# The Bridge

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### May 2023

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

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6TH

Celebrate the King's Coronation, partake in some coffee mornings, lob some tennis balls over the net, enjoy a May Fayre, pop along to your PC's annual parish meeting, partake in some coffee mornings, there's lots to do in May...

HAF



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### The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

#### Articles

Please submit articles either by email to **paradisefound86@icloud.com** or by hand (legible handwriting please!) and take them to the drop-off locations at Barters Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley by the deadline – and with the fee!

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

#### File types

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

#### Advertising:

**Small ads** are  $\pounds 1$  for <u>each</u> item whether 'For Sale' or 'Wanted'.

#### Events/local organisation ads

(churches, clubs, play groups, etc) are  $\pounds 2.50$  per month for a boxed advert.

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

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

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

#### Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

#### In this issue...



Please note that no items will be accepted after this date

#### May

#### **Tuesday 2nd**

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

#### **Tuesday 9th**

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

#### Sunday 7th

Coronation Big Lunch - from 12 noon, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Coronation Big Lunch Picnic - 12.30 pm to 4 pm, Corsley War Memorial Playing Field

#### Wednesday 10th

Crafternoons - 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes (in the gallery)

#### Thursday 11th

Chapmanslade Parish Council - Annual Parish Meeting (followed by PC meeting) – 7 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Corsley WI - 'The Goats of the Gorge' talk by Nick King - Corsley Reading Room

#### Sunday 14th

Corsley Tennis Club tournament season begins

#### Monday 15th

Corsley Parish Council - Annual Parish Meeting – 7 pm, Mondy 15th May, Corsley Reading Room

#### Thursday 18th

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

#### Saturday 20th

May Fayre - 10.30 am to 12.30 pm, St Margaret's House, Corsley, BA12 7QD

#### Thursday 25th

Crafternoons - 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes (in the gallery)

Public Meeting - Chapmanslade Parish Plan Steering Group – 7 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

#### June

#### Friday 2nd

Multi Sports/Fundays (5-11 years) with I G Sports Coaching – 9 am to 3 pm, Corsley Memorial Playing Field/Tennis Club

# **Diary** Dates

#### **Tuesday 6th**

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

#### **Tuesday 13th**

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

#### Wednesday 21st

National Make Music Day – an evening concert by Wiltshire Rural Music, Corsley Reading Room

#### Thursday 15th

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

#### Saturday 17th

Open Garden, Coffee Morning and Plant Sale – 10.30 am to 1.30 pm, Chestnut Cottage, Chapmanslade, BA12 4AP

#### Wednesday 21st

Make Music Day - live music event - 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

#### July

#### **Tuesday 4th**

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

#### Tuesday 11th

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

#### **Thursday 20th**

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

#### Sunday 30th

Robin Hood (Elizabethan Evening) – 6.30 pm, Manor Farm, Corsley, BA12 7QE

#### August

#### Tuesday 1st

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

#### Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 3rd May

Wednesday 17th May

Wednesday 31st May

Wednesday 14th June

Wednesday 28th June

Wednesday 12th July

Wednesday 26th July

Wednesday 9th August

Wednesday 23rd August



Tickets;

Adults £16 Children (u13) £10

All proceeds to Bath Cancer Unit Support Group

## The Corsley Ceilidh

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 7.30pm – 11.00pm at Corsley Showfield Ceilidh Barn Dance, live music from the White Horse Band.

Barbeque and Bar available on the night.

Raising money for the radiotherapy team at Bath RUH who are fundraising for a high precision Surface Guided Radiotherapy System.

e-mail <u>corsleyceilidh2023@gmail.com</u> fpr details. To buy tickets <u>https://buytickets.at/corsleyceilidh/896366</u>



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#### Chapmanslade Village Hall

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For hiring information, phone Ken Davies 01373 832034 or email kennethdavies1949@gmail.com



#### YOGA CLASSES Corsley Reading Room Tuesdays 6-7.30 pm

(other classes also available)

Jackie Jasper 01373 832301 yogawithjackiej@gmail.com

# Bob's bafflers

- 1 How many sides does a 20p coin have?
- 2 In which English county would you find the seaside resort of Skegness?
- 3 The quote "All the World's a stage and all men and women merely players" originates from which Shakespeare play?
- 4 In the BBC sit-com Open all Hours, how was Granville related to Arkwright?
- 5 What nationality was the composer Chopin?
- 6 What is the longest river in Scotland?
- 7 In which year did the soap opera Coronation Street make its TV debut?
- 8 Who wrote the Booker Prize winning novel, Midnight's Children?
- 9 What is the capital of Nepal?
- 10 In 2001, who was caught cheating on ITV's Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?
- 11 How would you write the number 55 in Roman numerals?
- 12 What word can be both a metallic element and the name of a London theatre?

Answers on page 44

# Corsley & Chapmanslade Churches **May Fayre** In the garden of St Margaret's House, Corsley BA12 7QD Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 10.30 - 12.30pm Plant Sale Cake stall Refreshments

# **More Help!**

We're hoping some of our longest-standing members of the villages can help with a bit more investigating! Over the last 110 years, the Corsley Show were very fortunate to have had a number of cups donated to be awarded to winners of classes in the Horticulture and Crafts competition. We are no longer able to award the cups for the Corsley Fayre so

Theresa & Cecil Watts – I believe their son Dudley lives in Warminster, does anyone know his address?

H T Cookson

G P Wheatley

S A Whatley

Mrs R A Hoare

we need to track down either the original owners of the cups or their relatives to be able to return them. If you know of any surviving relatives (no matter where they are in the world!), we'd be very grateful for any contact information you have. If you have any information at all please do let Viv Thomas know at paradisefound86@icloud.com

A Watts Gerald T Youdan Margaret Gough

PAF Carr

# **New Highways Contractor**

Wiltshire Council started working with a new local highways maintenance contractor on 1st April, as Milestone Infrastructure begins its  $\pounds 80m$ , five-year contract to help make the county's highways more resilient.

The Milestone Infrastructure team will help to keep Wiltshire moving by maintaining streetlights, cleaning and emptying gullies and drains, repairing potholes, gritting in winter, undertaking emergency maintenance and maintaining carriageways, footways, bridges and verges.

Milestone Infrastructure will also employ the council's Parish Stewards, who work closely with Wiltshire's town and parish councils to fix small highways issues in their communities.

Cllr Caroline Thomas, Cabinet Member

for Transport, said: "This new maintenance contract with Milestone Infrastructure represents a significant investment in our communities. It will help us to keep Wiltshire on the move, while also delivering on our key pledge to be a carbon neutral organisation by 2030.

"Highways maintenance is a key priority for us as a council, because we know how important it is for our residents and local businesses to travel safely and efficiently – be that walking, wheeling, cycling or driving – and we'll be working closely with Milestone Infrastructure over the coming years to improve the very successful Parish Steward scheme, and invest in social value initiatives that work with and enhance our communities."



### Shake off those pounds and dance yourself fit.

Chapmanslade Village Hall Monday 7.30pm - 8.30pm Longbridge Deverill Village Hall Thursday 7pm - 8pm For all levels of fitness and NO experience needed.

For more information please contact Amy 07830 119032



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## Corsley Tennis Club News

#### May on the courts

Hopefully no more battling with high winds and heavy showers, but there's no telling and we haven't worked out which weather app is the most reliable! Any evidence on this would be gratefully received.

Taster sessions for children, young people and adults held last month were well attended. Martin, our coach, made the court look colourful and attractive and ensured the children had fun with lots of equipment to support practice; clearly lots of enthusiasm and potential.

The junior coaching sessions will start mid-April but, if you missed the chance to book your son/daughter on those, there will be more starting Sunday 11th June. Booking is via our website www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/ corsleytennisclub

Adult coaching courses will be on Tuesday evenings starting 6th May. Again details are on the website and that's where you book and pay. We've also been working with the Memorial Playing Field and an organisation called IG Sports Coaching to get them to run a one day multi-activity session for 5 toll-year-olds on Friday 2nd June. See poster elsewhere in this edition of The Bridge.

The Committee has been busy with all the discussions, tasks and decisions which are made behind the scenes to make sure playing tennis at Corsley is a happy, safe and comfortable experience and that we meet all the requirements on us to achieve Lawn Tennis Association standards. So it's everything from planning tournaments, replacing notice boards to adopting new policies such as one for our social media use. The Committee are all volunteers and we are keen to hear from anyone interested in joining us now or in the future.

See you on court !

Liz Garrett Club Secretary



### SUNDAY 7TH MAY 2023 FROM 12 MIDDAY

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#### CHAPMANSLADE VILLAGE HALL

### FREE ENTRY

#### JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE KING'S CORONATION!

- Three Horseshoes bar-
  - · Kids races·
  - · Messy church ·
  - · Music & games ·
  - Royal photobooth and much more!

Bring your own savoury lunch (inc plates and cutlery) and a sweet to share

#### Sunday Lunch

Come and join us for a carvery Sunday lunch (12-2.30pm) for £12.75. Select from a choice of Roast meats, homemade Yorkshire pudding, Roast potatoes and a wide selection of vegetables. For an extra £4.50 why not finish your meal with one of our homemade desserts.

Please contact us to book your table.

#### WE'RE MORE THAN JUST A CAFÉ

#### **COMING UP!!**

St George's Day Lunch

23rd April 2023

Join us for A Glass of Real Ale, Roast Beef & Yorkshire pudding\* and bread & butter pudding

£18.50 per person

\*Sunday Carvery also available, served between 12 & 2.30. Please book in advance.

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# BARTERS PLANT CENTRE

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Dorothy House is embarking on only its second international trek, this time heading to Vietnam in April 2024. The Hospice is looking for a group of intrepid adventurers looking for their next major challenge! With a project at a rural community hospital and a trek through the Pu Luong Natural Reserve, this is an opportunity to cross something incredible off the bucket list whilst also raising vital funds for Dorothy House.

Participants have to raise  $\pounds 3,900$ , with at least half going directly to Dorothy House Hospice to allow staff and volunteers to continue to deliver outstanding end of life care to patients and their families.

Leaving the UK on the 20th April you'll fly to Hanoi, spending some time there before heading out to Mai Chau to a community hospital. Once there, you'll take on a project within the palliative care unit of the hospital working alongside the local team to improve facilities.

The trek is graded moderate to challenging. You will be trekking for 5 consecutive days, over varying and sometimes challenging terrain. You will cover approximately 15-20km per day which will take around 6-7 hours. Those wanting to take part should get training, walking as much as possible, but it will be very achievable for anyone thinking about it.

To find out more and get registered for Trek Vietnam, head to the Dorothy House website here. For any questions, please contact Community and Events Fundraiser Dan Varley on dan.varley@dorothyhouse-hospice. org.uk or give him a call on 01225 721388.

#### Wiltshire Council

# **New Voter Photo ID**

#### What you need to know to cast your votes

I hope that everyone had time to enjoy the Easter break and wind down from the busy pace of life that most people lead. We are fortunate the wonderful countryside is never very far away from us here in West Wiltshire, and even if you must wrap up warm and put your wellies on, there are so many places accessible for us to enjoy. I certainly take the opportunity blow the cobwebs away walking on the hills whenever I can.

Moving from thoughts of a county walk to some practical things that may make people's lives a bit easier, I thought it would be a good idea to highlight how election processes are changing shortly.

There are no scheduled elections in our areas of Wiltshire in the foreseeable future that I am aware of, but the way we vote is changing from 4th May this year. This will affect elections for Wiltshire Council, Town and Parish Councils, Police and Crime Commissioner and UK Parliamentary and by-elections.

Photo ID will be required at all the above elections at a polling station. Only a small minority of people don't have any photo ID such a driving licence, passport, bus pass or some other specific forms of ID that are suitable, so this is unlikely to be an issue for very many people. However, to avoid any problems in the future one simple answer is to apply for a postal vote. Once you have a postal vote it will be continuous for relevant elections unless you cancel it.

I know that some people like the experience of going to the polling station and putting

their cross on their ballot paper in the booth, but this is not a problem as you can take your postal vote to a polling station, and it will be treated the same as a normal ballot paper.

The obvious benefit of a postal vote is that you have time to vote before the day of the election which can be very helpful if you are going to be away from home on election day, or for any other reason are unable to get to the polling station.

Applying for a postal vote is quite simple and can be done online at elections@wiltshire. gov.uk where you can download a postal vote application form, and return it either online at voting@wiltshire.gov.uk or post it to Election Services, at Wiltshire Council. Full details on the webpage\*. You can also contact Election Services by email elections@wiltshire.gov.uk or by calling 0300 456 0122.

If you think a postal vote is a good idea for you, why not go ahead and apply for yours now, we never know what the future holds and you only need to apply once, but if you are a procrastinator, make sure your application is received at least 11 working days before the next election!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you think I can help with any local issue.

Bill Parks Wiltshire Councillor – Warminster North and Rural bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk 07712 490075

\*assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/ system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/1003093/ Postal-vote-application-form-English.pdf

### Out and About Again with the Church Messy Tent

As the season for fayres and fêtes approaches it is time for us to be out and about again with our Church Messy Tent. We will be at the following events this year with themed activities for the young at heart. All are welcome, whether you wish to make something or just come to sit for a while, rest and have a chat. Watch out for us at:

The Coronation Celebrations at:

- Chapmanslade Playing Field Sunday 7th May 12 noon
- **The May Fayre** at The Old Rectory Garden, Corsley Saturday 20th May 10.30am – 12.30pm
- Kingston Deverill Fete Saturday 15th July 2 – 4pm
- Corsley Fayre Saturday 2nd September 10am – 4pm

There are two other events we are planning to run and invite you to:

- A Welly Walk and Picnic Heaven's Gate, Wednesday 2nd August, meeting at 11.30am – more information to follow.
- 'Quest4Faith' A social evening exploring life's questions, open to all faiths and none Tuesday 12th September 7.30 - 9.30pm - more information to follow.

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of these events through the summer months.

Revd Gay Maynard

# Recycled Greetings Cards

Many of us have bought beautiful cards that have been made by recycling cards received, particularly Christmas ones. Over the years the project to raise funds from selling these cards has raised  $\pounds$  50,000 for the Episcopal Church of Sudan and South Sudan. Those people in the Salisbury Diocese who have produced the cards over the years are now wanting to scale down what they do and have suggested that each deanery with a link (as we have with Maridi in the SW of South Sudan) take on recycling cards themselves and put the money in their own link funds – in our case for Maridi.

We, the Heytesbury/Maridi Link Support group would like to bring people together from across the Heytesbury Deanery to form a card making team. We have guiding instructions and those who are experienced would be willing to help get us started if needed. If you enjoy crafting and this is something you could give a few hours to with some other people we would love to hear from you. It would not involve you having to buy your own materials but what you produce could boost our Maridi funds significantly.

Please contact me either by phone or email – revgmaynard@gmail.com 01373 832490.

Many thanks

Gay Maynard







### Corsley Coronation Big Lunch Picnic Sunday May 7th 2023 Memorial Playing Field BA12 7PJ

#### The whole village is invited to celebrate The Coronation of King Charles III

Bring your own food and drink to join the community together in an afternoon of fun, games and festivities. **12.30 pm to 4 pm** 

#### Royal toast to His Majesty with a glass of Fizz, scones and cream

Children's games, skittles, croquet, mini tennis, boules, quiz



Limited and disabled parking available on the field so being dropped off is advised.

Due to Health and Safety regulations no dogs or glass are permitted.

Location using What3words: strict.widely.drifting Contact: Marion 07796 544565, marion@nmc2.co.uk.



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### Six Open Doors

#### Dear Friends,

I wonder what comes into your mind when you think of May? I am instantly reminded of the Maypole and my unfortunate lack of coordination when attempting to dance around it. One of Shakespeare's sonnets also comes to mind in which he refers to 'The Darling buds of May', what a beautiful phrase.

May in the countryside is so lovely is it not; I feel very privileged to be able to live where I do and to be immersed in the natural world as spring unfolds and trees and verges take on a glorious green hue. Walking Betty yesterday I noticed the Hawthorn blossom unfurling; so delicate and pretty. I was reminded of the cyclical nature of life of which we humans are a part, the unfolding of the seasons, the cycle of the moon, the migration of the birds each year. The presence of Bird Flu has added a new yearly pattern to these things; today I let my chickens out into their proper run having been contained and covered for the winter months. It was lovely to watch their excitement at being able to roam freely in their large enclosure again.

We so often forget our place in this cycle of life and death do we not and get all upset and cross when joy fades or sorrow touches our lives. I think it is really helpful to acknowledge and embrace the rhythms of the year, it can be calming and reassuring to notice these things, and to begin to accept the turning of the seasons of love, joy, sorrow and pain that will come our way, and which are an integral part of what it means to be human. When we are in the throes of sorrow and pain, we can take comfort that like the seasons, this time will pass, and however hard it is to believe when our lives are dark and cold, spring will come again. Julian of Norwich expressed this beautifully when she wrote: 'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well'.

The French theologian and philosopher Simone Weil talked about God as a great bell who sang creation. What a wonderful image; I imagine this deep bell vibrating throughout the created order, vibrating through our lives, holding our trials and tribulations in its deep, mysterious music.

Of course, it is all too easy to rush through life not really engaging with our surroundings, nor with our inner world for that matter, we are always thinking of the next thing. The journalist Tobias Jones wrote: 'It's a truism in 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, "electronic assured out-of-placeness." We are notoriously fidgety and lacking attention. We just keep clicking and tapping.'

Why don't we just stop, if only for a while? Why don't we peel ourselves away from the computer or from those things that clamour for our attention and sit still and listen. And then just for a moment, we might feel the presence of that great bell, whose voice resonates through all time and for eternity.

Love and prayers, Pauline

#### May Church Diary

7th May: 5th Sunday of Easter Celebrating King Charles III Coronation 8 am Holy Communion Kingston 9.30 am Chapmanslade Services to celebrate and give thanks for the Coronation followed by bubbles and cake will take place (also celebrating St Philip & St James Patronal Festival ) 10 am Longbridge Deverill

\*

14th May: 6th Sunday of Easter9.30 am Eucharist Corsley10 am Eucharist Kingston

\*

18th May: Ascension Day 9 am Morning Prayer Kingston Deverill

\*

21st May: 7th Sunday after Easter Rogation Services 10 am Rogation service Chapmanslade at Barters Farm Nurseries & Plant Centre

\*

28th May: Pentecost 9.30 am Eucharist Chapmanslade 10 am Eucharist Longbridge

Please note the change of venue to our normal pattern of worship for the 1st & 2nd Sunday in May in order to celebrate St Philip & St James' Patronal Festival.

#### May Church and Community Events

#### Community Church and Coffee Morning

Thursday 18th May 10 am - 12 noon, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

#### Crafternoons

Wednesday 10th and Thursday 25th May 3 – 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

#### May Fayre

Saturday 20th May, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm, St Margaret's House, Corsley

#### Funerals during April

Jennifer Wilson on 21st April in Chapmaslade Georgia Wordsworth 23rd April Brixton Deverill

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families at this difficult time.

#### Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

Rural Dean	Rev Pauline Reid (day off is Fr revpauline@btinternet.com	idays) 01985 841290
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Barbara Hughes Claire Tanner	01373 832273 01985 218099
Pastoral Visitor	Alan Hopkinson	01373 832393
Churchwardens St Margaret's	Vacancy – contact Shane C R I	MacKean 01373 832506 07763 915620
St Philip क्ष St James'	lan Buick	01373 832318
Deputy Churchwardens St Margaret's St Philip क्ष St James'	Vacancy Janet Aylesbury	01373 832752
PCC Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
PCC Treasurer	lan and Janet Buick	01373 832318
Planned Giving Officer	Judith Helliar	01373 832803
Benefice Administrator	Vacancy	
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Light Bites Lunches	Maureen Willcox	01373 832171
Benefice Webmaster	Mike Palmer	mjp.mikepalmer@gmail.com

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



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#### **Chapmanslade Parish Council**

# **Parish Council Briefing**

Councillor Phil Holihead rounds up the PC's meeting on 6th April

#### Planning

**PL/2023/02117** Proposed 1.5 storey house in the grounds of 113 High Street. After considerable discussion about access the council chose not to object to the application, but to raise concerns about a further four vehicles using the narrow access lane. Additional concerns were raised regarding access during the build period and the council felt that this needed to be fully covered in a construction management plan.

A proposal to change the street signs at the junction between Cley Hill Gardens and Barters Drive was considered. Given that the new signs are confusing especially to delivery drivers in that the Barters Drive sign is outside a house in Cley Hill Gardens, it was agreed to forward a solution for updated signs to the Local Highways and Footpaths Group.

A brief update was given on the recently completed School Travel Plan and a meeting is being sought between the PC, the school, and Wiltshire Council to take forward for implementation some road safety improvements proposed in the plan.

The Community Infrastructure Levy funds remain untouched and plans are in hand to hold a public meeting (date to be confirmed), to bring forward projects for the PC to allocate funds. Other Section 106 funds from the Honey Glade development have mainly been allocated by Wiltshire Council to issues such as covering the cost of waste disposal in the development, improving footpaths and to Matravers School. Some funds have also been allocated to Chapmanslade for updating the Memorial Playing Field and a small group are working on what might be achieved with the available money.

The PC was concerned by the National Highways plans to close the slip road onto the A36 at Dead Maids junction for two months and has contacted National Highways to request that a traffic scheme be put in place to allow access for cars.

The May meeting is scheduled for 7pm on **Thursday 11th May** and will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by a PC meeting.

Details of minutes and reports are available at: www.chapmansladepc.org.uk

#### www.chapmanslade.org.uk



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### news from the ladies

#### **Corsley WI**



Patricia Sharrocks rounds up the March meeting

# THE MARKEN

Did you know that there are over 4000 miles of public footpaths in Wiltshire?

This was one of the interesting facts about the county which were shared with members of Corsley WI by Sarah Buttenshaw, our speaker in April. Sarah began with some geographical facts: Wiltshire is the second largest landlocked county in Britain, Shropshire being the largest. It is 52 miles from the northernmost point of the county to the southernmost, and 32 miles across at the widest point.

The evening provided an overview of the landscape, the history, the places and the features which make Wiltshire unique. The chalk downlands form a major part of the county and the sheep which grazed there supported the local wool industry and created wealth for wool merchants. The fertile river valleys provide good grazing for cattle, the dairy industry being important in Wiltshire too.

The flags of Wiltshire have green and white stripes which reflect the chalk uplands and the river valleys. The most recent flag features a great bustard, which the RSPB describes as an iconic species of the Wiltshire landscape. These birds were hunted to extinction in the nineteenth century but have been reintroduced on Salisbury Plain and are now breeding successfully.

The chalk downlands are famous for the white horses carved on hillsides across the county, the newest one being the Devizes white horse which was carved to mark the millennium. It is the only Wiltshire horse facing to the right! At Fovant, military cap badges were carved into the chalk during the second world war by troops stationed nearby. Legend has it that they got up early to do this and slid down the hill on tin trays to return to camp for breakfast!

Perhaps the most famous Wiltshire legend is the one Sarah told to explain why folk born in Wiltshire are known as moonrakers. One night some excise men hunting for smugglers caught a couple of locals raking a pond. When challenged, the men said they were raking for the 'gert cheese' and pointed to the reflection of the moon. The excise men were convinced and left laughing at the simple folk, who then raked out the contraband hidden in the pond!

Sarah talked about the Kennet and Avon canal which crosses the county linking the river Avon to the Thames via the Kennet and which is famous for the Caen Hill flight of locks at Devizes. She also described the county's rivers and the ancient forests of Selwood and Savernake. The woodlands between West Ashton and Yarnbrook, Picket Wood and Clanger Wood, are part of the old forest of Selwood.

The Wiltshire landscape is full of history, Sarah referred to Stonehenge, Avebury, Silbury Hill, iron age hill forts, the Battle of Ethendune when King Alfred fought the Danes, Old Sarum, the building of Salisbury Cathedral, the destruction of Devizes Castle and Wardour Castle in the Civil War. We heard about the historic buildings which have survived: Malmesbury Abbey, Edington Priory, Great Chalfield Manor, Longleat, Wilton House, Heale House and the village of Lacock.

It was an evening full of information and a reminder of the beautiful, fascinating county we live in with so much to explore and enjoy – perhaps by walking a few of those 4000 miles.

We look forward to our next meeting on 11th May in the Reading Room. Our speaker will be Nick King who will be talking about 'The Goats of The Gorge' grazing the cliffs at Cheddar. As always, visitors are welcome to join us.

If you would like more information please contact Alice on 07989 339632 or email alicecambridge40@gmail.com



www.whitbournechapel.org

# Make Music

## Day

#### Wednesday 21st June 7.30 pm (doors open at 7pm) Corsley Reading Room

including Bath Spa MA Students

Come and enjoy live music in the village!

Vocal Trio

Flute Group

#### Piano and Sax Duo

Bar/ tea/coffee available beforehand and during interval

#### Tickets £8

from www.ticketsource.co.uk/ wiltshireruralmusic or via www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk (full refund if we cancel for any reason)

See www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk for more information

Organised by the Reading Room Committee in conjunction with Wiltshire Rural Music

This event is happening on the UK's National Make Music Day and the proceeds will be divided between the Reading Room and WRM.





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# Corsley War Memorial Playing Field

As we near the end of April we have finally managed to get onto the field and do some mowing.

Cricket matches officially started on the 23rd April with Wiltshire under 11's using Corsley for one of their training and selection games.

Corsley has a full fixture list again this year. Everyone is welcome to come along and watch, get a cup of tea and even cake. If you want to dust off your whites and have a game, umpire or score you will be most welcome.

It is going to be a very busy summer with the Coronation happening on Sunday 7th May at lunchtime and in July we will be hosting a walk for all those people who take part in the Wiltshire striders events.

There will also be a children's sport day during the May half term. If you are interested in having your children attend please speak to Mark in the Tennis Club.

In recent weeks I have had several conversations with parents who did not know you could book the pavilion for parties. We have a number already booked. It is the perfect place to have a party with lots of room to run about and play. We have also bought a range of new outdoor games for children and adults to play. Please contact Marion if you want more details.

You may have also noticed that the tennis club has a new coach and it is great to see lots of kids playing tennis on Sunday mornings. I understand there are still places if you want to attend.

Finally, can I just remind everyone that dogs are not allowed on the field but are welcome in the carpark

Neil Carpenter

# Corsley Fayre Update

#### 12 noon to 4 pm Saturday 2nd September Corsley showfield, BA12 7QH

Planning for the Corsley Fayre in September is continuing apace. A number of attractions and stalls have been confirmed and more are in the pipeline. The schedule for the Horticulture and Craft tent is being compiled and version one of the layout has been discussed.

There will be no charge for entry to pedestrians. The decision has been taken to charge for cars entering the site  $-\pounds 5$  per car. However ,each car will receive one entry into the raffle that is being organised and, ladies and gentlemen, the prizes currently being offered in the raffle are nothing short of stupendous! The raffle will obviously also be available to anybody wishing to buy further tickets.

As last year, the Ceilidh, held in support of the RUH Cancer Unit will be taking place in the evening on the site.

It is not too late to volunteer your services. Anybody wanting to get involved is welcome to contact any of the following; John Willcox

corsleyshowsec.jdw@gmail.com

David Hood davidhood100@gmail.com

Alan Hutton adhutton@btinternet.com

Viv Thomas paradisefound86@icloud.com **Corsley Parish Council** 

# **Annual Parish Meeting**

#### 7 pm, Monday 15th May Corsley Reading Room

### **This YOUR meeting**

It is the annual occasion when you have a chance to discuss the issues which you believe most affect the village.

It is hoped to have a representative of Wiltshire Council to talk about the traffic issues affecting the village

followed by

PC Chairman's Annual Report

and

Any Questions

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

### Public Meeting 7 pm Thursday 25th May at Chapmanslade Village Hall

Chapmanslade Parish Plan Steering group are holding a meeting to discuss how the funds (Community Infrastructure Levy CIL) from the Barters Farm (Honey Glade) development might be spent to best effect in the parish. A number of projects will be explained and discussed to work out the best way forward to facilitate a parish council decision in the Autumn.

Everyone is welcome and your help is needed to shape the future of Chapmanslade. Drinks and refreshments will be available and we also hope to be able to open the bar

For further information or if you have suggestions please contact Adam Oakley 07504 192656 cllradamoakley@gmail.com

# Wonderful Walks

Alas, poor LADY, I knew you well...



I need to begin this month's walk with some very sad news. My little silver Honda Jazz (WN55 LDY) has gone; sudden bills for repairs and replacements proved too much for my purse to bear. If you've suffered the same trauma, you'll understand the

shock and the sorrow I feel; life is all about buses now; where they do go and don't, what days they do run and don't, too! For this month's walk, here's one I did a year ago. We're heading for Horningsham, though I haven't yet found a bus service going there. Is there one?! I parked up by the triangle of green across the road from the Bath Arms and headed left, along Water Lane, though you may have more trouble parking up in summer months. The road heads gently downhill, with cottages on your left and Horningsham's

is all about
impressive Village Hall on your right. Round
d don't, what
! For this
. year ago.
n, though I
going there. Is
impressive Village Hall on your right. Round
the bend and down in the dip is a stream,
flowing into Mill Farm's extensive pond on
your left. I'm assuming the 'pond' (it's more
like a lake!) was originally a mill pond, as in
collecting and regulating water flow for the
mill buildings that must once have been here.



#### Horningsham village hall

Use the footbridge, pause and count the geese and ducks and then begin climbing uphill towards the left-hand bend. When you reach the cottage there, you'll see you've arrived in Church Street.

Across this street is the village War Memorial, high on the slope, above a water channel. Cross here and walk into the lane that passes the Memorial and dips again, passing

cottages and climbing once more to an almost-crossroads – the track ahead of you now (by 'The Corner) isn't a tarmacked road. If we've had no rain for a few days when you try this walk, give that track ahead a go. I can't remember where it ends, BUT you should be able to work out where you are from the views and, when you've had enough, what went up (you!), surely needs just to turn round and go back down, to get back to the crossroads?! As it had been wet for days when I did this walk, I gave

the track a miss and tried going left at the crossroads. This is a 'No Through Road' for traffic, but after half a mile or so, a gentleman working in a garden told me it leads to the wood you can see on the skyline; walk through that, he said, and you come out somewhere on the Shearwater road. I decided against it, simply

because I didn't want to walk three miles, be tired out and then have to work out how to call the police on my mobile phone for assistance; I'm not



sure they'd have been thrilled to hear from me, either! But if you try it, please write a report for the Bridge with photos, like I do, so that other people will have somewhere new to explore!



if you feel you've earned a rest with facilities and food! Before doing just that, I walked past and right, down into the barriered road leading to Longleat. Neither traffic nor walkers is allowed to enter Longleat this

Decision made on this occasion, I turned right at the crossroads,

into Chapel Lane. Along here, you'll pass a cemetery on the left and then, on the right, is the oldest non-conformist Chapel in England – well, bits of it are – built, I believe, by the Scottish Calvinist masons building Longleat House for Sir John Thynne. One of Whitbourne Chapel's preachers, Mr. Andrew Coxhead, leads Services at Horningsham Chapel, too. If the building's open, do pop in and have a look at it before walking on. Past the chapel is a long stone-built building with a postbox outside; this used to be Horningsham's Post Office, closed around the same time as the Corsley one, I think.

After that, you'll see a grassed area on both sides of the road and, in the distance, to your right, will be the Bath Arms, probably perfect way, unless they've paid the necessary fee, but I walked down to the arched



gatehouse and took a shot of Longleat House in the distance. That's your last car-based walk, unless I get offers of lifts; in future, walks will be where I can reach by bus, which will open up new areas for us, while closing down others. I also hope to take coach daytrips, extending opportunities for exploration; maybe we'll end up walking along a beach somewhere this summer..!



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## Whitbourne Chapel

"Speak, Lord, for your servant heareth." 1 Samuel, Chapter3, v9 (Old Testament)

#### Does God 'speak' to believers today?

I was thinking of giving up running a Monday Club which I had run for many years in Brewham Baptist Chapel. At 4 pm the children on the school bus would alight outside the Chapel for the Club. After a biscuit and cold drink, we would sing choruses and have Bible quizzes and a Bible story.



Orcombe Point Prom, Exmouth, March 2023

I want to take you to Orcombe Point, Exmouth. The promenade was very wide with about a 6-7 foot drop to the sand. There is no raised wall so beach trappings are easily passed down to someone on the sand.

The car is parked at a slight angle to the kerb of the prom pointing to the west. The blankets are laid out for a day of sun bathing and paddling. There are four of us, mum, dad, daughter and youngest son. My daughter leaves the beach to renew the parking ticket.

What she sees as she gets up onto the prom will probably never leave her. She sees a car driven between our car and another two spaces away. It is at the wrong angle. The driver tries to select reverse to straighten the car and revs hard so that the car mounts the kerb onto the prom and stops. Further attempts to reverse sees the car hop across the prom, again and again.

People on the beach are shouting, but who takes any notice of noise on the beach?

The car eventually goes front wheels first over the edge of the prom and is only stopped from tipping over by people holding onto the back. An off-duty policeman carefully opens the driver door and turns the engine off and helps the driver out.

We only become aware of this when, looking up, we see the underside of the front of a car above us.

Well Lord you saved me from what might have been a disaster. I took it as a sign to continue the Club, which I did until the primary school children went to senior school and there was no one to get off the bus.

> Ray Mead Chapel Secretary

#### **Please remember:**

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#### A view from over the hedge...

## **Countryside Matters**

March winds and April showers Bring forth May flowers

Well we certainly have had April showers! April's rainfall (to 8th April) was 38mm. Our norm averages around 30mm for the entire month.

The month of May is a beautiful month, with birds singing, blossom in the hedges and orchards at their best and trees unfurling their wonderful leaf colouring.

The land is warm and ready for planting, so we celebrate with our Rogation Sunday, and traditional parish walks and blessing of the crops.

Hopefully the first crop of silage will be harvested this month and packed and rolled tightly into the silage clamps, ready preparing for next winter.

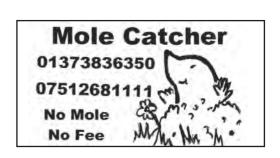
The spring-sown crops of cereal and maize are showing growth as the month progresses; the increased cost of fertiliser, diesel oil and wages being some of the concerns taken account into producing crops and, of course, the concerns of spraying crops for disease has to be considered with the effect the sprays will have on the food produced, on the atmosphere and the soil.

If the month of May is warm enough, the sheep will be shorn of their winter fleece; sadly the cost of shearing hardly covers the wool sold, but the welfare of the sheep is paramount. Shearing of the mother ewes causes some confusion for the young lambs, as the mother has lost some of its familiar smells, so for a few hours after shearing, there is much bleating of lambs as they search for their mothers and the milk they need. At this time of year, the woods, forests and hedgerows are full of colour and the perfume from our native bluebells, enjoy them for this month as the tree cover will soon darken the ground and the bluebells will disappear. Thankfully, the elegant foxgloves will follow on keeping the woodlands looking so beautiful.

Once again we look out for young nesting birds on the ground and in trees and hedges; do keep dogs on leads while out walking. Deer and hare are also hiding in grass so observing their temporary, safe hiding place is important.

For most, the coronation of King Charles III is the first coronation to be experienced – enjoy the event whether in town or countryside, it is part of our inheritance.

During the month of May, and it's Bank Holidays, there are many small and large country events for you to enjoy – village fayres, open gardens and local shows – they are there for everyone to see enjoy and understand what goes on in the countryside. *Judith Helliar* 



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



#### **Coffee Mornings**

The next Coffee Morning is on Tuesday 2nd May, 10 am to 12 noon. Please do join us catch up on village news and buy tickets for Make Music Day!

#### Make Music day

On National Make Music Day, Wednesday 21st June, we are pleased to have arranged, with Wiltshire Rural Music, an evening of live music. The proceeds to be split between us and WRM.

Flautists, saxophonist/pianist and singers will be performing. Doors open at 7pm and live music from 7.30 pm. Bar and teas/coffees available on arrival and during the interval.

A fuller advertisement is in this edition of The Bridge and more details will be on our website. Book with TicketSource or direct with us. Tickets are  $\pounds 8$  each. Please buy in advance, *(full refund if we cancel for any reason)*.

#### **Roof Refurbishment**

The major works to the roof will have been completed by the time you read this article. Once the scaffolding has been removed some further work may be required.

Many thanks to our grant givers: Community Fund (National Lottery), Foyle Foundation and Garfield Weston Foundation. We also acknowledge with thanks support from TMTI, Callaway Scaffolds and local residents who bought into the Buy-a-Tile scheme which has raised about £700 so far.

If you are interested in any of the remaining old tiles for any reason, please contact Mark Richards via email at tiles@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

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

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

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

#### **Committee Members**

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

### Small ads

 $\pounds 1$  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 Seven
- 2 Lincolnshire
- 3 As You Like It
- 4 Nephew (son of Arkwright's sister)
- 5 Polish
- 6 River Tay
- 7 1960 (December)
- 8 Salman Rushdie
- 9 Kathmandu
- 10 Charles Ingram
- 11 LV
- 12 Palladium

#### Local organisation adverts

 $\pounds$ 2.50 per month for a small boxed advert or  $\pounds$ 8 for a full page. Full page adverts are allocated depending on space available and cannot be guaranteed. All monies must be at one of the two drop-off locations (Barters Plant Centre or Acres Supply Garden Centre) by **4pm** on the **19th** of the month. Please note: no cash, no advert!

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