

The Bridge

March 2025

*monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade*



Get rapturous for Rapunzel, enjoy lots of coffee mornings, see some great films at the Film Festival, have Pancake Fun at the church, attend a PC meeting, get crafty with Crafternoons, there's lots to do in March...



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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 March**

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

Diary Dates



March

Monday 3rd

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 4th

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fun – 2 pm to 4 pm, St Philip & St James' Church, Chapmanslade

Wednesday 5th

Coffee Morning (run by the Lite Bites team) – 10.30 to 12 noon, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 6th

Warminster Area Board (see page 30) – 7 pm, Warminster Library

Saturday 8th

Dorothy House 'Men's Walk to Support' – 11 am & 12 noon, Dorothy House, Winsley

Tuesday 11th

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

Wednesday 12th

Crafternoon – 3 pm to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Thursday 13th

Chapmanslade PC meeting – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Friday 14th

Film Festival – 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm (doors at 2 pm and 7 pm), Corsley Reading Room

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

Wednesday 26th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm to 2 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Crafternoon – 3 pm to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Thursday 27th

Rapunzel (Chapmanslade Players) – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall (tickets for all performances are sale NOW)

Friday 28th

Rapunzel (Chapmanslade Players) – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Saturday 29th

Rapunzel (Chapmanslade Players) – 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall



Dorothy House is back with its incredible Men's Walk to Support that creates a space for men to speak about their experiences of grief and bereavement as well as keeping active and staying outdoors. Men from all over the Dorothy House patch are signing up to get involved in this event and raise vital funds for end of life care in their area.

Join Dorothy House on Saturday 8th March for the 'Men's Walk to Support'. This 8-mile walk is an opportunity for men aged 8+ to join together in solidarity, share their life journeys together, and raise vital funds to help Dorothy House provide crucial end-of-life care for our local community.

The walk starts at 11 am and 12 noon from Dorothy House, Winsley, and participants will set off on the route that follows along the canal and finishes at Bath Pavilion - in time to watch the day's Six Nations matches.

Walking together

Whether someone you knew has died, you're dealing with a life-limiting illness yourself, or just want to come together to celebrate a man in your life, Dorothy House would love you to join in this special walk for a great time and a great cause. Best of all, you get to celebrate your epic achievement with a well-earned free pint and food in the Pavilion at the end!

Team up with your brother, your son, your dad, your best mates – or take on the walk solo – it's up to you. Whether you come as a group or on your own this event is a great chance to chat and share experiences with fellow participants, all while supporting our vital work at Dorothy House.

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Phil Holihead, rounds up the PC's activity in February

Chapmanslade Parish Council (PC) met in the Village Hall on 13th February (there being no meeting in January). Councillor (Cllr) Phil Holihead chaired the meeting at which four other Parish Councillors were present. At the start of the meeting members of the public and Unitary Cllr Bill Parks were warmly welcomed. There were no conflicts of interest recorded.

Key points from the meeting were:

During the public session, comments were heard on the delays to the promised replacement kissing gates to update some of the village's broken stiles. Councillors resolved to write to the head of Local Highways to try to unblock the delay and this has been done. Mention was also made about the weight limit restrictions in the village of which more later.

Planning applications

One planning application was considered by the PC.

PL/2025/00228 – *Householder Planning Permission for a new two-storey extension at 11 Bath Road.* There were no objections to this application.

Matters Arising from the last meeting:

Short Street junction approaches (A3098)

We are awaiting a date for the Highways and traffic engineers to visit to assess what can be done to make this stretch of the A3098 safer.

Pavements survey

This is half completed but was delayed through illness. The second half should be

completed soon after which some priority items will be identified to Wiltshire Council. One issue that is obvious as an easy solution is that the cutting back of householders' hedges and front gardens will help considerably in some areas to make the pavements more usable for the 'wider load' e.g. prams, wheelchairs, etc. Villagers are encouraged to report pavement and other issues via the MyWilts App which is available to download and easy to use or online at

<https://my.wiltshire.gov.uk>

Kissing gates

With the funds and agreements all in place since September 2024, it is frustrating that six months later the requested gates have yet to be ordered by Wiltshire Council. A strongly worded correspondence has been sent to the head of Local Highways to get this moving so that we can continue to engage the enthusiasm of our excellent team of volunteers who erect the gates to replace of ageing and broken stiles thereby increasing wider access to our footpaths.

Finance and CIL funding

There remain delays in finalising the work for the church building update and the village hall damp problems both of which have been allocated funds from the village's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The PC was keen to see this money spent as allocated and hoped that the delays, which are with outside agencies and contractors, would soon be

resolved. There remains almost £11,000 of the CIL fund still unallocated.

Village weight limit

Chapmanslade PC has managed to get the block that has been in place since 2009 for reducing the weight limit in the village from 18t to 7.5t lifted. This means that we now enter a process to decide how the work will be conducted. Ideally, all will be funded by Wiltshire Council as was intended when this was first raised in the 1990s and that is the line being pushed by the PC. Should, however, the PC be approached to partially fund the new weight limit signs and Traffic Regulation Order it was felt that now was a good time to set aside 25% of the estimated costs from the CIL fund. This was agreed.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Bill Parks for his unstinting support and advice and Terry Rose who has been integral to us successfully unlocking this issue and getting an agreement to proceed with the 7.5t weight limit. The Chair also thanked those who had been involved with the weight limit problem since the late 1990s. The current success came from a three-villages approach and the Chair thanked the weight limit teams in Corsley and

Maiden Bradley. Chapmanslade will continue to support the latter which was unsuccessful in its bid for a new weight limit in any future negotiations to resolve the issue.

Local elections

PC and Wiltshire Council elections will be held on 1st May. By the time you are reading this the application process will be near opening as it starts on 12th March. The Chair ran through the key dates and process for applying to be a councillor and the Clerk has posted all the details on the PC website under the Parish Council tab:

[www.chapmansladepc.org.uk/
parish-council/pc-elections/](http://www.chapmansladepc.org.uk/parish-council/pc-elections/)

Meeting Minutes

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

Next PC meeting

The next Chapmanslade PC meeting will be on 13th March at 7.30 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.



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Bob's bafflers

- 1 In the human body what is produced by the lacrimal glands?
- 2 Which bird featured on the old British coin the farthing?
- 3 Which animal is the subject of Sir Edwin Landseer's painting "The Monarch of the Glen"?
- 4 According to the bible, who was Adam and Eve's youngest son?
- 5 Which film does the song "Secret Love" come from?
- 6 In which city would you find the Headingly cricket ground?
- 7 What was Eric Morecambe's real surname?
- 8 Which two fruits are anagrams of each other?
- 9 Against which English king was the Gunpowder Plot of 1605 directed?
- 10 What type of plant is sargassum?
- 11 Who played the toymaker in the 1968 film "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang"?
- 12 Which popular 1971 TV Series (reprised in 2010) followed the lives of the Bellamy family and their servant staff at Eaton Place?

Answers on page 40

St Philip & St James Church, Chapmanslade
Shrove Tuesday 4th March

PANCAKE FUN

2-4pm

*Come & enjoy a pancake,
Tea/coffee & Pancake games*



Corsley Tennis Club News



With spring just round the corner, 2025 at Corsley Tennis Club is looking to be an exciting year with new committee members and no doubt lots of play as the weather (hopefully!) improves.

Our AGM was held back in January with 18 attendees. Those who wished to stay on the committee were successfully re-elected and three new officers were elected. It was decided that the first meeting of the new committee would decide on the charring arrangements for the coming year.

Keith Glenn and Mary Pyne both stepped down from their roles (with Mary staying on the committee in a non-officer role) and were thanked for their dedicated work as Membership Secretary and Treasurer respectively over the last five years. Keith also repaired holes in the court and maintained the website, all of which will now be done by other committee members. Diana Hale was thanked for her sixteen years of work for the Club. In that time, she has held almost all of the officer roles and most recently organised the programme of club tournaments. Luckily all three of these past officers will still be around to answer

questions and play tennis!

We also have to say goodbye to our President, Sandra *'It is with sadness that I am writing this letter of resignation as President of the Tennis Club as we are hoping to move sometime this year. I joined the club in 1967 as soon as we bought the plot in Lyes Green on which to build our house, sneaking off from helping with the land clearance jobs for the occasional game. I have many fond memories of games, matches and social events over the years. In my early days there were several of us with young children and we would take it in turns to sit out and supervise our youngsters. It is good to know that the club is still growing and flourishing.'* Sandra Whately

A special mention must also be given to our fabulous Secretary, Liz Garrett, who keeps us all in order and works tirelessly to keep CTC running like a well-oiled machine! It is most definitely a flourishing friendly club. Being a member gives you a range of benefits including online court booking, club sessions, league matches and, most importantly, no court fees! Come and join us!

Kate Jackson
Committee member

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!

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Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

Secretary, Liz Garrett, reports on the latest happenings at the hall

Alongside the regular community events in the Reading Room and the Pilates and Yoga classes, there is a steady flow of private bookings, children's parties and other family events – so do remember that the hall is an option if you are looking for a venue.

Monday 17th March is the start of Annual Village Halls Week which is marked by the launch of a book, 'Halls for All: A History of Village Halls', written by Louise Beaton and David Clark as part of Action with Communities in Rural England's centenary celebrations, Available from Amberley Books priced at £15.29 www.amberley-books.com/halls-for-all.html

Developments

The upgrade to the electricity supply will go ahead this month. Beyond that we are now seeking grants for further improvements. We hope to insulate the walls in the main hall, replace the floor and update the heating systems so they are more effective and efficient. It is great that there are grant giving bodies who value and support the role of village halls in rural communities, but there's work to do in applying and meeting their criteria and conditions.

Dates for your diary

Film Events

See advert on page 25 for the London Mountain Film Festival on Friday 14th March. There will be sessions in the afternoon and evening. The advert tells you how to get your tickets! Have you got yours yet? Some of the committee have been trawling through the huge selection of films available and trying to pick a really varied selection of the best adventure films from around the world. Tickets £6 and refreshments will be available.

Film Club

Our next film night is on Monday 24th March. Members have been told what films will be showing. You can find out by emailing films@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk.

Booking the hall

Please use the website form or 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!

Contacting the Chair

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

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

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

Trustees

Chris de Groot, Claire Firman-Ford, Liz Garrett, Jackie Jasper, Mary King, Mark Richards David Sharrocks, (Jamie and Charlie Owen look after bookings)

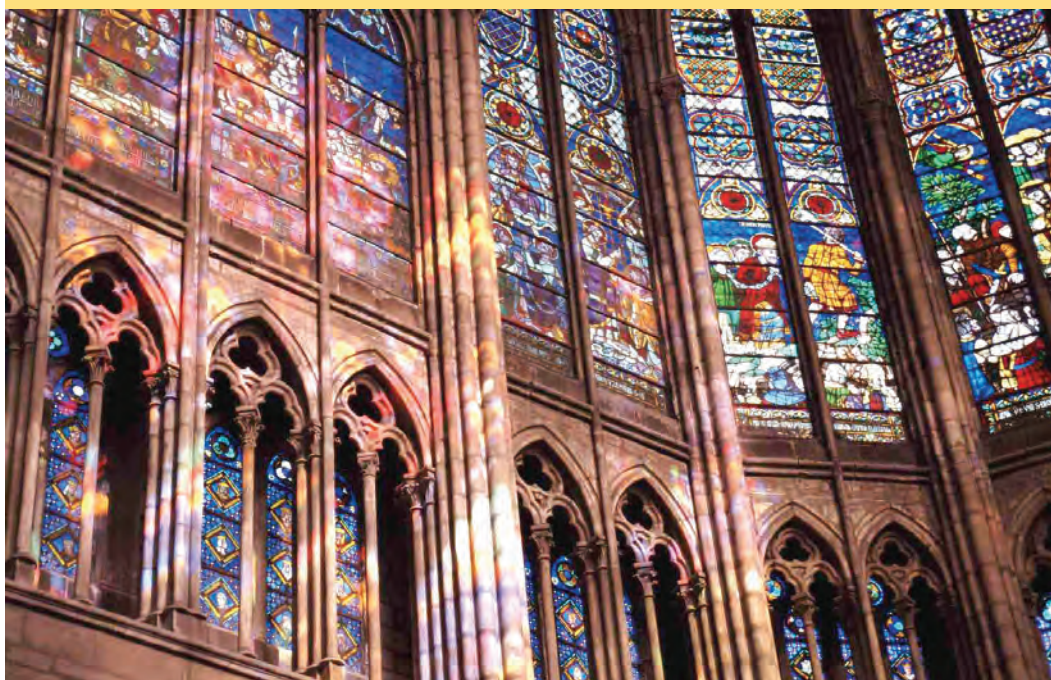
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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Parish Council Elections – May 2025

Parishioners may know that there will be local government elections, including for the Parish Council (PC) on 1st May. (This assumes that the current central government debate on further local government re-organisation does not pre-empt this.)

Corsley PC

Corsley PC is entitled to nine councillors. The PC has scheduled meetings every other month, meeting on the first Monday of the month at 7 pm in the Corsley Reading Room. The schedule of meetings for the ‘new’ council in 2025 is:

- Monday 12th May (TBC) This meeting would also be the AGM of the PC, where the Chair and Vice Chair would be elected.
- Monday 7th July
- Monday 1st September
- Monday 3rd November.

In addition to the scheduled meetings there is the Annual Parish Meeting and there could be occasional meetings which are called, usually because of the response requirements relating to planning applications.

What does the PC do?

- In theory, the powers of the PC are many and varied. In practice, for many reasons; historical, practical and financial, a lot of those the PC could take on are performed by other agencies, be that the unitary authority, Wiltshire Council, the Highways Authority, the Health Authority, the Police, or are not appropriate eg the PC has the power to provide public baths and washhouses and also the power to provide mortuaries and mortuary rooms.

- The PC is the lowest tier of local government and is the formal interface between the ratepayer and the unitary authority and other agencies/organisations. It exists to promote and protect the interests of those living in the parish;
- The PC has the right to be consulted on planning applications affecting ratepayers and an obligation to comment appropriately, providing a ‘local’ perspective that is not always readily understood.
- Maintaining the network of footpaths and bridleways around the parish, liaising with landowners and Wiltshire Council.
- Liaising with Wiltshire Council and land owners on the maintenance of the myriad lanes, ditches and drains around the village.
- Supporting village based organisations by providing grants for specific initiatives or contributions to running costs
- Liaising with the Highways Authority on issues of road safety, traffic speed and volume.

Who can stand

To be able to stand as a candidate at a parish council election you must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, a qualifying EU citizen or an EU citizen with retained rights “<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/guidance-candidates-parish-council-elections-england/what-you-need-know-you-stand-a-candidate/qualifications-and-disqualifications-standing-election/qualifications>” \1 “footnote2_todury” \0

“s.79(1), LGA 1972” 2

Meet at least one of the following four qualifications:

- You are, and will continue to be, registered as a local government elector for the parish in which you wish to stand from the day of your nomination onwards..
- You have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish area during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.
- Your main or only place of work during the 12 months prior to the day of your nomination and the day of election has been in the parish area.
- You have lived in the parish area or within three miles of it during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.

When completing your home address form and consent to nomination form you will be asked to indicate which qualifications you meet. You should indicate on the forms all those qualifications that apply to you.

You can't be a councillor if you:

- Work for the council you want to be a councillor for, you can work for another local authority as long as you are not in a political restricted post.
- Are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order.
- Have been sentenced to prison for three months or more (including suspended sentences) during the five years before election day.
- Have been convicted of a corrupt or illegal practice by an election court.
- Are subject to any relevant notification requirements, or a relevant order, in respect of a sexual offence.

Procedure

Nomination papers for election to a Parish, Town or City Council can be found at www.electoralcommission.org.uk/guidance-

resources-candidates-parish-council-elections-england/ \t “_blank” *The Electoral Commission: Guidance for Candidates at Parish Council elections in England.*

Detailed information on the election and the procedures to be followed can be found on the Wiltshire Council web site: Information for Candidates – Wiltshire Council.

Key dates

Publication of the Notice of Election

11th March

Nominations Open

12th March

Nominations Close

2nd April

Polling Day

1st May

Counting of votes

2nd May

'New Council'

6th May

Interested?

If you are interested and care about your local community and want to make a difference please consider it and put yourself forward for election. Councillors do make a difference to the quality of life of local people and how local issues are dealt with. If it would help to speak to somebody about the role the following are happy to be contacted:

John Willcox, Clerk to the Parish Council,
t. 01373 832171, e. corsleypc_jdw@aol.com.

Olly Hares, Parish Councillor
t. 07973 884319, e. ollyhares@hotmail.com

Neil Carpenter, Parish Councillor and
Chair of the PC
t. 01373 832314, e. cpc@nmc2.co.uk

Lavinia Mitchell, Parish Councillor
e. laviniacppb@gmail.com

As an aside

There has not been an election for Corsley PC for at least 25 years, ie the number of candidates has always been equal to or less than the number of positions available so whoever has stood has automatically been appointed... Time for a change?



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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends

I am writing this letter in the middle of February during a very cold spell of weather when any signs of spring seem a long way off – although, the abundance of snowdrops in my garden and around our villages are brightly lighting the way giving us hope of better things to come. The one constant in our lives, as the smallest flowers begin to push their way through the cold earth, lies in the certainty of God's Creation that the darkness of winter will be followed by spring.

Folklore tells us that March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb; from the biting winds comes the soft winds of April. In the Church calendar, March heralds not only the coming spring, but the beginning of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, the 5th March, and concludes at the beginning of Holy week, the week before Easter Day, the 17th April.

For all Christians, Lent is the season of reflection as we journey with Jesus to the cross. It is a time when we are encouraged to take stock of our own journey of faith in our uncertain and messy world of today. Through prayer and study, it is an opportunity to share with others in a Lent course. This year, members of our parish have been invited to join in with the Lent course being offered at Christchurch in Warminster. The course begins on 12th March at 1pm and runs weekly during Lent. The theme 'Living Hope' invites people to connect with God and discover signs of hope in the world. It also provides links to various resources for individuals, churches, schools and families to explore.

Additionally on 2nd April there is a chance to get away from the business of our everyday lives and join the quiet day being held in the chapel and gardens of Chalfield Manor.

Lent is a journey about us and our faith where we are offered time to see how far we have come and time to help us to see the way ahead.

For those who wish to explore this in the quietness of their own home, our churches will have booklets available from our churches on the theme of 'Living Hope' to support daily reflection.

For more information about joining the Lent study at Christchurch in Warminster or the quiet day at Chalfield Manor please contact me, Rev Diana Britten at dianabritten69@gmail.com.

March Church Diary

Sunday 2nd March: next before Lent
10 am Eucharist, Corsley
10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge Deverill



Sunday 9th March: 1st Sunday of Lent
10 am Praise and Worship, Chapmanslade
10 am Eucharist, Kingston Deverill



Sunday 16th February: 2nd Sunday of Lent
11 am Matins, Corsley
10 am Eucharist, Brixton Deverill



Sunday 23rd March: 3rd Sunday of Lent
10 am Eucharist, Chapmanslade
10 am Eucharist, Longbridge Deverill



Sunday 30th March
Mothering Sunday Benefice Service
10 am St Philip & St James, Chapmanslade

Pastoral Visiting

If anyone would like to receive a visit or receive Home Communion,
please contact either Rev Di Britten 01373 832515, or
Rev Gay Maynard 01373 832490

Church and Community Events in March

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fun

Coffee/tea, pancakes and activities for children
Tuesday 4th March, 2 - 4 pm, St Philip & St James' Church

Corsley Coffee Morning

Wednesday 5th March,
10.30 am – 12 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Crafternoons

Wednesday 12th and Wednesday 26th March,
3 pm – 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Church and Community Coffee Morning

Thursday 20th March, 10 am – 12 noon, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Messy Church

Friday 28th March
Please see the advert on page 37 of this edition of The Bridge

Churchyard Spring Clean and Grass Cutting

Next month, grass cutting will start in St Margaret's (Corsley) and St Philip and St James' (Chapmanslade) churchyards. We respectfully ask families of graves over one year old to remove all items except one bouquet or plant, so the machine can cut the grass between headstones and plaques. Any items that have not been removed by April will be removed to allow the mowing to go ahead. Thank you for your cooperation.

Rev Diana Britten

For more information please see the reference on the church notice board regarding Churchyard Guidance for Families. This leaflet contains key information from the Chancellor of the Diocese on various legal matters relating to churchyards.

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	07808565878
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
Benefice Administrator	Vacant	
Benefice Webmaster	Mike Palmer	mjp.mikepalmer@gmail.com
Safeguarding Officer	Sarah Humberstone	cleyhillbeneficeoffice@gmail.com

Copy for Six Open doors should be sent to Di Britten at dianabritten69@gmail.com

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Corsley WI

February news

Patricia Sharrocks rounds up the February meeting and announces some forthcoming events



The speaker at our February meeting was Adrian Tomlinson who gave a most entertaining talk entitled ‘How I got to Windsor.’

Adrian was born in Cheshire and had a farming background. He began work on a big dairy farm, spending one day a week at college. After nine years in the same job he decided it was time to move on and move away from Cheshire for a year or two. Among the jobs he applied for was one in the south east of England. He received a reply from Her Majesty’s Dairy Farm and was interviewed in the private grounds of Windsor Castle and shown around Home Farm.

Home Farm is within Windsor Great Park which is owned by the Crown Estate. In 1951 the Queen’s father started the Ayrshire herd alongside the oldest pedigree herd of Jersey cattle in the world, whose records can be traced back to a herd which was started by Queen Victoria in 1862.

In November 1989, Adrian became herd manager of the Ayrshires, joining a Harvest Supper on the farm a few days later and finding himself sitting next to the Keeper of the Privy Purse. In the years that followed Adrian encountered many famous and interesting people in the course of his work. He often talked to the Queen about the herd and to Prince Philip who was Ranger of Windsor Great Park with overall responsibility for the stewardship of the land. Adrian saw Presidents Obama, Trump and Biden during

their visits to Windsor and he met Lech Walesa who visited in 1991. He told us of a meeting with the President of Ethiopia who, during a State Visit, expressed an interest in farming. The schedule was tight but a visit to the farm was arranged for the President on his way to the airport for his journey home. Dressed formally in suit and tie with shiny shoes he arrived at the farm and was shown around by Adrian, before continuing on his way to the airport – with rather less shiny shoes than when he arrived!

Adrian and his family lived in the private grounds of Home Park, a secure area, where the Queen would sometimes walk her dogs. Adrian told us about one memorable walk he took with his family which ended with a long hunt for a lost corgi. The Queen knew the dog had disappeared into some bushes and undergrowth: it proved very elusive but was found eventually.

There were many amusing anecdotes and an inside look at people and events we had all heard about, such as the fire at Windsor Castle. Realising that the flames they could see were no ordinary fire, Adrian and his colleagues went to the Castle and helped to remove paintings, furniture and a huge rug which they rolled up and carried down a narrow staircase. They were amused to see that later it took a small contingent of soldiers to lift it and remove it from the lawn!

Adrian spoke about judging at County Shows and how he was asked to do some

judging in New Zealand, the first judge for dairy cattle from outside NZ. Used to judging 8-10 cows, he was shocked to discover there were 42 entrants in The North Island Dairy Championship but he survived to tell the tale creating much laughter in the Reading Room as he did so!

In 2007 the Ayrshire herd was sold as a complete herd and Adrian sadly passed on their excellent breeding records to a new owner. He still lives at Windsor where he has his own business supplying feed and dairy cow nutrients and he also joins discussions at St George's House, Windsor, which helps to inform government policy. So whilst he no longer manages a royal herd Adrian has yet to return to Cheshire!

It was a most amusing and enjoyable evening, one which members will remember for a long time.

Our next meeting will be a practical one as we have a go at weaving in our Weaving Workshop evening. For more information please contact Alice on 07989 339632 or email alicecambridge40@gmail.com

Lite Bites

Maureen Willcox reports on the January Soup Lunch

If you remember, back a month or so, January 22nd was not a pleasant day – we've had rather too many of those lately haven't we? The Lite Bites team were delighted that over 20 villagers braved the wintry conditions and joined us for our soup lunch in aid of the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. As usual there was a choice of four warming soups on offer which were obviously appreciated as there was very little left at the end!

I am pleased to report that, as a result of the kind donations, we were able to donate £140 to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance

On 26th February we gave our donations to Age UK – maybe you were with us on that occasion? If not please do come and give us a try on Wednesday 26th March when we shall be donating to a children's mental health charity called Place2Be which is supported by the Princess of Wales. You may have seen it on the news at the beginning of February during Children's Mental Health Week.

We look forward to welcoming friends old and new on Wednesday 26th March and again on Wednesday 23rd April from 12.30 to 2 pm, before we take a break for the summer.



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Sewage system costs issue

Selwood Housing update

Neil Carpenter reports on the difficult situation facing some residents at Corsley Heath

Firstly, it is with great sadness that I have to announce that Haydn (known to us all as Glyn) Spurr has passed away suddenly.

As you know, Glyn had been championing trying to get answers from Selwood Housing as to why they are charging so much and why there is a massive variation in sewage charges for the houses in Corsley, along with why, having repaired the soak away at the end of 1-6 Heathway, it was now being emptied every four to six weeks rather than six monthly prior to the repairs.

With the ongoing support of Councillor Bill Parks and Dr Andrew Murrison MP, he had received a number of letters from Selwood Housing which cast some light as to how they put together their costs (50% management fees) but did not provide any explanation as to:

- Why the variation was so broad (£590-£1100 per annum) for the same type of houses with identical council bands?
- Why they are emptying the Heathway system every four to six weeks?
- When do Selwood Housing plan to replace the systems in Corsley and how much they are going to charge those that have bought their homes?
- Why there is no single person discounts (as their are for council tax and potable water (from Wessex Water)?

Councillor Parks has now managed to organise a presentation from Selwood Housing at the next Warminster Area Board

(Thursday 6th March, 7 pm at Warminster Library).

I was discussing our strategy for this meeting with Glyn just before his untimely passing. I know he felt that he was fighting this fight for everyone including those that were worried that if they made a fuss they may have problems with Selwood Housing.

I will be attending and Councillor Parks and I will be putting these questions to Selwood Housing but this is the residents' chance to come along to the Area Board and ask their questions directly.

If you are worried or cannot attend, please let me know what you would like us to ask and we will endeavour to put those questions forward.

Dr Neil Carpenter

Wiltshire Mobile Library

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- 1st and 3rd Friday of each month 10am to 12 noon – support group for anyone affected by cancer. Family and friends welcome.
- 2nd and 4th Friday of each month 10am to 12 noon – support group for anyone bereaved, affected by grief for any reason. Families and friends welcome.

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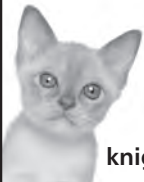
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Whitbourne Chapel

'The eye is the lamp of the body.'
Matt 6, verse 22

How is your eyesight?

Recently I had an eye test and the optometrist was very thorough. She showed me a photo of my eyes and explained the various parts of the eye, like the optical nerve that conveys the images we see to the brain. Consider the beauty of spring flowers like daffodils – what a drab world it would be if we saw everything in black and white!

Do you ever wonder at the intricate design of our bodies and say to yourself, 'this can't be the product of blind chance'? As the psalmist says: we are 'fearfully and wonderfully made' (Psa. 139 v. 14).

The Lord Jesus Christ once spoke about our eyes. He said: *'The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness'* (Matthew 6 vv. 22—3).

He was talking about spiritual eyesight. Jesus specialised in opening blind eyes, not only physical blindness but also spiritual blindness, as the record of the blind man in John chapter 11 clearly shows.

If you realise that you're stumbling in the dark, can I urge you to seek the Lord Jesus and ask Him to open your eyes?

In the hymn 'Loved with Everlasting Love',

the hymn writer spoke of his experience of his spiritual eyes being opened:

*Heaven above is softer blue, earth around is
sweeter green;
Something lives in every hue Christless eyes have
never seen:
Birds with gladder songs o'erflow, flowers with
deeper beauties shine,
Since I know, as now I know, I am His and He
is mine.*

John Hobson

Visiting preacher to Whitbourne Chapel

Jesus, the Light of the World

Our Chapel guitarists, James and Adrian,

led a January Service. James led the prayers and Adrian reminded us all of the drama after our Candlelight Service, on 22nd December 2024.

Fortunately, we'd all had hot drinks and mince pies before the electrics failed and the Chapel was plunged into darkness. Imagine an eternity like that, with no Chapel squirrel to blame for chewing through cables – and no electrician to sort the problem. Let's all choose Jesus as our 'Light of the World'; let us receive him, respond to him and then reflect his Saving Light onto those around us.



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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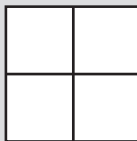
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**Messy
CHURCH**



Messy News!

COMING UP!

Mothering Sunday Lego Messy Church

Friday 28th March at 3.15p

In St Philip and St James Church Chapmanslade

Please come any time around 3.15 and join in with activities, have something to eat and drink and finish at approx 4.30

Make a posy of
paper flowers

Lego activities



Make savoury
and sweet
'flowers' to eat

Story and song

A donation on the day, towards the cost of this event,
would be much appreciated

To book your place and tell us of any dietary needs, please
contact Rev. Gay Maynard by email: revgmaynard@gmail.com
or text to: 07809245516

For all Messy Church events, children need to be with an Adult. Please
note we now have toilet facilities

A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

Judith Helliar writes about the goings on at the farm

Up until the 18th, February was cold and grey, but the forecast for the rest of the month was for higher than normal temperatures, but with rain and strong winds until the end of the month.

In February, our village was blessed with a wonderful show of snowdrops popping up in hedgerows and verges and now, in March, we look forward to the verges on the A362 running through the village being aglow with daffodils planted a few years ago by a few local volunteers and financed by the Parish Council – what a lovely legacy for all to enjoy!

Later in the month, nestled in the short grass you will find primroses ready for lovely posies for Mothering Sunday on the 30th March.

Hedge cutting and hedge laying will be completed this month in time for the nesting birds and mammals to create nests and burrows with lots of cover for the breeding season.

Let's hope that by the end of March the soil will have warmed up for sowing spring crops and grazing for ewes and the young lambs.

Farms are still busy with spring-calving cows, mostly calving in large bedded areas, where those cows who are due to calf are separated from the milking herd. The calving cows will be checked on an hourly basis for any change in their condition, with night checks every few hours so that once born they can be registered with their own herd and farm number. Workers will also be checking

that they are able to take the first milk from their mothers which contains colostrum. Colostrum contains antibodies which provide immunity and is rich in energy and nutrients that are essential for growth. Healthy farm animals such as cattle, sheep and horses are usually up on all four legs within minutes of being born, this goes back to their days in the wild when very young and sickly animals had many predators.



Shepherds are busy with helping new lambs into the world; some dairy farms still have last year's lambs grazing on old pastures – improving the grass lays and at the same time being fattened up for market.

Some farms in the warmer south will host hill sheep throughout the winter – they'll then be moved back to the home farm on the higher grounds for lambing.

Hopefully, the end of March will see the end of our winter and we can look forward to a superb spring.

Judith Helliar

Chat Café Warminster

On

Friday 21 March

We welcome

David

Macmillan Support Worker

David will be available to talk about the services available to patients at the RUH.



Join us for a coffee!!



CANCER SUPPORT FOR YOU

The cancer support group meets every 1st & 3rd Friday of the month between 10 - 12pm At the Athenaeum

 opendoorwarminster.org

  [@thechatcafewarminster](https://www.facebook.com/thechatcafewarminster)

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!



Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 Tears
- 2 Wren
- 3 Stag
- 4 Seth
- 5 Calamity Jane
- 6 Leeds
- 7 Bartholomew
- 8 Melons/Lemons
- 9 James I
- 10 Seaweed
- 11 Benny Hill
- 12 Upstairs/Downstairs

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 (Barbers 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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