

The Bridge

October 2025

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



Celebrate the harvest at the supper, join the WI for some star gazing, make a bid for some loot, get Spooky at the Doo, have your say at the PC meetings, and enjoy one of the Lite Bites Soup Lunches, there's lots to do in October...



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The Bridge

monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Articles

Please submit articles either by email to **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 for articles
or adverts for the next
issue of The Bridge is
4pm 19th October**

Diary Dates



October

Wednesday 1st

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

Saturday 4th

Parish and Community Harvest Supper – 7 for 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Wednesday 8th

Crafternoon – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Thursday 9th

Corsley WI Astronomy Talk by Mike Read – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Sunday 12th

Harvest Celebration – 4 to 5 pm, Chapmanslade Church

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

Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Saturday 18th

Heywood Literary Festival

Sunday 19th

Heywood Literary Festival

Wednesday 22nd

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

Crafternoon – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Thursday 23rd to Sunday 9th November

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal house-to-house collections in Chapmanslade and Corsley

Friday 24th

Deadline for submissions for bids of grants/donations to Corsley Parish Council

Friday 31st

Spooky Doo (Hallowe'en Event) – 12.30 to 6 pm, Corsley War Memorial Playing Field

November

Monday 3rd

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Wednesday 5th

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

Thursday 6th

Festive Fair – 2 to 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 11th

Armistice Day

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

Wednesday 12th

Corsley War Memorial Playing Field Annual General Meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Corsley Cricket Club Annual General Meeting – 8 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 15th

Chapmanslade Christmas Market – 10 am to 4 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Thursday 20th

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

Christmas Fair – 10 am to 2 pm, Codford Village Hall

Lite Bites returned!

Our September return was due on 24th September (still a week away as I write this).

We were preparing to serve four different soups as usual and will do so again on

Wednesday 22nd October. If you missed us in September please do come along in October. Remember we are in the Reading Room between 12.30 and 2 pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month. In October, any donations you give for our soup will be given to Mind, the mental health charity, supporting World Mental Health Day on 10th October.

We look forward to seeing faces new and old for our lunch on **Wednesday 22nd October.**

Another reminder

Our Village Coffee Mornings take place on the first Wednesday of the month, again in the Reading Room, at 10.30 am. The next two dates are **1st October** and **5th November.** Please do come along for coffee (or tea) and chat but also bring a book or two to swap in our **Book Swap.** You may find a new author to introduce at your book club or one to read on the bus, train, or plane!

Maureen Willcox

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Corsley War Memorial Playing Field Annual General Meeting

7 pm, Wednesday 12 November
Corsley Reading Room

All welcome

Followed at 8 pm by

Corsley Cricket Club Annual General Meeting

For more information, please contact

Marion on either 01373 832314,
07796 544565, or
marion@nmc2.co.uk

or Rupert on either 07875 734219, or
rupert@rupertandlisa.com

Whitbourne Chapel Coffee Morning

Free cakes, coffee and chat



**Every 2nd Tuesday of each month
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**If you need transport,
call Adrian on 07977 935755**

www.whitbournechapel.org

News from Chapmanslade Village Hall

Repairs and renewals

Our volunteers have been busy throughout the summer carrying out a long list of improvements to the hall and grounds. Some of the changes you will notice are the new steps on the play castle, the brighter LED lights in the kitchen and chair cupboards. Other changes include improving fire safety, and our continual efforts to keep the space clean and tidy. Plans are underway to refresh the paintwork and make the space even more inviting.

Events

A great time was had by all at the Summer BBQ. We had a really interesting and informative Natural Chapmanslade Walk followed by another delicious BBQ, and to relax we enjoyed the most delicious Cream Teas and Croquet in August. All of these events raised important funds to support our hall. In November we have the Christmas Market, raising funds for Dorothy House. The Great Village Barn Dance also in November is an event not to be missed.

Find out more

We launched our new website in September...

www.chapmansladevillagehall.co.uk
where you can find out what's happening, how to contact us, check hall availability and even book the hall online.

Come and join in with
your
**HARVEST
CELEBRATION**

*At Chapmanslade Church
On Sunday 12th October*

Enjoy Drinks and Cakes as well
as singing along with some of
your favourite harvest hymns
FROM 4:00PM - 05:00PM

Interesting Things Happening :

**Come and see the new layout of the church being
used for community events and hear about our
plans for the future.**

**Bring packet and tinned foods which will be used
in our Church porch larder and donated to
Warminster and District Food Bank**

**Display from Chapmanslade History Group about
Harvest Festivals**

**Harvest Songs of Praise chosen by you
Hear about this year's harvest in our area**

*If you would like to suggest a favourite
harvest song or hymn please let Sue Fear
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and

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Bob's bafflers

- 1 According to the old saying, what killed the cat?
- 2 Which King George was the title character in the film 'The madness of King George'?
- 3 How long was the sailing trip undertaken by the owl and the pussycat?
- 4 According to Greek mythology, what did Oedipus solve?
- 5 Zagreb is the capital city of which European city?
- 6 Igor Sikorsky pioneered what as a practical form of transport?
- 7 Which composer was known as 'the King of Marches'?
- 8 Who wrote the novel Robinson Crusoe?
- 9 Which popular 1971 TV Series (reprised in 2010) followed the lives of the Bellamy family and their servant staff at Eaton Place?
- 10 A cello has how many strings?
- 11 Who composed the New World Symphony?
- 12 Millions of Americans dimmed their lights for a few minutes in 1931 to remind them of the death of which great inventor?

Answers on page 48



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Corsley Tennis Club News



We are well and truly into the autumnal season with unpredictable weather but it's worth remembering the heady summer months which were packed full of tennis activities; mixed league matches, junior camps, a pickleball trial and seven tournaments to boot!

The Mixed League season was a bit 'mixed' but we didn't come last! Even though we only won two matches out of the 10, we won lots of games overall with some very close losses. So onwards and upwards for next year with the team remaining very positive and enjoying playing some practise matches in preparation.

Our fabulous new coaches Imogen and Martin ran three summer camps together, based on Imogen's wish to do them and Martin's support! They were a resounding success with 17 children attending the second one! The junior coaching started on Sunday 7th September with 20 signing up – unfortunately a bit hampered by the weather (legendary gazebo) – but still a fun enjoyable start to the season.

A big thanks must also go to Imogen, ably supported by Mimi, who manned the stall at the Corsley Fayre, all went well despite the weather and some new interest was gained. Thank you, of course, must also go to Liz for organising and manning the stand.

The August pickleball trial was generally well received by some members who seemed to enjoy having the opportunity to try or play pickleball at the CTC. There was minimal disruption and we've demonstrated to our members that we are a progressive club that can embrace change and complete trials to 'test the appetite' for new offerings in

a responsive and inclusive manner. To conclude, if we believe there is an appetite, a further 'August is Pickleball Month' will go ahead next year.

And finally, hard boots to fill, but Nicola and Kate, who took over the organisation and running of the tennis tournaments this year, enjoyed working together and even managed to play in a couple of the matches! We had to reschedule the American Switch charity tournament but thankfully the weather held off for this fun event and £100 was raised for Lymphoma Action. Thank you to all who took part to make them such convivial, friendly (but competitive!) occasions. Winners results below:

Mixed doubles:

Julie Heaton and Martin Ellacot

Ladies doubles:

Jo Rolliston and Sheila Lupton

Men's doubles:

Jon Heaton and Maurice Flannigan

Over 70's:

Sue Kerfoot and Martin Ellacot

Ladies singles:

Kate Jackson

Men's singles:

Jon Heaton

American Switch:

Pete Hardy and Colin Kirwan

Dates for your diaries:

Presentation Evening

6pm Wednesday 26th November

The Full Moon, Rudge

AGM

7pm, Monday 15th December

Corsley Reading Rooms

Kate Jackson, Committee member



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Christmas Tree Festival

St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Friday 28th November – 3 pm to 5 pm

Saturday 29th November – 10.30 am to 12.30 pm

Sunday 30th November – 11 am to 12.30 pm
(with Christmas Coffee Morning)

Programme £1
Refreshments

All trees have been decorated by local organisations and local businesses.

**Please come and see the beautiful Christmas trees
to get us all in the Christmas spirit!**

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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

A great evening was had with the Stand Up Historian – thanks to the WI for hosting the event.

There's still more to come:

Reading Room Festive Fair

Thursday 6th November 2 to 7 pm

This year's Christmas Fair, held in the Corsley Reading Room, has an earlier date of Thursday 6th November, so we are calling it the **Festive Fair**. There will be a good mixture of some of the popular stalls from last year, along with some new ones. Entrance is **FREE** and you'll have the opportunity to buy all your Christmas gifts nice and early; just remember where you've hidden them! More details can be found elsewhere in this edition of *The Bridge*.

An Evening with Ned Boulting

Wednesday 19th November

Ned is a British television sports presenter, journalist, author and podcaster best known for his coverage of cycling, darts and football.

Among his many achievements is the Royal Television Society's Sports News Reporter of the Year award in 2006. Tickets are available

now from the CRR website priced £10 in advance and £12 on the night (if available). Further details and how to book can be found elsewhere in this edition of *The Bridge*.

Although some of our costs are funded through a grant from the Parish Council, proceeds from these events help the Trustees keep the Reading Room running – cleaning, undertaking repairs and further improvements to the building.

Thank you for your support!

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 chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk go 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, Mark Richards David Sharrocks

Also on Committee
Dee Crossland, Mary King

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Shakespeare comedy returned to the Elizabethan Evening!

The annual outdoor theatre performance, known as the Elizabethan Evening, returned to its Shakespearean roots this year with a production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* by award-winning Illyria.

The popular village event at Manor Farm was enjoyed by more than 250 on a beautiful Sunday evening in early August. Once again, the manor provided the perfect setting for the production, thanks to our hosts, Christopher and Jane Hall.

A Shakespeare comedy full of mischief was clearly enjoyed by the audience for its mischief, double-dealing and light-hearted acts of revenge, with plenty of jokes and a happy ending; and all performed by just five phenomenal professional actors.

Now in its 23rd year, the Elizabethan Evening is a well-established part of summer in Corsley while raising vital funds for charity. To date, it has raised more than £80,000 for charities and local causes, and we are thrilled to have added another £3,000 to that total this year.

The primary recipients are the Youth Adventure Trust (YAT), supporting many of our local young people, and Julian House, which continues to tackle homelessness. We are also helping local food banks in Frome and Warminster and two village projects.

On receiving our donation, YAT said: “We use outdoor adventure to inspire young people and give them the hope, confidence and skills to face their personal challenges. Your fantastic support is supporting vulnerable young people to experience the life-changing

impact of outdoor adventure for the coming years.”

While Julian House commented: “This comes at a time when your support is needed the most. Our services are stretched with demand higher than ever, so this is really appreciated.”

To those who were able to join us, thank you for helping us help them.

The Elizabethan Evening also values the support of numerous local companies. This year’s sponsors were: The George Cadbury Trust, CIL Consulting, Heywood House Café, Reid Wines, Allsop Carpets & Flooring, NFU Mutual, Harris & Harris and EG Martin.

STOP PRESS We are delighted to announce we have just confirmed our 2026 production. Mark your diaries for *The Three Musketeers* performed by Elizabethan Evening favourites Illyria on Saturday 26th July. For more details and all our news, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @theelizabethanevening.



EE Committee members: Lou Sandoe, Gill Westgate, Fiona Carruthers and Fi Boobyer

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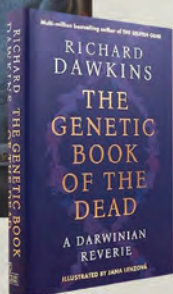


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SATURDAY



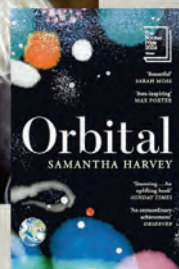
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A scoop for the Heywood
Literary Festival – Emma Bache,
the UK's leading graphologist,
speaks on 18th October



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**** PRESS RELEASE ****

Graphologist, Emma Bache v US President, Donald Trump

Handwriting expert who confronts Donald Trump speaks at Heywood Literary Festival

The UK's leading graphologist, Emma Bache, recently confirmed for Sky News that the signature in Jeffrey Epstein's birthday book is "absolutely" Donald Trump's... despite his denials.

Emma will be explaining her methodology and the possible consequences of her findings at the Heywood Literary Festival on Saturday 18th October in the historic Jacobean Mansion of Heywood House, Westbury.

Emma will also be joining New York Times bestselling author Frances Liardet, (*We Must Be Brave*), and historian Felice Hardy, (*The Tennis Champion Who Escaped The Nazis*) in '*The Hand of History: What Handwriting Reveals*'. Emma will analyse handwriting of the women in the WWII era connected to the authors' works to reveal their untold stories.

Tickets for the Heywood Literary Festival are on: <https://heywoodhousetalks.co.uk/>

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

**Thursday 23rd October to
Sunday 9th November
Armistice Day – Tuesday 11th November**

Last year, thanks to your generous donations, Corsley and Chapmanslade raised £2452.22 during the Poppy Appeal.

This year, our local collectors will be visiting as many houses in the villages as possible from Thursday 23rd October until Saturday 8th November. If you are out when they call, they will leave an envelope with a date of a return collection. We don't have enough collectors to cover every area, so if you are interested in helping, please do contact me, details below.

Here is the Royal British Legion's (RBL) message; the RBL believes everyone who has served in the British Armed Forces, and their dependants, deserve support for the rest of their lives. Every year, tens of thousands of veterans, serving personnel, and their families, turn to the RBL for help. It could be with money or housing problems, physical and mental health challenges, help caring for a loved one, loneliness, or a family breakdown.

Whatever the need, whenever it's needed, the RBL will be there providing practical support and expert guidance.

The RBL is completely reliant on the generous donations of the public to continue our vital work. Wearing your poppy shows you care and lets the Armed Forces community know their service is recognised and their unique contribution will never be forgotten.

Jackie Jasper
Poppy Appeal Coordinator
(Corsley and Chapmanlade)
07816 231442

Wiltshire Mobile Library

**Chapmanslade School
Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm**

Wednesday 1st October

Wednesday 15th October

Wednesday 29th October

Wednesday 12th November

Wednesday 26th November

Wednesday 10th December

Wednesday 24th December

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Open to all children

Places limited, so book in advance!



Age 8 and under to be accompanied by an adult at times,
but all parents/guardians and grandparents are welcome!

When? Friday 31st October
What time? 12.30 to 6 pm
Where? Corsley War Memorial Playing Field
How much? It's FREE! Thanks to the Warminster Area
Board and the Playing Field Trustees,
but donations are always welcome

'Cats-ears' aka 'false dandelion'

An invasive weed to look out for on your property

This year I have been battling a perennial weed in the horses' paddocks, called 'cats-ears' or 'false-dandelion'. I first noticed a few plants last autumn and thought they were just a harmless type of wildflower. Then, in February I noticed that a lot more were beginning to appear, they start off as a flat-to-the-ground rosette of leaves; some look slightly furry, some are smooth.

I did some research and discovered that they are an extremely invasive weed which seeds prolifically and gradually takes over from the grass, especially in any areas where the soil is barer. Worse than



this, it transpires that they are toxic to horses (not cattle or sheep) and, if enough are ingested, they can cause stringhalt, which is an alarming and serious condition in horses.

Once you know what they are, you will see them everywhere. We have found them on our lawn, I see them on verges and in gardens around village and elsewhere. If in doubt, the flower stems are multiple, and are thin, unlike a genuine dandelion which has one flower on a soft, succulent stem.

Here is a link to an article posted by veterinary practice, Fox Run Equine Centre:

www.facebook.com/share/p/15tsipL8ch/?mibextid=wwXIfr

Lavinia Mitchell

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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

Mind the gap

During the wistful first week of September, just before our youngest departed for university, we took a week's holiday in North Cornwall, to revisit a seaside haunt much enjoyed in their childhood. The high-baked summer heat finally giving way to that more familiar British blend of showery spells and sunny intervals, we eschewed the beaches in favour of the ruined splendour of Tintagel Castle, situated on an almost-island along the headland from our cottage.



Since 2019, the legendary birthplace of King Arthur has been connected to the coast by an elegant suspension bridge, the crossing of which offers giddily magnificent views. Perhaps helpfully, pedestrians can't see the rocks beneath them but for a 40mm gap, halfway across. The bridge is constructed in two sections, each drilled into its own side of the yawning chasm. The inch or two between them is, I learned, both structural and symbolic - representing the space between past and present, myth and reality. A lovely touch, I thought.

As we cross the threshold into autumn, with its liturgical mood of gratitude and remembrance, let us rejoice that God bridges the ages in Jesus Christ: connecting us not only to the past events of our salvation but also the future hope of his heavenly kingdom. Whatever changes lie before us, he remains the way, the truth and the life.

Bishop Andrew

October Church Diary

Sunday 5th October

10 am Harvest Festival Service with communion, Corsley

10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge Deverill



Sunday 12th October

4 pm Harvest Celebration, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Kingston Deverill



Sunday 19th October

11 am Matins, Corsley

10 am Eucharist, Brixton Deverill



Sunday 26th October

10 am Eucharist, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Longbridge Deverill



Sunday 2nd November

10 am Eucharist, Corsley

10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge Deverill

Pastoral Visiting

If anyone would like to receive a visit or Home Communion, please contact

Rev Gay Maynard 01373 832490

Church and Community Events in October

Corsley Coffee Morning

Wednesday 1st October – 10.30 am to 12 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Harvest Supper

Saturday 4th October – 7pm for 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Crafternoons

Wednesday 8th & 22nd October – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Church and Community Coffee Morning

Thursday 16th October – 10 am to 12.00 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

For your diaries

Christmas Tree Festival – 28th to 30th November

Church Christmas Coffee Morning – Sunday 30th November

Can you help?

The Parochial Church Council are looking for help!

Help to produce 6 Open Doors for The Bridge each month: listing church activities and services. This could be a job shared between two people.

We are also looking for:

**A new Electoral Roll officer
and**

Someone to oversee St Margaret's churchyard

If you are able to help, please contact suefearpcc@gmail.com

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 St Philip & St James'	Amy Holley 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	Vacant	
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 Sue Fear at suefearpcc@gmail.com

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Phil Holihead reports on the PC meeting of 11th September

At a short meeting held in the Village Hall on 11th September at which only two members of the public attended, the following items were discussed:

Finance

A favourable report indicating that the Council's accounts were all in order had been received from the external auditors. The Council formally thanked the Clerk for all her hard work to achieve this.

The annual donation to the Village Hall was agreed but any donation to the church was again deferred until the Council receives a plan of what the money is to be used for.

The Village Hall grant application to the Community Fund at the upcoming Warminster Area Board was again given support by the Parish Council. It was noted that the Community Fund was likely to be fully spent at the next Area Board on 9th October; and that Chapmanslade's bid for improved ventilation and heating at the Village Hall would require support. The October PC meeting which clashed with the Area Board has been moved to 16th October to allow councillors to attend the Area Board.

The Council agreed to pay a contract for a three-year extended warranty of the two Speed Indicator Devices.

Costs for reducing the weight limit, improving the road junction at Short Street, and the final invoice for the recently received new footpath gates are hoped to be forthcoming after the Warminster Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group meeting which was held on 23th September

(this report was written before the meeting).

Other matters arising

The Council noted that dog-fouling and the leaving of used dog-poo bags in rural spaces, particularly the woods and adjoining fields, was on the increase. The Council has worked hard to retain and upgrade the dog-poo bin at the top of Wood Lane and is as frustrated as anyone that others cannot be provided. The responsibility must therefore be on the individual dog owner to clear up any mess from public places (back lanes, pavements, footpaths, etc.) and for them to either take the poo bag to the bin in Wood Lane or home where it can be placed in the grey bin. Leaving full bags hanging on fences really is quite anti-social and shows a complete disregard for our community and environment.

Despite some previous advertising we're still looking to co-opt two additional Parish Councillors, and the existing Council was tasked with some talent spotting. If you would like to be considered and have a say in how your community runs then please contact the Clerk at

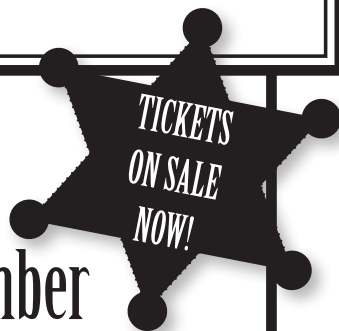
clerk@chapmansladeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Finally, a reminder that pavement works should be taking place in the village around the October half-term.

The next meeting is on Thursday 16th October in the Village Hall. All details of meetings and upcoming dates are on the Parish Council website

www.chapmansladeparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Corsley WI

September news

Patricia Sharrocks rounds up the September meeting

the **WI**
INSPIRING WOMEN

Corsley WI were delighted to host an evening of history, music and entertainment as many guests joined us for our September meeting.

The evening began with wartime songs performed by Eleanor Swayz evoking the mood of the period. Our speaker was the 'Stand Up Historian', Crispin Thomas, who provided an insight into the battle of Arnhem, famously known as 'a bridge too far'. Crispin explained that in September 1944, Allied commanders believed that if they could take control of the bridges to the north of the Siegfried Line they would be able to attack the Ruhr, the industrial heartland of Germany, and that the war would be 'over by Christmas'. They decided it was a risk worth taking and launched 'Operation Market Garden' to take control of Arnhem.

Ten thousand airborne troops were parachuted into the area to capture the bridge at Arnhem. But poor weather slowed down reinforcements, radio communication was patchy and intelligence had failed to detect the presence of German armoured divisions nearby. There were very heavy losses as Operation Market Garden failed to reach its objective.

Mike Knight, a Corsley resident, then gave



us a more personal insight into the battle of Arnhem as he recalled his father's memories of the battle. His father, who was born in Chapmanslade, had joined the Territorials in Frome and was then

called up. In 1944 he was part of Operation Market Garden flying from Keevil airfield to Arnhem by glider, landing in a field at about 80mph. After the battle as the Allied forces were forced to withdraw, under cover of darkness he followed a white tape through woodland and across an open field to reach the Rhine which he swam across to escape. This local connection gave us a unique perspective on the events at Arnhem.

It was great to welcome so many people to the Reading Room and we thank you all for your support. The evening raised about £500, from ticket sales and the generous donations made for refreshments, which was donated to The Royal British Legion.

Next month the subject is astronomy. We will be looking to the skies when Mike Read will be talking about what we can – and can't! – see on a clear night. Non-members are welcome to join us (£6) in the Reading Room on Thursday 9th October at 7.30pm. More details are available from Alice on 07989 339632 or alicecambridge40@gmail.com

Corsley Parish Council

BIDS FOR DONATIONS AND GRANTS FOR 2025/2026

It has been the practice of the Parish Council each year to provide donations or grants to a variety of community and village organisations. It has been agreed that this practice should be continued for the Financial Year 2025/2026

In recent years these have included:

Corsley Reading Room
War Memorial Playing Field
Corsley and Chapmanslade Parochial Church Council
Little Cuckoos
Corsley Tennis Club

The Parish Council budgets on spending a total of around £4,000 from your taxes, in areas such as community groups, sports and recreation, open spaces, entertainment and local issues.

Donations and grants will be made on the basis of bids to help us spend this (your) money in appropriate areas. These should be by application to our Parish Clerk (he can provide the relevant forms) and include financial accounts where appropriate.

Bids for defined projects are preferred, but this is not to the exclusion of others. The Parish Council is conscious that some organisations may be seeking grants from both local and national bodies and it may be that match funding or seed funding is required if these are to be successful. The Parish Council would be happy to discuss how they could help in these instances, even if the arrangements have to be spread over a number of financial years.

Bids should reach John Willcox, Parish Clerk, on paper or email by
Friday 24th October 2025, to
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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

The Clerk, John Willcox, writes on the main issues from the meeting held in September

Following its decision in June to co-opt to fill the vacancies following the local election the Parish Council (PC) had received two applications to become co-opted members. Following consideration the two applicants, Clare Firman-Ford and Martin Travers, were duly appointed.

Three planning applications were considered:

PL/2025/06311 Conversion and extension of redundant agricultural buildings into a dwelling and associated works at stables adjacent to 46, Whitbourne Moor, Corsley, BA12 7QL

PL/2025/06391 Convert and extend two barns to create a dwelling house with ancillary accommodation including the erection of an outbuilding and associated works at Water Farm, Corsley, BA12 7QD

PL/2025/06856 Demolition of existing garage and erection of new garage with pitched roof at High Orchard, Lane End, Corsley, Warminster, BA12 7PG

The PC agreed they would have no objection to any of these applications.

The PC confirmed that they would again make grants/donations to village organisations – see notice detailing the procedure and timescale elsewhere in this edition of *The Bridge*.

Councillor Helliard presented a detailed update on current Rights of Way issues and

it was agreed that further funding would be made available in order that initiatives can be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

A number of locations of old stiles and kissing gates that would benefit new footpath gates were agreed. This includes the problematic gate at Harpers Farm.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would support a road plainings project on CORY20 as Councillor Carpenter advised that this was now an acceptable surface for the BHS. The decision was taken given the importance of the route, the potential costs of an alternative (chalk or greensand) and potential delays of an alternative. It was agreed that the plainings would need to be stabilised and maintained on the route.

A report on streetscene issues was given by Councillor Brown. It has been agreed by National Highways that 'Unsuitable for HGV' signs will be installed to either side of Sydnalls Lane off the A362 and the other end of the lane where it meets Longhedge/Knapps gate to prevent HGV traffic from Longleat entering Whitbourne Moor. An application for a traffic count to be fitted on Geys Hill has been submitted. The Parish Steward was due in the village on the 18th and 22nd of September.

There was considerable discussion on the recent closures of the A362 and the apparent lack of co-operation/liaison between the highway authorities of both Wiltshire and

Somerset and a similar lack between Wiltshire Constabulary and the Somerset and Avon force which lead to traffic chaos in the lanes either side of the A362. It was agreed that the PC would express their concern in the strongest possible terms to the authorities concerned.

A draft Parish Emergency Plan had been circulated. It was agreed that further work should be done before details are circulated within the village.

Councillor Carpenter reported on the ongoing discussions with Selwood Housing on the issue of the differing sewage charges. A further meeting with Selwood Housing was planned for 26th September.

It had been reported that the ‘footpath’ from the A362 going behind the new homes at Maud Davis Close was almost impassable. This ‘footpath’ is not actually a right of way and it is understood that negotiations are ongoing to enable access to be formalised. In the meanwhile it was agreed that the path should be cut to enable pedestrian access, Councillor Carpenter agreed to do this.

The next meeting of the PC will be on Monday 3rd November when they meet as the Trustees of The Leonard White Trust (this part of the meeting is not open to members of the public) followed by the scheduled meeting of the PC which it is hoped will start at 7.30 pm.

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Corsley War Memorial

Playing Field update

Chair, Neil Carpenter, reports on the latest activities

Once again it has been very busy couple of months at the Playing Field. We ran our first event with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust thanks to a grant from the Warminster Area Board.

Children from the village were treated to all sorts of wildlife crafts, fun and games organised by Rhian and Michelle from the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. The Playing Field Trustees also provided a homemade lunch, cake and freshly squeezed apple juice, (squeezed by the children), all of which was consumed.

The Wildlife Trust will be running our second event on Hallowe'en, Friday 31st October from 12.30 until 6 pm. There's more info elsewhere in this edition of The Bridge. The plan is to have lots of Hallowe'en-themed fun including best carved pumpkin, marshmallows over the fire pit, spooky stories, lots of lovely homemade food, etc. We're sure it will be very busy, so please let us know if you want to attend.

These events are free as we know that some parents are struggling with the current cost of living crisis. If you could leave a donation it would help ensure the Playing Field can continue to put on these amazing events as our costs are not covered from elsewhere.

By the time this edition of The Bridge is published, the cricket season will have come to an end. Keeping the cricket pitch in good condition with the summer we have had has been extremely difficult and my thanks go

to John, Simon and Young Harry for their amazing work. For those who have been to the Playing Field during the summer you will have seen a lot of holes made by crows. They are after chafer grubs, and this year has seen a real infestation. Chafer bugs eat the roots of the grass and, combined with the hot weather, has meant the field is looking very sorry for itself. For the cricket square, we are trying a biological solution of treating with nematodes. We first tried them five years ago and they seemed to have kept the grubs away until this year.

We also held our first 'Drinks at the Field', held on the last Friday of each month starting at 6 pm. It was an amazing success with lots of villagers bringing their own drinks or making use of the licensed bar and enjoying the canapés provide by the Playing Field. We are hoping that this will become a regular monthly thing with the donations helping us run more events for the community.

I mentioned grants from the Warminster Area Board, won thanks to the support of our councillor, Bill Parks. Bill has also been instrumental in us getting Milestone Infrastructure, who manage the Village Steward Teams for Wiltshire, to come along for a volunteer day. As you know, the Playing Field is looked after by volunteers who do a huge amount of work in keeping it as such a great asset for the village. The team from Milestone came in to spend a day sorting out

the fence in the carpark, in return for bacon butties and cake, for which we thanked them very much.

Finally a few other points to share.

As part of the Playing Field's support of the amazing Corsley Fayre, we used the Playing Field tractor to mow the Fayre area (well done JdG) as well as providing a few marquees and some tables. It was a huge effort for all concerned before, during and after the Fayre which reflects the effort the Trustees put in to supporting not just the Playing Field but the orchard and wider community with our resources and their time which I really appreciate as I hope you do too.

Thanks to Mark for looking after the marquee next to the tennis courts. Using the old poles from a marquee whose cover had

been damaged, Mark has been gamely putting up and taking down the tarpaulin cover all summer (based on storm warnings) allowing the tennis club to have covered seating for their children's tennis lessons and tennis club events.

I have submitted a grant application which, if we are successful, will allow us to run a tree-based event every month as the seasons change. Many trees are really struggling with climate change, disease and pests such as squirrels and deer. However they are vital for biodiversity and absorbing the carbon we produce. These events will share some of the amazing knowledge we have in the area to make sure the trees that we have can stay healthy and to support the planting of lots of new trees.



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Whitbourne Chapel

'Why are ye so fearful, O ye of little faith.'
Matthew 8:26

New beginnings and change

September is often a time for new beginnings. Children begin school or move up to the next class or to a new school, while older students start university. People return from holiday, refreshed, ready to tackle their jobs with renewed energy (perhaps!). Prime Ministers begin the next phase of their programme, although they may have to make sudden changes to their team!

With new beginnings comes change, and change can bring anxiety. Maybe our future is not as exciting as a new learning or work experience, but looks uncertain. Perhaps it will involve loss rather than gain – loss of health; loss of employment; loss of our role in life; seeing our children leave the nest; and many other kinds of unwelcome changes that we may shrink from.

John Owen was a man who faced much uncertainty and change in his life. He had to leave his university because the new chancellor there was making changes he couldn't, in good conscience, agree with. One day he went into a church to hear a famous preacher, but instead it was an unknown preacher. This speaker began with Matthew 8:26: 'Why are ye so fearful, O ye of little faith?' Something about those words

from the Bible captured John's attention and he prayed to God that somehow this minister would speak to his heart. God heard his prayer. John had entered the church that day with great fears, but he left in great peace. Despite all his efforts, John never discovered the name of this unknown preacher who had 'brought him to trust in Jesus Christ for salvation'.

Whatever you are facing at the present moment, whether it is something new and exciting or something you are fearful of, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever and His ear is open to your prayers.

Visiting Preachers

'New beginnings and change' was written by John Hobson, a visiting preacher from Clink Evangelical Church in Frome. Five of our regular speakers come from there, the others being Jim Short, his son Russell, Russell's son-in-law Will Windess, and Andrew Coxhead. Apart from Whitbourne's first Preacher and Pastor, Richard Parsons way back in 1811, the Chapel has always relied on visiting speakers. Why not come along one Sunday morning and hear the 'Preacher of the Day' for yourself?!



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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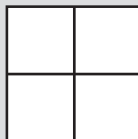
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A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

What happened to summer? Autumn weather came in so quickly in September!

Rainfall

August 36.1 mm
September 1st to 19th 80 mm

The rainfall was very welcome to farmers and gardeners, but the evenings were suddenly getting darker much earlier.

The cows are back out grazing, nice fresh grass and already the idea of mowing for grass silage is being considered. Somehow, nature has a way of righting itself; we just have to be patient.

Fortunately, as I write, the temperature is around 19°C so the cows can go out to graze by day and night, saving on precious stored feed.

Already our summer visiting birds – swallows, house martins, swifts, etc., have left for warmer climes, now we look out for the clouds of starlings in their murmurations as they seek out their safe area to gather for the night.

Most of the maize harvesting will have been finished by the end of September; then it's all

go – getting manure and slurry on the fields ready for the winter sowing of cereals.

This month, main-crop potatoes will be harvested and stored in a barn under straw until needed. Swede and mangelwurzels can withstand the cold winter weather and will be lifted as needed.

We celebrate our harvest with a supper in Chapmanslade Village Hall on Saturday 4th October. Followed by a Harvest Thanksgiving service in St Margaret's Church on Sunday 5th when everyone is most welcome.

The flocks of sheep are now separated from their lambs, either for the lambs to be sold for breeding or fattening up elsewhere. The ewes will now be given some concentrates and checked for any ailments before being introduced to the rams for breeding.

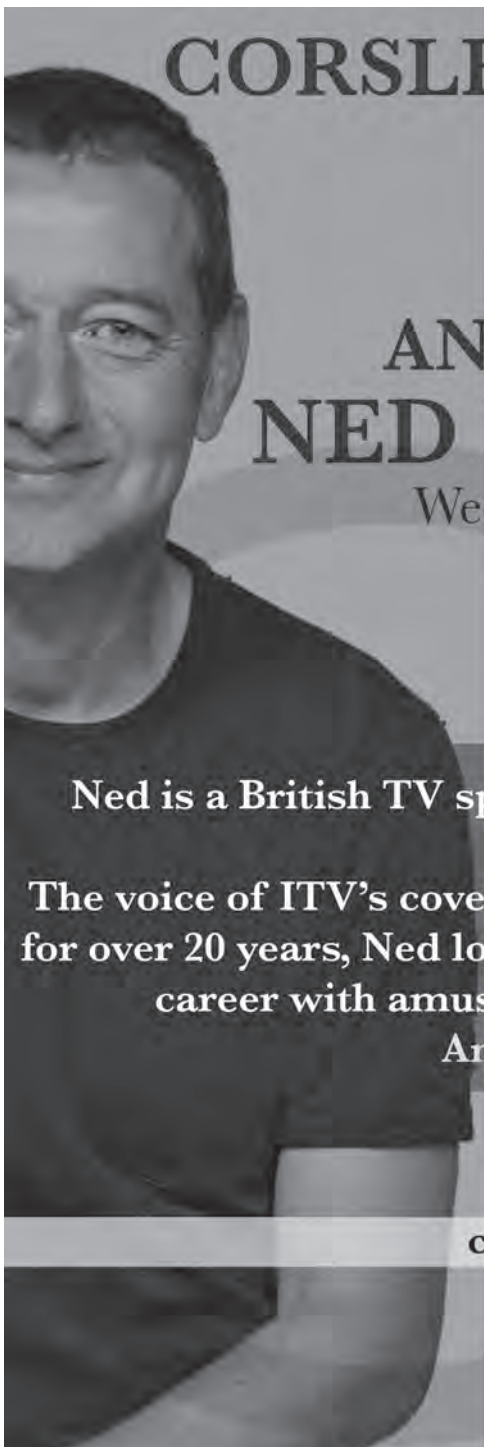
Now is the time to make sure you have fuel – logs, coal or oil – ordered for the cold winter nights ahead. Remember too, to pick sloes for some warming sloe gin which could be ready around Christmas time.

Judith Helliar



Church and Community Coffee Mornings

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Buried Treasure!

More than Chapel history...

The 1911 Chapel Centenary programme provides us with an insight into social history, too, through its use of local advertisements to offset the cost of printing. The first advert was for a clothier firm, Lucas Brothers. They were based on Warminster Market Place and were agents for 'Dr Jaeger's sanitary woollen system', whatever that was! They also handled The Cellular Company's shirts and Christy and Co's silk and felt hats. Are Dr Jaeger and the Jaeger company selling woollens today linked, maybe?

There was W. Hillman, too, a Tailor and Costumier on George Street, plus a 'General and Fancy Draper,' owned by E B Jones on the High Street. They sold dresses, jackets and skirts, costumes and 'fancy drapery'. If you know what that means, please contact us at Chapel and explain! This business was

also an agent for 'Pullar's Perth Dye Works', another unfamiliar item.

How about the advert from Hibberd Brothers (opposite), who were 'General Drapers and Ladies' and Children's Outfitters'? They were 'the best house for millinery, hosiery, corsets and underlinen, etc.' This enterprising business had a store on the Market Place, Warminster, another on the High Street of Heytesbury and a third on the High Street at Codford. It sounds unlikely now, but in 1911, both Heytesbury and Codford were on the main A36 road to Salisbury from Bath! At both Codford and Heytesbury they also handled Gents' outfitting and boots. Why not in the town itself? Was it because there was I Mills and Son, 'Practical Bootmakers' on East Street? Their advert suggests that dealing with an experienced firm

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High Street, . . .
. . . CODFORD.

** Also Gent's Outfitting, Boots, &c., at Heytesbury and Codford.*

meant saving one's self from disappointment; they had 26 years' 'reputation' in making and selling boots and shoes, so their goods were reliable! That's four clothing stores in one community, but didn't everyone make their own clothes at home before the First World War?

Once people were dressed and shod, they shopped for food. Finding the West End Supply Stores at 1, West Street in Warminster today proved impossible, but it sold general and fancy drapery, toys, stationery, china and

hardware as well in 1911! Another food store was Wilson and Kennard, the name now known only by a 'yard' beside The Bell Hotel on the Market Place. Their advert warned readers that cheapness and quality don't go together and getting dividends is simply having one's over-paid monies back!

Town bakers and confectioners included A E Sharp of East Street, who supplied bread and cake and delivered to Corsley and district on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. They were the only local makers of 'Bermaline Bread'; please contact us at Chapel if you know what that is! A 'steam bakery' near the Obelisk on Silver Street was owned by EJ Butcher. They sold bread and cake, but also catered for dinners, teas and luncheons – and supplied tents for such occasions!

There's no evidence that the above business owners were involved at the Chapel, but next month we'll look at three more advertisers, all with major connections to Corsley and to Whitbourne Chapel...



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 Curiosity
- 2 George III
- 3 A year and a day
- 4 The riddle of the Sphinx – the Sphinx posed a riddle to all who passed by and those who couldn't answer were devoured – well done Oedipus!
- 5 Croatia
- 6 The helicopter. He designed and built the first successful American helicopter, the Vought-Sikorsky VS-300, which laid the foundation for the modern helicopter
- 7 John Philip Sousa
- 8 Daniel Defoe
- 9 Upstairs/Downstairs
- 10 Four
- 11 Antonin Dvorak
- 12 Thomas Edison although he didn't actually invent the light bulb, he developed versions of 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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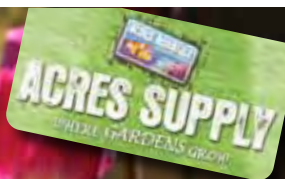
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