-booked holiday on that date, but the PC has promised to be at the event *en masse* and I will be writing to the developer to challenge a few key points in their pre-planning information.

I hope Easter was good to you – the traffic-free silence in Lane End was bliss!

Neil Britten  
Chairman, Corsley Parish Council  
[neil.britten@btinternet.com](mailto:neil.britten@btinternet.com)



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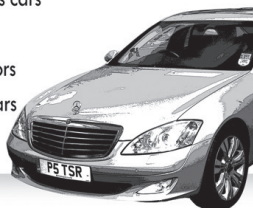
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# Choir and piano notes



A glorious concert, performed by the Corsley Festival Choir, is a treat in store on Sunday 11th May at Corsley's St Margaret's Church.

Through wind and flood over the winter months, the choir members have been meeting on a Monday night to hone their German accents for the Buxtehude *Cantata* and evoke the sweet power of the much-loved Fauré *Requiem*.

Spring has arrived and the choir, conducted by Stephen Smith and joined by the Corsley Festival Orchestra, dazzling young soloists and legendary organist, Gerry Hoddinott, are ready to perform.

Corsley choristers have been singing their hearts out for around 30 years. The choir has attracted singers from further afield but does not forget that it has its roots in Corsley and Chapmanslade, for people in our villages who treasure the chance to regularly sing with gusto.

Do support the choir by coming along to the concert and do think about joining the choir when it re-starts in September after a summer break, in preparation for a Christmas concert (Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus* will be part of the programme) – no auditions required. You could come along to check us out when rehearsals re-start on Monday 1st September.

For concert tickets, or more information about the choir, please contact me on 01373 832418. More information about the concert can be found on page 27.

Jenny Ruty – Choir member

## Piano Exam Successes

The following pupils of Debbie Rickhuss at Temple, Corsley have been successful in achieving exams set by The Associated Board of The Royal Schools of Music.

### Georgia Lawrence

Grade 5 theory with Merit

### Faith Bennett

Grade 1 practical

### Libby Robinson

Grade 1 practical with Merit

### Naomi Watson

Grade 2 practical

### Bella Wolsey

Grade 2 practical

### Maggie Thackway

Grade 4 practical

### Edmund Burgess

Grade 4 practical with Merit

### Harriet Henley

Prep Test

### Lucas Crabbe

Prep Test

Many congratulations to you all – well deserved!

Debbie Rickhuss

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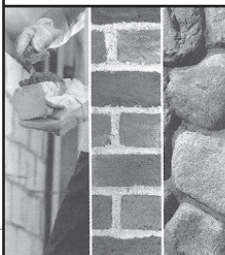
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# Three Open Doors

## These changing times

In the dim and distant past Sunday was the day reserved for going to church. Shops were definitely closed and there was very little, if any, sports activity. As the law has changed over time shops are now open on Sundays, even the suggestion that shops should open for 'normal' hours on a Sunday.

This means that the opportunities for worship have to evolve to reflect these changes. We are challenged to find a way of bringing young people and their families into the church family. A new initiative is 'Messy Church'. This can take place at any time and in any location. The format is to have some activities for all the family to enjoy, followed by a short informal act of worship. The session is rounded off by everyone enjoying refreshments together. We held our first 'Messy Church' at Chapmanslade School on April 6th and it was a great success with thirty people enjoying themselves. The Easter biscuits were very much appreciated!

Another way of working with young people is to develop the link with our school in Chapmanslade. A recent development is the 'Open the Book' initiative where Bible stories are presented in a child-friendly manner and a small team present using a short dramatisation of the story. We shall be visiting our school assemblies in the coming months to present well loved Bible stories from 'Open the Book'.

This demonstrates that we must adapt and change to reflect the realities of the world we live in today.

The Parish Team

# **May Church Diary**

## **Sunday 4th May: Third Sunday of Easter**

**9.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley**

**Eucharist**

Following the main service there will be an opportunity for private prayer with our Pastoral team if anyone wishes.



## **Sunday 11th May: Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**9.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade**

**Patronal Festival**

**Family Eucharist**

**11am at St Mary's, Temple**

**Matins**



## **Thursday 15th May**

**10am to 12pm at the Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade**  
**Church and Community Coffee Morning**



## **Saturday 17th May**

**2.30pm at Chapmanslade Village Hall**

### **May Fayre and Table-Top Sale**

Stalls will include plants, cakes and other produce, and gifts for the raffle.

If you can help us by donating items for our stalls  
please contact Stella on 01373 832230.

If you want to book a table to sell your own goods  
please contact Judith on 01373 832803.

We will be holding our first draw of our church 50/50 Club and if you want to join to have a chance of winning a prize, prizes are from £25 to £200, then contact Neil on 01373 832515.

We will also be collecting toys for Syrian refugee children in Jordan.

There will be coffee, teas, cakes and hot dogs available.



**Sunday 18th May: Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
9.30am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade  
Family Eucharist



**Sunday 25th May: Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
10.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley  
Rogation Sunday Service with Eucharist



**Wednesday 28th May**  
From 12.30pm to 1.30pm at Corsley Reading Rooms  
Light Bites Bread and Soup Lunch



**Thursday 29th May: Ascension Day**  
8.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley  
Ascension Day Service and breakfast



**Sunday 1st June: Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
9.30am at St Margaret's, Corsley  
Eucharist

3.30pm to 5.30pm at Chapmanslade School  
'Messy Church'  
Open to all families with younger members

Copy for 3 Open Doors should be sent to Keith Muston at  
[themustons@btinternet.com](mailto:themustons@btinternet.com) subject 3ODs or phone 01373 832755.

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

Associate Priest	Rev Di Britten (day off is Friday)	01373 832515
Parish Office	Dick Collins (Cley Hill Villages Benefice)	01985 215460
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Richard Dean	01373 832594
	Barbara Hughes	01373 832273
	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
Churchwarden	Charles Thackway	01373 832048
Deputy Churchwarden	St Philip & St James – Janet Aylesbury	01373 832752
Deputy Churchwarden	St Margaret's – Judith Helliard	01373 832803
Deputy Churchwarden	St Mary's – Harcourt Gough	01373 832039
PCC Secretary	Phil Jefferson	01373 832845
PCC Minute Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
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Choir Leaders	Marion Muston	01373 832755
	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
Tower Captain	Dick Collins	01373 832789
50/50 Club	Neil Britten	01373 832515
Electoral Roll	Michael Taylor	01373 832566

## Lent Activities

We have enjoyed some wonderful talks this Lent. First we went to the Fairfield Farm and were inspired by the work they are doing for young people from all over the UK in the age range 16 to 19 years. We then had two talks from the Warminster Foodbank and from the Warminster Street pastors. These talks were excellent and the overall theme of "Christians on the Frontline" was very apt. We are hoping to provide more help to both these excellent causes. We also held three Lent soup lunches and the donations from these three lunches has raised £500 for the Bishop's appeal for South Sudan. Thanks to everyone for their support of all these activities.

## Home Visits

If anyone would like a home visit, for whatever reason, please contact any of our Lay Pastoral Assistant team as shown below. This team is working actively in our Parish to provide pastoral help to anyone who requests it.

## Church Events for your diary

**Saturday 28th June at Corsley Reading Rooms**

'New to You' sale of children's and adults' clothes at Corsley Reading Rooms.

**Bank Holiday Monday 25th August**

Corsley Show. The theme of our stand this year will be the 'Garden Party'.



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# Corsley WI

## April News



At our first evening meeting of 2014, the President, Carol Seward, warmly welcomed members and visitors for a talk by Michael Thorpe, a retired local vet.

Michael was born in London and after many years of veterinary training his first job was with Addis & Ward in Newbury. Michael had many hilarious stories to tell about his life as a newly qualified practitioner and the problems he had with both Mr Addis and Mr Ward giving him conflicting instructions! After leaving there, he joined Stevens & Stevens in Frome, which later became known as Garston Veterinary Group. As a vet, he was on call for 24 hours a day dealing with all kinds of animals from dogs to ostriches and found himself in some very unexpected and even compromising situations on occasion! We were all greatly entertained by Michael's tales and Di Dowling gave the vote of thanks.

The Wiltshire Federation has organized some more events and members were urged to put their names down on the lists if they wished to attend. If you wish to join us for our own outing to Highclere Castle, there are only a few places left on the coach so please book your seat now by phoning Carol on 01373 832446.

The skittles team has made it through to the league quarterfinals and hope that they can successfully defend their winner's title this year. The scrabble team has one more match to play in their challenge to reach the finals.

The annual draw for a bursary for the cost of a weekend course at Denman College was made and the winner this year is Mary Purchase. The competition for a photo of an animal was won by Amanda Bain, with Edna Ferrier second and Pat Siderfin third.

The next meeting will be on **8th May at 7.30pm** when Sandy Parrish will show us how to make Canapes, which we will then sample. We shall also be discussing the subject of encouraging organ donation, which is the WI Resolution to be proposed at the 2014 Annual General Meeting. The competition for members is for a serving dish.

New members to our WI would be most welcome. For further details please contact Carol on 01373 832446 or come to any WI meeting in Corsley Reading Room.

### **Non-members are very welcome to join us for the following activities:**

Coffee Morning	First Tuesday each month, 10-12noon, Corsley Reading Room
Gardening Club	Third Wednesday each month, venues as per programme
Bridge Club	First and third Tuesdays each month, 2-4pm, Corsley Reading Room
More details on the Gardening Club and Bridge Club from Pauline on 01985 215760	

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# Top tips for tatties

The first the thing you should know about growing potatoes is that you can grow them anywhere!

It's fairly common knowledge that potatoes strip the ground of nutrients and so you cannot grow them in the same place two years running, but now there's an alternative – potato grow bags are the answer! Whether you're short on space or just looking to give growing spuds a go, grow bags are for you.

Special potato tubs can have real benefits with their easy access side pockets to reach in and get your potatoes out, or you can simply buy a bag of compost, cut holes in it to place seed potatoes at different levels and you will always end up with a good crop.



When you choose your seed potatoes make sure they are firm, with no mould or splits. Make sure you know whether you've chosen early or main crop potatoes as they have different harvesting dates. I recommend using Rocket as an early crop and Maris Piper as a main crop.

Once you get them home, lay your seed potatoes out in empty egg boxes or in a crate with plenty of light to encourage good strong healthy shoots to appear on the potatoes. This process is called 'chitting' and should be done approximately 4 weeks before planting into your bags.

If using potato tubs, fill the bottom of the tub so it is in line with the first access pocket then lay some potatoes in, with the shoots upwards, cover them and leave the shoots to grow through. Once the plant has started to form a good stem and leaves above the compost level, fill the tub with more compost until you can only see the top leaves of the plant, repeat regularly until the bag is full. If using a

bag of compost to grow your potatoes, stand the bag on its end and cut the top and roll it down, put drainage holes in the bottom and place 5 tubers in the bottom third of the bag. When they are ready, simply cut the bag open.

Keep an eye out for blight and treat as soon as signs appear to avoid damage to your crop. Blight appears as black spots on the leaves particularly on the underside. This can spread to the stem and eventually the potato tubers if not treated early. Bordeaux Mixture, a mixture of copper sulphate and hydrated lime, is available as a wettable powder, for use as a spray or a dust on both potatoes and tomatoes.

So deal with the mud today and reap a good home grown spud tomorrow!

*Rob White*  
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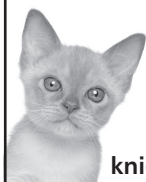
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**It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good**

# Wind turbine proposal

Most people will know by now that a massive wind turbine is proposed 600 metres opposite Barters Plant Centre, Chapmanslade

Many local residents are appalled at the prospect of an industrial wind turbine, with all its associated roads, electric substation, etc., being built on agricultural land so close to their homes. If it goes ahead, it will spoil the views of the countryside, and especially Cley Hill, for miles around. The height of the proposed wind turbine is 87 metres, which is the equivalent of five mature oak trees one on top of the other. There are many other ways in which wind turbines blight residential areas, not least the intrusive noise caused by the blades, which can be heard over a mile away, and the negative impact on house values.

A local action group has been formed to oppose this proposal. We have called ourselves the STOP THOULSTONE FARM WIND TURBINE ACTION GROUP. In just three weeks we have over 200 concerned residents supporting us, and, as the word spreads, we hope for many more. We want to make it clear that we are supportive of renewable energy, and clean air, but we are discovering that there are many myths and misconceptions about wind turbines, which makes them a most environmentally unfriendly option. Wind turbines are big business and the wind turbine manufacturers and developers have excellent public relations which misleads many well-intentioned individuals. To provide some balance therefore, we have decided to

submit an article each month to The Bridge which demonstrates one of the aspects of the case against wind turbines, and why there are better alternatives. The first of these articles is set out below.

## **Wind turbines contribute to fuel poverty**

Wind Turbines are almost entirely subsidised by a complex yet hidden regime of feed-in tariffs, tax cuts and preferential tax credits which is passed on to customers through higher electricity bills, driving an estimated 50,000 of the nation's most disadvantaged population into fuel poverty each year. The cost to consumers of the Renewables Obligation Scheme, as it is known, has risen from £278 million per year in 2002 to more than £1 billion per year in 2011, a total growth of £7 billion over nine years. Meeting Britain's target for renewable energy by 2020 would require a total investment of some £120 billion in wind turbines and back up. The same amount of electricity could be generated by gas-fired power plants that would only cost £13 billion. In a time of economic austerity this almost defies belief – especially when most of the vast profits will go into the pockets of land owners and developers.

The total consumer bill for wind subsidies by 2030 is estimated to amount to a

staggering £130 billion. A recent analysis of UK wind farms revealed that a dozen of the biggest landowners will between them receive almost £850 million in subsidies, a huge amount of funding that will be paid by ordinary families through hidden taxes on their household electricity bills.

Next month, we will explain why wind turbines are neither green nor carbon friendly!

For further information please visit the website [www.stopthoulstonefarmwindturbine.co.uk](http://www.stopthoulstonefarmwindturbine.co.uk)

*The Stop Thoulstone Farm Wind Turbine  
Action Group*



## News from the Nest

Welcome to this month's feature of 'News from the Nest' from **Little Cuckoo's Pre-School** in Lyes Green, Corsley.

The children had lots of fun creating special treats for Easter and enjoyed being able to spend more time playing and learning outside.

During April's "Stay and Play" session, the children and family members/carers planted potatoes, beans, mustard and cress and sweetpeas - the children will be able to watch them grow in our new greenhouse.

In the Easter holidays we held a work party which was well attended and we managed to re-felt sheds, paint our wooden train and generally have a good tidy up outside before the children returned.

On Good Friday the Easter Egg Hunt was very well attended as many people clambered to complete the Easter quiz and in return received an Easter egg. They were then treated to a selection of stalls including face painting, bunny mask decorating, scratch art, raffle, the chopstick challenge and our wonderful cake stall.

We were delighted that our Trustees John Helliard and Chris Da Costa were able to judge our children's and adults best decorated cake competitions and help draw the raffle.

After a wonderful afternoon we hope to have raised lots of essential funds for Little Cuckoos and would like to thank all our supporters.

Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9am - 3pm

Mother and toddler group: Tuesday 10am - 11.30am

For more information, please contact Hayley on 01373 832298

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

**Chapmanslade Parish Council**

# Parish Council Briefing

Phil Jefferson reports on the April meeting of Chapmanslade Parish Council, the Chapmanslade Annual Parish Meeting, and on other parish matters

We had an excellent attendance at our April parish council meeting and at the parish annual meeting that followed it. Many thanks to everyone who came along. We were pleased that Fleur de Rhe Philipe, our Wiltshire Councillor, was able to be with us for the two meetings.

## **Parish Council**

**Planning.** One application had been received since the last meeting, concerning plans to alter and extend The Old Mill in Mill Lane, and to build a garage. Councillors raised no objection to this application. At the time of writing we are waiting to learn whether the Southcroft application considered at our last meeting has been turned down by the planning officers. If they recommend approval Fleur has confirmed that the application will be considered at a planning sub-committee meeting, which will give the Parish Council and residents the opportunity to make representations to elected members before a decision is reached.

**Footpaths.** Wiltshire Council has published proposals to divert the footpath that passes through the garden of Dye House Farm. We had looked at the proposed route at an earlier meeting and raised no objections.

**Highways matters.** Fleur confirmed that Wiltshire Council intends to introduce an

18 tonne weight limit through the village, replacing the currently unenforceable 17 tonne limit. In the longer term a 7.5 tonne limit will be adopted, but this depends on improvements being made to the A350/A303 junction in South Wiltshire. We urged Fleur to persuade Wiltshire to liaise with Somerset Highways and the Highways Agency when the 18 tonne limit comes into force so that the limit can be adequately signed – and, hopefully, enforced.

**Proposed Wind Turbine.** The wind turbine proposal, which we had first looked at in March, was discussed briefly. Again, like last month, councillors and members of the public raised differing points of view. By the time you read this you will have had the opportunity to find out for yourself about the proposal by visiting the consultation event in the village. The parish council has purposefully kept a neutral stance until it finds out what your views are. So, we invite you to come along to our May meeting, Thursday 15th May, 7.30 pm at the school, to tell us your views and we will then make up our minds about whether or not we are in favour of the proposal. This is one of the biggest issues we have had to deal with for a number of years and we need to get it right on your behalf. Please contact me, or Minnie our clerk (at [julian\\_house@o2.co.uk](mailto:julian_house@o2.co.uk)), if you are unable to attend the meeting but wish to share your views with us.

## Annual Parish Meeting

**Thoulstone Park.** James Hughes-Hallett, the owner of Thoulstone Park, gave a progress report on his plans for an 'eco-sustainable development', which he described as being "a catalyst for changing the way we live by developing a sustainable place which is in harmony with its environment". He added that his vision is "to link together economic, social and environmental sustainability values in the form of a mixed-use, holistically integrated, live-work community that is a culturally enriching location". He listed some of the features he hopes to introduce, including woodlands (large numbers of trees have already been planted) parklands, organic market gardening, gastronomy, commerce, buildings of artistic and architectural significance, leisure facilities and recreational activities. A ten-hole golf course is also being planned.

It is intended that the park will host a number of events throughout the year; the first one – for 500 people – is planned for three days in August. Mr Hughes-Hallett's plans include the creation of a significant number of employment opportunities and the provision of up to 40 houses, which is perhaps the most controversial part of his vision for the site. In due course we will discover whether or not this meets with the planning authority's approval. We will keep you in touch with developments and you can find out more at [www.thoulstonepark.co.uk](http://www.thoulstonepark.co.uk).

**Annual Report.** It is the duty of the parish council to report annually to the parish about its work. This year's report was a long one, after a busy and eventful twelve months. Topics raised included last year's Sunrise Festival (this year the venue has moved to Wales), the Barter's Farm housing proposals, the proposals for Thoulstone Park, a number of controversial planning

applications, speedwatch, neighbourhood watch, the possibility of mains gas in the village, public footpaths and highways maintenance. You can read the report, which is posted on the village website – [www.chapmanslade.org.uk](http://www.chapmanslade.org.uk). There's certainly plenty going on in our parish!

**And finally (1)** You may not have noticed that the village shop in Dilton Marsh has recently re-opened and later this month its post office is due to re-open, too. If you are in Dilton Marsh, why not visit the farm shop and café at Fairfield Farm College, where young people with learning disabilities are given training to prepare them to be able to live independent lives? It's well worth a visit.

**And finally (2)** Wiltshire Council is keen to provide each town with a 'campus', with the aim of bringing together a number of services and facilities together to provide fit for purpose, flexible spaces, accessible to everyone in the community. A campus is described as a collection of buildings within a community where the public can access local services, delivered by Wiltshire Council and Wiltshire Police, together with other public sector, voluntary and community groups. The idea behind campuses is to ensure people have better access to improved services that meet local needs. Wiltshire Council also believes this would also allow them to help reduce the amount of money it spends on property through better use of its buildings. Consultation on whether Warminster should have a campus, and what facilities it might contain, is currently being carried out. You can participate in the consultation by visiting <http://warminster.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk/warminster-campus>. The closing date for responses is 16th May.

*Phil Jefferson*  
[phil.jefferson@virgin.net](mailto:phil.jefferson@virgin.net)  
01373 832845

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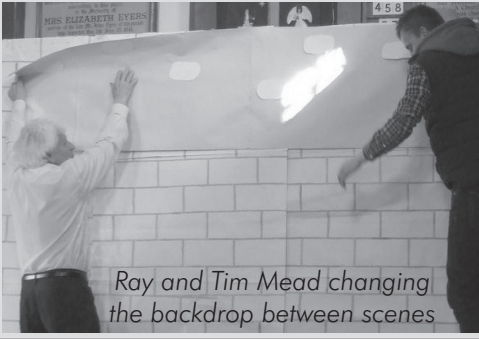
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# Whitbourne Chapel

## *Hosanna!*

Were you among the audience for our play, 'Your King comes to you...' on Palm Sunday? Enacting this particular day in the life of Jesus, and his triumphant entry into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey, gave us all plenty to think about. For me, the most telling part of the play was the fickleness of the crowds who, a few days later, were shouting "Crucify Him".



*Ray and Tim Mead changing the backdrop between scenes*

The Cross, the death of Jesus Christ, provides the template for our cenotaphs, monuments and tablets. Firstly, "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends," said Jesus, who also said that He laid down His own life "for the sheep". Secondly, Jesus decided to travel in a definite direction. There was no other way. Thirdly, in Christ, God touches our humanity. He dies our death, enabling us to live His life. His death was not made futile by 'friendly fire' or the desire to gain a few hundred yards of mud at the cost of thousands of lives. So, in this centenary year of the First World War, let's pay attention to the meaning of the Cross. 'Lest we forget'.

*Reverend Keith Sobey*

### **Quiz – Women of the New Testament**

- 1 Who was the mother of John the Baptist ? *Luke 1.13*
- 2 This woman greeted the infant Jesus in the temple. *Luke 2.36*
- 3 What was the name of Timothy's grandmother ? *2 Tim. 1.5*

### **Descriptions of Jesus**

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*John 15: 5*

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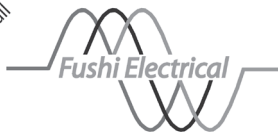
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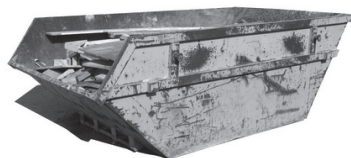
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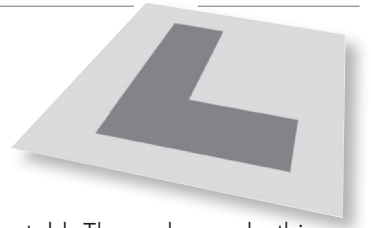
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# Tales from the passenger seat



The other day I had five pupils in a row who all suffered from an appalling inability to concentrate for a reasonable length of time. Not (sadly) unusual in itself, but staying focussed and retaining a reasonable level of concentration whilst driving is pretty essential, especially when a pupil hasn't yet acquired muscle memory to assist in controlling a car. 30 years ago, if I had a pupil who did not concentrate, or who easily got tired, or who would literally forget they were driving (worrying eh?), they would have been the exception. From about 15 years ago, with increasing tendency, this inability to maintain focus on the matter in hand has noticeably become more common. I find myself having to say "concentrate, wake up, pay attention, you're away with the fairies, stop day-dreaming" and so on, far more than I ever used to.

I don't believe it has anything to do with intelligence; the baseline intelligence of people cannot have changed for better or worse within a generation, and anyway, intelligence is not a direct indicator of whether a person will make a good driver. Adam was a top grade maths student and had taken his maths A level privately two years earlier than his contemporaries. Yet in order to drive, Adam was perfectly serious when asking me as he approached various corners "How many degrees round is this corner Steve, so I know how many degrees to turn the wheel...?"

Olive was studying to be a barrister, yet would only be able to know what to do if she had experienced the situation before,

and had been told. Thus, when a dustbin lorry reversed from a side road and I had to tell her to stop and to allow room for it to continue reversing in order to straighten up, she was happy that if the same thing happened again, she would know what to do. Initiative and independent thinking were neither Adam's nor Olive's strength. Both passed, but found learning hard.

So, what has changed over the last 15 years or so? I have a private theory! Sugar apparently has the effect of reducing levels of concentration, and affects the attention span of the brain. We have very high levels of sugar in refined and processed foods, and this trend seems to be increasing, albeit we are recently becoming more aware and alert to such things. So firstly, is diet a contributory factor?

Secondly, many younger people are playing computer games, which have an almost immediate mental gratification, whilst also requiring little long term concentration or attention, since the game moves on rapidly to another scene, or ends with a life lost. Short bursts of high activity seems to be the usual game. The games played 30 years ago tended to be slower, longer, more thoughtful perhaps. To make something out of bricks, or to assemble a plastic model took longer and a different style of thought.

So I wonder, in all seriousness, whether a combination of these two factors might be contributing to what I have directly observed?

*Steve Dayman-Johns*

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

# Countryside Matters

How lovely our countryside looks, feels and sounds in May! Everything is bursting with fresh growth, the hedgerows are turning green, creating a colourful boundary to the fields, where birds can feed, hide from predators, and build their nests as homes for the next generation.

Most of the migratory birds that breed here have arrived by now, although most Spotted Flycatchers don't join us until mid-May. It is wonderful to see the Swallows back, flying around the farm buildings; although the number of Cuckoos is continuing to decline.

Our hedges also give shelter to both farm animals and our native mammals from the sun, wind and rain. Bees and other pollinating insect are busy in the fields and hedgerows. So many ladybirds have survived the winter and are now enjoying all those aphids.

Love it or hate it, oil seed rape has certainly brought colour into the countryside. Take a walk in our woodlands in early morning or evening to experience the colour and smell of the bluebells; spirits are lifted as we enjoy the beauty that surrounds us.

Farm animals are now enjoying grazing the spring grass, and so their winter quarters (covered yards and barns) are quickly cleaned out and the manure spread on the field as a natural fertiliser. Dirty water (or slurry) is spread over the land, which is then ploughed and worked-down to a good tilth to grow maize.

During May the first cut of silage will be taken. The grass is mown, allowed to dry

for 24 hours then picked up by the forage harvester, fed into trailers and taken back to the farm. Here it is put into a clamp, rolled to remove as much air as possible, then covered with thick plastic sheeting and weighted down. This is the start of preparations to feed stock with as much home-produced natural food as possible for next winter.

Sadly our lives here in Corsley have been somewhat disrupted by the closure of one of the main artery roads leading into Longleat; this is where the road has collapsed due to badger excavations over the years. People living in the area trying to get to work, school or to carry out their businesses, such as the caravan and safari parks, farming and essential services such fire, ambulance and home care for sick and elderly are finding detours time-consuming and expensive in fuel. It is certainly extremely frustrating for those who rely on the use of this road for their livelihood. As someone involved with caring for animals (domestic, farm and wildlife) all my life, I hope that a solution will soon prevail when human lives and livelihoods are considered a little more important than those of an animal that is no longer an endangered species.

*Judith Helliar*  
01373 832803



# Indecision

**Caroline Le Vine**  
**Psychotherapist and Counsellor in Corsley**

There's something you want to change or something new you want to try but, as well as good reasons to go for it, there are reasons to hold back. So you do the jig of indecision: back and forth, in and out, certain then uncertain, then sure again.

Weighing up the options is clearly a good idea – that way you make a considered and informed decision. But, when you get stuck in hesitation, you're in limbo: what if this? What if that?

I was in this very state recently. You may know that I've been working in London as well as in Corsley – a small practice I set up late last year. It wasn't working out as I'd hoped and I was exhausted with the travelling. I wanted to close my London practice and focus on the one here while gaining more time for myself into the bargain. But I had a duty to my clients – how could I deal with this sensitively and professionally? Would my plans effectively to abandon them cause them pain or even harm? And should I hold out and see if my feelings changed? Maybe I just needed a break? I was doing the jig.

In the end, I chose to trust my instinct and make the change as sensitively as I could. Still dreading the potential effect on my clients, I prepared myself for the discussions I had to have with them during which we would work through their feelings and come to a negotiated plan for ending their work with me. It would be hard: I knew I'd have to wait – possibly for months – for the clients to be ready before I could satisfy my own desires and it was entirely possible that they would have many difficult responses to my abandonment of them. That's a lot to face.

But, guess what? Less than a week after I'd made my decision, I had no more London

appointments in my diary! Without my having said a word, my clients had made their own decisions – either to finish because they'd done what they needed to for now or to have an indeterminate break.

I was reminded then of a quotation by Goethe a friend once gave me which includes the lines...

*The moment that one definitely commits oneself*

*Then Providence moves too...*

*...Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it.*

*Boldness has genius, power and magic in it.*

I practise at St Margaret's Church, Deep Lane, Corsley. The first half hour meeting with me is free of charge.

[www.carolinelevine.co.uk](http://www.carolinelevine.co.uk)

07817 192008

[le\\_vine@sky.com](mailto:le_vine@sky.com)

## Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Mozart
- 2 Malachi
- 3 Stone
- 4 Psycho
- 5 Two (J and X)
- 6 Oklahoma
- 7 Patrick Troughton
- 8 Antiques and Prices
- 9 Turkey that lived on the hill
- 10 Toad
- 11 Mr Bean
- 12 'Meat', and 'Poison'

# Small ads

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