

The Bridge

September 2023

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



Hop along to an Open Garden, rummage in a jolly Jumble Sale, have a Lite Bite, muck in on the Big Clean, get Crafty, have your say at a PC meeting, or join in on Coffee Morning, there's lots to do in September...



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

Events/local organisation ads

(churches, clubs, playgroups, etc) are £2.50 per month for a boxed advert.

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

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Please see information on the last page.

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Deadline

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

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

September

Saturday 2nd

Corsley Fayre – 12 noon to 4 pm, showground, Deep Lane

Corsley Ceilidh – 7.30 pm to 11 pm, at the Corsley showground, Deep Lane

Sunday 3rd

Illyria Presents 'Pride and Prejudice' – 4 pm, Heywood House

Monday 4th

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7pm, Corsley Reading Room (lower room)

Tuesday 5th

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

Sunday 10th

National Garden Scheme Open Gardens at Corsley House – 10 am to 5 pm.

Tuesday 12th

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

Wednesday 13th

Crafternoon – 3.15 to 5.15 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

Thursday 14th

Corsley WI – 'Beneath the cover of a bookshop' – speaker from Hunting Raven bookshop in Frome – 7.30 pm, Reading Room (non-members welcome £3)

Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm, Village Hall

Saturday 16th

Jumble Sale – 9.30 am to 12 noon, Chapmanslade Village Hall

The BIG Clean! – 10 am to 12 noon, St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Big Avon Paddle – from 10 am at The Boathouse, Newbridge, Bath

Thursday 21st

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

Saturday 23rd

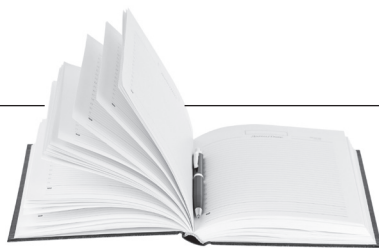
Chapmanslade Harvest Supper – 7 for 7.30 pm, Village Hall

Wednesday 25th

Crafternoon – 3.15 to 5.15 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

Wednesday 27th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch, from 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room



Diary Dates

October

Tuesday 1st

Corsley Harvest Festival - Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving – 10.30 am, St Margaret's Church

Tuesday 3rd

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

Saturday 7th

Corsley Harvest Supper – 7 for 7.30 pm, Reading Room

Tuesday 10th

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

Thursday 19th

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

Wednesday 25th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch, from 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

November

Monday 6th

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7pm, Corsley Reading Room (lower room)

Tuesday 7th

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

Wednesday 8th

Corsley Reading Room Annual General Meeting – 7.30 pm, Reading Room

Saturday 11th

Christmas Fayre – Corsley Reading Rooms

Tuesday 14th

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

Thursday 16th

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

Wednesday 22nd

Tools with a Mission

We have been invited to be a collection point for this mission. They need old sewing machines, knitting machines, carpentry tools, mechanic's tools.

Donations can be brought along at the September or October Coffee Mornings, or left in the porch at the side of Whitbourne Chapel

Thank you!

Barbara Helen Oakham 1946 - 2023

Sadly my love and best friend, Barbara, succumbed to frontotemporal lobe dementia on 25th July 2023 aged 76 years. Diagnosed ten years ago, the prognosis was 5 to 10 years, so she beat the odds. However, as many of you know, the quality of her life for the past three years was extremely poor.

She died at home, as was her wish, with our four children present.

The Lifeline Carers were marvellous as were the district nurses and Frome Medical Practice's rapid response team.

The funeral service will take place on **Thursday 7th September, 2 pm**, at St Margaret's in Corsley with an interment for family only at St Philip's and St James' afterwards. The wake is at Chapmanslade Village Hall from 3 pm.

No flowers please.

Donations to the Alzheimer's Society

In memory of Jean White

Graham, Carolyn and Anthea would like to send our sincere thanks for all the kind messages and cards we have received following the death of Jean. Thank you also to all who were able to attend the service at St Margaret's to celebrate her life. You have been a great comfort and support to us.

Lite Bites Soup Lunch is back soon!

Starting on 27th September, our Lite Bites team will be serving delicious soups in the Reading Room on every fourth Wednesday of the month right through until the end of April 2024. Come along and meet up with old friends and bring some new ones if you can. We would like to see as many people from around the village as possible. The soups should be hot and waiting for you from 12.30 onwards. We look forward to seeing you. If you would like to come but need transport please call either Di Britten (01373 832515) or Maureen Willcox (01373 832171) and we will arrange to collect you.

Advance notice: keep the date free for our Christmas lunch on Wednesday 6th December, once again in the Reading Room – look out for more details in The Bridge nearer the time.

Dates for the rest of the 'season' are: (all Wednesdays): September 27th. October 25th, November 22nd. Christmas lunch – December 6th, January 24th, February 28th, March 27th and April 24th.

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Bob's bafflers

- 1 What was the queen eating in the nursery rhyme "Sing a Song of Sixpence"?
- 2 Which American comedian is known for classic tales including "The driving instructor" and "The Walter Raleigh phone conversation about tobacco"?
- 3 He went on to better things, but who was the Morning Post's correspondent in South Africa during The Boer War?
- 4 How many blood groups are there in the blood classification system?
- 5 The Titanic was officially designed as RMS Titanic. What do the letters RMS stand for?
- 6 Who was the first Director General of the BBC?
- 7 On the flag of the United States, is the top stripe red or white?
- 8 Nocturnal is a word referring to animals which come out at night. What is the equivalent word for animals active during daylight?
- 9 Which car manufacturer makes the Tiguan model?
- 10 On a UK-layout PC keyboard, the £ sign shares a key with which number?
- 11 In which city does the EuroMillions draw normally take place?
- 12 In what has been known as "the Judgement of Solomon," how did the biblical king offer to decide between two women, both of whom claimed that a baby was theirs?

Answers on page 40



Parish of
Corsley and
Chapmanslade



Chapmanslade Harvest Supper Invitation



Please come and join us on

Saturday 23rd September 7.00 for 7.30pm at Chapmanslade
Village Hall for an evening of good food and good company to
celebrate Harvest.

Tickets £8 for adults and £4 for Children under 12


Can be obtained from:

Janet Buick on 01373 832318 and Anne Good on 01373 896394



We'd love you to join us!

Corsley's Harvest Supper will be on Saturday 7th October



Corsley Village

Harvest Festival

Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving
10.30 am Sunday 1st October
St Margaret's Church

Collection for the Warminster Food Bank

2023 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

This year's Poppy Appeal will start on Thursday 26th October and continues until Remembrance Sunday on the 12th November.

Our village collectors will be out during these dates visiting as many houses as they can. If you are out when they call, they will leave an envelope with a date to collect them from you.

The 2022 Poppy Appeal was a tremendous success with Corsley and Chapmanslade raising £2813.37. From care homes to recovery centres, the RBL provide a vast array of welfare support services to our Armed Forces Community and their families.

Last year the British Legion launched

their cost of living grants programme.

The programme was designed to allow the RBL to assist people who need help with everyday essentials. Officially launched last October, it proved instantly popular, with more than 1,600 applications received in the first two weeks. Although that figure has steadied, it was, and still is, an important service, which they could not provide without the money raised.

If anyone would like to help by becoming a collector or to host an event please do contact me.

Jackie Jasper
Poppy Appeal Coordinator
(Corsley and Chapmanslade)
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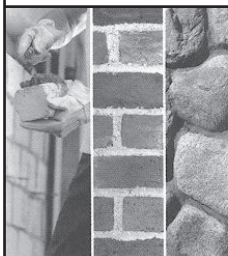
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Corsley WI

August news

Helen Roberts rounds up the August meeting

For our August meeting we spent the evening at the Memorial Paying Field in Corsley. Several members had been watching the weather throughout the afternoon and hoping the ominous dark grey clouds would continue to pass by. We were very fortunate as the evening was warm and sunny so we could sit outside the cricket pavilion to chat and share a picnic.

Several members were on holiday, but we were glad to include two visitors and two young ladies – the daughters/granddaughters of members – who gladly offered to refill empty plates ensuring no one went home hungry.

There were plenty of games available to play, tennis and Connect Four were the most popular, but of course everyone enjoyed talking with friends.

The WI will be back in the Reading Room in September when we will go 'Beneath the cover of a Bookshop' with a speaker from The Hunting Raven (Winstone's) in Frome. Visitors are welcome to join us for this event, on Thursday 14th September at 7.30pm (non-members £3).

For more information about Corsley WI please contact Alice on 07989 339632 or email alicecambridge40@gmail.com.



The future of

St Margaret's

Update from meeting held on 20th July

Thank you everyone who came to show your support for St Margaret's Church on the evening of 20th July. Nearly 40 people attended and it meant a lot to see that St Margaret's church was clearly considered to be an integral part of Corsley village.

85 individual ideas were suggested which covered several areas: church maintenance, ideas for fund-raising and income generation, as well as making the church a more flexible space.

An immediate concern is to address the maintenance issues which are impacting on the fabric of the building – such as the leaky roof. In the short term, fixing these problems will really help to make the church a more attractive venue for all sorts of purposes.

A key message from Ian Buick, Parish Treasurer, surprised many; churches do not receive any funds from the Diocese. All funds for maintenance and upkeep (including the electricity and heating bills) are raised through fund raising efforts, regular individual giving as well as what you might give in the collection plate after a service. We learnt about a quick and easy way to give online to the parish:

**[www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/
find-your-parish/
corsley-chapmanslade-corsley/](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/corsley-chapmanslade-corsley/)**

The next step is to turn words into action. Those who agreed to be contacted further were invited to a meeting on 21st August. At time of writing this meeting had yet to take place but we hope this will give impetus to

taking the first steps to develop a plan for raising money and focusing on priority and practical actions.

Free on Saturday 16th September? – see you at St Margaret's Church for The BIG Clean (see ad below). Weren't able to attend the meeting on 20th July? Contact Amy Holley holleyamym@gmail.com if you want to contribute to St Margaret's future.

*Mike Attenborough, Di Britten, Amy Holley,
John & Judith Helliar, Shane MacKean*

Mole Catcher

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Corsley Village

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Whitbourne Chapel

'Let not your heart be troubled.' John 14:1

We are never on our own

These words were written to me by a lady at Clink Evangelical Church, in Frome. Since losing my car, I've become a regular at their Coffee Mornings, not just our own at Whitbourne Chapel each month. Maureen's been concerned, since the pandemic began in 2020, about how isolated and lonely people have become, especially the elderly. She quoted Jesus' words to the disciples in John 15, verse 12: Love each other as I have loved you.

These words touched a chord in me, because it's a scary step, from driving one's self about to relying on public transport. I felt isolated until Jesus' words hit home, so I decided to speak to people in the queues, on the buses, in the streets. It wasn't easy at first, because Maureen's right; people have become isolated, and frightened, too. It's as if everyone fears what you want from them – they don't feel anyone can be greeting them without a motive.

The people on the Thursday bus to Devizes are a mostly friendly bunch, who speak to each other as they climb aboard. A couple got on, en-route, and sat opposite me near the back, so I said, 'Good morning; it's hot today, isn't it?' The man turned away and the lady beside him growled, "Do you know that woman?!" They'd spoken to several passengers as they walked to their seats, but a stranger got that reaction!

Maureen reminded me that Jesus is also

our 'comforter', who walks with us through difficult times. He told the disciples, "Let not your heart be troubled. You trust in God, trust also in me." And, as we trust in him, he becomes our friend and will never leave us. I thought of this last week, when I caught the bus from Warminster Morrisons. A lady of similar age was on the seat nearby, waiting, so I said, "Hello, it's nice to have a breeze

today." Her reply startled me; "Thank you for saying 'hello', few people bother today." Later, as Dave the driver dropped an elderly man off, he said, "See you tomorrow". The answer was a sigh and, 'Yes, I'm on my own till then.'

Please say hello to those you pass and meet, in case they're on their own and catching a bus or going shopping, just to get company. Loving each other can only do us good!

Gill Redman

The very place to find friends!

Have folks brought some of the loneliness on themselves? It's not popular to go to Church or chapel, but that can be the very place to find friends. Some run Wellbeing Coffee Mornings like ours at Whitbourne. The young people have set up a Whatsapp Church group where we can share worries or concerns, or just talk about what we have been doing. You don't necessarily have to attend Services if you don't like singing hymns!

*Ray Mead,
Chapel Secretary*

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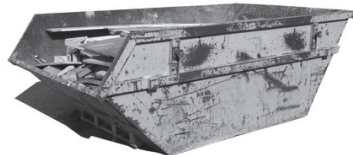
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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

No matter how long ago it was that my children were at school, September always seems to me to be the start of a new year. Having to kit four children out in new school uniforms was rather an interesting task shall we say, and then there were the shoes. Mindful of the importance of this task I always insisted they had Startrite shoes, which wasn't always popular with the recipients of this purchase who had exacting standards.

The purchasing of new shoes was an occasion of great excitement for the children necessitating a trip to the shoe shop in town which had a toy monkey in the window that could move and do tricks. They might have found this whole process exciting, but I was completely exhausted by the end of it all; the business of finding shoes that fitted properly and which met with the children's approval took rather a long time to say the least.

Sadly, the care I took with my children's feet didn't continue once they became adults; they stuffed their feet into whatever shoes were fashionable at the time with predictable results. Ah well, I gave those feet a good start. It's a bit like life really, we do things we know are not the best, that will damage us in some way, and even though we know our actions are harmful, to ourselves, to others or to the planet, we keep on doing them.

New shoes, new uniforms, new pens and pencils etc. What is going to be new for you this September? Maybe you are now getting a bit cross and muttering about the fact that there is nothing new for you and you've just got to carry on as normal whatever normal is. Well yes, maybe this is true, but we are all responsible for our own actions, for our response to what life brings. At Morning Prayer I always pray for help to live in a way that honours Jesus' call to us to love God and love our neighbour as ourselves. You may not agree with the God bit, but wouldn't the world be a different place if we all loved our fellow human beings as we would want to be loved, with compassion and kindness.

New starts are not always easy. I expect lots of you have heard already that I will be retiring in October and my last service will be on October 15th at Longbridge Deverill. As you may imagine, this has been a very difficult decision to make, but I know it is the right one. There will be plenty of time for goodbye's later in the meantime I will continue to serve these parishes with love and care as has been my privilege for the last 9 years.

With love and prayers,
Pauline

Church Diary September 2023

September 3rd: 13th Sunday after Trinity
8.00 am Holy Communion, Kingston Deverill
9.30 am Eucharist, St Margaret's Corsley
10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge Deverill



September 10th: 14th Sunday after Trinity
9.30 am Eucharist, St Philip and St James Chapmanslade
10 am Eucharist, Kingston Deverill



September 17th: 15th Sunday after Trinity
10 am Eucharist, Brixton
11 am Matins, St Margaret's Corsley



September 24th: 16th Sunday after Trinity
9.30 am Eucharist, St Philip and St James Chapmanslade
10 am Eucharist, Longbridge



October 1st
Corsley Harvest Festival
10.30 am Harvest Thanksgiving & Songs of Praise
St Margaret's, Corsley



October 8th
Chapmanslade Harvest Festival
10 am Harvest Eucharist, St Philip and St James, Chapmanslade

Events

Saturday 10th September, 10 am to 5 pm

National Garden Scheme Open Gardens at Corsley House.

Refreshments made by the church in aid of church funds

Wednesday 13th September and Wednesday 25th September

Crafternoons

3.15 pm – 5.15 pm, Thee Horseshoes, Chapmanslade (in the gallery)

Thursday 21st September

Community Church and Coffee Morning

10 am – 12 noon, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Saturday 23rd September

Chapmanslade Harvest Supper

7 for 7 30 pm at Chapmanslade Village Hall

Weddings

Zara Lee and William Hagenbuch, 12th August at Kingston

Sophie Clowrey and Corey Lovell-Dyer, 26th August Kingston

Funerals

The funeral of Jean White took place in St Margaret's on 17th August.
Our love and prayers are with Graham and his family at this difficult time.



Church and Community Coffee Mornings

**Third Thursday of each month
10am to 12pm
The Three Horseshoes
Chapmanslade**

Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

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

Parish Churches Vacancies

Deputy Church Warden – St Margaret's, Corsley
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Benefice Administrator
Choir Leader
Part time Organist

For further details please contact Ian Buick or Shane MacKean - details above

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 PCs latest activities

At a crowded meeting held on 27 July in Chapmanslade's Village Hall the following were the key issues:

Planning

PL/2023/05142/FUL: Erection of a rural workers dwelling house, Sienna's Valley Farm.

The Parish Council (PC) objected to this application on the basis of it being outside the development boundary and within the special landscape area, and that its design was incongruous with its proposed surroundings. A similar application had previously been rejected by Wiltshire Council and the PC could see no tangible changes other than a new position for the house that could justify a different outcome for this application. The PC asked our Unitary Councillor, Bill Parks, to consider calling this in for the planning committee as there is a long history of applications at the site which impact on the development boundary and the special landscape area.

PL/2023/05349/FUL: Erection of 9 dwellings, demolition, and associated works at former commercial nursery, Barters Plant Centre.

The PC objected to this application on the grounds of it being outside the development boundary; that there were no requirements to build these houses as Chapmanslade's quota for new development between 2020 and 2038 was now zero; and to prevent ongoing and considerable disruption for the residents

of Cley Hill Gardens. The PC asked our Unitary Councillor, Bill Parks, to consider calling this in for the planning committee as it has the potential for considerable and perhaps ongoing impacts on the development boundary.

PL/2023/05779/FUL: House holder planning permission for changes to dormer windows, 115A Forest Walk, Chapmanslade.

The PC had no objections to this application.

The meeting was appraised of the objection that the PC had raised earlier in the month with Somerset County Council regarding a proposed farm shop on Lodge Hill. The main reason for Chapmanslade PC's objection had been centred around traffic volume in the village, and road safety concerns on the bend on Lodge Hill where the deliveries entrance and exit were proposed. Councillor Bill Parks had supported the PC in its approach to Somerset Council which, despite the farm having a Chapmanslade address, had failed to consult us on the application.

Licensing

Application for new premises licence at Thoulstone Park.

This item drew the largest amount of attention and many residents of Short Street and Thoulstone spoke at the meeting adding to the deluge of email objections from the neighbouring communities. The application was for a carte blanche licence

to cover a variety of unspecified events including possible music festivals over a year with options for late night closures at 2am on weekends and early starts every day from 6am. The PC objected to the application to the Licensing Authority based on the risk of considerable public nuisance and especially noise, the risk to persons and property, and the risk of disorder based upon historical evidence from previous events at the site. The PC recommended that more focussed and accurate applications for specific events would allow the community the chance to make informed decisions about acceptability. The application went to the licensing sub-committee on 15 August 2023.

Other

It was agreed that Ian Curtis, a resident of Short Street would join the PC as a co-opted member. Welcome!

Streetscene

An update was given on the resurfacing of the High Street from the Somerset border to the junction with Huntenhull Lane. Work took place from 21 August until 2 September and further information shots were on the PC website and village Facebook page. There was the predicted disruption, but the resurfacing teams were experienced at working inside communities and made every effort to ensure access to properties etc. As part of the work the signs outside the school were changed to make the ‘KEEP CLEAR’ area enforceable, and there were new ‘SLOW’ signs on both

approaches to the junction with the entrance to the Village Hall.

A topographical survey of the High Street has now taken place. This is the first step prior to ongoing work investigating the possibility of traffic calming measures as well as a 20mph speed limit in the centre of the village.

Options for projects to be funded by S106 and CIL funds were further outlined and are taking shape. The PC looks forward to being presented with a final list of projects to agree priorities and funding.

Some slight progress was made regarding HGV weight limits and the three villages group were able to make detailed presentations of our individual village situations to the new Cabinet Member for Transport and our MP at a meeting in June; both were very receptive. Thanks should go to Councillor Bill Parks and Dr Andrew Murrison MP for their unswerving support for the villages in this matter and for representing our concerns so clearly to Wiltshire Council.

Next meeting

The next PC meeting is scheduled for 14 September at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

More information

Details of meetings and minutes as well as a number of public consultations being held by Wiltshire Council are all on the Parish Council website:

www.chapmansladepc.org.uk

– it’s full of useful information!

Councillor Phil Holihead

Chloe Coulson
AVON

representative in Warminster and Corsley
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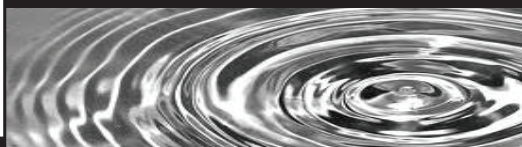
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Wonderful Walks

A glimpse of the Monarch's Way



Our walk today is at Mere. Park your car in Salisbury Street car park (toilets are here, too) and walk to the back of the car park, where you'll see steps down to Dark Lane. Go that way and turn right – and you're on the Monarch's Way. This is roughly the escape route used by King Charles II after the Battle of Worcester in 1651, during the Civil War won by Oliver Cromwell and his 'Roundhead' Army. I always thought Charles II was in France throughout the war, but apparently not! You'll exit Dark Lane near Jean Electrical store, in part of the United Reformed Church building.

Turn left onto Petteridge Lane and there's an army-type 'hut' further along the lane, on the right. Walk that way and you'll see the

building has a blue façade with a Madonna statue; this is Mere's Roman Catholic church. You're on the left-hand side of the road for the pavement, but that peters out and you'll need to change sides. Later, near thatched

Lordsmead Cottage, this pavement disappears, so cross the lane again carefully here, as there's a sharp bend right, ahead. As you use the bridge, look over the left side; what are the long twin lines in the water for? My theory is 'tram lines', bringing goods down the nearby hill on small 'sledges'

or carts in the 18th and 19th centuries, to where it could be taken by local boatmen to a bigger river, probably the Stour. This is Shreen Water, part of a community flood prevention scheme from the late 1700s, when





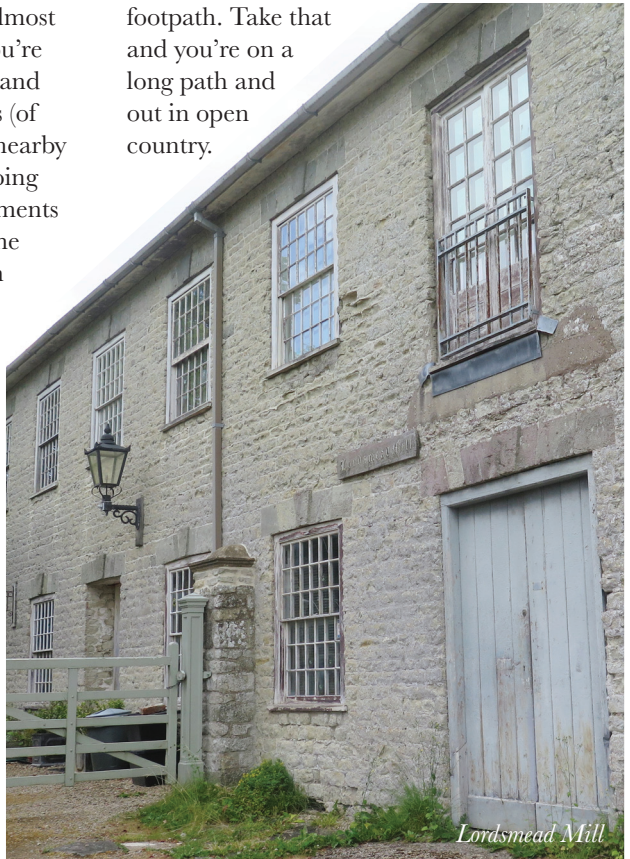
Mere's Roman Catholic church

the water meadows here were formed.

Stay with the main street, which rounds the right-hand bend ahead, into Clements Lane. You'll pass a glass conservatory, almost hanging over the left-hand pavement you're on. This is part of the Walnut Tree inn and I called in for facilities, latte and biscuits (of course!). Afterwards, I explored, as the nearby housing scheme has several footpaths going in different directions. Staying with Clements Lane was my second diversion, taking me to the Town Mill House. I had to return to the Inn after, but not before finding another section of the Monarch's Way, with a wooden signpost pointing to 'Charnage', via a huge field.

Back at the Walnut Tree, there's a tiny footpath opposite the Inn, to the right of a building site; go that way. Eventually, it leads to Lordsmead Mill. There was probably a mill here from the Middle Ages, but this mill was 'rebuilt' in the 1830s, with an iron waterwheel and machinery, providing power for the local flax and silk mills. Later, a pumphouse was added, to pump water locally. The large waterwheel was removed in the Second World War, but the pumphouse is now being restored; it's hoped that this

water could be used for generating electricity. Cross the wooden bridge here and you'll find Mead House and, beside it, another narrow footpath. Take that and you're on a long path and out in open country.



Lordsmead Mill

Keep going and you'll reach a wide lane, with a signpost by the far hedge. I went right, though, alongside the cemetery wall, and called in for a look round, as a green sign on the gatepost mentions Commonwealth War Graves.



tomb tile

Graveyards and cemeteries can teach us a lot about the past; the big, tomb-like grave with its lovely inset tiles wasn't for a farm labourer or mill worker... Nor was the plain iron cross, with multiple children's names on, for a wealthy family, though they lost children, too. There are four Commonwealth War Graves in a row, left of the path to the chapels here, but look for another one on its own, not for a young soldier, but for a Canadian man aged 53, serving with the Canadian Army Vet Corps.

Leave the cemetery and a

car park is opposite, with another Monarch's Way tag nearby, pointing to a footpath; go that way. There were sheep in a field on the right when I did this walk, plus iron gates to a private house on the left. Stay with the later stone wall, curving left into the churchyard and then walk ahead, out



'tram lines' in Shreen Water



Mere town's floral display

onto Church Street. On the far side of the road is Mere Library and Museum, but I needed more facilities and sustenance and headed right, for my usual haunt, the Angel Corner café. After that, I waited by Mere's lovely floral display in the Market Square, for the bus back across the Deverills to Warminster!

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Whitbourne Chapel

'Even the wind and waves obey him...'

Luke 8, verse 25

Will your anchor hold?

You may have heard of Church Island on Anglesey, North Wales. It has a small Church, St Tysillo's, and only way to access the island is to walk across a causeway. There is a replacement now but, previously, the old causeway could flood should a strong westerly wind bring the tide in sooner than expected. So, there was a time when, during church services, a boy was left on the causeway and should the tide come in too quickly he'd shout "tide coming!" Priest and congregation would quickly gather their things and run back across the causeway to safety.

In Luke's Gospel (Chapter 8 verses 22 – 25), he records an incident where the Lord Jesus was with his disciples in a boat on the sea of Galilee, when suddenly a strong wind rose up. The Lord was asleep and the Disciples were afraid the wind and waves would overtake them. They woke Jesus, telling him they were in great danger. Luke tells us that Jesus arose and with a word calmed the storm. The astonished disciples asked "Who is this, even the wind and waves obey him?"

In response, the Lord Jesus asked them, "Where is your faith?" They needed to put their complete trust in Him for all times and situations. We need to do the same, asking first that he will forgive us, and then grant us

faith in him. To do otherwise means we are in great danger of being swept away by the things of this life, rather than truly looking forward to the life that is to come.

The hymn writer, Priscilla Jane Owens asks "Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?" and the chorus is "We have an anchor that keeps the soul steadfast and sure while the billows roll; fastened to the rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!"

Will your anchor hold?

Mr Chris Andrews

Occasional preacher at Whitbourne



Change someone's world!

Corsley Fayre, September 2nd. If it is a fine day, we hope to be bringing something interesting for the younger children. We think the Rev A would be delighted!

We have been invited to be a Collection Point for 'Tools with a Mission' who refurbish items and send them to Africa. They need old sewing machines (hand or treadle versions) and knitting machines. They also need carpentry tools and mechanics tools. We intend the next two Coffee Mornings, September 12th and October 10th, to be opportunities to receive donations. Or leave them in the porch at the side of the Chapel and let us know they are there. We may not be able to change the whole world, but we can change someone's world.

Please remember:

If you need help or simply someone to talk to, ring 07980 013685 and we'll do our best to help you. Otherwise, visit our website www.whitbournechapel.org.uk or google 'Whitbourne Baptist Chapel'.

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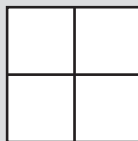
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Chapmanslade Church

Development update

Creating an exciting community space

The first stage towards creating community space inside Chapmanslade Church is complete. Chairs were kindly donated by a Church in Weymouth to go in place of some of the pews, and folding tables have been obtained. Different layouts have been tried as part of this temporarily approved change to the building interior.



Tables and chairs laid out for a meal or meeting



Tables and chairs laid out for a social event

flexible and can host meetings, social gatherings, craft and music activities as a smaller additional facility in the expanding village.

It is expected that the applications to the Salisbury Diocese and other statutory bodies will be made during October.

Ian Buick

Reactions so far has been very positive with the general opinion being the chairs lighten to the interior and are very comfortable. Work is now under way in getting permanent permission for the tables and chairs, then progressing further to provide toilet and drink-making facilities. The Church has been used for other community uses over many years, but the changes made now mean it has become much more



Chairs in position for a service

A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

What happened to summer?

Just in case you are wondering what happened to summer, we had it back in June!!

Our July 2023 record of rainfall will be of little surprise:

July 2023 – 150.9 mm; **July 2022** – 4.6 mm

2022 total to July – 323 mm

2023 total to July – 598.9 mm.

Yes, nearly twice as much this year as last year, no wonder the British talk about the weather so much; it affects our lives, especially those living and working in the Countryside

Unfortunately, so many holidays and days out for village and county events have been spoilt because of the weather, but hopes will be alive for the Corsley Fayre, Frome Show on Saturday September 9th and Corsley House Gardens Open for The National Garden Scheme, Sunday 10th September.

The golden fields of wheat and barley have been harvested with mixed results of yields but, due to the seed needing drying now it's in storage and the loss of food value due to weather conditions through the growing season, there will not be the food value when feeding it to animals or for beer and human consumption.

Nevertheless, next year's crops are to be planted this month when the seeds will be direct drilled with as little ploughing of the fields as possible to reduce soil compaction and have less runoff of soil and nutrients into the water courses.

Already we're seeing the change in leaf colour in our gardens, woodlands and forests. How grateful we must be to our ancestors planting such beautiful trees for us and the

wildlife to enjoy and, hopefully, we will take up our late Queen's wishes to plant trees for future generations.

Autumn has brought some wonderful crops of fruit, with trees hanging with plums, pears and apples of all sorts, some for immediate eating and others for storing in both modern and traditional ways.

Don't forget those lovely hedgerows fruits such as blackberries, elderberries and rosehips that are free to all – don't forget to leave some for the wildlife though!

Those with eagle-eyes may even find field mushrooms nestled in the grass or in stubble fields (where the arable crop has been harvested); cut the stems with a sharp knife and rinse them in a little water and cook them when they are still pink. They're delicious when freshly picked before breakfast and fried in a little butter and served on toast.

We will say goodbye to our summer bird visitors as they gather in groups for safety on their journey to warmer climes, but enjoy our resident birds, robins blackbirds, thrushes, sparrows feeding on the fallen seeds in the fields and hedgerows. Watch the buzzards, kites and carrion birds catching small mammals scurrying through the harvested fields. Keep your eye out for the murmurations of starlings as they gather in the sky as dusk draws in.

Autumn is a month of celebration in the countryside – join in the Church festivals and suppers and make the most of living in the countryside

Judith Helliar

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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



APPEAL

The Reading Room needs more people to get involved to enable it to run effectively, can you spare some time to help look after it?

Unfortunately, after last month's edition of *The Bridge* went to press, our new bookings officer advised us that she would have difficulty undertaking the role. We therefore urgently need to find someone to take this on or possibly share the role. Could this be you?

There are also many other small jobs which are currently done by the trustees, and it would help enormously if others were able to take some of these on. Perhaps a couple of hours every couple of months?

The roles/jobs do not need you to become a trustee, though that is clearly an option should you be interested.

If you value keeping the Reading Room running and available to the community for use when needed, then please consider if you can give some time.

Please contact me, or any of the trustees, if you feel able to give a little time in this way and particularly if you would consider taking on the Bookings Officer role.

Dates for your diary

- Coffee Mornings: 5th September, 3rd October (10 am to 12 noon) – please do come along!
- Annual General Meeting: Wednesday 8th November 7.30 pm
- Xmas Fayre: Saturday 11th November.

Bookings

Please use the website form or email crrbookings@gmail.com

See www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk for up-to-date information and more details about the Reading Room, especially for hiring, etc.

Hugh Deed

Chairman of Management Committee

Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

01373 832897

Committee Members

David Carruthers, Hugh Deed, Chris de Groot, Claire Firman-Ford,
Liz Garrett, Caroline Hutton, Jackie Jasper, Mark Richards

Small ads

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

Please note: no cash, no advert!

Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School

Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 6th September

Wednesday 20th September

Wednesday 4th October

Wednesday 18th October

Wednesday 1st November

Wednesday 15th November

Wednesday 29th November

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Bread and honey
- 2 Bob Newhart
- 3 Winston Churchill
- 4 Four A, B, AB and O
- 5 Royal Mail Ship
- 6 Sir John Reith (1927 – 38)
- 7 Red
- 8 Diurnal
- 9 Volkswagen
- 10 Three
- 11 Paris
- 12 Cut the baby in half!

Local organisation adverts

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

Trade advertising

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

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

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

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

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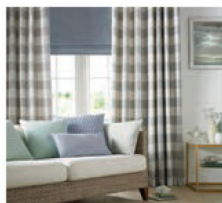
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