

The Bridge

January 2025

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



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to all our readers



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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 Barbers 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 (Barbers Plant Centre or Acres Supply). We can also take BACS transfers – please email the Editor for all the info.

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 January**

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

Diary Dates



January

Wednesday 8th - not the 1st!!!!

Coffee Morning (run by the Lite Bites team) – 12.30 to 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 9th

Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Corsley WI – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room – Robert Middlefell, senior dentist for CQC

Monday 13th

Corsley Tennis Club Annual General Meeting – 7 for 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 14th

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

Thursday 16th

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

Wednesday 22nd

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Monday 27th

Film Club – 7 for 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

February

Wednesday 5th

Coffee Morning (run by the Lite Bites team) – 12.30 to 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 8th

Annual Quiz with Bob and Bob in support of our Maridi, South Sudan link – 7.30 pm, Conservative Club, Warminster. £12 to include a fish and chip supper. Contact Revd Gay Maynard on 01373 832490 for info

Tuesday 11th

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

Thursday 13th

Quiz Night – 7.45 pm, Conservative Club, Warminster (doors at 7 pm) raising funds for Riding for the Disabled

Thursday 20th

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

Monday 24th

Film Club – 7 for 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

GAME, SET, MATCH



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 13th January
7 for 7.30pm at the Reading Room

Your online collection calendar is already updated with your revised collection dates

Your normal collection day

Tuesday 31 December 2024
Wednesday 1 January 2025
Thursday 2 January 2025
Friday 3 January 2025
Monday 6 January 2025
Tuesday 7 January 2025
Wednesday 8 January 2025
Thursday 9 January 2025
Friday 10 January 2025

Rescheduled household waste and recycling collections

Thursday 2 January 2025
Friday 3 January 2025
Saturday 4 January 2025
Monday 6 January 2025
Tuesday 7 January 2025
Wednesday 8 January 2025
Thursday 9 January 2025
Friday 10 January 2025
Saturday 11 January 2025

Garden waste collection

⊗ No collection
⊗ No collection
⊗ No collection
⊗ No collection
⊗ No collection
⊗ No collection
Thursday 9 January 2025
Saturday 11 January 2025
Friday 10 January 2025

ilforms.wiltshire.gov.uk/WasteCollectionDays/index

Wiltshire Council

QUIZ NIGHT

raising funds for
Warminster Group

Riding for the Disabled Association

Thursday 13th February 2025

The Conservative Club, Warminster

Starting 7.45 pm (doors open 7 pm)

Donations of raffle prizes appreciated

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Wiltshire Mobile Library

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Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 5th February

Wednesday 19th February

Wednesday 5th March

Wednesday 19th March

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!

Openreach

Road Closure

Customer connection and associated works

Temporary closure of Court Lane (Part) and C275 (Part), Corsley (Ref: TTRO 10054)

Notice is hereby given that Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic:

- a) Court Lane (Part), Corsley; from its junction with C275 to its junction with Court Lane Spur Road.
- b) C275 (Part), Corsley; from its junction with Court Lane Spur Road to its junction with The Hollow.

To enable Openreach to carry out customer connection and associated works. Alternative route A: via Court Lane Spur Road and vice versa.

Alternative route B: via C275 (unaffected length) – A362 – C274 – C275 and vice versa. The closures and diversion routes will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

This Order will come into operation on 19 February 2025 and the closure will be required between the hours of 9.30 am and 3:30 pm for one day. It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses where possible, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works.

For further information please contact Sunbelt Rentals on behalf of Openreach on 03700 500792.

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Bob's bafflers

- 1 In what way was the loss of Surrey a problem for Richard III?
- 2 What type of animal is Mr Jeremy Fisher in the Beatrix Potter tales?
- 3 Which tree appears on the Lebanese national flag?
- 4 Who is the only singer to have won the Eurovision Song Contest and sung a James Bond film theme song?
- 5 According to the nursery rhyme, where was the cock horse going?
- 6 In 'Dad's Army', where does Private Pike work when he's not on Home Guard duty?
- 7 Who, or what, might wear a farthingale?
- 8 King Henry VII was the first monarch of which Royal House?
- 9 Which fictional character is unusually fond of marmalade sandwiches?
- 10 How many US States begin with the letter "N"?
- 11 Which actress, who died in 2011, had eight husbands, one of whom she married twice?
- 12 Nobody knows for sure why Academy Awards became known as 'Oscars', but which celebrated winner claimed to have named them after her husband? She said his rear end resembled that of the statuette!!

Answers on page 39

I wish everyone who has enjoyed the Bafflers a happy new year.

A special thanks, as ever, to our hard working Editor for all her hard work each month

Bob Maynard

Yoga classes in Corsley

How about making a New Year's resolution that will grow and change with you over the next year and into the future?

After a busy Christmas season where we've been looking after everyone else, the New Year is time to listen to what you need to recharge your batteries.

Yoga classes can give you that space with a mix of physical stretching and challenges balanced with relaxation. You have the choice to make classes as gentle or strong as you want (with my guidance and modifications). The essence of yoga

is to be easeful in body, peaceful in mind and useful in life¹.

I run weekly yoga classes in the Corsley Reading Room on Tuesdays at 9.30 to 11 am and 6 to 7.30 pm

The new term starts on **Tuesday 14th January**.

If you are interested in joining my classes, or have questions to ask, you can email me yogawithjackiej@gmail.com

So come and challenge yourself and make life exciting!

¹ *from The Golden Present, Sri Swami Satchidananda*

Wiltshire Council

Shared ownership homes

Rachel Swann, Wiltshire Council's Residential Development Project Officer writes about the new building development in Corsley and how to apply for one

As Wiltshire Council's shared ownership project officer, I would like to offer the opportunity for people with a connection to Corsley and the surrounding parishes, to purchase a share in one of the new two-bedroom properties on the new Maud Davies Close development.

These Wiltshire Council shared ownership homes offer an excellent opportunity for buyers, with a local connection to Corsley, looking to step onto the property ladder. There are three two-bedroom shared ownership homes for sale on the new Maud Davies Close development. These properties, in a rural setting, offer generous room sizes, separate downstairs cloakroom, own private

gardens with patio areas and allocated parking. Built to 100% Nationally Described Space Standard, the homes are net zero in operation, featuring air source heat pumps and highly insulated fabric within the structure. To promote environmental diversity and sustainability, bat and bird boxes are installed on the houses, and EV chargers to encourage the use of electric vehicles.

Additionally, PV panels are installed on the roofs, offering energy savings. Under a shared ownership, you buy a 'share' of the property on your affordability and pay rent on the remaining share. You can then buy further shares in the property at the market value when this becomes affordable or stay at your current level of ownership. As further shares are purchased, the rent is reduced proportionately. To register your interest and find out more information, please email: residentialdevelopmentteam@wiltshire.gov.uk or call Rachael Swann on 07858 818949.

*Rachael Swann
Residential Development Project Officer
Estate and Development*

Semi-detached two-bedroom shared ownership properties awaiting landscaping works





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National Trust

Volunteering on Cley Hill

Christopher Pessell, Ranger for the National Trust, asks for help maintaining our local giant

Cley Hill is a juggernaut, rising to 244 feet it gives a fantastic view of the Wiltshire/Somerset border and across some of the Longleat estate. Indeed, it was previously part of the estate, being gifted to the National Trust in 1954 by the 6th Marquess. The post-medieval quarrying that occurred on the southwest side gives the hill its truncated shape, making it immediately recognisable from a distance.

The site is a Scheduled Monument and Site of Special Scientific Interest and, as such, holds significant importance for both archaeological and ecological reasons. The archaeological value of the site is immediately apparent; the hill fort is obvious even to outsiders – a couple of bowl barrows crown the summit and medieval strip lynchets line the route to the top.

As important, but perhaps less obvious, is the ecological value of the site. Cley Hill is a chalk grassland site, chalk grassland being an internationally scarce habitat, found predominantly in northwest Europe. In turn, the overwhelming majority of this habitat is found in southern Britain and, since World War Two, a staggering 80% of our chalk grassland has been lost, mainly due to agricultural intensification.

Numerous orchids and rare chalkland species such as devils-bit scabious, autumn lady's tresses, bastard toadflax and early gentian can all be found on the slopes. Whilst

these names may mean little to a layman, these species get ecologists particularly enthused and should be something that we all wish to encourage.

Even the fauna at Cley Hill is fantastic, with the nationally scarce adonis blue butterfly being the crown jewel of twenty species of moths and butterflies recorded at the site, whilst various birds of prey can routinely be seen hunting for small mammals overhead.

Such a notable landmark should be something we all take pride in, and something that we wish future generations can enjoy as we do. This is where I could do with some assistance. Trees and shrubbery are always encroaching across the site, repairing the chalk ramparts and paths to the summit are always ongoing, as is the maintenance of infrastructure, such as the car park, signage and gates onto the site.

I am new to my role at Cley Hill and, whilst I have a couple of long-standing volunteers who passionately look after the site, I am keen to establish a larger volunteer work party to ensure that Cley Hill remains the fantastic site that it is, into the future. It's a physical workout, but one that gives a tremendous amount of satisfaction. If a workout in the fresh air, with some of the best views in Wiltshire is something that you think you'd enjoy, please contact our volunteering lead at emma.talbot@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Cinema Corsley

Corsley Reading Room

Dates for your diary

We are running the Film Festival again!

On Friday 14th March we will be showing a selection of short films as part of the London Mountain Film Festival.

We will run two events, an afternoon session with tea and cake and an evening session with bar open. Tickets will be available from Saturday 1st February.

We will be showing a really varied selection of the best adventure films from around the world and are looking forward to sharing them with you.

Look out for more details on the website www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk and in the February edition of The Bridge.



Film Club

We will be showing films on:

Monday 27th January

Monday 24th February

Monday 31st March

Monday 28th April

(all 7 for 7.30 pm)

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Corsley

Parish Council Briefing

Key points from the PC's meeting on 9th December

In addition to the Parish Councillors, the meeting was attended by our County Councillor, Bill Parks and seven members of the public.

Mr Parks updated the Parish Council (PC) on a number of matters and also advised that Wiltshire Council were in the process of consulting on the Local Transport Plan that would drive the Council's policy for the next 25 years (LTP4) and urged everybody who has an interest in this, i.e. all of us, to go online and make our views known. The PC agreed they would draft a response and submit it by the deadline (24th January). *To aid understanding, Wiltshire Council are holding an online seminar on 13th January, 6 - 7pm.*

He also advised that following the flooding incidents at Lyes Green, Highways were proposing to extend the spur at the junction with Court Lane to its previous position and to kerb it.

Planning applications

The PC considered four applications:

PL/2024/09932 – *Listed Building consent.*

Installation of a satellite dish at eaves level on the south elevation at 35 Temple, Corsley, BA12 7QN.

The PC were unanimous in having no objection to this application.

PL/2024/09852 – *Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of machinery, fodder and associated equipment at Overdale, Corsley, BA12 7QH.*

The PC were unanimous in having no objection to this application subject to the building being retained for agricultural use and that the roof be coloured grey and any walls be green.

PI/2024/10606 – *Permission In Principle (PIP) for a phased development of up to 2 self-build dwellings at Land at Lane End, Corsley.*

A number of the members of the public who attended had indicated that they had an interest in this application and were given leave to speak to it.

PIPs are a relatively new class of application and would be seen as streamlined outline consent, this means that the only details submitted are number of dwellings and their site location. All of the detail that would normally be included in a full application, e.g. what sort of dwelling, what they would look like, access arrangements, drainage arrangements, etc. are reserved for a future application.

After considering what the members of the public had to say and a lengthy discussion the PC voted 3-2 in favour of agreeing to support the application subject to there being two units only, the units be true self-build (i.e. built by, or for, the end user) and the access arrangements to the site being very carefully considered.

PL/2024/10001 – *Convert and extend two barns to create a dwelling house with ancillary accommodation and associated works (amendment to PL/2021/06150) at Water Farm, Corsley, Warminster, BA12 7QD.*

The PC were unanimous in supporting this application.

Finance

Grants

At a previous meeting the PC had deferred two grant applications pending further information being provided. For both applications, from the War Memorial Playing Field and from a parishioner, further detailed information had been provided and the PC unanimously agreed that grants of £1,600 and £750 respectively be made.

Emergency planning

The PC had previously agreed that any spending decisions regarding equipment to be used as part of the village Emergency Plan should be put on hold pending a decision on the planning application to site a container in the car park of the Royal Oak. It was agreed that, with approval being granted, the equipment list drafted by David Ball be revisited.

The PC had received a request from the Trustees of the Corsley Reading Room that the PC grant them £2,500 to cover the cost of upgrading the power supply to 3-phase. It has been agreed that the Reading Room should be the 'hub' for emergency response to power outages in the village. The Reading Room has been successful in getting a grant from SSE that would facilitate this and were seeking support from the PC to cover the cost of the associated upgrade of the power supply to 3-phase. The request was agreed.

Precept

The Wiltshire Council deadline for receipt of the precept requirement is 20th January. It had been agreed that the PC would have preliminary discussions as to the budget for 2025/2026. A report was circulated detailing the budget set for the current year, the actual spending to date and any known and potential commitments. (It was noted that the precept

for the current financial year 2024/2025 had in fact been less than the previous financial year.) It was felt that given the inflation rate, the precept request should be increased by 5%. A detailed budget will be presented at the next meeting of the PC.

Correspondence/communications

The PC had been invited to nominate two trustees to the Thynne and Keyford Educational Foundation. It was agreed that Chris Brown should be one nominee and the PC would make a further nomination following the PC elections in May.

A letter from a parishioner expressing concern about the meeting of the 11th November had been circulated.

Next meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the PC is Monday 13th January. We welcome all visitors!

Links to Wiltshire Council LTP4 Consultation

Proposals

<https://wiltshireltp.commonplace.is/>

LTP4 Webinar Sign-up

<https://surveys.wiltshire.gov.uk/Interview/e79f6201-5ff1-4f1f-9869-2e5252ee076e>

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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends, As we begin the new year, I wonder how many of us do so with mixed emotions. For some there will be excitement, much to look forward to. For others, hidden behind our 'Happy New Year' greetings, there will be the awareness of challenges ahead, worries that loom all too large, sadnesses we know we will carry with us.

Indeed, the news too continues to be filled with distressing images, stories and concerns, both at home and in the wider world. Too often, once reported, the news then moves on, so that we may not hear or see of the long-term hardship and suffering. But we know it continues. As does, thank God, the work of agencies and individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes doing what is needed to make life better. But what if we could see behind the news, to observe not just the headlines, but also the tireless resilience of those who work to make life better? The ongoing, life bringing acts of kindness.

One of the joys of local community, and local church, are those hardy souls who quietly and patiently get on with doing things for others. They don't make a fuss. They won't receive a medal. They'll never be on the front page of the papers. But they make such a difference.

T S Elliot observed that humanity cannot bear too much reality. But that goes two ways. It is true that we are diminished by continual encounters with suffering, brutality and oppression. But it is also true that that is where we can also encounter surprising joy, hope, and courage, which quietly, patiently, with love and resilience, seeks to make life better.

The message of Christmas which we carry with us into the New Year, is that of love come down to be with us in the midst of it all, a love that cannot be quenched. Of light that continues to shine in the darkness, and that no amount of darkness can extinguish. A message of hope. For all. And so, as I close, I do so with a poem – a New Year Blessing, 'Beannacht' by the Irish poet and priest, John O' Donaghue.

On the day when the weight deadens on your shoulders,
and you stumble, may the clay dance to balance you.

And when your eyes freeze behind the grey window
and the ghost of loss gets in to you,
may a flock of colours, indigo, red, green, and azure blue,
come to awaken in you a meadow of delight.

When the canvas frays in the currach of thought
and a stain of ocean blackens beneath you,
may there come across the waters a path of yellow moonlight
to bring you safely home.

May the nourishment of the earth be yours, may the clarity of light be yours,
may the fluency of the ocean be yours, may the protection of the ancestors be yours.
and so may a slow wind work these words of love around you,
an invisible cloak to mind your life.

Go well, and God bless, Marian

P.S. We really hope that the changes that we have begun, to make our churches more hospitable and welcoming, mean we will soon be even better able to serve and bless our village communities,

January Church Diary

Sunday 5th January – the Epiphany

10 am Eucharist, Corsley

10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge Deverill



Sunday 12th January – Epiphany 1

Benefice Plough Sunday Service

11.15 am, Horningsham



Sunday 19th – Epiphany 3

11 am Matins, Corsley

10 am Eucharist, Brixton



Sunday 26th January – Epiphany 4th

10 am Eucharist, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Longbridge Deverill



Sunday 2nd February

Presentation of Christ at the Temple

8 am BCP Holy Communion

10 am Eucharist, Corsley

10 am Morning Worship

What is plough Sunday?

Plough Sunday is a traditional English celebration of the beginning of the agricultural year. Back in medieval times, the communal village plough was often stored in the parish church over winter. Early in January, the farmers would gather in church to bring the plough out of hibernation. The farming year would begin with a special blessing of the plough and the ploughmen in the church. The plough would be pulled through the village until they reached the local inn. With God's blessing, the support of the village and with good food and drink inside them, the ploughmen were ready to start the new agricultural year.

Farming practises have changed; often ploughing takes place in the autumn. Many farmers are shifting from ploughing to minimum tillage cultivation for environmental reasons, but the need to affirm farmers and those who work with the land, is as important now as it was in the past.

Church and Community Events in January

Corsley Coffee Morning

Wednesday 8th January, 10.30 am to 12 noon,
Corsley Reading Rooms

Crafternoons

Wednesday 8th and Wednesday 22nd January – 3 pm to 5 pm,
Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Community Church Coffee Morning

Thursday 16th January 10 am to 12 noon,
Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Lite Bites Soup Lunch

Wednesday 22nd January – from 12.30 pm,
Corsley Reading Rooms



Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

First contact for anything related to Corsley and Chapmanslade please contact Sue Fear at suefearpcc@gmail.com

Lay Pastoral Assistants	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
Pastoral Visitor	Barbara Hughes	01373 832273
Churchwardens: St Margaret's St Philip & St James	Vacant Ian Buick	01373 832318
Deputy Churchwardens: St Margaret's: Currently St Philip & St James':	Vacant Janet Aylesbury	07808 565878
PCC Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
PCC Treasurer	Ian and Janet Buick	01373 832318
Tower Captain	Mike Attenborough	01373 832777
Electoral Roll	Di Britten	01373 832515
50/50 Club	Sue Fear	01373 832074
Time to Think	Trudi Hopkinson	01373 832393
Lite Bites Lunches	Maureen Willcox	01373 832171
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Benefice Webmaster	Mike Palmer	mjp.mikepalmer@gmail.com
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Corsley WI

December news

Patricia Sharrocks rounds up the December events



Once again members of the WI enjoyed taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival at St Margaret's Church. This year we decided to make new decorations in WI colours which are purple and green – just like Wimbledon's! The trees all looked beautiful, decorated and twinkling in the Church, and we were proud to be part of the Festival.

Later in the month we met in the Reading Room for our December meeting, which began with a welcoming glass of fizz followed by a delicious meal prepared and served by Sandy Parrish and her team. Some members had made table decorations which added a festive sparkle to the tables.

It was a lovely, social occasion to round off another busy year. Amongst other things we have learnt how to use plants to make 'living wreaths', been taught a little self defence and discovered much about the beauty and culture of New Zealand. We visited Orchardleigh and we heard about the important work done by Riding for the Disabled.

We look forward to another informative and entertaining programme in 2025. Our next meeting will be held in the Reading Room at 7.30 pm on Thursday 9th January. Our speaker will be Robert Middlefell who is a senior dentist advising the Care

Quality Commission, teaching in Bristol and practising locally. Visitors are welcome to join us (£5)

We wish everyone a Happy New Year, and if you would like more details of the events planned in 2025, please contact Alice on 07989 339632 or email alicecambridge40@gmail.com.



Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

Liz Garrett reports on the latest happenings at the hall

Lots of activity at the Reading Room throughout December

As well as private bookings, the Lite Bites group ran a successful coffee morning and there was much activity in preparation for the Christmas lunch – a delicious and happy event. A big 'thank you' to all who prepared the food and helped run the event on the day.

The Christmas tree and decorations that were put up for the Christmas Fair provided ongoing cheer through the month and the brightly lit, Christmas-themed, telephone box was a triumph again. Thanks to Chris, Jackie and John.

Community groups use the hall regularly for meetings and events. So much so that on a couple of occasions recently we had different meetings going on at same time in the lower and upper room. So do remember to make your bookings to ensure you're first in line! *And make sure you are in the meeting you planned to attend!*

While we are talking about bookings, we really appreciate the care most groups or private hirers take when using the Reading Rooms. If they are not left clean and tidy, we incur extra cleaning costs and/or the volunteer committee must undertake additional tasks to those they already carry out.

Date for your diary...

Film events

Elsewhere in this edition of The Bridge you'll find a full page ad for upcoming film events.

London Mountain Film Festival:

Following last year's very successful multi-evening film festival we will be running it again. On Friday 14th March we will run two events, an afternoon session with tea and cake and an evening session. Tickets will be available from 1st February. We will be showing a really varied selection of the best adventure films from around the world and are looking forward to sharing them with you.

The first **Film Club** of the year will be on **Monday 27th January.**

Welcome to 2025!

Booking the hall

Please use the website form or email crrbookings@gmail.com. Corsley residents get a discount on our published prices! So please do use the hall, Jamie Owen is keen to help with your booking.

Contact us

While we do not have a Chairman at the moment, emails to

chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk come to the secretary Liz Garrett.

See website www.corsleyreadingroom.org.uk for up-to-date information and more.

Trustees

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Colin Bell reports on the key points from the meeting held in December

The Parish Council (PC) met in the Village Hall on 12th December 2024. Councillor Phil Holihead chaired the meeting at which four other Parish Councillors were present. At the start of the meeting, as always, members of the public and Unitary Councillor Bill Parks were warmly welcomed. Plus, in keeping with protocol, councillors were invited to declare and record any conflicts of interest. None were recorded.

The first section of the meeting provided members of the public with the opportunity to comment on and raise any questions connected to the published agenda. A planning applicant provided a brief overview of their planning application PL/2024/1001, highlighting that the plan is to change building use from a disused agricultural barn, to a 4 bedroom residential property. Councillor Parks commented on the recent Area Board meeting, at which Wiltshire's Police Crime Commissioner (WPCC) attended and who's input was well received.

Councillor Parks also highlighted that Wiltshire County Council's (WCC) Local Transport Plan (LTP) was published and open for public consultation. Councillor Parks illustrated the breadth of the consultation document, which covers multiple travel scenarios across Wiltshire, including by bicycle, bus, car, motorbike, train, freight and pedestrian. Following a question from a member of the public, Councillor Parks confirmed that travel and access via public footpaths is also within the scope of the

consultation and that this subject area contributes to the WCC connectivity strategy and wider vision to 2038 and beyond.

In keeping with its commitment to represent the 'Voice of the Village', the PC continues to actively demonstrate its commitment to safer and more environmentally friendly travel. Therefore, unanimously, councillors encouraged members of the public that were present and all other residents, parishioners and relevant stakeholders, to contribute to the public consultation. Links to this public consultation document is on the PC website and village Facebook page.

Planning applications

Three planning applications were considered by the PC:

- **PL/2024/10001 (FULL)**

Convert and extend two barns to create a dwelling house with ancillary accommodation and associated works (amendment to PL/2021/06150)

Water Farm, Corsley, Warminster, BA12 7QD.

The PC agreed that refurbishment of the current agricultural building would enhance the site. Councillors commented that in the construction methodology, further consideration to sustainability and mitigating potential road disruption is required. Unanimously, the PC recorded no objection to this plan.

- **PL/2024/09972 (FULL)**

Application for retention of altered internal site access and additional car parking (retrospective)

Hesdin Hall, Hesdin Estate, Thoulstone, Chapmanslade, Westbury, BA13 4GF.

The PC raised concern that this was another unacceptable example of a retrospective planning application and that the change of use date, connected to this application dates back to April 2021. Councillors voiced further concerns relating to the negative ecological impact of the development and that the lighting level is insufficient. All concerns will be fed back to WCC. Unanimously, the PC recorded an objection to this plan.

• **PL/2024/09973 (FULL)**

Application for the flexible use of the site for C3 dwelling houses and short term lets in line with the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 3, Class V of the GPDO Hesdin Hall, Hesdin Estate.

The PC raised concern connected to the negative impact of a potential significant increase volume of traffic accessing the site and that the planning application appeared to include an extended curtilage beyond the footprint of the nine dwellings, which was misleading. Unanimously, the PC recorded an objection to this plan.

Matters Arising from the last meeting:

Councillors and residents continue to voice significant concern connected to the poor standard of pavements throughout the village. To gather evidence, residents and parishioners are encouraged to record defective and potentially unsafe areas of pavement. Evidence can be logged in a variety of ways, including on the village Facebook page, via the PC website, at weekly coffee morning meetings at the Church every Thursday, through the My Wilts App and by contacting any member of the PC.

Councillors reported on the following

- The Thoulstone License had been approved with conditions and that the public meeting to discuss the application was an effective forum for balanced discussion
- The WCC Parish Steward visited the village directly after storm Burt to deal with flooding in Huntenhull Lane. As a result,

additional support from a gully tanker was requested

- Data extracted from the Speed Indicator Devices, which the PC have invested in at either end of the village, provided evidence that cars continue to exceed the 30mph speed limit. All agreed that activities to address the significant risk of speeding cars is important. In particular, the PC thanked the Speed Watch team for their ongoing work to tackle this risk.

Correspondence

A concern had been raised by a resident in connection to the red telephone box at the junction of the High Street and Huntenhull Lane. The concern was that the telephone box potentially restricts visibility to road users. The PC reported that this is a historic issue which was addressed in 2016 and 2019 and that the most appropriate channel for residents to report such a concern is via the WCC My Wilts App. The PC felt that more data will be required before any further consideration about safety could be undertaken, especially given the likely opposition to removal and the costs involved.

Finance and CIL Funding

A representative from the Village Hall Committee (VHC) highlighted that the flooring in the Village Hall is susceptible to further damage due to excessive moisture penetration. As a result, and to combat this risk, the VHC is planning to submit a request to the PC to cover the capital cost of dehumidifiers. In principle, the PC agreed that for the benefit of residents and parishioners addressing this issue is important. Following due process, once received, the PC will review a CIL funding application from the VHC.

Budget consideration and Precept for 2024/2025

Councillors considered a range of options, which would support village residents.

continued...

...continued

Unanimously it was agreed that the 2024/2025 precept would be subject to a 2.47% increase. The following payments were also approved:

- An annual donation to the Church for £1,000 to support grass cutting and grounds maintenance, and
- A donation to the VHC for £2,000 to support with the installation of ducting for future services to the pavilion.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of this meeting and other Parish Council meetings can be found on the PC website www.chapmansladepc.org.uk

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 9th January at 7.30 pm in the Chapmanslade Village Hall. As always, members of the public encouraged and invited to attend. For further details please contact the PC Clerk via

chapmansladepc@yahoo.co.uk.

All members of the Chapmanslade Parish Council look forward to welcoming you. Is there a better way to kick start your New Year?!

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Wonderful Walks

Where is it?

The more observant readers will be wondering where this month's Wonderful Walk has gone. Sadly, Gill Redman is having a few months off from her walks due to a couple of relatively common medical procedures that, whilst not serious, have nevertheless rendered her unable to ramble around the countryside in her usual inimitable style.

I would personally like to thank Gill for her fabulous contributions to The Bridge over the last four years. Starting off in lockdown, she wrote about some great walks we could all do now that we had so much time on our hands and needed to get out-and-about. They were an inspiration and I hope some of you took advantage of them! We changed the name to Wonderful Walks once the wretched COVID-19 had all but disappeared and, with a little encouragement from me, she has continued to write her walks up and take the pictures too – whether they were here in the UK or abroad where we could imagine how lovely the scenery was. It's a shame we have to print in black and white as the pictures were lovely in colour.

I'm looking forward to Gill restarting her walks in a few months' time.

Thank you Gill!

*Viv Thomas
Editor*

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Whitbourne Chapel

“Where is he that is born King of the Jews?”

Matthew 2, verse 2

Epiphany!

‘Epiphany’, according to a dictionary, is ‘a revelatory manifestation of a divine being’. The Christian Festival of Epiphany held on 6 January celebrates the manifestation of the divine nature of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Wise Men or Magi.

In some way God had revealed to these Wise Men, through their study of the heavens, that a new King of the Jews had been born and they had come to Jerusalem to ‘worship him’. A ‘troubled’ King Herod ordered the chief priests and scribes to search the Scriptures as to where this Child was to be born.

We see the wisdom of God in leading these men to the Bible first of all to verify their search. That search led to Micah chapter 5 v. 2 where it is prophesied that the promised ‘ruler’ from ‘everlasting’ was to be born in the little town of Bethlehem. Herod concealed his motive to get rid of this threat to his throne, by instructing the Wise Men where to go and bring him word when they found Him.

When they left Jerusalem, God encouraged the Wise Men because the star re-appeared in their journey ‘till it came and stood over where the young child was’. There they found the ‘young child with Mary his mother’ and they fell down and worshipped Him and presented their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh – there may be some significance in

these gifts: gold for a king; frankincense for deity; and myrrh signifying death -- the Lord Jesus is King; He is our God; and He came as Man to die for our sins.

The Wise Men recognised Who this Child was – the eternal God in human flesh and they worshipped Him. To worship something is to recognise the ‘worth-ship’ of it – and in that Child they saw Someone who was worth more than all this world can offer.

Have you had your epiphany when you see that Jesus Christ is the most important Person in the universe and have bowed the knee to Him?

That would be the best beginning to a new year in this uncertain world.

John Hobson

Visiting Preacher to Whitbourne Chapel



God willing...

Are you making plans for 2025? I had plans for Monday 25th November, too – a check-up at the RUH. Grand-daughter Jess was coming here from near Chippenham, taking me to hospital and bringing me back, before returning home to collect her children from school. Thanks to Storm Bert, our plans capsized!

We don't add the words ‘God willing’ to plans these days, the way people once did. But in this ‘uncertain world’, as John puts it above, perhaps we'd be wise to use this phrase again.

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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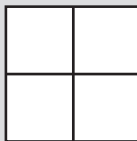
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Dorothy House

Christmas tree collection

The charity welcome a donation and in exchange we will collect your Christmas tree, take it away and recycle it for you. No hassle, no waste and no needles in your car!

This January, Dorothy House Hospice Care is running its annual Christmas Tree Collection fundraiser in partnership with national charity, Just Helping. Local people can book their Christmas tree in now for a charitable donation to Dorothy House. Dorothy House supporters and volunteers will collect trees between the 10th and 12th January. The collection is running in eighteen local postcodes.

This year, the charity is offering Christmas tree collections in the BA12 postcode. Dorothy House offers a limited capacity collection which relies on volunteers and local businesses so get in touch if you can help by providing a van or volunteers.

Taking part is easy, visit <https://just-helping.org.uk/register-tree>, make a donation and list where your tree will be located. Dorothy House asks for a donation to help fund their specialist palliative and end of life care services provided by the Hospice free of charge. All trees must be clearly marked with a label saying 'Dorothy House' and can be collected from businesses, schools, churches and offices. A percentage of trees will be chipped and shredded to make reusable materials for the community.

Since 2017 the Hospice's Christmas Tree



Collection has raised in excess of £370,000. Dorothy House hopes to beat the £97,000 that was raised during the last collection in 2024. The Hospice has to raise £4 for every £1 it receives from the NHS to fund its care for local people living with a life-limiting illness, their families and carers.

Locally delivered Christmas trees that give back!

One of Dorothy House's staunch Christmas Tree Collection supporters Wiltshire Christmas Trees, who have helped our Collection since it began, sells and delivers Christmas trees in the Wiltshire and Somerset areas. For every tree sold in our geographical patch, they donate £5 to Dorothy House.

A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

New Year – a time to reminisce and a time to look forward

I think most of us will remember 2024 for its most memorable storms causing destruction to electricity and telephone communications, flooding of homes and danger in travelling by road, rail and air. So far, our named storms have been Ashley, Bert, Conall and Darragh. We await storm Éowyn...

Up to the end of November 2024 rainfall in Corsley was 123.4 mm with a 10 year average of 95.09 mm.

I do hope your Christmas was all that you hoped it would be! Into the new year, we will see our daylight hours extend, signs of catkins on hazel, snowdrops appearing on our verges and public footpaths and a wonderful sight in our churchyards.

Plough Sunday, on 12th January, is celebrated in a church near you, with the blessing of the plough and to encourage countrymen to start the spring work in the fields.

A mild few days in December allowed us to harvest winter fodder beet, winter wheat was quickly planted and had germinated before the real winter weather hits us.

January is often a time for lambing and, as the weather is unpredictable, the ewes will be taken indoors to be fed extra supplements and have surveillance 24/7. Within just a few days of birth, the mums and their young lambs will be back out in the fields.

This is when walkers, especially those with dogs must take care not to upset the

sheep. They have numerous predators such as hungry foxes, badgers and large birds that will pick on weak and injured lambs if they become separated from the ewes by careless walkers.

Sadly, once again there has been outbreaks of bird flu – mostly in the eastern counties – brought in by wild birds migrating from Europe. If you find dead or dying wild birds, please report them to the Animal and Plant Health Agency.

Once again, those of you with a small number of chickens (see next page for important information) might find it safer to keep your poultry housed for their own safety.

Farming continues throughout the winter weather as animals and countryside have to be cared for.

While out on your walks be aware of animals bunching up for warmth, feeding and shelter. Ground conditions will be poor, so do use paths and tracks with hard surfaces for your own safety.

Start 2025 with the aim to enjoy our countryside as much as possible!

Happy New Year.

Judith Helliar

Important information for keepers of domestic poultry and other birds

You **must** register **ALL** poultry or other captive birds at any premises in England or Wales. This includes any birds you keep as pets. The following applies if you have between one and 49 birds. (There is separate guidance if you keep a total of 50 or more poultry or other captive birds at any premises).

You're breaking the law if you do not register your poultry or other birds

When you do not need to register

You do not need to register psittaciformes or passeriformes (such as budgies, parrots, cockatiels and finches) if they are both:

- fully housed in a dwelling (your home or another indoor structure)
- with no access to the open air

You **must** register if you take your birds outdoors at any time – for example, to exercise or train them, or to take them to bird gatherings or shows. You do not need to register to take an exempt bird to a veterinary practice.

Full information and how to register your poultry or other birds can be found at:

www.gov.uk/guidance/register-as-a-keeper-of-less-than-50-poultry-or-other-captive-birds

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 It was the name of his horse lost in battle ('A horse, a horse, my kingdom for my horse')
- 2 Frog
- 3 Cedar
- 4 Lulu ('Boom bang a bang' Eurovision 1969 and James Bond film theme 'The man with the Golden Gun' 1974)
- 5 Banbury Cross
- 6 At the bank with George Mainwaring
- 7 A well off lady of the 16th or 17th Century – it's a hooped petticoat
- 8 Tudor
- 9 Paddington Bear
- 10 8 – North Carolina, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Nebraska and Nevada. (New England is not a US State – it's a region comprising of six States)
- 11 Elizabeth Taylor
- 12 Bette Davis – however, the term 'Oscar' is a registered trademark and in the Italian language, it is used generically to refer to any award or award ceremony, regardless of which field, so it could have come from this.

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!

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

Casio digital piano for sale - age unknown and its has had little recent use, but it works and has instruction books.

£150 or nearest offer. Money will go to Reading Room funds. Please contact Liz Garrett on lizi.garrett@btinternet.com to arrange viewing



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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