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May 2020

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



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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 or by hand (legible handwriting please!) and take them to the drop-off locations at Barbers Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley by the deadline.

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

File types

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

Advertising

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

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

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

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

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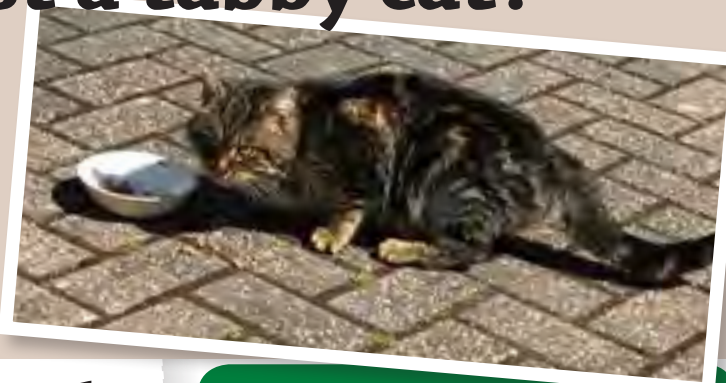
Deadline

**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**

Lost a tabby cat?

If you have lost a tabby cat, please telephone Sheila Coombes on 01373 839068. She is waiting to return it to its rightful owner!



Thank you!

Dear Coronavirus Action Group and the Parish Council

I want to 'thank you' from the bottom of my heart for the wonderful surprise box of groceries/flowers delivered to me recently. I was overwhelmed and greatly appreciate your kindness and thinking of me. I have been enjoying the contents of my 'special box' very much.

Please all of you 'stay safe and well' and God bless you all.

Love Jill
(Gillian Wrintmore)
Chapmanslade

Barters Plant Centre

Following the Government's advice we closed the Plant Centre on 23rd March for all the right reasons. We are busy keeping all the plants alive and in good condition and look forward to opening in the near future.

Lagh and Diana Walker

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

Renewing your garden waste collection

Wiltshire Council would normally be contacting you at this time of year about renewing your subscription for the chargeable garden waste collection service. Due to the pressure on the council's services because of coronavirus (COVID-19), the decision has been taken that this process should be delayed. The subscription renewal period will now not commence until

15th June this year.

Collections of garden waste will continue, provided the council's contractor has sufficient staff to maintain service delivery given the risk of absence as some staff have to self-isolate.

Band of Bells

Campanology news

Tower Captain, Maz Molden, has the latest news from the top of the tower

Hello Everyone. Sadly at present our bells are silent but we are making sure to wind the clock which at least hourly will remind you that one day you will hear us again. Believe me, when we get back to ringing you will get very fed-up with us. We are all suffering withdrawal symptoms, big time!

Although we are not active at the moment I have recently managed to obtain two quotations from painters and decorators willing to paint our ringing chamber which I have submitted to the Archdeacon for permission to proceed. Once this is received it will be all systems go as soon as it is allowed.

We are also learning a new method to ring and anticipate great hilarity when we try to ring this, none of us having rung it before. Normally a band only has one learner so that the person who is learning has strong people around them to keep things on the straight and narrow. I expect, with a band of all learners, the path may be very wiggly indeed!

Great excitement this Saturday! A member of the Branch has written a programme which can be used to run a virtual ringing practice via Zoom. I am going to try and join in although without a webcam or microphone this might all go very pear-shaped!

I, for one, will be really pleased when things get back to normal. At the moment the only thing which is telling me what day of the week we are at is checking with the calendar which day any particular rubbish collection is made. Even then I have to remind myself which



week in the year we are at. When the clocks went forward it was only a mention on the radio which stopped me putting them back so I was even in danger of not knowing which season of the year we were in!

We are also managing to fly the flag at the correct times and one of our ringers walked from Frome to the church on the Wednesday after Easter as her exercise and took the photograph above.

The band all trust that you are keeping well and making the most of the good weather to do all those little job which normal life, thankfully, doesn't allow time for! Speak to you soon I hope!

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Bob's bafflers

- 1 A marron glacé is a confection consisting of what candied in sugar and glazed?
- 2 The 'King of the Mountains' in the Tour de France wears what colour jersey?
- 3 Who wrote the classic novel 'The Lord of the Flies'?
- 4 What are Queen Elizabeth II's two middle names?
- 5 Which musical features the Cole Porter written song 'Who wants to be a Millionaire'?
- 6 What is a dotterel?
- 7 J P Richardson died in the same plane crash as Buddy Holly. By what name did the music world know him when he sang 'Chantilly Lace'?
- 8 And... what was Buddy Holly's real first name?
- 9 Paris has two main airports. Charles de Gaulle (CDG) is one, what is the other?
- 10 Christiania was the capital of which European country until 1925?
- 11 What was the name of Fanny Cradock's husband who presented cookery programmes with her from 1956 to 1975 on the BBC?
- 12 Of whom did Adolf Hitler say, "He seemed such a nice old gentleman that I gave him my autograph as a souvenir"?

Answers on page 52

Corsley Parish Council

In line with government advice, Corsley Parish Council will not be holding physical meetings for the foreseeable future. Instead, when the need arises, the Parish Council will be holding 'online' meetings with the views of parish councillors being canvassed by email and/or telephone.

Planning application

20/02319/LBC

Re-connection of doorway between house and cottage at Corsley House, Deep Lane, Corsley

More details and plans are available to view on the Wiltshire Council website at:
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If any resident of the Parish has any comments on this application they wish to make the Parish Clerk by 4th May
e. corsleypc_jdw@aol.com
t. 01373 832171

Food Box Scheme

What are the food boxes?

For some people, the economic impacts of coronavirus have been serious. Currently, almost 1 in 3 of us have become unemployed or furloughed as a result of coronavirus, and the loss of income that some of us are facing means that the thought of putting food on the table has become a stressful one. Nobody should have to worry about where their next meal comes from, so members of the local community have pulled together to fund a food box scheme. Through this scheme, we have the capacity to provide basic food and household goods to anyone who needs them. We are encouraging anyone who needs support to get in touch so that we can provide access to essential food and household items, and you will stay anonymous.

How do I receive a box?

The first thing you need to do is contact us!

You can access the sign-up form for the food box scheme by following the link below:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CG9BzG2fomPRyqnL6Lxt08CoA7BMyTz3EPSNM6YP828/viewform?edit_requested=true

or you can contact one of the numbers belonging to our COV-AG volunteers listed below

Alternatively, you can find the link to the sign-up form via the Chapmanslade village Facebook page or the village website (chapmanslade.org.uk). After we have received your application, we will put together your box of supplies and one of our small team of volunteers will then arrange to deliver the box to your door.

What would I get in my box?

Our aim is to provide the essentials. A typical box will contain toilet roll, milk, pasta, pasta sauce, soup, bread, veggies, and fruit.

Who can apply?

The food box scheme is open to applications from anybody and everybody within the local community who is struggling financially. It is completely anonymous and confidential, so any applications stay between you and a small group of volunteers.

How many boxes can I receive?

We are prepared to provide as many boxes as you need throughout the lockdown period and beyond. This means that we can deliver a one-off box or make regular deliveries – whichever suits your situation. Access to the food boxes will continue throughout the near future and we are ready to take new applications at any time.

Main contact

Alternative contacts

Charlene Ridler 07964 880841

Ian Buick 07967 639306

Louise Bell 07773 431213

Amelia Suter 07730 007887



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Science: changing the world

Can we mimic the origin of life?

How life originated on earth is one of the major philosophical questions that has puzzled scientists for years. In October 2019 a major step forward was reported.

How life originated in all its biochemical complexity is a fascinating and difficult subject. The scientific argument is that there was some “primordial soup” that consisted of a number of simple chemicals that reacted to produce the first molecules required by all living organisms.

The simplest compounds to produce were the amino acids, from which proteins are built. In 1952 two Americans, Stanley Miller and Harold Urey mixed water, methane, ammonia and hydrogen in a sealed flask, which was heated, and electrical sparks were fired through the mixture to simulate lightning. A schematic of their apparatus is shown in the figure. After a week of the experiment, they succeeded in identifying 5 amino acids in the mixture. Sealed vials from the experiment have been preserved and in 2007 scientists, using the more sensitive analytical methods now available, identified over 20 different amino acids in the mixture.

However, one of the characteristics of life is that it can reproduce, so a question remains of how the genetic information can be formed and transmitted. This is not through amino acids or proteins, but in the vast majority of organisms it is through DNA, in which the genes are encoded. However, a related molecule known as RNA is the genetic material in some viruses (including the new coronavirus!). This has four components, referred to as U, C, A and G, aligned as a long linear molecule encoding the genetic information.

The Miller-Urey experiment demonstrated

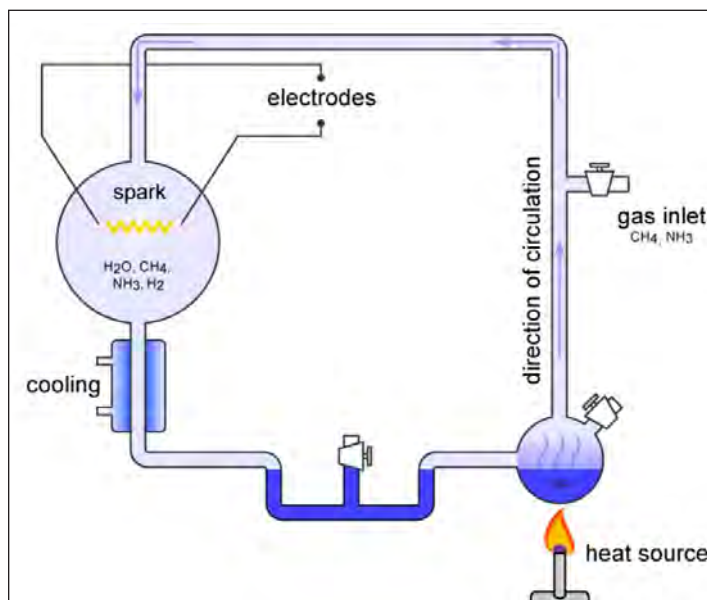


Image under Creative Commons, courtesy of Carry at Hebrew Wikipedia

that simple organic molecules (the amino acids) could be synthesised from simple inorganic compounds. In 2015 John Sutherland in the UK showed that some of the building blocks of RNA could be made from the simple compounds hydrogen cyanide and hydrogen sulphide under UV light. However, not all four building blocks could be made under the same conditions.

The difficulty was that no-one was sure of the conditions on earth at the time of the primordial soup. Last October, Thomas Carell in the US reported success in making all four components - U, C, A and G - by cycling simple chemicals through different conditions: wet and dry, hot and cold, and acidic and basic. These reactions may be those that allowed the genetic mechanisms to be developed and gave rise to life as we know it. Not only that, but we now know that some RNA molecules can act as enzymes – a job now mainly done by proteins. So showing that all four RNA components can be made is a significant development in studying possible mechanisms for the origin of life. There still remains the singular problem of how the many different molecules required for life came together and interacted in a package surrounded by a membrane, that we know as a cell.

However, some scientists point out that the work on amino acids and RNA is based on hindsight, and life may not have evolved that way at all, but by an entirely different mechanism. Other individuals believe that life did not originate on earth at all but was brought here on an asteroid. All that does is push the question of the origin of life to another planet, maybe – to quote Star Wars – “a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away”!

Nigel Brown is happy to receive comments, questions and, particularly, suggestions for future articles at nigelsbrown48@gmail.com.

Gratitude

A group of geography students studied the Seven Wonders of the World. At the end of the section, the students were asked to list what they considered to be the Seven Wonders of the World. Though there was some disagreement, the following had the most votes:

1. Great Pyramid of Giza
2. Taj Mahal
3. Grand Canyon
4. Panama Canal
5. Empire State Building
6. St Peter's Basilica
7. The Great Wall of China

Whilst gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student hadn't turned in her paper. She asked the student if she was having trouble with her list. The student replied, “Yes, a little. I couldn't make up my mind because there are so many.” The teacher said, “Well, tell us what you have and maybe we can help.” The student hesitated, then read, “I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:

1. to touch
 2. to taste
 3. to see
 4. to hear
- She hesitated a little and then added:
5. to run
 6. to laugh
 7. to love”

It's very easy for us to look at the exploits of man and refer to them as ‘wonders’ whilst we overlook all God has done, regarding it as merely ‘ordinary’.

May you be reminded today of those things which are truly wondrous.

Reverend Gay Maynard

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Corsley community

Covid-19 response update

Rupert Tolson reports on the rapid response of the community to the coronavirus outbreak

In the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic a small group of concerned Corsley residents agreed the need to have a support group in case fears of lockdowns and restrictions were realised. The group felt that providing an essential food and prescription collection service and a phone 'help line' would be useful for those isolating or in some way vulnerable or worried.

John and Jo Hume offered storage and the phone number at the Cross Keys and the group drew up a list of essential supplies and printed flyers which were dropped at every home in Corsley and the surrounding area. To securely manage volunteers and orders they set up the Corsley Support Hub WhatsApp group, posted updates on Facebook and other social media and created an online sign-up and information site. For those not online they used the Women's Institute and other groups to spread the word.

As the COVID-19 impacts grew and the whole country was placed in lockdown, the use of the service grew rapidly. The group agreed a set of principles to safeguard the health of volunteers and residents and the security of the sensitive data being used. A new phone line was set up linking the Hub to the growing network of volunteer drivers.

The group worked closely with Wiltshire Council to ensure that the Corsley Hub was included in regional response planning and the lessons and structure of the Hub have been shared across the county.

When all pubs were forced to close, the company and shareholders behind the Cross Keys kindly agreed that the Keys could continue to be used as a base and, as all of the group are volunteering, it is a non-profit venture.

Since the early emergency response the service has grown to include a 'pop-up shop' stocking a range of essentials for your whole home (and BBQ), including alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, vegetable and fruit



boxes. Take-away nights are proving incredibly popular: Pie Night on Wednesdays, Fish and Chips on Fridays and a Sunday Roast Lunch service (with cooking tips if needed!). All provisions can be delivered by volunteers if you are isolating, always complying with social distancing for your safety. Please just order over the phone when payment can be made. Stock and supplies can vary, so some items may be subject to availability.

Even the big suppliers of food and other essentials have struggled through the COVID-19 crisis and new sources are constantly being investigated to ensure the supply lines remain open. John and Jo are working hard to support other local businesses and have joined up with suppliers of ice-creams and sorbets, bakery and butchery and have built the fabulous Milk Station.

Now with a few weeks under their belt, the Hub has set up relationships with most pharmacies in the area to ensure that prescriptions and medicines can be picked up. Friendly, supportive calls over the telephone have gone a long way to help many neighbours who may be lonely, worried or otherwise affected by the continuing crisis.

The news of the success of our Hub has spread, and so far the team have been interviewed by the Western Daily Press, TV and BBC Online

Corsley Coronavirus Support

The Cross Keys Central Hub

Telephone 01373 832406

We can provide support to the residents of Corsley with basic food supplies, prescription collections or just a friendly phone call if needed.

Phone us if you require help.

No one in our community is left to face Coronavirus Isolation alone.

See our advert in The Bridge for full details of what's available.

Deliveries will be dropped off at your door.

Prescriptions and food supplies will need paying for in advance.

Coronavirus is contagious.

Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness.



and radio. As John said "From day one this has been a team effort from Corsley. The core group have worked tirelessly, often with full time jobs, on logistics, deliveries, relationships, publicity and all the other admin needed to get and keep this up and running. It's been humbling to know the wider group of volunteers, even if not already called on, have been ready to help when needed. People have waited for hours outside shops and chemists for their neighbours and many miles have

been walked, cycled or driven at their own cost to deliver food and supplies."

None of us yet know when or how the lockdown will be eased, or what the lasting impact of this pandemic will be, but your COVID-19 Response Hub aims to support the residents of Corsley for as long as is needed and hopefully some of the new services Corsley now has will continue to be supported.



For more information please contact us:

e. info@crosskeyscorsley.co.uk

t. 01373 832406

w. www.crosskeyscorsley.co.uk

Welcome to the Playhouse at Corsley!

The Manor plays host to a vast history dating as far back as the 13th century. Its former owner, Sir John Thynne lived here in the 1560s whilst building his grand estate at Longleat and, during his occupancy, extended his parlour, built an adjoining school to the house for his many children, and erected his Wayne House to store his carts and carriages.

Later, Sir John's widow, Dorothy, and Sir Carew Raleigh were married at the Manor, with his brother Sir Walter as best man and subsequently a regular visitor to the house for the next 10 years. Whilst Sir John provided the glorious setting, the Raleigh brothers were the artistic inspiration behind The Playhouse project.

The Playhouse itself has been created by converting Sir John's Wayne House and replicating the interiors of the Elizabethan theatres that Sir Carew and Sir Walter Raleigh would have visited all those years ago. We have tried to maintain as many of the original features as possible whilst achieving an authentic Elizabethan appearance.

We like to think of our Playhouse as being a smaller version of The Curtain Theatre in Shoreditch where Shakespeare premiered his renowned theatrics, Henry V and later Romeo and Juliet.

The stunning setting, extensive history and intricate detail makes The Manor at Corsley a perfect venue to enjoy all types of performances, events and activities and we hold year-round entertainment including Elizabethan plays, music, dance, lectures, debates and storytelling.

For more information on the Playhouse and our upcoming events, visit our newly revamped website

www.theelizabethanplayhouse.com

You can also now like and follow us on Facebook

[@theplayhouseatcorsley](#)



Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

It's always difficult to write this letter knowing that it won't be published for another two weeks, and never more so than now; what will have changed during those weeks, where will we be in terms of lockdown etc?

Uncertainty is very difficult to live with is it not, meanwhile the beauty and glory of spring unfolds around us, the rhythm of nature continues as trees blossom, leaves unfurl and hedges are cloaked in glorious green. In other words, life goes on. I don't mean that in a callous way but rather that the present situation has alerted us to the fact that we human beings are not the centre of the universe with all the answers, but merely a very small part of a very much larger whole. Having our eyes opened in this way has I think made us much more grateful for what we might call the little things in life that we would normally not notice; and for the big things as well of course. I am acutely aware of how privileged I am at this point in time to be financially secure, to have a job and a home and a loving family who are also safe and well.

Part of that privilege is also I think, being given an opportunity to be still. There was an extremely good article in The Observer on Easter Day by Tobias Jones entitled 'The Rebirth of Humanity' in which he writes:

'It's truism of modern life that we struggle to be settled or present. Because we can be anywhere, we actually end up being nowhere. We suffer as the sociologist Zygmunt Bauman once wrote, "electronically assured out-of-placeness." We're notoriously fidgety and lacking attention. We just keep clicking and tapping. When I was running our community, one of the hardest things for those in early recovery was just to sit still. We used to have Quaker like silences twice a day, and to begin with, many just couldn't cope with the sudden stillness. It seems to me that we are all in a similar situation right now. We've come to an emergency stop and it's painful, not just because we are separated from others, but because we can no longer separate from ourselves.'

Why don't we just stop, if only for a while? Why don't we forget the blessed Zoom meetings and all the other thing we are desperately running around doing to convince ourselves that we are still important and just sit still? And listen.

I leave you with a poem to help; Mary Oliver, 'Wild Geese'...

*You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.*

With love and prayers,
Pauline

www.cleyhillchurches.org

Virtual Church Services

There will be a Service of Morning Worship each Sunday at 10 am led by the Reverend Gay Maynard and using Zoom. The order of service and the readings are in our weekly newsletter. For further information please contact Gay Maynard.

Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

Rural Dean	Rev Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com	01985 841290
Associate Priest	Rev Gay Maynard revgmaynard@gmail.com	01373 832490
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Richard Dean Barbara Hughes Claire Tanner	01373 832594 01373 832273 01985 218099
Pastoral Visitor	Alan Hopkinson	01373 832393
Churchwardens St Philip & St James' St Margaret's	Ian Buick John Helliard	01373 832318 01373 832803
Deputy Churchwardens St Margaret's St Philip & St James'	Currently vacant Janet Aylesbury	01373 832752
PCC Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
PCC Treasurer	Keith Muston	01373 832755
Planned Giving Officer	Judith Helliard	01373 832803
Benefice Administrator	Marion Muston	01373 839026 or 01373 832755
Choir Leader	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
Tower Captain	Marion Moldon	01373 832672
50/50 Club	Neil Britten	01373 832515

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

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

Enjoying the countryside...

during the Coronavirus pandemic

There are some lovely walks to be had in and around our two villages. An excellent resource for up-to-date maps is www.wiltscouncil.maps.arcgis.com. The weather is great and going out for a walk is authorised as daily exercise!

If you come across stiles, signage, etc., in need of attention, or any footpath 'furniture' that proves difficult to negotiate, please contact either Gill Parkinson at corsleyfootpaths@btinternet.com (for footpaths in Corsley) or John Foster at johnpfoster354@gmail.com (for footpaths in Chapmanslade).

Clearly there's unlikely to be immediate remedial work done by Wiltshire Council as they've better things to concentrate on right now.

- In a recent survey, one in six owners admitted their dog has escaped from home. An increasing number of dog attacks on sheep happen when the owner isn't present. If your dog has access to outdoor space, at home, unaccompanied, check all fences and boundaries are secure
- Please remember that farms are busy workplaces where farmers are producing the food we all want to buy in the shops right now
- Please remember to maintain social distancing, particularly where footpaths go near or through farmyards
- Lambs and calves arrive in the spring, so please take extra care if you are walking your dog and follow the advice below...

DOGS ON LEADS NEAR LIVESTOCK

- Your dog might be extremely docile and friendly, but do remember that farm animals won't know that
- Dogs should be kept on a lead and under close control around livestock
- Livestock can be very protective of their young, so try to avoid getting too close to them

KEEP CALM AROUND CATTLE

- Cattle can be inquisitive so if you feel threatened, release your dog so you can get to safety separately
- Stay calm and walk quickly and quietly around the herd; do not run
- Never get between cows and calves
- Walk around the herd and re-join the footpath when it is safe to do so

CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET

- Did you know that dog poo can spread disease to farm animals?
- It's important to clean up after your dog wherever you are
- Don't leave bags of dog poo for someone else to pick up – there's no-one following you around cleaning up your mess

FOLLOW THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

- The Countryside Code aims to help people respect, protect and enjoy the outdoors
- **Don't block access with your vehicle**
- **Leave gates as you find them**
- **Stick to the footpaths**
- **Leave no trace of your visit – take your litter home with you**

For more information, visit
www.countrysideonline.co.uk/care-for-the-countryside/dog-walking

Don't delay seeking medical help

Don't let worries about coronavirus stop you asking for medical help for yourself or your children if you become ill, have a serious accident or have a concern about your health

People are also being warned that not seeking medical help for symptoms that could be the early warning signs of serious conditions such as cancer could be putting lives at risk.

The warning comes as new data shows a considerable drop in the number of people coming forward to ask their GP for help and advice during the coronavirus outbreak.

Recent statistics show that, in Bath alone, the total number of weekly referrals from GPs to the Royal United Hospital have fallen from around 2,000 at the beginning of March to 300 at the end of April.

In Swindon, the average number of patients being sent by their GP to the Great Western Hospital for further investigations into symptoms that suggest cancer each week has dropped by more than 200 to 80.

Dr Ruth Grabham, Medical Director at BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG, said the statistics made for worrying reading because the drop in numbers "is not because people are not experiencing symptoms. While it may seem that coronavirus has put a stop to most aspects of everyday life, the one thing it hasn't stopped is what's going on inside our bodies," she says. "Now, more than ever, we need to pay attention to anything that isn't normal and seek help early on. For example, if you notice blood when going to the toilet, or if you've found a lump that wasn't there previously, or if you've just noticed something odd that is causing you to worry, you need to speak to your GP. Should the symptom be the

early warning sign of something serious like cancer, that delay in seeking help could have serious implications for how successful possible treatments may be."

Although GP practices across the region have adopted new ways of working, such as establishing isolated clinics for potential coronavirus patients, the practices themselves are still open to offer care, treatment, advice and peace-of-mind.

The same also goes for emergency departments at the hospitals in Bath and Salisbury, both of which continue to be open 24 hours a day for people with a genuine and life-threatening health concern.

Additionally, all healthcare facilities in the region, as well as those elsewhere in the country, have put in place stringent infection control measures to ensure that the risk of contracting coronavirus while visiting a hospital or GP surgery remains low.

Details of which services continue to open, as well as how to get in contact, can be found online by visiting

www.bswccg.nhs.uk

For information about local hospital services visit

www.ruh.nhs.uk

www.gwh.nhs.uk

www.salisbury.nhs.uk

Further information on how to stay well throughout the coronavirus outbreak can be found at

www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19.

Corsley War Memorial

Playing Field News

Neil Carpenter reports on the latest news from the playing field

Just a note to let you all know that the playing field is open for Corsley residents who are walking on their daily exercise or need a space to play with their kids. In line with the Government's instructions regarding the Covid-19 virus please keep off the play equipment and a safe distance (2m) from others not in your household. No dogs please.

The grass is still being cut, so we look forward to fully opening in a few weeks' time. Look on Corsley Memorial Playing Field or Corsley Village Community Group's Facebook pages for updates.

I must also sadly report that one of the oak trees bordering the field has been seriously damaged by vandals. A large chunk of bark amounting to about 1/3 the circumference of the tree has been hacked off (see picture). The hack marks can clearly be seen in the second picture. The area around the tree has also been compacted and we think this is where children have been using the area as a den. This tree was planted by Gordon (Gordie) Ledbury when he was a small boy and he looked after it all his life. It is a shame that after being tended for 90 years it has been so poorly treated since Gordie's death. It and the other oak trees around the field had Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) applied to them in 2011. The fine for damage to TPO trees is up to £20,000. We have also had other trees damaged, including the memorial walnut by the car park entrance.

As you know we work very hard to make the playing field a valuable resource for all

the village so this kind of vandalism is very disappointing.

Can we ask parents and guardians to please speak to their children about how they use the park, when we are finally out of lockdown.

Neil Carpenter
neil@nmc2.co.uk
t: 01373 832314
m: 07919 057997



Corsley Orchard at the Old School Field

We have been working hard at the orchard this year. We planted some walnut trees earlier in the year and put a base down for the bench donated by the Elizabethan Evening team. Thank you for their support.

We have also cut a path around the orchard so you can stroll around as part of your daily exercise. The orchard has been looking splendid with first the daffodils and then the blossom out over the last month. We hope that when you are out for your exercise you take the opportunity to walk around it.

Neil Carpenter



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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Chairman, Neil Britten, rounds up the latest activities of the PC

As trailed in last months' brief, there will be no PC meetings until further notice and I explained the way in which PC business would be transacted under the current CV-19 restrictions. This was the best interpretation by the PC at the time on how to proceed, but things have moved on somewhat since then. The Government has since published new legislation allowing Local Councils to conduct "virtual" meetings, to meet the basic requirement that PC meetings should allow public participation. These came into force on 4th April.

Associated guidance and interpretation has been published by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). Broadly, the 2020 Regulations enable local councils to hold remote meetings (including by video and telephone conferencing) for a specified period until 7th May next year, a date which could be brought forward in the rules are relaxed. There are several strands to the new rules:

- The guidance is interpreted as meaning that parish meetings should not take place in person, including the annual meeting of the electors, ie the Annual Parish Meeting (APM – already postponed until further notice)
- Remote meetings are permitted. The effect is that persons attending a local council meeting do not need to be in the same place, the latter meaning more than one

place including electronic, digital or virtual locations such as internet locations, web addresses or conference call telephone numbers. To attend a meeting remotely a member in remote attendance must meet specified conditions.

- The requirement to hold an annual meeting, the meeting at which the Chair is elected for the year, is removed. The current chairman remains in place until an annual meeting is held (possibly next year) unless the council decides to elect a replacement earlier. The current Chair remains in post until or unless there is a desire or need for change.
- Local councils are able to make standing orders to specify how voting will be carried out, how members and the public can access documents and how remote access of the press and public by electronic means will take place. Councils may make these decisions based on their own needs and capacity.
- It is confirmed that being present at a local council meeting includes being present through remote attendance.
- Local councils are still required to hold not less than three meetings per year.

As indicated last month, Corsley PC is now taking the position that consultation and decision will be conducted principally by email correspondence on matters whose

principal subject has already been agreed at a public meeting. In the case of planning applications, they will be publicly notified on the two village noticeboards and The Bridge website to encourage local comment and provide an opportunity for a request for a public meeting.

There have already been two public meetings this year and, together with the planned December Quarterly, the required of at least three meetings will be met. If a need does arise for a remote public meeting the intention is to use Zoom.

In the meantime, in the last month, the PC has dealt with two planning applications and agreed the final costs and plans for the A362 road safety improvements at the Heath.

New planning applications

20/01444/FUL

Proposed installation of 'flying carpet' play equipment, new bench and replacement bench.

This application covered installation of a new piece of play equipment called a 'flying carpet', adding new interest and challenges to visitors, plus an additional bench to replace one that had been destroyed by vandals. The tennis and cricket clubs, who use the field regularly, have been consulted and they are content with the proposed location of the flying carpet.

The PC agreed no objection to this application.

20/02319/LBC

Corsley House, re-connection of doorway between house and cottage

The application is to open up an existing doorway between the main house at Corsley and the old 'Kitchen Cottage' to allow much easier access between the cottage and main house.

The PC agreed no objection to this application.

A362 road safety improvements at the Heath

After Simon Jasper's long and persistent negotiation with the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) the PC has now been presented with the final solution and detailed costs. Inevitably the costs have risen above the original forecasts, for which the PC had already agreed a contribution of £5.5k, and a final figure of just over £5.9k has been agreed. This is manageable within the current spending plans and is regarded as an essential response to the road safety issues at Corsley Heath. The work is essentially a combination of kerb re-alignment, improved signage and clearer road markings, all intended to meet the requirements of better visibility for motorists and pedestrians alike, plus warnings to approaching traffic (two sketch drawings showing the plans are on the next page). We don't yet have a date for commencement of the work, but anticipate that it should be in this financial year (2020/21).

Dates of next meetings

(as currently planned)

Annual PC Meeting	4th May - cancelled
Quarterly Meeting	1st June - cancelled
Quarterly Meeting	7th September
Quarterly Meeting	7th December

Meetings would normally be held in the Lower Room at Corsley Reading Room and will begin at 7.30pm)

Neil Britten
Chairman

pc.corsleynb@gmail.com
01373 832515/07810 764714

continued...

Corsley WI

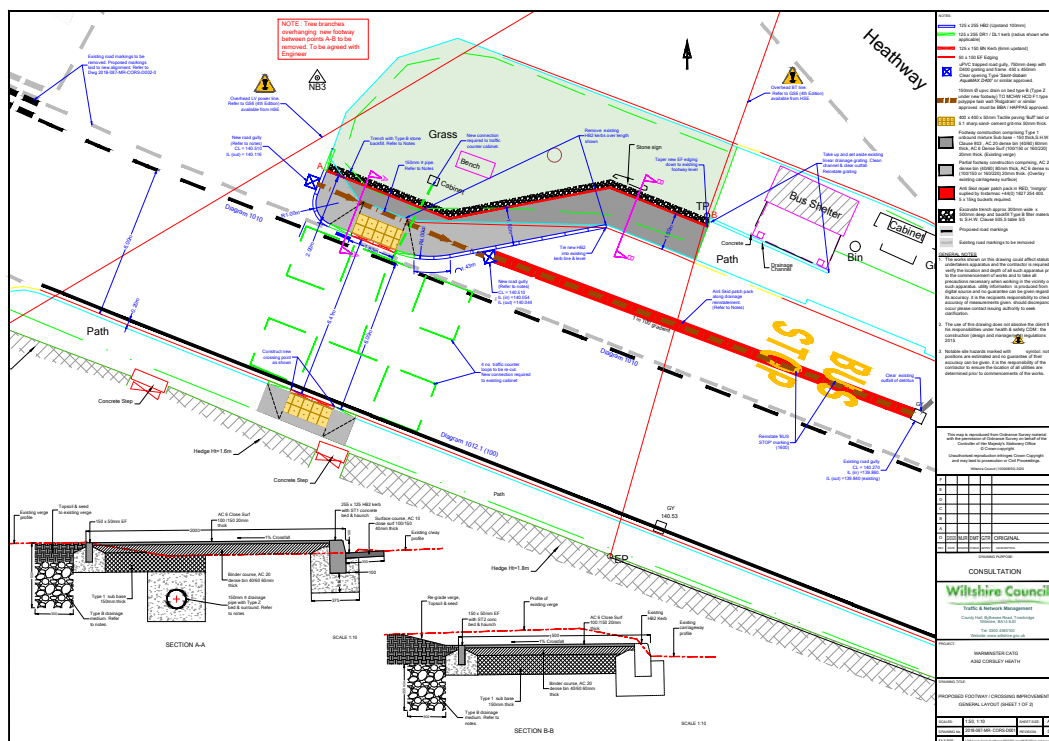
April news

What an unprecedented position to be in. The UK has gone into lockdown and we are all staying at home to stay safe. So, what have some of the Corsley WI members been up to behind closed doors? All is revealed:

- Mandy Bain has been busily making face masks for the NHS and extras for High House Farm as there is not space to keep our staff 2m apart in the milking parlour so we have asked them to wear face masks whilst milking the cows.
- Kit Pottow and Caroline Higham made beautiful wreaths to decorate their local churches for Easter.
- Fiona Curruthers has been running any cycling around the village, taking her daily exercise as allowed by the government, and taking some lovely photos en-route.
- Pauline Scott has been cultivating her garden and watching the wonderful tree blossoms bloom.
- Susan White has been perfecting the skill of making sourdough bread, homeschooling the teenagers and has two new coronavirus babies – orphaned lambs!

- Eileen Leete's knitting needles have been producing rainbows and beautiful blankets.
- Alice Helliard has been helping to set up and volunteer for the Cross Keys hub (providing a food shop and prescription collection service in the village) as well as entertaining Mary and Amelia making Easter Crowns, planting seeds and pushing the swing 'higher' a lot!
- Jo Ayrton has started a new job for a law firm in Frome.
- Eve Tigwell has been compiling recipes for the 100th Anniversary Recipe Book.
- Judith Helliard used Zoom video conferencing for a family catch-up on her birthday.

We have decided to keep our competitions running during lockdown and the competition for May is 'growing seeds in recycled containers' (Photo). For all of those budding gardeners, or those who have found a new love of gardening - are you germinating seeds in recycled containers? If so please take a photo and we'll have a competition when we meet again.



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News from the Nest

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

We started our January term by welcoming new families to Little Cuckoos. The children enjoyed learning about the winter season and made full use of our outdoor and indoor space.

Exciting plans were well underway for our best Easter Egg Hunt yet, but sadly we had to cancel due to the temporary closure of the pre-school. Knowing everyone is safe and well was an absolute priority for the pre-school.

The temporary closure hasn't stopped the children at Little Cuckoos from having fun. To celebrate Easter, the children put on a virtual Easter Bonnet Parade. As you can see from the photos, the 'lockdown' has really given the children time to perfect their crafting skills. This was a real spirit-lifter for all involved and helped the children keep in touch with staff and their friends.

The staff at Cuckoos surprised the children with a virtual 'sing-a-long'. The staff sang classic Cuckoos' favourites such as, '1,2,3,4,5', 'Three Little Ducks' and 'Horse, Horsey'.

It has been incredibly challenging for all recently, and staff and children are pulling together to ensure the excellent and wonderful learning experience of Little Cuckoos, continues.

Looking to the future, we are still actively fundraising to enhance our outside space, and would like to thank the Corsley Show for their incredible and generous donation, which will go a long way towards achieving this.

September spaces are filling fast, so if you know someone looking for term-time childcare in the most amazing, rural setting, please get in touch with the Pre-School Manager, Hayley McMahon on littlecuckoos@hotmail.co.uk

Little Cuckoos hope the community of Corsley and surrounding areas stay safe and well, and we very much look forward to welcoming you back to Little Cuckoos at our next event, when it is safe to re-open.

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

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

For more information, please contact us on 01373 832298

www.littlecuckoos.co.uk



Salisbury Cathedral

Stained glass restoration

One of the magnificent stained glass windows has been restored, thanks to fundraising by the Friends of Salisbury Cathedral

The money was raised at the Friends' 2019 open gardens event and matched by the sales of paintings and a book by Salisbury Florilegium Society. A group of the Friends visited the cathedral's glaziers' workshop earlier this year to learn about the restoration process.

The window, one of twelve made by Clayton & Bell, was erected by 'grateful patients and friends' in memory of William Martin Coates in 1886.

Senior conservator Sam Kelly said water had been pouring through the window. "When we put up the scaffolding, we discovered that the top was hanging out and could have fallen out," he said. During the 16th century a huge amount of glazing and blacksmithing was being done and most of the bar work of the nave windows was 16th century. However, the bars above the 16th century ones were medieval and this explained why water was pouring in: in medieval times handmade blacksmith's nails would have been used and when these fail, the bars that held the glass in place also fail, letting in water.

He explained that when a window is brought to the workshop, two rubbings are made of it and all the details of the work to be done are marked on the rubbings: the one on brown paper is the working document and the one on white paper is kept forever to enable future glaziers to know what materials had been used. "After this is done, we strip the old leadwork out and re-lead," he said. "We take

it apart and lay it out like a jigsaw. Everything has to fit to the bar work. It is impurities that make bars rust, so the more it is worked, the more impurities are worked out of the metal. Nowadays stainless steel is used – we cannot afford to have bars blacksmith-made! Every light has at least a couple of bars on it to hold it totally in place."

The window was returned to the south nave aisle during March, just before the cathedral was closed to visitors due to the coronavirus lockdown.



Glazier Tom Clarke gets to work on the restoration

Pictures by Sam Kelly



Difficult conversations that...

Help keep children safe

As parents, we all have to have difficult conversations with our children, some of the most difficult will focus on the risks and dangers that face them

For parents across the country this has likely meant having to explain to our children and young people about Covid-19. This will have no doubt included having to answer many questions on why they can't spend time with family or grandparents, why they cannot go out to play with friends and why they cannot go to school. The current situation we're in can be difficult for any of us to comprehend let alone trying to explain to a young person the significant risks of something we cannot see or touch.

Wiltshire Police have seen that, in the majority, parents and young people have been following the social distancing measures put in place by the Government across the county. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of you. As a parent, grandparent and PCC I appreciate how difficult your role is at the moment, with many of you also trying to balance your parental responsibilities and a change in lifestyle, along with home schooling and work.

Recognising that this time is going to be more difficult for parents, the Wiltshire Police Early Intervention team have added information to the Wiltshire Police website which signposts to support agencies who are there to help.

For many families staying at home is probably one of the toughest challenges we have had to face, but it is so important in our collective fight against Covid-19, to save lives

and protect the NHS.

With more of us staying at home it is so easy to turn to the internet for social interaction, education and work. With increased time online comes increased risk, and last week Superintendent Ben Mant from the Public Protection Department wrote an open letter to parents to appeal to them to talk to their children about risks they are facing online. As we increase our activity online so do those who seek to cause us harm through fraud, scamming, grooming and child sexual exploitation. The Force Digital Investigations and Intelligence Unit are keeping a watchful eye on these and have been offering guidance on social media but will continue to support with further advice when necessary.

It is another difficult conversation I know, but in this current climate where so many people are spending increased time online unsupervised it is so important we have difficult conversations that will give our children and young people the skills to identify risk, to stop and think when something doesn't feel right, and to ask for help when they need it. Advice and guidance on online safety, cyber-crime and social media to help with those difficult conversations is available on the Wiltshire Police website

www.wiltshire.police.uk

Whitbourne Chapel

Every eye shall see him

Blessings, too?!

If someone had said, as we celebrated New Year 2020, "By mid-March, the world's circumstances will change dramatically," would we have believed it?! Within days of 'self-distancing', groups were set up in many local communities, to help the elderly, sick and disabled, those who can no longer get their own shopping. Are you being helped with collection of foods and prescriptions? Me, too!

Friends from a local café (now closed) are providing me with weekly pasta bakes and cake supplies! They're coming today, bringing not just the usual supplies, but emergency essentials for me and a Flers Court neighbour, as another supplier can't continue helping us.

While we count our blessings – including the dry weather and continuing signs of spring – let's count the blessing we have through Jesus. Let's remember God the Father's kindness to us, in sending His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to die on a cross, so that we can spend eternity with Him. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain...' (Rev 20:4) What a thought to cling to, on difficult days!

Gill Redman

There is a verse in the Bible, which when I was younger, I found very hard to understand. Revelation Chapter 1 verse 7 talks about the return of the Lord Jesus to this world and says 'every eye shall see him'. We were one of the first to have a telephone installed when we were newly married and people would say 'one day you will be able to see the person you are talking to'.

If the Corona virus has taught me anything it is the possibility of every eye seeing Jesus return to earth.

We are quite a big family; 7 children (5

married) 13 grandchildren and tonight we will have a family quiz. We will have an iPad and we will be able not only to speak to everyone, but to see them, even though we live some distance apart.

Even more technology allows us to view our own back garden! Early in March, because our son works in a school and our daughter works at Bath University we were isolated to her house and she went to live with her brother in our house. The camera bought as Christmas present is installed at the bottom of the garden. We can watch our Magnolia tree come into bloom. In the morning we can watch the recorded pictures of three hedgehogs who visit the garden during the hours of darkness.

If we humans can do such things, even if that is not the way it will be. I have no doubts that God our Heavenly Father will have no trouble fulfilling the prophecy, as He is the God of miracles.

Coronavirus has also been a great opportunity to stop being self-centred and to be mindful of others: dropping off shopping; cutting the neighbour's lawn, because the gardener can't come; leaving flowers on people's doorsteps; dropping off an Easter egg or picking up the phone to chat to someone who might not talk to anyone else all day. To this end if you are desperately in need of something we invite you to ring 01373 464244 or 07980 013685, and if at all possible we will try to help. You can read the messages which would have been preached at the Chapel by logging in to our website www.whitbournechapel.org.uk and follow the link, or Google - Whitbourne Baptist Chapel.

Jesus said *'In my Father's house are many mansions... I go to prepare a place for you. If I go to prepare a place for you I will come back'...* (see John's Gospel Chapter 14 verses 1-6)

Ray Mead (Secretary)



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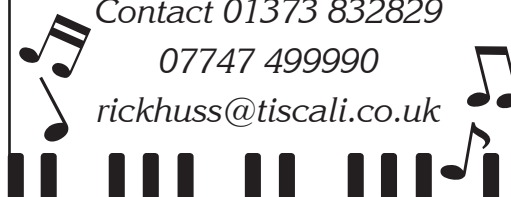
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Cross Keys Walks

Whilst many of the footpaths are way-marked and most are on Ordnance Survey maps we cannot give any guarantee that they are a right-of-way. All known paths are included and most have been walked by locals.

Observation shows that actual trodden paths vary with official maps.

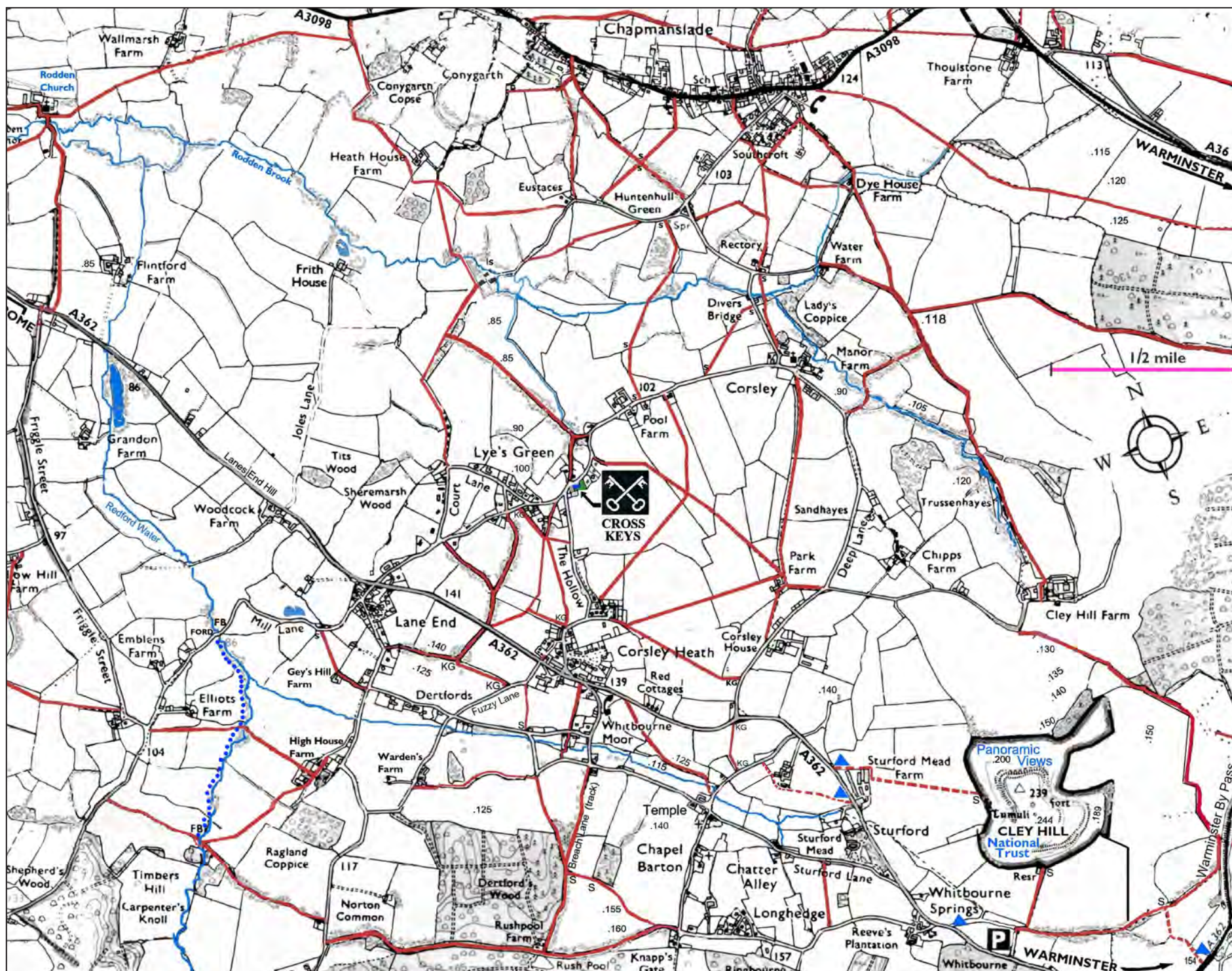
You should be aware that at various seasons 'discretionary paths' take the place of a normal footpath so that crops are not trampled. Please respect these diversions. Be aware also that animals may be loose in fields. Go with care control dogs and children and close gates behind you. At least two footpaths traverse private gardens please respect these. We advise wearing stout walking boots or wellingtons. Finally, none of us want to tread in dog poo even on footpaths, please clear up after your furry friends and bring your litter back with you.

KEY

- Footpaths
- Permissive
- Watercourse
- Trees
- Field Edge
- FB Footbridge
- KG Kissing Gate
- S Stile
- .130 Spot Height

▲ Blue Triangle
Denotes Exit onto main road, these are to be regarded as dangerous. There is no pedestrian path or refuge at these points. We advise not to use these paths shown by a dotted red line-----

Use the village lanes as links between footpaths take care at sharp blind corners and when going across major roads. You walk at your own risk, be safe and ENJOY YOUR WALK



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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

What a Spring! In the last few weeks we have moved from endless rain and chill northerly winds to summer-time temperatures and gently southerly breezes

We have also moved from our 'normal' everyday lives to one of restrictions and the need for careful thought before action.

Living in the countryside, we are extremely fortunate; we have access to fresh air, pleasant (short) walks, and strong, supportive communities. We can watch as the lovely month of May sees the land filling with greenery, flowers and wildlife.

I saw my first swallow on the 5th of April; a real harbinger of spring. By the time you read this, there should be plenty about, along with most of our other migrant birds. Winter's birds have all left, moving north to their breeding grounds.

For our resident species, robins, blackbirds, thrushes, and others, first broods will be fledging soon. The dry weather will be hard on blackbirds and thrushes; worms and other food will have moved deeper into the soil, becoming inaccessible. Putting out food for your birds is still important throughout the breeding season.

Most of us are within walking distance of woodland, so now is the time to go and enjoy the bluebells! The sight and scent of these wonderful flowers is a real treat. There are many other plants to enjoy, whether it's wild garlic, cuckooflower, cow parsley, foxgloves or the beautiful hawthorn. Cuckooflower was so named because it flowers when the cuckoos fly here to breed. Cuckoos are becoming increasingly rare, so do let me know if you

hear one. Look up at the sky too to see swifts and the hobbies chasing them. There are plenty of buzzards circling in the warm thermals, but do watch out for a much larger raptor; satellite tags have shown that one of the white-tailed eagles recently introduced to the Isle of Wight has been wandering around the Somerset-Wiltshire border. Generally described as being a flying barn-door; it should be quite noticeable!

There are plenty of other animals around too. It's also the breeding season for most of our mammal species. Gardens should be filled with butterflies and other insects. There are orange tip, speckled wood, holly blue, red admiral, peacock, small tortoiseshell and various white butterflies, along with plenty of bumblebees. The vast majority of insects are beneficial, mostly pollinating our food crops. Please make sure your gardens are full of flowers for them; they need all the nectar they can get.

If you find a young bird or other animal, it is always best to just leave it where it is (unless it is somewhere really dangerous, like the middle of the road!); the parents will be nearby and will come to feed and care for it until it is independent.

Enjoy our countryside and wildlife, at its most beautiful in May. Take care on your daily walks and support our hard-working famers.

Above all, stay well!

Eve Tigwell

Please mention **The Bridge** when responding to adverts

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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



Corsley Reading Room

Building refurbishment

Please do take the time to read the paper on the refurbishment options. The deadline for the survey has been extended until Sunday 10th May to allow more time for people to know about this. Please visit the website for view the options and the survey.

Coronavirus

At the time of writing the Reading Room is closed and will remain so until the situation changes when we will follow the advice given in terms of when and how to re-open. Our website will be updated with the latest position as soon as there is a plan.

Along with information about local support in Corsley, we are also maintaining virus information and links on the website. Hopefully they could be useful.

Bookings (after coronavirus)

Do check the website for the position on any future bookings or ring Gill Parkinson 01373 832322.

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

www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

Run by the Corsley Reading Room Management Committee

Coffee Morning: *cancelled*
Cinema Corsley: *cancelled*

Other regular events NOT organised by the Management Committee

Lite Bites Lunches: *cancelled*
Yoga: *cancelled*
Pilates: *cancelled*
WI: *cancelled*

is there no end to this madness?

A fantastic way to cope with the boredom of the lockdown...

Gypsy Rose Lee spotted on the Heath?

OMG! What's happening? A couple of weekends ago I spotted a gypsy in her campervan out on the Heath (well, on her front drive to be precise!).



What was she doing? Do we really want her in our village? Yes you do! It was all in aid of the Great British Campout for NHS Charities Together. Never heard of it? Well, if you're not on Facebook you may not be aware of this group, so let me tell you about it....

Ian Alcorn, a bathroom fitter from Nottingham, thought if we all 'camped out at home' he could raise some money for the NHS, so this is what he asked... "I've had an idea. A Great British Camp Out (AT HOME). Whether in your van on your drive, or a tent in your garden; we donate £2 each for our wonderful NHS. That's providing

you're doing nothing else? Let's go global with this, share far and wide, who's in?"

Lots of people joined in: they had tents, motorhomes, campervans, beds in the lounge, tents under the dining table and someone slept on a trampoline! Over 35 thousand supporters camped out in their gardens, roof tops, balconies, drives and living rooms. So that's where the Corsley Heath gypsy (aka Vanessa Hyde) was spotted – drinking cider (hic!) and sleeping in her campervan on her drive.

Ian was hoping to raise £100 – to date, this group has raised well over £160,000 – a magnificent effort!

Why not join in the next Camp Out on the May Bank Holiday? You can donate via www.justgiving.com/fundraising/greatbritishcampout

The group is supported by Blacks and Go Outdoors (I love that they have changed their logo to 'Go Indoors').

The second Camp Out was on the Easter weekend and, with all the lovely sunshine, the Hula Girl came out! So what will be her outfit for the May Bank Holiday Camp Out? As it's the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe, maybe she'll have to find an Army uniform...

Vanessa Hyde
07740 468003



**Although the world is full of suffering it is full also of the overcoming of it
Helen Keller. Optimism (1903).**

**Although the tree is sundered it still stands and against a blue sky the flag still flies.
Annon.**

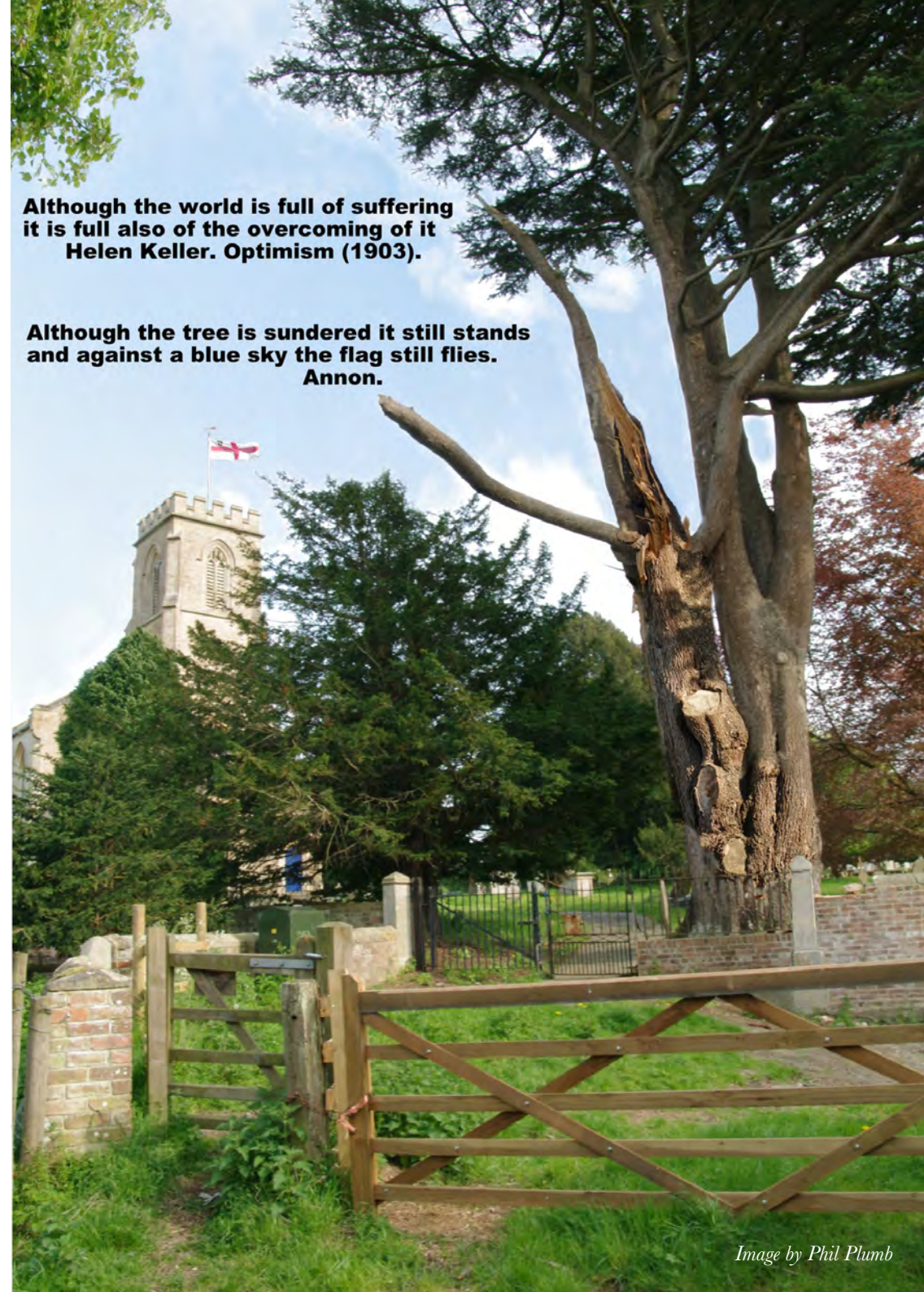


Image by Phil Plumb

Small ads

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

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

www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk

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

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Chestnut
- 2 Polka dots (usually white and red but it has varied with white and blue in more recent years)
- 3 William Golding
- 4 Alexandra Mary
- 5 High Society
- 6 A small wading bird of the plover family
- 7 The Big Bopper
- 8 Charles
- 9 Orly (ORY)
- 10 Norway
- 11 Johnny
- 12 Neville Chamberlain

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Trade advertising

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

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