# The Bridge

### October 2015

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

go to a quiz, become a governor, press some apples, jig to some jazz, harvest a supper, stuff a shoe box... there's lots to do in October!

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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 Barters Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley by the deadline.

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

### File types

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

### Advertising

**Small ads** are £1 for <u>each</u> 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 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

### October

Saturday 3rd Corsley litter pick – 10 am, meet opposite the Royal Oak Corsley Harvest Supper – 7 for 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

**Tuesday 6th** Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

**Thursday 8th** Corsley WI - 'The Journey of a Volunteer' – 2.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room 23rd Annual Harvest Service – 7 pm, Standerwick Market. Short service, optional supper, auction of gifts, produce, etc. Proceeds to Alzheimers Society. FREE ENTRY Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade School

**Friday 9th** Bingo Night – 7.30 pm, Frome Town Football Club – £1.00 entry

Saturday 10th FREE Apple Pressing Day – from 11 am, Corsley Memorial Playing Field Chapmanslade Harvest Supper – 7 for 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade School

Thursday 15th Warminster mobile library (see page 15 for times)

Saturday 17th Cool Jazz and Pop Classics – 7.30pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Wednesday 28th Light Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 - 1.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 29th Warminster mobile library (see page 15 for times)

### November

**Tuesday 3rd** Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

**Thursday 5th** Warminster Area Board – 7 pm, Civic Centre, Warminster

**Saturday 7th** Corsley litter pick – 10 am, meet opposite the Royal Oak

## **Diary** Dates

### **Thursday 12th** Warminster mobile library (see page 15 for times) Corsley WI - 'Gardens and Flowers' – 2.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade School

**Wednesday 18th** Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Thursday 19th Parochial Church Council

**Saturday 21st** Chapmanslade Quiz

Wednesday 25th Light Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 - 1.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

**Saturday 26th** Warminster mobile library (see page 15 for times) Corsley Show Society Annual General Meeting – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 28th Christmas Market – 10 am Corsley Reading Room

### December

**Tuesday 1st** Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

**Saturday 5th December** Corsley litter pick – 10 am, meet opposite the Royal Oak Village Carol Evening – 7 pm Corsley Reading Room

### Monday 7th Corsley Parish Council - Quarterly Meeting – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 10th Corsley WI Christmas Tea – 2.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room 'Light Up A Life' – 6 pm, Rook Lane Arts - a chance to remember loved ones who are no longer with us Chapmanslade Parish Council – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade School

continued...

#### Saturday 12th Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches - Christmas Coffee Morning – 10.30 am – 12 noon, Godswell Grove Farm

Wednesday 16th Lite Bites Christmas Lunch –12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

**Thursday 17th** Church and Community Coffee Morning – 10 am - 12 noon, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

## 2015 Poppy Appeal

This year house-to-house collections will start in Corsley on Saturday 24th October, ready for Poppy Day on Saturday 7th November and Remembrance Day on Sunday 8th November.

Last year Corsley raised £1,783.72 from house-to-house collections, pubs and PCC donations. This was really appreciated by the British Legion who give practical help, advice and support to serving members of the Armed Forces, veterans of all ages and their families. The numbers of people they are helping increases year on year so please help by buying your poppy from one of our house-to-house collectors, The Royal Oak, The Cross Keys, Chapmanslade School, Little Cuckoos or Acres Supply.

If you are a regular collector, please would you contact me to confirm your availability to collect again this year. We are also looking for new volunteers to take on the house-to-house collections.

Jackie Jasper Area Poppy Appeal Organiser 01373 832301

## Corsley litter pickers

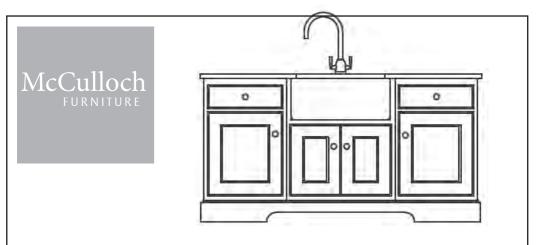
We meet opposite the Royal Oak at 10 am on the first Saturday of each month. Our next 'pick' is on Saturday 3rd October– do come along and help keep our village beautiful. *Cath Aylesbury and Sue Taylor*  Paid-for green bin collections

#### **Corsley and Chapmanslade**

Wednesday 7th October Wednesday 21st October

Please note that green bin collections are now a CHARGEABLE service. If you have not signed up to and paid for this service, your green bin will **not** be emptied.





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Every Thursday during October and November 2015 from 6-8 pm

> (swap your pint for a different drink such as a small glass of house wine or soft drink)



Corsley Heath, Warminster, BA12 7PR

## Bob's bafflers

- 1 What do Americans call braces?
- 2 Shakespeare was born and died on which Saint's day?
- 3 In which Dickens' novel does Thomas Traddles appear?
- 4 On which island did King Kong live?
- 5 At which race course is the St Leger run?
- 6 What is the last word sung in "Rule Britannia"?
- 7 In which opera would you find Lieutenant Pinkerton?
- 8 What is the administrative centre (county town) of Kent?
- 9 In Scrabble, what is the letter "C" worth?
- 10 From which musical does the song "Old Man River" originate?
- 11 Whose arch enemy was "Two Ton Ted from Teddington"?
- 12 Which word can go after nut, but before jack, to form two new words?

# Who will tell the next generation?

Here in the parish of Corsley and Chapmanslade we have a small team who take the Old and New Testament stories into the schools.

**OPEN THE BOOK** offers a programme of themed and dramatised Bible stories at no charge to the schools. Each session is around 10 minutes long and fits comfortably into assembly times.

Our teams of volunteer storytellers, most of whom are retired with an hour or two to spare each term, use drama, mime, props, costume – even the children and staff themselves – to present Bible stories in ways that are lively, engaging, informative and great fun for everyone involved.

We are now looking for more people to come and join our group so that we can continue to **OPEN THE BOOK** in our schools and preschools across our Benefice in Corsley, Chapmanslade, Crockerton and Horningsham.

Could you spare the time to come and join our team and help to spread the word to the next generation?

Further information available from Pat Ryan 01373 832650, or Di Britten 01373 832515 cleyhillchurches@gmail.com



Answers on page 52

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### A simple gift

## Shoe Box Appeal launch

10.30 am, 18th October at St Margaret's Church

#### 'GO' boxes now available!

Put some of your Christmas goodwill into a shoe box – and send it to a child in need! Over 70 of you did it last year, so let's do it again this year.

When you start planning your Christmas this year, why not share some of the joy and fun? For hundreds of thousands of desperately needy children, there will be no Christmas coming at all in 2015 unless you send it to them in a shoe box. This year, as last year, the boxes from our area will be sent to the following countries; Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia, Kenya, Kosova, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Romania, Serbia, Swaziland, Ukraine and Zimbabwe.

So – how do you send Christmas to a child in a shoe box? Simply take an empty shoe box, wrap it in gift paper (lid and box separately) and fill it with toys, educational supplies, hats and scarves and other items that will bring joy to a child's life. This year we have 'Go' boxes available. These boxes, from Samaritans Purse, are ready for you to fill with your gifts, so if you don't want to cover the box yourself, come along to our service (details below) and collect them or just give me call.

This is the sixth year our church will be taking part, and if you would like to contribute, please contact Pat Ryan 832650

There is a leaflet we can give you, full of ideas of what to put in the shoe box, plus an identifying label to stick on the front of your box and a donation envelope so that you can include the £3 per box required by



Samaritan's Purse to cover the distribution, transport, processing and promotion costs. Why not bring your wrapped and filled shoe box to our church on our Shoe Box Celebration Service on 15th November. To make an even bigger impact, why not involve your whole family, neighbours and friends and bring them all along to the service, or contact me on the above number about collection.

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project. This community project pulls together churches, schools, groups and businesses throughout the UK and since 1990 the project has brought the joy of Christmas to millions of boys and girls throughout the world. The shoe boxes are given unconditionally, regardless of nationality, political background or religious beliefs.

**Examples of gift ideas** – for full list, please see Samaritans Purse leaflet. Yes please to: toys - small cars, tennis sized balls, dolls, soft toys, harmonicas, yo-yos, skipping ropes, jigsaws. School supplies - pens, pencils and sharpener, felt pens, crayons, writing pads or paper, colouring and picture books, etc. Hygiene items - toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, comb, flannel, etc. Other – sweets, T-shirts, socks, sunglasses, hat/cap, hair clips, toy jewellery. A personal note – in a separate envelope, you may enclose a note and a photo. No thanks to: food/chocolate, medicine/ vitamins, war-related items, liquids, breakable items, aerosol cans.

### www.samaritans-purse.org.uk



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## **Marketing and Publicity Officer**

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An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Marketing and Publicity Officer to join the Chapmanslade Village Hall team in promoting our facilities and events. Responsibilities include:

- support the team to increase public awareness of the Village Hall events and facilities
- create printed and digital promotional material when required

- support the fundraising team by publicising events
- prepare press releases and other literature to promote our charity and events
- maintain relationships with local media contacts

You must be self-motivated, able to work in a team and be flexible. Previous experience in a similar role would be an advantage but not essential.

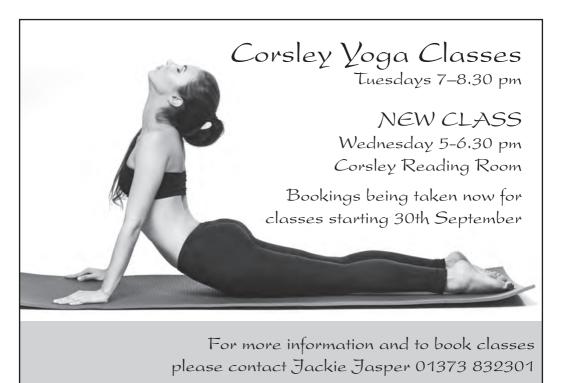
To apply, please contact: village.hall@chapmanslade.org.uk

Harvest Suppers Saturday 3rd October, 7 for 7.30 pm Corsley Reading Room Saturday 10th October, 7 for 7.30 pm Chapmanslade School Bring your own drinks (glasses provided) £7 for adults and £3 for children Tickets and further details available from Claire da Costa 832113 - Corsley Supper Anne Good 832505 - Chapmanslade Supper

or PCC members

Come and join us as we celebrate harvest in the traditional way with good food and good company. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Chapmanslade Village Hall presents an evening of **Cool Jazz and Pop Classics** with Frank's Band featuring Frank (bass), Helen (keyboard), Val (vocals) and Dave (trumpet) Saturday 17th October from 7.30 pm Licensed Bar $\cdot$ Hot Supper Tickets £10 from Carol 01373 832875 or Ken 01373 832034 Please purchase tickets in advance to reserve your supper! Proceeds to Chapmanslade Village Hall Improvement Fund



### **Babysitter available**

Call Isabella Nunes da Costa 07985 245774 01373 832113

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!

## The mobile library service visits next on:

### Thursday 1st October

10:10 - 10:30 Corsley, by the Royal Oak pub

10:45 - 11:00 Chapmanslade, outside 132 High St

11:05 - 12:00 Chapmanslade, by the school

Future dates for this round are:

Thursdays 15th, and 29th October 12th and 26th November

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## BARTERS PLANT CENTRE



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### **Corsley Parish Council**

## **Parish Council Briefing**

Neil Britten, rounds up the PC's quarterly meeting chaired by the Vice Chair, Judith Helliar

There has been one quarterly meeting on 7th September to consider two planning applications, the future of the Old School Playing Field (OSPF) and the village response to our broadband service. There was also a meeting of the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) on the 9th of September attended by Simon Jasper on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **Planning Applications**

#### 15/07348/FUL

No. 111, The Hollow. This is an application to convert the existing garage to a two storey gymnasium, erection of an attached building to contain a 14.5 m swimming pool and construction of a separate new double garage with shower room and attached conservatory/art room. The work requires demolition of an existing large timber shed to make way for the new garage and swimming pool. With the exception of the gymnasium, the development, some 38 m long, is single storey and is separated from the main house by approximately 15 m. It would be located on the east side of the plot, not visible from the Hollow itself, but well in view from the higher ground to the west of the Hollow.

The PC felt that this proposal constituted over development of the site, with a design illogically separated from the main house, seemingly more intended to allow for a future separation of the buildings into separate dwellings than a sensible layout for 'living'. An objection to the proposal was registered.

### 15/08097/FUL

No 1, Park Cottages. No. 1 is semidetached and the proposal seeks to construct a fill-in extension to enlarge the current kitchen and provide an additional bedroom. The extension would not be visible from the road or overlook next door and would use materials to match the existing building. The lines of the new extension replicate the front gable and bring symmetry to the new elevation.

The PC supported the application.

### OSPF

As has been reported on several occasions, the PC has a long lease from Wiltshire (125 years) on the OSPF. It was planted in the Queen's Jubilee year with a mixed plantation of trees on its northern side and is bounded on three sides by what were hedge plants, but which are now mature trees which in several places overhang the new plantation. The lease was negotiated primarily to give the village control over a piece of land which was widely regarded as vulnerable to consideration as a potential site for travellers. It was also regarded as an amenity for the village and is used by Little Cuckoos, under a sub-lease with the PC.

The lease fee with Wiltshire has been paid off and the PC now manages the maintenance of the field, in conjunction with Little Cuckoos. There is work to be done to improve access amongst the plantation and annual maintenance needed to cut the grass. The annual cost right now is around £700 per annum, which represents about 9% of the annual precept and something approaching £90k over the lifetime of the lease. There is little evidence of regular use of the field, other than Little Cuckoos.

The PC has spasmodically debated possible additional uses for the OSPF which would not impinge on, or detract from, other village facilities, but which might reduce the costs of an under-utilised asset. Nothing tangible has emerged and the issue is being re-examined with a view to putting it on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) in March 2016, for possible consideration by the village.

At present the two major potential options which are under consideration are use of the site to provide allotments and sub-lease to the new owners of the Old School. The latter have expressed an interest. However, the PC's lease has many conditions which have to be honoured in any sub-lease and provision of allotments carries legal obligations which could be onerous. Any new proposal would require the consent of Wiltshire and village agreement.

Right now, the PC is taking legal advice, with the intention of agreeing a way forward at the December quarterly meeting. Any views from readers are welcome and will be put into the debate in December.

### Broadband

Interest in this topic is slowly growing, with a strong body of opinion developing that we are being neglected and deserve better. There have also been encouraging offers of help from 'experts' and the intention is to debate the subject again at the December meeting to assess the case for a full survey, to be reported at the APM next year. Thank you to all who have forwarded their views and offered help.

#### Streetscene

At the time of the September meeting, the streetscene was fairly quiet, but since them there have been disturbing developments. Simon Jasper attended the CATG and has also been in communication with Tim Woolford, Local Highways Area Manager South.

#### Maintenance Contract

To make things totally clear, below are the words provided by Wiltshire and Simon's reply on behalf of the PC:

"On the 1st September 2015 Balfour Beatty Living Places novated their sub-contract with the Total Landscape Group (TLG) to Wiltshire Council. This means that for the grounds, cleaning and local highway services the council now communicates directly with TLG. This also means that the council has a new working arrangement and provision. The streets will still be cleaned, the grass cut and pot-holes filled, but the way the service is provided has changed. This will also affect the town and parish council communications with their local Coordinator. Maintenance work will be given to TLG based upon the priority of the work identified by the council, using the MyWiltshire App system (with the exception of scheduled grass cutting). What this will do is focus the resources on

known issues on the network, rather than a historical scheduled service. The reason for the change is to move away from cleaning clean streets, clearing free running drainage or cutting highway grass that has not grown. The concept is about maximising the use of the limited resources maximising the benefits to the maintenance of the network. To allow this to happen programmed work will cease and be replaced by a rolling review system, where each day the assessment of outstanding works are gauged, with the highest need work being given the priority. This means that Community Days and maintenance programmes (not the major maintenance schemes) will cease immediately, being replaced by the new reactive service. Hence any programmed work you currently were issued is now obsolete. Please can you ensure this information is no longer used, or it will cause vou confusion.

To ensure the parish and town councils issues are addressed it is vital that reports are made through the MyWiltshire system. This can be accessed by the Council's website, through the mobile phone App or by phoning the council on 0300 4560105. To ensure the right priority is given, it will benefit all if as much information is given at the time of the report. Ideally a photo of the issue will be provided. This will ensure an immediately assessment can be made and the reporter informed on the action to be taken or not. The council is asking town and parish councils not to report local maintenance issues to the Coordinator but report it direct on the MyWiltshire system. Sadly, if reports go to the Coordinator this will slow the process or even may not enter the system, so really must be avoided. If the correct reporting system is followed, it will

ensure the matter is given the right priority and the Council acts appropriately. This will allow those issues that should be dealt with quickly, to be resolved to the correct priority bringing improvements where most needed."

This is a very disappointing development and on behalf of the PC Simon provided the following response:

**"Parish Prioritisation**. This Parish already puts almost all its reports onto My App. The prioritisation over those tasks reflects the democratic input of local people through their Parish Council, while the single point of contact was a compromise to make communication workable for the Council under the contract put in place two years ago. You have now even removed the single point of contact and effectively excluded Parish and Town Councils from that prioritisation process, or at least made it significantly more difficult.

**Reactive Maintenance**. I see no maintenance being done in Corsley reflecting your claim of "cleaning clean streets, clearing free running drainage or cutting highway grass". Indeed the current contract has only in the last year got to grips with routine clearing of gullies and ditches; it is now running well. When it was introduced there was a year of very poor maintenance with blocked drains and gullies causing far more expense to the Council in clearing up the consequences. Having to report every blocked gully and ditch just won't happen.

**Community Days**. With 20 kms of lanes and nine hamlets, in addition to Corsley Heath, the Community Days have allowed direct help to be given to small communities who were being missed by routine maintenance. This is now lost.

### www.corsleyandthebridge.co.uk

My Wilts App. I acknowledge the alternative access through the telephone, but later in your email you make it clear a photograph is required for the prioritisation process to take place effectively. Older people rarely get to grips with web site reporting and this is compounded by a clunky app, so they are somewhat excluded. Of course the Parish Council has hitherto been able to make up for the shortfall, by prioritising and communicating with the coordinator. Apparently, not anymore."

#### New schemes

The CATG made very clear that is what it deals with, not routine maintenance. Highways are failing to cope with the demands from CATG on their resources. Consequently, schemes will now be divided into Category 1 and 2. There will only be five Category 1 schemes at any one time; currently we have one, the Geys Hill passing place. In addition, the intention of charging for part of the cost from Town and Parish councils was made clear and this could affect the precept.

As far as Geys Hill is concerned, we are still awaiting the design. This was promised before Christmas and the PC will continue to chase this one. The work may require road closure for five days, but we have been promised that residents would be assisted with access if a closure happens. The PC recognises the implications for such essential aspects as access for milk tankers, Longleat HGV access and agricultural vehicles. When it is clear what is actually happening, and when, Simon will get the views of those who will be affected in order to get the best solution.

**18 tonne weight limit – Corsley A362 westbound**. This was raised at the CATG. It transpires that the limit is Maximum Gross Weight (MGW), so whether the vehicle is laden or unladen the weight this refers to is the one on the vehicle axle weight plate. This means it is relatively easy to spot illegal use of the road; any vehicle with more than two axles will be in excess of the 18 tonne limit. The PC recognises that generating some police interest is necessary and will be investigated. In the meantime any local observer may make his/her own report if a culprit is noted.

#### Dates of the next meeting

#### **Quarterly Meeting**

7th December 7.30 pm at Corsley Reading Room.

Occasional meetings, at short notice, will also be held to discuss planning applications and other urgent business. Notices are posted on the village noticeboards and on The Bridge website.

> Neil Britten Chairman, Corsley Parish Council, neil.britten@btinternet.com



Alice Baker on 01985 845535 or email alice.baker@longleat.co.uk





### **Biology: changing the world**

## A summer of science and politics

It was a busy summer for me engaging politicians and the public in science. My first job was to help my professional organisations explain to Ministers and other MPs how important science, engineering, technology and mathematics (the so-called STEM subjects) were to the UK and how the next spending review needs to ensure the UK's scientific excellence can be maintained.

The UK spends a lower proportion of its GDP on scientific research than any other country in the major nations and, whereas China, the US and others are increasing their spending on STEM subjects, the UK may reduce funding even further. This affects not only Government spending but also the investments that industry is prepared to make, and therefore the number of jobs available. One reason that GlaxoSmithKline. the pharmaceutical multinational, remains in the UK rather than relocating to Asia is the quality of the science it can draw on here.



Nigel Brown is a retired Professor of Microbiology. If there is a biological topic that you would like him to write about, or if you have questions about this article, please contact him at n igelbrown48@gmail.com.

In August the Scottish Government declared that GM crops could not be grown in Scotland for the foreseeable future. I understand that political decisions cannot be based entirely on scientific evidence, and that the Scottish Government wished to protect the reputation of their Food and Drink industries against adverse public opinion. However, I was annoyed that they did not simultaneously declare that the scientific evidence indicates that GM crops are safe for public consumption. So I worked with the Society for General Microbiology in writing to the Scottish Government about this decision and regretting that the safety of GM crops was not emphasised in the original announcement.

My final activity was a Citizen Science project to ask members of the public visiting forest areas to help the Society for General Microbiology collect soil samples, so that we could look for micro-organisms producing new antibiotics. We also persuaded the Prime Minister's Office to let us collect a soil sample from the aarden of 10 Downing Street. The Prime Minister and the Ministers of Science understand the urgent need to identify new antibiotics and were happy to help us do so.

Science is important for everybody, not just for scientists. Nigel Brown

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### **Three Open Doors**

#### The Rector writes:

Dear Friends,

Sitting down to write this letter I am juggling two trains of thought. One is that it is October once again and the time of year to think about Harvest and give thanks for the food we enjoy; we acknowledge the incredibly hard work our farmers do to produce it in the incredibly difficult circumstances the industry finds itself in today. We know that times are very hard indeed for our farmers and we must do all we can to support them.

My second train of thought looks beyond our own needs. None of us I would imagine, remain unmoved by the humanitarian crisis we are faced with; most of us must have asked ourselves over the last few days and weeks: 'What can I do? How can I help?' This is a quote from Salisbury Diocesan website.

'What we can do now is to encourage donations to organisations working with refugees. We can also prepare ourselves and our communities to be welcoming places of sanctuary. We can equip ourselves with the facts about why so many people are having to seek refuge at this time and use that information to counter myths and falsehoods about them. We can encourage people, especially landlords, to think about how accommodation might be offered. Citizens UK have launched an appeal for homes and more information can be found on their website.'

Here is what the Cley Hill churches have decided to do. There is an urgent need to provide tents and blankets to the thousands of refugees arriving daily in Greece and in the numerous camps set up in the Lebanon and Jordan. A daily flow rate of 1500 is currently being seen and this will certainly not lessen any time soon. Along with other organisations we would like to raise money to support the Shelter Box disaster charity, an organization set up to deal with natural and manmade disasters and which supplies tents and specialist equipment providing families with shelter, warmth and dignity when they need it most. Please, please, please ask yourself if you can do anything to raise money for this charity, see if you can persuade local businesses to support this and come along to the Harvest service if you can, and bring some money; the collection will be going to Shelter Box.

I am sitting typing this in lovely house, in a peaceful community. I have a meal cooking in the oven, a bed to go to, I will wake up to the quiet of the countryside and the prospect of an enjoyable and fulfilling day ahead. Thousands upon thousands of people, men women, children, and babies will risk their lives today because the lives they have now are full of terror, thousands of people face a bleak and uncertain future; please help.

Love and prayers,

Pauline

### **October Church Diary**

Saturday 3rd October Harvest Supper – 7.30 pm at The Reading Rooms, Corsley Please contact Claire da Costa on 832113

\*

Sunday 4th October: Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity 8 am at St Michael the Archangel, Brixton Deverill: 1662 BCP Holy Communion

9.30 am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Harvest Festival Eucharist

10.30 am at St Peter & St Paul, Longbridge Deverill: Harvest Festival

٠

Monday 5th October Time to Think Home Group 10.30 am at 5 Brimhill Rise, Chapmanslade Details from Phil on 832845

\*

Saturday 10th October Children's Book Library Church open 11 am to 12.30 pm at St Margaret's, Corsley

Harvest Supper 7.30 pm at Chapmanslade School Please contact Anne Good on 832505 for tickets

\*

Sunday 11th October: Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity 9.30 am St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Harvest Festival Family Eucharist

10.30 am at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: Eucharist

11 am at St Mary's, Temple: Harvest Matins

#### \*

Tuesday 13th October 7.30 pm at Honeysuckle Cottage, Corsley After Alpha Home Group – please contact Richard 832594 for details Thursday 15th October Church and Community Coffee Morning 10 am to 12 pm at the Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

#### ٠

Sunday 18th October: Twentieth Sunday after Trinity 9 am at St Mary's, Temple: 1662 BCP Holy Communion

10.30 am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Family Worship

10.30 am at St Michael the Archangel, Brixton Deverill: Eucharist

\*

Monday 19th October Time to Think Home Group 10.30 am at Wheelwrights, Chapmanslade Please contact Phil 832845 for details

#### \*

Saturday 24th October Children's Book Library Church open – 11 am to 12.30 pm at St Margaret's, Corsley

#### \*

Sunday 25th October: Last Sunday after Trinity 9.30 am at St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade: Eucharist

10.30 am at St Mary the Virgin, Kingston Deverill: Eucharist

#### \*

Wednesday 28th October Light Bites Bread & Soup Lunch 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm at the Reading Rooms, Corsley

Sunday 1st November: All Saints' Day 8 am at St Michael the Archangel, Brixton Deverill: 1662 BCP Holy Communion

9.30 am at St Margaret's, Corsley: Eucharist

10.30 am at St Peter & St Paul, Longbridge Deverill: Morning Worship

4.30 pm at St John the Baptist, Horningsham Benefice All Souls' service

Rural Dean	Rev Pauline Reid revpauline@btinternet.com		01985 841290
Associate Priest	Rev Di Britten		01373 832515
Lay Pastoral Assistants	Richard Dean Barbara Hughes Claire Tanner		01373 832594 01373 832273 01985 218099
Pastoral Visitor	Alan Hopkinson		01373 832393
Churchwardens	John Helliar Charles Thackway		01373 832803 01373 832048
Deputy Churchwardens	St Margaret's St Mary's St Philip क्ष St James'	Judith Helliar Harcourt Gough Janet Aylesbury	01373 832803 01373 832039 01373 832752
Benefice Administrator and Safeguarding Officer	Marion Muston cleyhillchurches@gmail.com		01373 839026
PCC Secretary	Phil Jefferson		01373 832845
PCC Minute Secretary	Sue Fear		01373 832074
PCC Treasurer	Keith Muston		01373 832755

### **Fundraising Matters**

Our Christmas Fayre this year will be at Godswell Grove Farm, Black Dog, Chapmanslade on Saturday 12th December. We will have all the usual attractions plus hold the Christmas draw for the 50/50 Club – top prize of £200 in cash. You cannot win if you do not enter!!

### Welcome and Congratulations

Congratulations to Jonathan Bowen and Jade Deverill on their marriage at St Margaret's on September 26th.

### Prayers and Sympathy

Our prayers and special thoughts are with the family of Fred Latchem whose funeral was held recently.

### Children's Library

Our Children's library was opened on September 19th. The children who came along listened to stories being read by Dot and went off with many new books to read. The library initially will be open alternate Saturdays for children to come along and borrow and exchange books. There is no charge for the library so why not bring your children along and let them choose some books from the excellent range we have.

If you have any children's books that you no longer need please remember that they will be gratefully received for our library. Give us a ring on 839026 or 832755 to arrange delivery or collection. Thank you.



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### news from the ladies

## **Corsley WI September News**



Carol Seward rounds up the September meeting and announces some forthcoming events

The 95th Anniversary of Corsley WI was celebrated at their September meeting, with a wonderful evening of good food, good company and good entertainment. The President, Carol Seward, welcomed members and special quests, the Chair of the Wiltshire Federation of WIs, Isobel Acott, our WI Advisor Lesley Holdway and friends from Bratton and Dilton Marsh WIs, to our special occasion, which was also to celebrate the Centenary of the WI. The super dinner at the Reading Room was provided by our caterer, Sandy Parrish and was followed by musical entertainment from Chiff Chaff, with a selection of well-known songs from the past 100 years.

Members of the committee decorated the hall and brought flower arrangements for the tables. There was a display of many photographs plus other items of memorabilia of WI events over the years. Di Dowling made a beautiful anniversary cake and Isobel Acott unveiled the lovely new cloth for our competition table made by Valerie Benbow. A special draw was made

for a Bursary to Denman College, which was won by Caroline Higham.

The competition for a brooch was won by Anne Carruthers, with Jean White second and Rosemary Collins third. Valerie Sandoe won the raffle for the cushion made by Fiona Johnston for the WI Centenary.

Thank you to everyone who supported our WI stall at the recent Corsley Show and braved the inclement weather and congratulations to Anne Carruthers for winning the AW Carter Perpetual Challenge Shield for the most points won by a WI member in the classes in the Horticultural Tent at the show.

The next meeting is at the new time of 2.30 pm on Thursday 8th October, when Sarah Green will tell us about the Journey of a Volunteer. The competition is for a teddy bear.

We would love some new members to join us. If you would like further information about our WI, please ring Carol Seward on 01373 832446.

#### Everyone is very welcome to join us for the following activities:

Bridge Club Coffee Morning Gardening Club Lunch Club

First and third Tuesdays each month, 2-4 pm, Corsley Reading Room First Tuesday each month, 10-12 noon, Corsley Reading Room Third Wednesday each month, venues as per club programme Last Tuesday of the month, 12.30 pm, various venues More details on the Gardening Club and Bridge Club from Pauline on 01985 215760



Corsley Memorial Playing Field



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### from the potting shed

### Planting your

## Spring flowering bulbs

Although summer is slowly saying goodbye, that doesn't mean your garden has to as well.

There are many things that can be going on in your garden, one of which being the planting of those bulbs. The bulbs that should be planted in autumn are the spring flowering bulbs and I have a few tips to ensure that your bulbs are given the best future possible.

- When going to the garden centre to buy the bulbs you wish to plant, always try to pick the bulbs that feel firm and, when it comes to a bulb, bigger is better! Smaller bulbs might not flower in the first year and will leave you waiting twice as long for some colour!
- When you've got your bulbs, it's key to prepare the ground first. Bulbs will not grow in a heavy soil, so the tip is to dig in some horticultural grit, alongside some John Innes No. 2. If you're planting your bulbs in a pot it's also a good idea to add some bulb fibre as this will prevent the roots from rotting.
- Which way up is a very common question when it comes to planting a bulb. The shoot should always face up and the root should face down. However, if you are not sure plant the bulb sideways. If you do this the bulb will eventually figure out which way it needs to grow.



- Another question is how deep in which to plant the bulb. The general rule is to plant the bulb at least three to four times its thickness in depth. For example, if the bulb was one inch high, you would need to plant it between three to four inches deep.
- Good positioning is also key. Not all bulbs need sunlight; snowdrops like shady areas in borders or hedgerows Some like dry conditions and others like to be in a moist position, so it's best to read the packet to see where your chosen bulbs will be best suited.
- Finally, I'll share with you a tip that a costumer gave me; buy some bulbs for under-planting. If you have a winter-flowering pot that you like to place outside your front door, plant some tulip and daffodil bulbs underneath the pansies, violas and cyclamen. When one set of flowering is over, your bulbs will come up and you'll have another season of flowers to enjoy.

With those useful, yet easy-to-follow gardening tips, your spring-flowering bulbs should have a positive future to come.

> Kaylee Evans Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley



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#### **Chapmanslade Parish Council**

# **Parish Council Briefing**

Phil Jefferson reports on the Parish Council's activities in September

#### The parish council had one meeting, on 8th September. We were joined by about 30 residents.

#### **Thoulstone Park**

Jeremy Smalley, representing the owner of Thoulstone Park, attended to give us a progress report on developments at the former golf course. He told us that he understood no noise problems had been reported this year. When Thoulstone had been granted a Premises Licence some months ago this had been a major concern to residents living close to the site but no specific problems have been reported in 2015. A planning application to place a number of caravans on the site had been withdrawn but currently three units are being stored there, and Wiltshire Council's planning enforcement officer is in touch with the owner about this. Mr Smalley accepted that the whole area around the former club house is in need of tidying up.

Turning to the proposal to build a hotel on the site, we were informed that negotiations are ongoing and that they are "looking quite promising".

Mr Smalley then informed us of emerging proposals to build a "high–end work space" at Thoulstone, in fact on the field between the A36 and the old road. In effect this would be a substantial office block with space for up to 250 workers and with car parking for 95 cars. We were told that there is a significant demand for owner-managed work spaces in rural locations and that a developer based in Frome is currently in discussion with the site's owners.

Parish councillors and members of the public commented on these proposals. It was generally thought that the chosen site was the wrong one in that it would create an urban environment in a beautiful rural location. It was also queried whether there was a strong and unfulfilled demand for this type of working space in our part of the world.

Mr Smalley thanked us for our comments and promised to report back to us at a later date.

# Barters Farm – proposed development

Hugo Haig, Managing Director of Lochailort Developments, attended to respond to the decisions we had taken at our August meeting, in which we had agreed to support the principle of a housing development at Barters Farm but had said that 37 units were too many. Mr Haig told us that they were prepared to lower the total to 26, which would include eight affordable houses. There would be larger gardens and the new

### www.chapmanslade.org.uk

houses would in general be further apart from existing properties. £50,000 would be available for traffic calming, which would provide automated signs at each end of the village and a limited amount of road markings. Part of this amount would be needed for ongoing maintenance of the proposed open space, which would become the responsibility of the parish council.

Mr Haig requested the parish council's blessing to these proposals and, after a lengthy discussion, we resolved by four votes to one, with one abstention, to support in principle the proposal to build 26 houses. Further discussion will take place at our October meeting.

#### Fracking

The Government's proposal to grant licences for oil and gas exploration at a large number of locations across the country have been widely reported in the media. One of the areas where a licence may be granted includes our parish. We spent some time discussing the issues concerning fracking and reached the conclusion that, for the time being, there would be no real value in expressing opposition but we would closely monitor the developing position.

#### **Planning applications**

Planning applications concerning 68A and 82/84 High Street were discussed. In both cases, the proposed changes are of minor significance and we agreed not to raise any objection.

#### Village Hall

Adam reported that the hall is back in business, following the relaying of the floor.

#### **Parish Council vacancy**

Wiltshire Council has now given us the go-ahead to fill the current vacancy by cooption. Would you be interested in doing your bit for the community at this busy and interesting time by serving as a parish councillor?

If you would like to be considered please drop Minnie House, our clerk, a line at julian\_house@o2.co.uk, to reach her by **Monday 26th October**. Please tell us a little about yourself and what you would like to achieve if appointed.

#### Next meeting

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 8th October**, **7.30 pm** at the school. Do come along and join us, to listen or to speak.

Phil Jefferson 832845 phil.jefferson@virgin.net

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# **Corsley WI 95th Anniversary**

### 10th September 2015

It's a time of jubilation, another milestone passed, Our WI is ninety-five! The time has gone so fast! The Reading Room has been our home for meetings all the while And here we are again today to celebrate in style.

We formed in 1920 and the meetings were quite formal. With Mrs. Bowlby in the chair, this really was quite normal. We started with a whist drive, to raise a pound or two To buy our own piano, back in 1922.

We'd cricket teams and dancing nights, in those days of yore And won prizes for our camisoles in 1924. In 1936, we heard the abdication of the King, When someone brought a wireless set, so we could listen in.

We saved our pennies, one by one, to raise funds for a Bren Gun For whom and why, it does not say, in 1941. We've baked and sewn, made teas and cakes and knitted jumpers too, Made knickers for some children, in 1942.

Saved silver paper, bottle tops, used stamps, old specs and more. Made comforts for our local troops to help in times of war. Since we began, the world has changed, not always for the better. Now we all have cars and phones and rarely write a letter.

Today there's bridge and skittles, with scrabble for a few And gardening and lunch Clubs, so what's to do that's new? We used to have a choir, but the voices have gone quiet And our soups and puds and party teas are no good for your diet.

Yet our members still make jam and keep the home fires burning bright! We also sing Jerusalem, to show we still can fight. But this is time to party, whatever age you are, To celebrate our birthday, with friends from near and far.

So here's a wish for everyone, as this is just for you, Good Luck, Good Health and Happiness, to members old and new. So raise your glasses in a toast and here's the reason why Congratulations from us all, to Corsley WI.

Carol Seward



# News from the Nest

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

#### Back to school!

We are delighted that eight Little Cuckoos have joined us at the nest here at Corsley Cuckoos Preschool and are settling in nicely to the fun in learning this term's theme 'Ourselves and the World'. The children have been busy getting to know each other, the setting and enjoying our fantastic outdoor space whatever the weather! We have received lots of great feed back from our former Cuckoos who flew the nest in July to join the various local primary schools. We wish them all the best as they begin their new journeys.

Tuesdays at the nest is a busy day with the Baby and Toddler Group 10 am - 11.30 am. This provides a great opportunity for younger siblings to be introduced to the setting and to experience play learning fun. 'Thank You' to Emily Edwards who is continuing the Tuesday morning sessions, taking over from Lizzie Purser. 'Thank You' to Lizzie – you have been a vital member of the Cuckoos team.

Over the next few weeks the children be enjoying autumnal and Bonfire Night themed activities, including making collages from leaves and other autumn foliage and creating firework pictures!

Corsley Cuckoos Committee is currently looking for a Chairman to take over the role from Kate Ricks who has supported the nest since 2014. The Chairman's role would take up a minimal amount of your time and includes matters such as recruitment, legal matters and property management/maintenance. We would welcome anyone who is enthusiastic about continuing the success of Corsley Cuckoos to ensure its future for many fledglings to come! The committee would also like to bid farewell and say a massive 'Thank You' to Barley Moss, who stepped down from her role as Treasurer after many years supporting Cuckoos.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on 7th October 7.30 pm at Corsley Cuckoos, please do come along if you would like to hear more about the Preschool, how it's run and our future plans.

Finally, we are holding our annual Macmillan fundraiser on Friday 25th September at 3.30 pm at the Preschool. Please do come along for some cake, coffee and a chat! Donations of cake or raffle prizes are also very welcome!

Term-time opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9am - 3pm Term-time Mother and toddler group: Tuesday 10am - 11.30am For more information, please contact us on 01373 832298 www.littlecuckoos@hotmail co.uk



# RED HOT ROCK & ROLL LIVE AT THE THREE HORSESHOES CHAPMANSLADE Friday 9th October-9pm

# Fracking

You will probably have heard by now about the latest round of licences the government has offered for oil and gas exploration in our area. You may or may not know this will be exploration by Fracking for either coal bed methane or shale gas. The recent issue of The Salisbury Journal has also picked up the issue.

I am a local resident and a member of two local groups 'Keep Wiltshire Frack Free' and 'Warminster Anti Fracking Community'.

As a local resident of Codford I went to one of my parish councillors to see if they had any details about the licenses and was amazed to find out that they weren't even aware of them. They were very interested in hearing about the threat fracking poses on our village and the county as a whole and asked me to come to their next meeting and talk to them about it. I had a very positive response and the council have asked me to also write a piece for the parish magazine which will help inform the local residents of what is happening.

We have decided to offer this to all parishes within the blocks and so if you feel it may help you and your parish better understand the situation myself, or somebody from our group will be more than happy to come and talk with you at your next parish meeting. As I am also writing a piece for the Codford Parish magazine then I would be more than happy for you to put the piece in your parish magazine too.

If you would like more information or would like to talk further then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

> Joe Emmett joe.emmett@btinternet.com

# Corsley Tennis Club News

The Ladies 'B' Team entertained Seend on a pleasant evening at the Corsley Memorial Playing Field. Sadly, they lost by eight sets to nil against opponents who were ultra-competitive to say the least!

Diana Hale and Sue Newell fought hard and the new pairing of Ann Walker and Emma Fox showed considerable potential for the future. The squad looks well set for next year.

Cake Monster

# Silver Surfers IT and Digital Photo Sessions

These sessions have recommenced after the summer and new members are always welcome.

#### PCs, tablets and iPad sessions

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#### **Basics classes**

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# Whitbourne Chapel

#### Singing in the Rain

I opened my curtains at Flers Court at 6 am on August Bank Holiday Monday, and groaned. Rain.

I was in Corsley before 8 am, waiting at the Deep Lane bus stop for Tim Mead. He was going to help me assemble the gazebo,

if nobody else arrived early. I waited for a while, then drove onto the Showfield, hoping to see Tim there. Oh, the mud after a night of rain! My little Jazz and I slithered across the field to the Chapel 'pitch'. Then Richard Wilson (he delivers the 'Good News' paper in Corsley), and Trevor Brain from Operation Mobilisation, materialised through the driving rain and the gazebo was soon up and cosy. Still no Tim.

I found my handbag and checked my

mobile. There was a text from Tim's wife Katie, wondering if I was all right, as Tim was waiting for me at the Heath bus shelter. Silly me; I didn't check which bus stop we'd be using. I reassured Katie and suggested Tim return home for warm food and drink. Almost every vehicle through the main gate that morning was towed or pushed into place. I cheered myself up with a cup of tea and a bacon and egg bap, repeating, "It'll be fine by one o'clock." Trevor and I commented on the steady stream of traffic entering the field and business became brisk, despite the weather. Plenty of interest was generated by our tracts, Bibles and



other materials.

After lunch (chips, of course!), the skies cleared and the sun almost appeared – but not quite. Never mind; visitors to the field were plentiful and Trevor and I were kept busy. Richard did what he always does at the Show; he walked the entire site, chatting with people as he handed out tracts and copies of 'Good News'.

I believe the financial position, following this year's Show, is such

that Corsley Show can continue. Next year's August Bank Holiday Monday will be a lovely sunny day and we hope to see you there – same time, same place, same loving God who cares for us all.

Gill Redman · 01985 215062 · paradiselost@btinternet.com

#### **Regular times**

Services every Sunday morning at 11.00 for about an hour (coffee served at 10.45) Chapel Prayer meeting every Sunday morning from 9.20 - 9.40 Communion on the first Sunday of each month at 12 noon for 15 minutes The Rotary Club of Frome

# FUN QUIZ

7 for 7.30 pm Saturday 24th October Chapmanslade Village Hall

> Teams of 4 Bar and Raffle

Tickets £10 to include supper from Ernie 01373 832763

Net proceeds to: The Rotary Club of Frome Charitable Trust Reg. No. 1100424

> The Rotary Club of Frome Community Projects and Frome Inner Wheel

Corsley Reading Room

### Coffee Morning 10 am, Tuesday 6th October

Proceeds of the Coffee Morning will be donated to ShelterBox who provide emergency shelter and vital supplies to support communities overwhelmed by disaster and humanitarian crisis around the world, doing everything they can to help rebuild lives in the aftermath of disaster. We are particularly concerned with the plight of the thousands of Syrian refugees.

> Please come along and support this community project

### **Chapmanslade CE VA Primary School**

The Governing Body currently has a vacancy for a Governor. The role of the school governor is more important than ever. The Governing Body plays a critical role in the school's success and the success of its children. Governors ensure there is clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction, hold school leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and oversee the financial management of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

No special qualifications are needed and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the governing body's work. Training is available for all governors. Being a governor will enable you to develop new skills, create strong links with the school community and influence the school's vision and strategy for the future. By joining the governing body you can contribute to making decisions that have a huge impact on the lives of young people in your community as every governor has a role to play in helping make sure every young person gets the best possible education.

If this sounds of interest to you and you would like to find out more then please contact Sarah Andrews, Clerk to Governors on clerk@chapmanslade.wilts.sch.uk.



Wine and Fondue Night! 7 pm, Friday 20th November The Royal Oak, Corsley Heath

Calling people of Corsley! Come and bring your friends to join Amy, our Assistant Manager, for a fun evening of wine tasting alongside a delicious cheese fondue

Taste a selection of 12 wines and vote for your favourite! All votes go towards determining which wines feature on The Royal Oak Wine List

> Book today as spaces are limited! £15 per person 01373 832238

# The Royal Oak

### Corsley Heath, Warminster, BA12 7PR

# **Chapmanslade Village Hall News**

Once again we were lucky with the weather for both the Barbecue and Fun Day and the Cream Teas & Croquet. The former saw lots of activities, with the tossing of hale bales being new this year. Relaxing was the order of the day for the cream teas, with many who came along staying for the whole afternoon, chatting with friends old and new. We thank you for your support.

The hall is now in use again having been out of action for seven weeks over the summer. We are pleased to announce that there is a lovely new floor in the main hall (again!)

#### **Forthcoming events**

**Saturday 17th October** – Frank's Band (based in Rode) will be performing Cool Jazz & Pop Classics. They have performed at The Cross Keys in Rode, The Angel at Upton Scudamore, the Maiden Bradley Music Festival and other venues. We hope to give them a very warm Chapmanslade welcome.

#### Saturday 21st November – Quiz night

The committee is also keen to find a publicity officer – volunteers please form an orderly queue!!

Finally thanks to you all for the support given to the hall – it is appreciated. If there are other events you would like to see there, please contact any of the committee members or email chapmansladehall@ blueyonder.co.uk

# COMPUTER PROBLEMS?

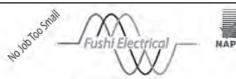
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### recollections

# Tales from the passenger seat



#### Whilst waiting in a test centre with a pupil, I have often witnessed some interesting scenes.

A pupil turned up with their grandmother and instead of having and showing his licence to the examiner when asked, he offered his grandmother's licence, because he had never sent for one as, he explained, he thought it was only necessary for the accompanying full licence holder to show their licence . He was under the impression that he would get given a licence when he passed and did not have a clue about the legal need to initially obtain a provisional licence. He had applied for his test using his brothers provisional licence but hadn't worked it out that he too, needed one.

Another time a pupil turned up without an accompanying full licence holder evident. No problem in itself, maybe the person was outside smoking perhaps..until the examiner, after noting his details, asked him to lead the way to his car." Oh I don't have a car, I want to use YOUR car". Needless to say, the examiner did not oblige, and after some protestation, the person went away. The examiner and I chatted for some 25 minutes whilst my pupil was out on test with the other examiner. Then we heard footsteps. The man had returned with his mother's car but explained that although it wasn't insured, he didn't think that mattered for the test, since it would be running under the 'examiner's insurance..wouldn't it ?' Hmmmm, another waste of the test fee.

Rarely, but sometimes a pupil on test tries to offer the examiner some money as a bribe. Not a good idea. I know of instances where the glorious sum of £20 was offered, and another case where a four figure sum in an envelope was offered. Not only are the police called, but it does defy logic to commit an offence by offering an examiner a sum of money that exceeded many times over what it would have cost him to learn to drive properly with an instructor.

Many years ago I witnessed a pupil turn up for his test in a battery-driven milk float. He explained that his car had broken down and wondered whether the milk float would be acceptable. After he had been sent on his way, the examiner and I had a laugh, and did wonder whether he had turned up, knowing that since his car had broken down, that turning up in his milk float was never a serious suggestion , but worth a try. It only had one seat, and so presumably the examiner would have had to sit in the back on a milk crate.

There was a case where a person had taken the test in a different test centre, and turned up at one of our local test centres with a different provisional licence and name. Unfortunately for him, the examiner who had been appointed for his test was helping out locally to clear a backlog, and was the same examiner who had taken him out under a different name three weeks earlier. And so his collar was also felt by the boys in blue.

Steve Dayman-Johns

### **Corsley Reading Rooms**

Attractive function hall, smaller meeting room and kitchen facilities all available for hire Parties • clubs • meetings • classes • etc Contact Rosemary Collins for details 01373 832789

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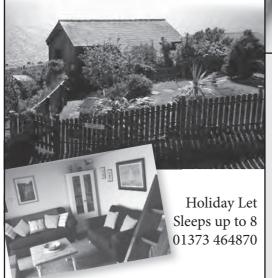
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#### A view from over the hedge...

# **Countryside Matters**

What a year! Temperatures have wavered between record highs and record lows, whilst rainfall was well in excess of the norm. This has meant a challenging time for farmers and other inhabitants of our countryside.

For farmers this is a time of harvesting, ploughing, re-seeding and hedge-trimming. Some of the fields will be left unploughed; the stubble prevents soil erosion by rain and wind and provides a food source for birds and small mammals.

Autumn is a time of change for our countryside and its wildlife. The leaves on deciduous trees and hedges are marking the season by changing colour; as the green chlorophyll is broken down the underlying colours of yellow, red and purple are revealed. Leaves begin to drop and crops of berries become more accessible for everyone to harvest.

Blackberries are a delight to us; they are also a key autumn food for blackcaps, whitethroats and other migrants who are fattening up before leaving for their winter homes. Mice and voles can also be seen harvesting the fruits, whilst late butterflies will be feeding on the sweet juice. Species such as peacock, small tortoiseshell and brimstone will overwinter as adults; do remember to leave some access to sheds and outhouses so that they have somewhere to hibernate.

There has been a lot of publicity about hedgehogs recently. Each of these well-loved

animals needs 10 to 30 hectares of habitat in which to live. Not usually a problem out in the countryside, but do make sure there are small, ground-level gaps in fences to ensure they can roam freely between fields and gardens. Providing small piles of logs will give them a safe over-winter home, or you can buy special hog-houses. Hedgehogs will only survive the winter if they weigh at least 1 lb (450 g) in autumn: thin individuals can be fed on cat or dog food (not bread and milk – that kills them!). For more information see: www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/leaflets/ L15-Autumn-Juveniles.pdf

Depending on the weather in Scandinavia, many bird species could be arriving in October to brighten up our winters. Blackbirds, song thrushes, starlings, and even chaffinches and robins will be adding to our summer populations. The more obvious winter visitors are fieldfares and redwings; they will be joined by bramblings along with various swans, ducks and geese. Look for all these, and many more, in your gardens and the surrounding countryside, or take a trip to our lovely Somerset Levels to see the flocks gathering from the hides on the wildlife reserves.

Many of you will be celebrating harvest time with special suppers and church services. Whilst you are keeping alive these traditional events, please spare thought for our wildlife and make sure they have plenty of food and shelter too: it would be an empty world without their presence, colour and sounds. *Eve Tigwell* 



### Empty Nests Caroline Le Vine, Counsellor in Corsley

When you've spent a long time looking after other people - usually your children but it could

be someone else you've been caring for; a fragile relative, perhaps – it can be very unsettling when they no longer need that care. They may be moving out because they are now grown up or because they need care in a residential setting. Or they may have died. Whatever the circumstances, you experience loss: loss of the person and loss of your role as parent or carer. Here are some suggestions that may help you readjust to the change.

Make sure that you grieve the loss. This means acknowledging the feelings you experience, whatever they are: hurt, loneliness, anger and envy are likely. There may well be other feelings as well. Don't dismiss any of them, even if they are unwelcome or seem inappropriate or even just plain wrong. They are your feelings; they can't be wrong. Allow them the space they need and you will be able to process them which is when they will start to recede. Ignore them and they'll just be stored up within you, only to reappear (probably in a distorted form) later on.

It's OK to feel relief. If your caring role was very demanding, you may be relieved when it's over, even if the person you cared for has died. Many people feel terribly guilty and afraid to admit to feeling relief but it's natural. A burden has been removed from you and now you can spend your time more as you choose. Why shouldn't you be allowed a little freedom?

If you are struggling with no longer feeling needed, try to shift your focus back to you. You may have got lost in the caring role and no longer have any sense of who you are or what you enjoy. If it's been a long time since you were able to focus on you, it may be that the things you once enjoyed no longer appeal: you may need to find new interests. Experiment with any ideas that seem attractive to you whether it's leaning a new skill or joining a group, maybe explore volunteering opportunities or simply watching things on the TV you weren't able to previously because of your caring duties. You don't have to commit – try things on for size first and see if you can take a friend with you for company.

Share your feelings with someone who will listen and do their best to understand. It maybe someone who's gone through the same process but it doesn't have to be. A listening and empathic ear is what you need. There may be a support group locally for people in your situation. Drop in! It's there for you; you may find solace there.

Try not to immediately replace the person you were caring for with another similar commitment. You need time to recharge and to make contact with you – your likes, dislikes and needs. The more rounded you are, the more you have to offer later on if you feel yourself drawn to helping others again.

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

07817 192008 enquiries@carolinelevine.co.uk www.carolinelevine.co.uk or find me on www.counselling-directory.org.uk

# 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 SALE

Pair of cane swivel/rocking chairs with floral pattern cushions –  $\pounds 50$ 

Cane glass-topped coffee table –  $\pounds15$ 

Single, metal bed frame with beech-effect legs –  $\pounds 20$ 

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Wooden book case -190 cm high x 46 cm wide x 33 cm deep with four adjustable shelves. Offers over **£15** with proceeds going to Children In Need

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#### **Answers to Bob's Bafflers**

- 1 Suspenders
- 2 St George's day (April 23rd)
- 3 David Copperfield
- 4 Skull Island
- 5 Doncaster
- 6 Slaves
- 7 Madame Butterfly
- 8 Maidstone
- 9 Three
- 10 Showboat
- Ernie (the fastest milkman in the west)
- 12 Cracker

#### Local organisation adverts

£2.00 per month for a small boxed advert or £7.50 for a full page. Full page adverts are allocated depending on space available and cannot be guaranteed. All monies must be at one of the two drop-off locations (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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Annual trade advertisements (12 issues, when space is available

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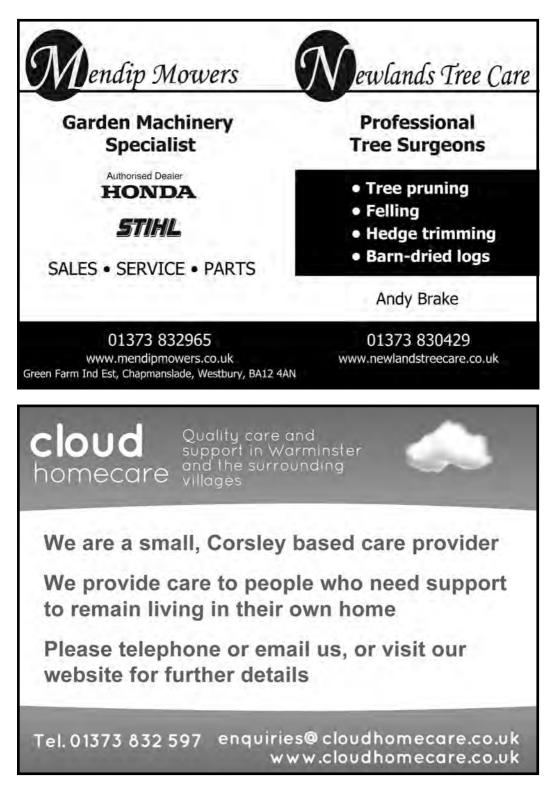
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Trade advertisement material should be supplied in print-ready format, to the chosen standard size and correct shape.

For trade advertising enquiries, please contact David James (Trade advert coordinator/ Treasurer) at either thebridge832@gmail.com or 01373 832443.





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