

The Bridge

May 2025

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



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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 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). 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 May**

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

May

Sunday 4th

Chapmanslade Village Hall Community Volunteer Day – from 9 am onwards, at the hall



Wednesday 7th

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

Thursday 8th

V E Day Celebrations – 4 pm to 6 pm, Corsley War Memorial Playing Field

Corsley WI – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room – Robert Middlefell (senior dentist advising the Care Quality Commission, teaching and practising)

Saturday 10th

May Fayre – 10.30 to 12.30 pm, Sandhayes, Corsley, BA12 7QQ - FREE entry!

Tuesday 13th

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

Wednesday 14th

Crafternoon – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Thursday 15th

Community Church Coffee Morning – 10 am to 12 noon, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade
Chapmanslade Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Friday 16th

Evening of folk music and poetry with Bishop Andrew – 7 for 7.15 pm, St Philip and St James', Chapmanslade

Thursday 19th

Corsley Parish Council Meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Wednesday 28th

Crafternoon – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

June

Wednesday 4th

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

Tuesday 10th

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

Thursday 19th

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

Diary Dates

July

Wednesday 2nd

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

Monday 7th

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 8th

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

Thursday 17th

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

August

Sunday 3rd

Elizabethan Evening - Illyria presents the Merry Wives of Windsor – 5 pm, (gates open at 4 pm), Manor Farm, Corsley

Wednesday 6th

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

Tuesday 12th

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

Thursday 21st

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

Saturday 30th

Corsley Fayre - 12 noon to 4 pm, Deep Lane

September

Monday 1st

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Wednesday 3rd

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

Saturday 6th

Illyria presents HMS Pinafore – 5 pm (gates open at 3 pm), Heywood House, BA13 4NA

Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School

Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 14th May

Wednesday 28th May

Wednesday 11th June

Wednesday 25th June

Wednesday 9th July

Wednesday 23rd July

Wednesday 6th August

Wednesday 20th August

Wednesday 3rd September

Wednesday 17th September

May Fayre

Saturday 10th May

10.30 – 12.30pm

Sandhayes, Corsley, BA12 7QQ



Plant Sale

Messy Tent

Cake stall

Games

Refreshments



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Small electrical items should be presented in a supermarket carrier bag by the side of your blue-lidded recycling bin, or blue recycling sack. Individual items should be no larger than a shoe box (so around 30 cm x 20 cm or 12" x 8").

What we collect:

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- electric toothbrushes, shavers and trimmers
- all vapes and e-cigarettes
- smartwatches, wireless earphones, tablets and e-readers
- mobile phones

- digital cameras, camcorders, power banks and docking stations
- laptops and notebooks
- wireless controllers for games consoles and personal digital assistants
- cables
- Christmas fairy lights.

You should remove all data and SIM cards.

How do I delete my data? Visit the trusted website www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk/faq/how-do-i-delete-my-data which explains how to do it properly (and lots more besides!)

Lite Bites report

By the time you read this we will have served our last soup until September. Next month I shall report on how much money we raised on St George's Day for Macmillan Cancer Support

On 26th March we raised money for a charity called Place2Be that we haven't previously supported. It's a Children's Mental Health charity whose patron is the Princess of Wales. I think we all agree that we need to take care of our children's mental health so this seemed a very good charity to support.

As usual we had four delicious soups on offer and there was very little left at the end of the morning – our twenty four guests obviously enjoyed their lunch!! They also enjoyed the warmth of the Reading Room and I enjoyed not having to feed the meter with pound coins throughout the morning! At the end of the morning we had raised £147 for Place2Be.

Our final lunch was at the end of April; if you missed us and would like to add to our donation to Macmillan Cancer Support, please contact me and I will arrange to collect your gift.

Maureen Willcox

01373 832171 or mawillcox@aol.com

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Bob's bafflers

- 1 In stories by Arthur Conan Doyle, at what number Baker Street did Sherlock Holmes live?
- 2 The Grand Union Canal links London with which English City?
- 3 How many colours make up a rainbow?
- 4 Which Italian sweet bread from Milan is usually eaten at Christmas?
- 5 Which king had Sir Walter Raleigh executed in 1618?
- 6 What is Donald Trump's middle name?
- 7 Which British TV police series was set in Denton?
- 8 Which instrument did the musician Yehudi Menuhin play?
- 9 How many violinists are in a string quartet?
- 10 In a novel by Thomas Hardy, of which town was Michael Henchard the mayor?
- 11 Which planet in the solar system has the most moons?
- 12 Which annual event takes place at Cooper's Hill, Gloucestershire on Spring Bank Holiday?

Answers on page 36

You are invited to an

Evening of Folk Music and Poetry with Bishop Andrew Rumsey

St Philip and St James' Church, Chapmanslade
7 for 7.15 pm, Friday 16th May

All are Welcome

Drinks available on arrival and during the interval

*There is no charge - donations welcome towards the
planned church kitchenette*

*This event with Bishop Andrew will celebrate plans to
adapt the church building for a much wider range of community uses*

Bishop Andrew Rumsey is our local area (Wiltshire) bishop – within the Salisbury Diocese. He is a poet and musician with a keen love for our natural environment – and posts regularly on YouTube talking about place, faith, identity and landscape from different local landmarks.

Although not essential, it would be helpful if you could confirm planned attendance by emailing candcchurches@gmail.com or calling 07455 349161



Corsley Tennis Club News



Over the last couple of months we have been very fortunate to enjoy some wonderful spring sunshine so tennis has been thriving at Corsley Tennis Club (CTC) with excellent attendance at club sessions. It's great to see that so many people have renewed their membership and to also see some new joiners this year – welcome!

The free Junior Taster Session held on 13th April – run by Martin and three faithful tennis leaders, was a huge success with new talent coming through and continued stardom from more regular juniors. By the time you read this, the Junior Coaching Programme will be well underway and no doubt will be well attended and lots of fun!

After some taster sessions, the Adult Group Coaching and the Ladies Only Coaching Group, both run by Martin, will have started on 22nd and 23rd April respectively. Both courses run for 5 weeks so if you have missed the start, do check on the website if there are

spare places or contact Martin on either 07534 071600 or ellacottmartin@gmail.com

DON'T FORGET our impending tournament dates open to all adult and junior members over 16 years – it's still not too late to email Kate if you would like to enter katejackson@hotmail.co.uk

Mixed doubles 2.30pm ,Sunday 18th May
Ladies doubles 2.30pm , Sunday 8th June
Men's doubles 2.30pm , Sunday 22nd June
Over 70's 10am, Thursday 3rd July
American Switch doubles Sunday 20th July

And finally, it's not long before the start of the Mixed League Season played on Monday evenings. We have (just!) enough willing members to cover a team so please wish our intrepid competitors the very best of luck over the forthcoming months.

Kate Jackson
Committee Member



Junior Easter Festival



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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Adrian Evans reports on the key points from April's meeting

The Parish Council (PC) met in the Village Hall on 10th April. Councillor Phil Holihead chaired the meeting at which four other Parish Councillors were present. Four members of the public attended, including Unitary Councillor Bill Parks.

Planning applications

PL/2024/09973 *Hesdin Hall Estate, application for flexible use of the site for C3 dwelling houses and short term lets. This was an update to the application considered by the Council in December 2024.*

The revised plans presented very little additional information and the PC were unanimous in reiterating its objection, mainly on the grounds of potential for significantly increased traffic.

PL/2024/09972 *Hesdin Hall Estate, retention of altered internal site access and additional car parking (retrospective). Again, this application presented revised drawings to the application considered by the Council in December 2024.*

The Council noted that the site had been tidied up and mobile homes removed. However, the concerns relating to its negative ecological impact and lighting remained and the PC continues to object to this application.

PL/2025/01620 *Cobb Farm, renewal of consent for mobile home for agricultural worker.*

While not objecting, the Council would make a submission seeking clarification about the temporary nature of dwelling.

Matters arising from the last meeting

The long-awaited pedestrian gates for which funding had been approved were reported to

have been ordered and should arrive in May.

Finance

End of year accounts were presented and reviewed by the PC.

'No stopping zone' outside Chapmanslade school

The Traffic Order Notification for this was currently under consultation and would be progressed after the consultation deadline.

Meeting minutes

Minutes of all PC meetings can be found on the website www.chapmansladepc.org.uk

Next PC meeting

The next Chapmanslade PC meeting will be on Thursday 15th May at 7.30pm in Chapmanslade Village Hall. As ever, members of the public are warmly invited to attend. For further details please contact the PC Clerk via chapmansladepc@yahoo.co.uk.

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning

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V.E. Day Celebrations

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Six Open Doors

I was searching for a letter for this May copy of 6 Open Doors and came across one written by Pauline written in 2022. It just seems so appropriate for today I thought you might like to enjoy reading it again, and so with Pauline's permission here it is, enjoy. Di.

Dear Friends,

Perhaps by the time you read this you will have been lucky enough to hear the song of the cuckoo once more, a sound that announces that spring has truly sprung. For the moment I will content myself with rapidly greening hedgerows and a garden that seems to be budding and flowering before my very eyes. Once again, the miracle of new life unfolds, and little green shoots push their way through the soil in the vegetable bed. Biblical writers were acutely aware of the precious beauty of the natural world, but they also had the greatest respect for it as well. Life for these nomadic people was hard and food, water and security were understood to be gifts to be treasured; there was no illusion or indeed expectation that life would be easy or that human beings had everything under control.

We live in uncertain times do we not, a time when peace and stability seem to be slipping away and we fear for the future, both in terms of the environment disaster that we can longer ignore, and in which volatile leaders make decisions that have far reaching consequences for the whole world order. Most of the time we are able to push any thoughts of our own human vulnerability firmly under the carpet and comfort ourselves that we in the 21st century are far more sophisticated than those biblical men and women, that we have progressed to such an extent that we are completely in control of our own destinies. Now and then a catastrophic event or series of events will jolt us out this complacent and arrogant assumption and I think the context we find ourselves in today is such a time.

Of course, our perspective on life is different to our predecessors, we live in a very different age and, unlike them, our news channels supply us with graphic images of the human suffering of people thousands of miles away twenty four hours a day on a relentless roll of grief and loss; there is something awful about sitting watching all this in the comfort of one's own sitting room.

So, I want to give grateful thanks for the fact that I live in this beautiful and peaceful place, I want to acknowledge that I lead an astonishingly privileged life and that I feel helpless in the face of the suffering I see in Ukraine, and in the many other places of conflict or famine in our world.

I know I'm probably repeating much of what I've said before, but I think we need to hear it again and again. I do feel unnerved by world events, by so much avoidable suffering, but I also want to point to the Christian understanding of hope; however dark the world seems, and however impossible it looks that new life will ever appear, love will prevail in the end, God is in there somewhere. St Francis of Assisi encapsulated everything I have been trying to say with these words: 'All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of one single candle.'

With love and prayers

Pauline

May Church Diary

Sunday 4th May

10 am Eucharist, Corsley

10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge Deverill



Sunday 11th May

10 am Praise and Worship, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Brixton Deverill



Sunday 18th May

10 am Matins, Corsley

10 am Eucharist, Kingston Deverill



Sunday 25th May

10 am Rogation Sunday, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Longbridge Deverill

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 May

Corsley Coffee Morning

10.30 am to 12 noon, Wednesday 7th May, Corsley Reading Rooms

May Fayre

10.30 to 12.30 pm, Saturday 10th May, Sandhayes, Corsley

Crafternoons

3 to 5 pm, Wednesday 14th and Wednesday 28th May, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Church and Community Coffee Morning

10 am to 12 noon, Thursday 15th May, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

An evening of folk music and poetry with Bishop Andrew Rumsey

7 pm, Friday 16th May, St Philip and St James' Church, Chapmanslade



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
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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 Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

A report on the main issues from the meetings held in March and April

March meeting

Two planning applications were considered:

PL/2025/01019 *Erection of new agricultural general purpose building for the storage of machinery, implements, hay and straw at 120 Lyes Green, Corsley, BA12 7PD*

The PC agreed by a majority vote that they had no objection to this application.

PL/2025/01562 *Conversion of existing garaging and garden room to holiday let at Moor Cottage, 50 Whitbourne Moor, Corsley, BA12 7QL*

The PC agreed they had no objection to this application.

The decisions made by the planning authority on applications previously considered by the PC were reported thus:

PL/2024/09932 *Installation of a satellite dish at 35 Temple*

This application was approved with conditions by the planning authority.

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

This was approved with conditions by the planning authority. The PC had previously agreed they would have no objection to these applications.

2024//0852/PIP *Permission in principle for residential development of three dwellings at Stoneage Farm.*

The applicants had appealed against the decision by Somerset Council to refuse the application. The Planning Inspector dismissed the appeal.

Streetscene

Two draft requests to the Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LFIG) were discussed:

- Implementation of an 18 ton MGW weight limit from the Picket Post roundabout westwards to the county boundary.
- Implementation of a 20mph speed limit on the section of Geys Hill from the junction of the A362 to the junction of Dertford and 40mph for the remaining length of road to the entrance to Longleat.

It was unanimously agreed that both of these should be submitted.

PC Elections

The key events and dates for the PC elections were reported; when the nominations open and close and when the election takes place – 1st May. All members of the PC are up for election. It was confirmed that budgetary provision had been made in the event that an election has to take place.

Litter

Concern was expressed at the apparent increase in litter throughout the village and there was discussion how best to combat the problem. It was recalled that there had been a number of volunteer initiatives in the past and it was confirmed that the PC would support any such. The PC does have some equipment that could be used e.g. high viz jackets, tongs.

Thynne and Keyford Educational Trust

Councillor Brown reported on the first meeting of the Trust, which was an

amalgamation of two local charities, and advised that, once established, the Trust could be a valuable resource for eligible members of the parish.

Resignations

Councillors Selman and Ball advised that they were resigning from the PC with immediate effect.

April meeting

It had been anticipated that, with the PC election being imminent, the March meeting would be the last before a newly constituted council was in place. However, a spate of planning applications with response dates well in advance of the next scheduled PC meeting was received and the PC duly met on the 7th April.

Six planning applications were received and discussed (probably the most the PC has had to consider at one meeting!):

PL/2025/02190 *Single storey side extension to the annex at Annexe, Gloworm Cottage, Heath Close, Corsley,*

The PC agreed that they would have No Objection to this application on the condition that there be a legal objection to the annex ever being severed from the main residence.

PL/2025/02669 *Single storey rear extension, at 52 Dertford, Corsley, BA12 7NP*

The PC agreed they would have No Objection to this application

PL/2025/02755 *Listed building consent Remove the broken and disused wall box from the brick pier and make good the brick wall with matching brickwork at approx 71m from entrance to Sandhayes on Deep Lane, Corsley BA12 7QQ*

The PC agreed they would support this application.

PL/2025/03210 *Permission In Principle (PIP) for phased development of up to two self-build dwellings on land at Lane End, Corsley, BA12 7PF*

Following considerable discussion, (this being a reworded version of an application that the PC had considered in December 2024), the

PC agreed they would have No Objection to the application providing that: the self build to be in accordance with the government definition of same; the access arrangements to be very carefully considered, especially considering the number of accidents and near misses there have been at the adjacent junction with the A362.

PL/2024/09067 *Demolition of existing porch and roof and replacement with new extension. Re-cladding of existing dormer at front of property at Greenlea, 10 Birchwood Close, Corsley*

This is an amended application first considered by the PC in November 2024. The PC agreed there was no reason to change their decision at that time – No Objection.

PL/2025/01504 *Retrospective change of use of land from agricultural to tourism and siting of one shepherd hut at Whitbourne Farm, BA12 7QJ*

The PC objected to this application; there being no reason why the original comments made by the planning authority and the decision to refuse the original application would in any way need to be changed by this application.

Parish Council Elections

It was reported that following the closure of the nominations for the PC elections, there had been seven nominations for the nine positions on Corsley PC. Therefore there will be no need for an election and those nominated will be appointed Parish Councillors:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| • Chris Brown | • Marion Liquorice |
| • Neil Carpenter | • John Phillips |
| • Oliver Hares | • John White |
| • Alice Helliard | |

The term of office of the ‘new’ council commences on the 6th May 2025.

The first meeting of the council will be on 19th May, in the Lower Room at Corsley Reading Room and will begin at 7 pm.

John Willcox
PC Clerk

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Corsley WI

April news

The April meeting was an evening of entertainment provided by Mr Kerry Bishop, a former music teacher who is the organist at The Minster Church in Warminster. Clearly a very talented and able musician, Kerry arrived with a keyboard but no sheets of music!

The evening featured comedy songs made famous by Stanley Holloway and Flanders and Swann as well as a wide variety of songs from musicals; some of which were familiar from childhood days, some perennial favourites. Members were welcome to join in with the singing!

It was a musical journey featuring work by Rodgers and Hammerstein with music from 'The King and I' and 'The Sound of Music', before going on to work by Sondheim and Bernstein who together wrote West Side Story. Kerry also talked about the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber and played music from 'Oliver' and from 'Les Misérables'. We rounded off a pleasant evening talking about the musicals as we enjoyed our coffee and cake.

We meet again at 7.30pm on 8th May in the Reading Room. Following the national campaign by the WI to increase access to dental services, 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 (£6).

For more information please contact Alice Helliard on 07989 339632.

Patricia Sharrocks

Corsley Cricket Club

100 years NOT OUT!

Players and spectators welcome: no experience in either necessary!



Cricket is a cherished tradition on our Memorial Playing Field and we are committed to preserving it for our community. The picture showing the fine moustachioed gentlemen of CCC is believed to date from c1915.

Our club plays against local villages, both at home and away. We also host regular touring sides, attracted back by our friendly atmosphere, lively spirit, and our renowned cricket teas. A particularly keenly challenged game is the Bridge Cup – a long standing fixture with the good folk from Chapmanslade.

We have chosen not to be part of a competitive league and typically play matches on Sundays, with practice sessions held on Tuesday evenings on the Playing Field.

Fancy having a go? Whether you're a seasoned player or a beginner, we welcome new players of all ages, abilities, and genders, even if you can only play occasionally and, you don't have to live in Corsley!

Rupert Tolson

Chairman, Corsley Cricket Club

rupert@rupertandlisa.com

Corsley CC

Fixtures 2025

Key

Non-Sundays in light grey

Unbooked weekends in dark grey

* T20 or 100 match

Away matches in *italics*

Dates are subject to change

	Day	Date	Venue	Match	Start time
1	Sunday	4th May	Home	Swindon Nomads	1300
3	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>11th May</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Erlestoke</i>	<i>1300</i>
4	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>14th May</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Monkton*</i>	<i>1800</i>
	Sunday	18th May			
5	Thursday	22nd May	Home	Red Star•	1800
6	Sunday	25th May	Home	Bridge Cup	1300
7	Wednesday	28th May	Home	Southstoke	1800
8	Sunday	1st June	Home	Didmarton	1300
9	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>8th June</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>The Deverills</i>	<i>1300</i>
10	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>12th June</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Heytesbury and Sutton Veny*</i>	<i>1800</i>
11	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>15th June</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Witham Friary</i>	<i>1300</i>
12	Sunday	22nd June	Home	Winsley	134
13	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>28th June</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Red Star*</i>	<i>1800</i>
14	Sunday	29th June	Home	Urchfont	1300
15	Sunday	6th July	Home	Broughton Gifford	1300
16	Thursday	10th July	Home	Heytesbury and Sutton Veny*	1800
	Sunday	13th July			
17	Saturday	19th July	Home	Roving Goats CC	1300
18	Saturday	26th July	Home	Fulham Breweries	1300
19	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>3rd August</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Didmorton</i>	<i>1300</i>
20	Wednesday	6th August	Home	Horningsham	1800
21	Sunday	10th August	Home	Erlestoke	1300
22	Sunday	17th August	Home	The Bell	1300
23	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>24th August</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Broughton Gifford</i>	<i>1300</i>
24	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>31st August</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Southstoke</i>	<i>1300</i>
25	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>7th September</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Winsley</i>	<i>1300</i>
26	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>14th September</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>Urchfont</i>	<i>1300</i>
	Sunday	21st September			
27	Sunday	28th September	Home	Southstoke	1300

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Whitbourne Chapel

'This is the Lord's doing and it is marvellous in our eyes.'
Psalm 118, verse 23

Miracles still happen

This year is the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day (V-E Day), when Germany surrendered unconditionally on 8 May 1945. Later, on 14 August 1945 Japan surrendered, marking the end of World War II.

There have been numerous testimonies by those who were in the know, to a sense of divine intervention at critical moments. The Head of the British and American Planning Staff responsible for planning D-Day – Lt General Sir Frederick Morgan – wrote two years after World War II *'Miracles still happen. How many of them have we not seen enacted before our eyes in these past few years? There was Dunkirk and its flat calm sea. Who planned that? We saw no way out barring a miracle.'*

General Sir William Dobbie, the Governor of Malta during its siege, on looking back wrote *'God in His Mercy, answered our prayers and in the two years and more of the siege, His help was very obvious and very real.'*

Field Marshall Montgomery, in a personal message to the troops after the surrender of Germany, said:

'This is the Lord's doing and it is marvellous in our eyes' (Psalm 118 v. 23).

The wartime generation knew God was real, and that He would listen to prayer offered in a spirit of humility and repentance.

Today our nation desperately needs His help and protection because we have turned from God's way.

Let us pray for our nation to return to God. Let us unconditionally surrender ourselves to God and trust in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross to deliver us from our sinful, self-centred hearts.

The book of Proverbs says: Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people (Proverbs 14 v. 34).

John Hobson, one of Whitbourne's visiting preachers, based at Clink Evangelical Church, Frome



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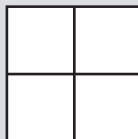
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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

I think this is my favourite time of the year!

Every day brings more colour into the countryside and the trees and hedges all sprout every colour of green. There’s blossom in orchards and hedgerows, the farm animals are enjoying the fresh air, fresh grass and herbage and our woodlands are a haze of bluebells - what more could you ask?

Extra daylight hours have helped with field work such as reseeding cereal crops which were drowned or washed away during the winter and getting in the spring crops such as plastic-covered maize, early potatoes and spring cereal.

All the summer visiting birds are back with us for the breeding season; the cuckoo was calling and seen in flight, possibly on its way north, as early as 7th April. There were further reports of sightings on the Welsh Marches on 18th April.

Look out for white throats (common and lesser), blackcaps and spotted flycatchers nesting around houses using climbing plants for cover.

Barn owls and female bats are out at night searching for food; hungry young foxes play together whilst mum is off searching for food; spring really is full-on in the countryside!

Thankfully, the Government have given permission for professional shearers to come back to the UK – with the sheep suffering wearing their heavy coats in this unusually warm weather, these young shearers will be very welcome – they have the ability to shear so many more sheep in a day, whereas the farmer/ shepherd has the regular farm duties

to do before they start shearing.

Sadly for many, the Easter holiday brought colder, windier weather and some heavy rain in some areas in the south west. Looking back over the previous six weeks, if we want our gardens, orchards, farms and the countryside to provide our (and the animals) food during the coming seasons we certainly did need the rain.

I do hope we are fortunate with the weather for the upcoming May Bank Holidays and, if you can, go along and enjoy the Church’s celebration of Rogation Sunday on 25th May – blessing of the seeds, birds, bees, farms and wildlife. (venue to be finalised).

Rainfall and temperatures	
Rainfall: March 2024	131.4mm
Rainfall: March 2025	4.4 mm
10 year average	69.15 mm
April 1st to 15th 2025	1.5 mm
with temperatures up to 21° in the daytime and minus 1-2° at night.	

Judith Helliar

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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



People

Our thanks to Jamie Owen who has been the booking clerk for some years. The role will now be taken on by Dee Crossland.

Events

It was great to have a full house for the film festival. Over £400 was raised for Reading Room funds – thank you for your generous support. While we do get a grant from the Parish Council which assist with core expenses, there are still costs outside that and maintenance and repairs which have to be paid.

Developments

We have been trialling two infra-red heaters alongside the convectors already in the hall. These heaters work by heating people and objects rather than the air. They heat more quickly and are very economical to run so we've been gathering feedback from users through this month to help the Committee decide whether they are the way forward.

Dates for your diary

We are already planning the Xmas Fair for 6th November and have a speaker lined up for 19th November. Watch this space! Put a note in your diary.

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, Dee Crossland is keen to help with your booking.

While we do not have a Chairman at the moment, emails to this email address come to the secretary Liz Garrett

chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

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

Trustees

Chris de Groot, Claire Firman-Ford, Liz Garrett, Jackie Jasper, Mark Richards

Committee members (in addition to those named above)

Dee Crossland, Mary King

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

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Village Coffee Morning

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- 5 James I
- 6 John
- 7 A Touch of Frost
- 8 Violin
- 9 Two (plus a viola player and a
celloist)
- 10 Casterbridge
- 11 Saturn (146 known to date)
- 12 Cheese rolling – up for it??

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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