

The Bridge

November 2024

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



Pop along to Chapmanslade's Independent Makers Market or Corsley's Craft Fair, join the party at the Playing Field, there's loads of AGMs, coffee mornings, Lite Bite Lunches, Film Club, PC meetings, there's lots to do in November...



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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

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

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

Diary Dates



November

Friday 1st

Deadline for bids for donations/grants from
Corsley Parish Council

Saturday 2nd

Chapmanslade Independent Makers Market – 10 am to 4 pm, Village Hall

Wednesday 6th

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

Thursday 7th

Craft Fair – 3 pm to 8pm, Corsley Reading Room – more details nearer the date

Sunday 10th

Remembrance Sunday

Tuesday 12th

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

Thursday 14th

Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm, Village Hall

Corsley WI – ‘A Bike Ride to Santiago’ – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 16th

Corsley Memorial Playing Field 70th Anniversary Party – 4 pm to 6 pm

Wednesday 20th

Corsley Reading Room AGM – 7.30 pm

Thursday 21st

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

Friday 22nd

Corsley Tennis Club Annual Presentation Evening – 7 pm, the Woolpack, Beckington

Monday 25th

Film Club – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Wednesday 27th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

War Memorial Playing Field Committee AGM – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room (lower room)

Corsley Cricket Club AGM – 7.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room (lower room)

Saturday 30th

Dolce Singers - Brahms, A German Requiem – 7.30 pm, St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Carols in the Barn

6 pm Friday 6th December
in the Barn at Manor Farm Corsley

We are very lucky to have lovely
families who come every year but it
needs new energy and
new helpers!

Get in touch if you want to take
part in what has always been
enjoyed by young and old!

Message Claire da Costa at
claire@manorfarmcorsley.com

CANCELLED

2024 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

This year's Poppy Appeal launched in October and continues to Remembrance Sunday on the 10th November. Our village collectors will be out during November visiting as many houses as they can. If you are out when they call, they will leave an envelope with a date to collect them from you.

Nationally, the 2023 Poppy Appeal was a tremendous success, raising more than £50 million. Corsley and Chapmanslade raised £2883.53 to help fund the life changing work of the Royal British Legion.

Jackie Jasper
Poppy Appeal Coordinator
(Corsley and Chapmanslade)

Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School

Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 13th November

Wednesday 27th November

Wednesday 11th December

2025

Wednesday 8th January

Wednesday 22nd January

Wednesday 5th February

Wednesday 19th February

Wednesday 5th March

Wednesday 19th March

Wednesday 2nd April

Have you tried our Soup Lunches?

If not, your next chance will be Wednesday 27th November.

In September we had a very successful first lunch of the season when we welcomed many of our regular attendees to the Reading Rooms. It was also pleasing to see some new faces. There was a variety of soups on offer – some a little too spicy for a few but nearly all the soup disappeared before we served coffee, tea and biscuits to finish the meal. This month we gave our donations to the Warminster Food Bank. In October we supported Dorothy House and in November we'll support the RNLI.

We would love to see more villagers attend our lunches – please do come and give us a try!!

Maureen Willcox

Chapmanslade Hall's 50th Birthday!

We'd like to send the biggest "thank you" to everyone who helped organise and run the most fantastic event for our 50th birthday celebrations. It was certainly a day to remember!

Our committee, the history group, our master of ceremonies, face painters, tuck shop, messy church, the clearer uppers and everyone else in between. There were rave reviews for Rocky's Pizzas and the busy barmen from The Three Horseshoes and a great reception for the day's music...Lou Knight's swing band, Jook Joint, Brakelight and our homegrown headliners The Cleyhill Stompers.

Not forgetting our sponsors TMTI, J L Knight & Son Heating and Plumbing and Off

the Street Hairdressing (Amy Pratt)

The highlight of the day had to be our phone call from Dennis Barnard to say he was able to join us. What a wonderful surprise to hear so much of the history from him along with his witty one liners.

It would not have been a success though without the support of the villagers, past and present. We were overjoyed to see so many of you throughout the day and evening and we really hope you enjoyed all of our efforts.

We collected some donations throughout the day but if you missed the box and would like to contribute to hall funds, please feel free to drop into Lou at 127 Forest Walk or any committee member.

Lou Knight



Corsley Cricket Club

CORSLEY WAR MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday 27 November 19.00hrs
Reading Room Lower Room**

All welcome

**Followed at 19.30hrs by
CORSLEY CRICKET CLUB AGM**

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Whitbourne Baptist Chapel

Carols by Candlelight



5 pm, Sunday 22nd December
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Bob's bafflers

- 1 What is the official language of Brazil?
- 2 Which native tree has seeds which we call 'keys'?
- 3 Which North African seaport's name is Spanish for White House?
- 4 Hg is the symbol for which chemical element?
- 5 Who painted the Mona Lisa?
- 6 In which year did the Berlin Wall fall?
- 7 Gouda is a popular cheese originating from which country?
- 8 The late Queen Elizabeth II is the longest reigning monarch of the UK, followed by Queen Victoria – but who is third?
- 9 Which is longer, a nautical mile or a mile?
- 10 What is the capital of Bulgaria?
- 11 The song "When you wish upon a star" comes from which film?
- 12 If you fill a glass to the brim with ice and water, will the level rise or fall when the ice melts?

Answers on page 44



**** Christmas Tree Festival ****

St Margaret's Church, Corsley

Friday 6th December – 3 pm to 5 pm

Saturday 7th December – 10.30 am to 12.30 pm
(with Christmas Coffee Morning)

Sunday 8th December – 11 am to 12.30 pm

Programme £1
Refreshments

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

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Corsley Memorial Playing Field 70th Anniversary Party



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Corsley War Memorial Playing Field

History from 1947 to 1954

Read about the Reverend Alban Ernest Elliott, vicar of St Margaret's Church, who instigated the playing field, and the trials and tribulations that followed...

In July 1947 the Reverend attended the major sale of Longleat land and property. His bid of £1000 was successful and he became the owner of the three fields known locally as Holmes or Red Street. Plots 577 and 575 became the Memorial Field as we know it today.

On 11th September 1947, a public meeting was held in the Reading Rooms at which the Reverend explained his purchase to a crowded hall – the first Corsley Memorial Field Committee was then elected. Money was raised by public subscription and donations from the village until 30th December 1950 – the field was sold into Trust for £530, and in 1951 the Corsley War Memorial Field was registered as a charity.

“It is a Charitable Trust to provide for the maintenance and improvement of the physical wellbeing of persons resident in the parish of Corsley in the county of Wiltshire by the provisions of facilities for Physical Training and Recreation.”

In 1953 the Trust found itself in debt, so the committee members agreed that each of them should donate £5 to wipe out the bank overdraft. The members were Mr Thomas, P Carr, H Jones, L Young, R Snelgrove, R Joynt, N Francis, L White and Mrs (Nurse) Hobbs 7s 3d.

With the debt cleared, so began a fundraising campaign that continues today to meet the maintenance costs and the capital

outlay needed for improved facilities. One of the early fundraising events was a dance held in the Reading Rooms at 3/- (15p) admission that raised £6. It was looked upon as a great success! Other events included a skittles week at the Royal Oak which raised £48 and a bring-and-buy sale at the Corsley Show.

The funds were used to build brick pillars at the entrance of the field and Len White (at the Wagon Works) was asked to produce a set of swings for the children to play on. And so the play area was established.

In 1954 the committee decided to have an opening ceremony for the Field on the 14th November, Remembrance Day. Len White was asked to repair a pair of wrought iron gates and the two bronze plaques that can still be seen today on the pillars were ordered from the Somerset Smithy. One plaque records the First World War fatalities and the other, the Second World War deaths including the civilians killed on Corsley Heath in April 1941.

The official opening ceremony was on the 14th November when the memorial plaques were unveiled by Lieutenant Colonel A E Newland to a fanfare by the 1st Wiltshire Regiment of Buglers. The Reverend Gerald Trotman conducted a memorial service of prayers and hymns accompanied by the Frome Town Band for the “goodly congregation of 70 or more people.”

Chris de Groot



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Chapmanslade and Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Heavy Goods Vehicle weight limit progress report, September 2024

Attendees

On Friday 20th September, members of the three-village Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) action group met representatives of Wiltshire Council to discuss progress toward implementing weight limits in Maiden Bradley, Corsley and Chapmanslade.

The meeting was attended by Cllr Tamara Reay, Cabinet Member for Transport and Assets, Cllr Bill Parks, who represents our three villages, and officers from Wiltshire Council – Dave Thomas, Head of Highways Asset Management & Commissioning, and Martin Aldham, Senior Transport Planner.

The meeting

In the meeting, Wiltshire Council officers presented the preliminary results of data modelling of lorry displacement should the weight limits be implemented. We also discussed options for implementing the weight limits in each village singly or together, and it was agreed that this should be included in the model. We also talked about plans for potential safety improvements to the A303/350, and stakeholder engagement with the Mendip quarry producers.

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held in November, at which time we will discuss updated data modelling results and review options for implementing the weight limits.

The villages also submitted two campaign letters to Cllr Tamara Reay, the cabinet

member, underlining the impact of HGV traffic on residents along the B3092. This included a petition from residents of Norton Ferris and Kilmington, and letters from parents in Maiden Bradley.

Cllr Bill Parks, who represents the three villages asked Wiltshire Council to ‘step-up’ action to enforce the use of the designated freight routes through the area. He noted that the lorries are affecting hundreds of lives daily, tearing the heart out of rural communities.

Our view

The representatives of the three villages campaign group expressed our appreciation to Wiltshire Council, and to our councillor Bill Parks, for their ongoing efforts to find a solution to HGV traffic. We look forward to hearing about progress made in our next meeting.

We did however raise the following concerns:

- Questions were raised about the baseline data and assumptions in the model, including the specific context relevant to each of the three villages.
- Chapmanslade noted that displacement is irrelevant to them, given their problem is a small number of HGVs that cause huge disruption
- Corsley noted that any HGV using their village as a short cut will already be using the strategic route to enter and exit the village and so any displacement will be onto

- roads these lorries are already using
- Maiden Bradley noted that HGVs using the village as a short-cut will be displaced onto designated strategic freight routes in Wiltshire and Somerset, which is where they are meant to be traveling.

Overall, our campaign group believes that Wiltshire Council is placing too much weight on data modelling of future risk than the reality of actual impacts on the ground. For hundreds of people, this reality means large HGVs routinely driving through villages, at all hours of the day and night, causing disruption and gridlock on narrow roads never designed for this sort of traffic. We question why our rural communities should bear this burden alone, and encourage Wiltshire Council to take all steps necessary to facilitate HGV use of designated strategic freight routes.

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Corsley & Chapmanslade Churches

Christmas Coffee Morning

In conjunction with the Christmas Tree Festival

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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

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

At its meeting on 10th October the Parish Council noted the following issues raised by the public:

Statements regarding planning applications at Yarrow Farm and Honey Glade, comments on the appeal application for an additional nine houses at Barters Farm and comments on the licensing application for events at Thoulstone Park. A statement was made seeking further action to reduce speed in the village and a number of suggestions as to how to achieve this were lobbied.

Planning applications

PL/2024/05888 Householder planning permission: removal of existing railings and existing garden wall and rebuild adjacent highway to increase size of rear garden at 8 Barters Drive, Chapmanslade, Westbury, BA13 4G: No objection.

PL/2024/07788 Householder planning permission: proposed single storey side extension at 1 Pedlars Grove, Chapmanslade, Westbury, BA13 4AZ. No objection

PL/2024/07349 Householder planning permission: erection of a single storey extension at Yarrow Farm, High Street, Chapmanslade, Westbury, BA13 4AW. No objection

PL/2024/08233 Full planning permission: creation of dog exercise park including the addition of fencing to create a secure boundary and timber shelter within said boundary to shield users from the elements at Thoulstone Park Ltd., Thoulstone,

Chapmanslade, BA13 4AQ. No objection

Other matters

Premises Licence Application at Thoulstone Park Ltd. Whilst finding many of the activities proposed attractive for our community, the Council objected to this application on the grounds of potential public nuisance from noise especially outdoor music.

Wiltshire Planning Appeal.

Application Number: PL/2023/05349;

Inspectorate Reference:

APP/Y3940/W/24/3348998.

Erection of nine dwellings, demolition, and associated works. The Council upheld its objection to this application.

End pieces

Updates were heard from Councillors on:

- The good work being done by the 'Secret Stile' team to replace stiles with kissing gates. A further 7 new gates were agreed, and these will be 75% funded by the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group.
- The agreement with Wiltshire Council Highways engineers to review the A 3098 speed limits and signage from Barters Nursery to Tower Hill in conjunction with both the Warminster and Westbury Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Groups and with the support of the two unitary councillors.
- The work undertaken by the Parish Steward and any other work for his 24 October visit.
- The Council agreed to pay a donation

of £130 to the Royal British Legion for a wreath for this year's Remembrance Sunday. This year's service will be on 10 November and will include the dedication of a new plaque on the war memorial with the names of two sons of Chapmanslade who gave their lives in the Service of their Country during WWII. Considerable thanks need to go to the Church Warden, Ian Buick, and the History Group, especially Terry Rose, for putting in the considerable work required to make this happen.

Next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for 14 November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. If you wish to speak at the meeting, then please ensure that the issue on which you would like to speak is raised beforehand with the Clerk to ensure that it is on the agenda.

All documents relative to Parish Council meetings can be found on the website www.chapmansladeParish Council.org.uk

QUIZ NIGHT

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Thursday 13th February 2025

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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

For the past year the letter on this page had been written by Rev Caroline Husband, who was our Rural Dean until the beginning of October. Her support had been quite amazing and, even in a short time, she was able to provide us with support and introduce fresh ways to reach you all in our community. We wished her every success and happiness in her new life and work in Cornwall. We are currently without anyone in her vacated role, so find ourselves being even more self reliant than ever.

November is a month of reflection which begins with moments of remembrance and, later, sees us preparing for the Church New Year. All Saints and All Souls days at the start of the month give us moments to pause and firstly remember all those saints who have helped to influence our lives in every respect. There are the many saints who are commemorated in our churches and have their own saints day, but this is an occasion to reflect on all who have enriched our lives in so many ways. They don't have a special label or day but have committed their lives to the service of us all. They are also living amongst us, right now in our villages, often ignored and unappreciated. God knows and cares for them, so please give a moment to remember them. All Souls is a much more personal moment, when we recall all whom we have known and loved, but are no longer with us. Remembrance Sunday this year will, as always, be an opportunity to reflect on all who have lost their lives in war. The dedication of a new plaque commemorating the two Chapmanslade residents lost in WW2 on the war memorial will be a very special occasion.

Later in November we begin to prepare for our new Church year at Advent on 1st December. This is a time for us to think about what we have achieved in God's service during the past 12 months. With the appearance of Christmas decorations and many reminders of numbers of shopping days to go, we are tempted to try to avoid considering those who are suffering around a world, currently facing so many challenges of war, persecution and starvation.

We also face real challenges in continuing to meet everyone's needs here in Corsley and Chapmanslade. The most urgent of these, is how do we maintain our parish with a shrinking pool of active volunteers. It is fair to say, we are one step away from having to think hard about what we can sustain and what to curtail. We are getting real support with fresh initiatives from the Diocese, especially since the arrival of Bishop Steven the current Bishop of Salisbury. Principal among these is agreement with our Archdeacon, to recruit a new Rector, who will be a specialist in what we call Mission. Put simply, this is someone who will be highly skilled in reaching out to everyone in our community, no matter whether they are churchgoers or not. If the plans succeed, 1/3 of their time will be spent doing this mission work here and the other rural parishes in our Deanery, which are the villages grouped around Warminster and Westbury.

We live in hope and God's love.

With very best wishes

Ian Buick

Church Warden

Season of Remembrance

November Services

3rd November: 4th Sunday before Advent

8 am Holy Communion, Kingston

10 am Morning Worship, St Margaret's Corsley

10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge Deverill



10th November: 2nd Sunday before Advent

Remembrance Sunday services

10.50 am St Margaret's, Corsley

**10.45 am St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade

10.50 am St Mary's, Kingston Deverill

10.50 am St John the Baptist, Horningsham



17th November: 3rd Sunday before Advent Sunday

11 am Matins St Margaret's, Corsley

10am Eucharist, Brixton



24th November: Christ the King / next Sunday before Advent

10 am Eucharist St Philip & St James', Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Longbridge

**We ask that people coming to the Chapmanslade Remembrance Service, come at 10.45 am for 10.55 please. We have a special, slightly larger commemoration this year as we dedicate the new plaque for the servicemen from Chapmanslade who died in WW2 but whose names were never added to the War Memorial. The Warminster branch of the Royal British Legion will be represented, and it will take a while to gather properly and get ready in time for the two minutes silence at 11am.

Church and Community Events in November

NEW monthly Village Coffee Morning

(organised by the Lite Bites team)

Wednesday 6th November

10.30 am – 12.00 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Craftafternoons

Wednesday 13th and Wednesday 27th November

3 – 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Community Church Coffee Morning

Thursday 21st November

10 am – 12 noon, Three Horseshoes Chapmanslade

Lite Bites Soup Lunch

Wednesday 27th November

12.30 pm – 2 pm, Corsley Reading Rooms

Christmas Tree Festival

Friday 6th, Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December, St Margaret's Church

Christmas Coffee Morning amongst the Christmas Trees

Saturday 7th December 10.30 am – 12.30 pm, St Margaret's Church

Funeral

The funeral of Ross Farr Daniell took place on September 11th.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family

Cleaning St Philip & St James' Church

We are looking for a few extra people to help keep St Philip & St James' Church clean. Cleaning the church takes about an hour and you would only do it two or three times a year.

If you think this is something that you could help with and would like to find out more, please contact Sue Fear on either suefearpcc@gmail.com or 01373 832074.

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'	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

Church Diary – for all events in St Margaret's church please book into the diary through Di Britten, 01373 832515 or 07714 204663

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Chapmanslade War Memorial

Finally, a new plaque!

Commemorating two lives lost

In the April edition of *The Bridge* I published an article letting everyone know of an initiative to add a new plaque with the names of the two servicemen from Chapmanslade who lost their lives in WW2, 80 years ago this year, to the War Memorial, which sits in the grounds of St Philip and St James' Church. Currently, the memorial, which was dedicated on 12th September 1920, only displays the names of the servicemen who died in WW I. The names of the two servicemen who lost their lives in WW2 are:

- **Wyndham Carter**, Wiltshire Regiment Infantry, son of Frank and Francis, husband of Phyllis, killed in action in Lazio, Italy, aged 28.
- **Kenneth Chalk**, Royal Air Force 77th Squadron, son of William and Hilda, a rear gunner on a Halifax bomber. He lost his life at the age of 21 along with six other crew, three of whom were Canadian, during an air attack on Berlin.

It has been a complex process to obtain a faculty from the Church of England to proceed with the work; the equivalent to obtaining full planning permission to make changes to a Grade 2 listed building – and then some. With the full support of the

Corsley & Chapmanslade Parochial Church Council and Chapmanslade Parish Council, the faculty was officially received by Ian Buick, our Church Warden, at the end of September, so it has taken seven months to get this far.



Now the work starts for an approved stonemason to carry out essential maintenance work on the War Memorial before fixing the new bronze plaque, as depicted in the image, in time for it to be dedicated during a special Act of Remembrance on Sunday 10th November, assembling at the church from 10.45am for a 10.55 start.

Following the Act of Remembrance,

Chapmanslade Church will be open to host the community when there will be a presentation about the two men and their families, the complex process needed to approve the plaque and the history of the the war memorial (the Cross). Refreshments will be available.

We look forward to welcoming representatives from Warminster Royal British Legion to join with us in our commemoration this year.

*Terry Rose
Chapmanslade History Group*



Do come along to the
Chapmanslade
**Act of
Remembrance**
from 10.45am for a
10.55am start on
Sunday 10th
November
at the War Memorial

This will be a special occasion supported by the Royal British Legion to dedicate a new plaque on the War Memorial commemorating the two men of our village who gave their lives in World War II



To mark the occasion, after the Act of Remembrance the church will be open to host the community when there will be a presentation about the two men and the complex process needed to approve the plaque.
Refreshments will be available

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Corsley WI

October news

Alice Cambridge rounds up the October meeting and announces some forthcoming events



A journey around Aotearoa

Having had to rejig the programme as our October speaker was ill, Fiona Carruthers kindly volunteered to bring her January talk forward at very short notice which was greatly appreciated.

We were promised a full presentation of the fact, fiction, food and photography of New Zealand and is certainly didn't disappoint.

Not only has Fiona visited New Zealand on many occasions but she lived and worked there for 15 years promoting New Zealand beef and lamb. Her work took her all around the islands and much further afield, bringing her into contact with government, sporting and cookery celebrities. Her role varied from presentations around the world championing the virtues of New Zealand's produce, to competitions where she judged the country's

finest beef and lamb cuts.

In Fiona's spare time she covered miles walking and off-road running in New Zealand's beautiful mountains. Some slightly more 'dangerous' than others with over 14,000 earthquakes a year recorded across the country. The photographs she shared were stunning.

Not allowed to simply sit back and enjoy, we were quizzed on New Zealand 'lingo' with some members doing rather well, revealing they themselves had spent a reasonable amount of time visiting. A 'jug' is a kettle, 'snags' are sausages and a 'cocky' is a farmer!!

Our next meeting is 'A Bike Ride to Santiago' at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th November in the Reading Rooms. All welcome; non-members £5.

Corsley Fayre

Annual General Meeting

7.30 pm, Wednesday 4th December

Corsley Reading Room

All welcome!

Come and have your say on how the Fayre could look in 2025



Evening Christmas Craft Fair

Thursday 7th November
3pm - 8pm

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Wonderful Walks

A lovely surprise!

I haven't been to Lacock for many years, so when second granddaughter Katie and partner, Fraser, asked if I'd like to go with them, it was a lovely surprise! Fraser parked up in the National Trust car park on the village outskirts and, fee paid, we headed away. Across the zebra



pavement on Hither Way that takes you right first, but at the next junction, go left on High Street. There are facilities and a café to the left, but we crossed the High Street, walking right, alongside the Abbey grounds' outer wall and passing a crab apple tree decorated with red and rotting little fruits.

Fraser took their dog Charlie walking and swimming, while Katie and I entered the National Trust reception and paid to explore the Abbey grounds. Some photos this time are Katie's handiwork; her photography skills are excellent. Leaving reception, find the wide path, with railings on one side and the abbey beyond that. The path leads into a small wood, with old greenhouses away to the right. That's where we went, walking round a Victorian walled garden with lovely flower beds and a banana tree, with small fruit and a flower on. After circling that garden, return to the wider path and branch off left. Along

here, there's a tall pillared monument with something like a sculpted female sphinx on top, but after viewing it, return again to the wide track, not far from the Abbey entrance. There's a 'Gothic' archway on the right, into the Abbey grounds themselves, but looking left, you'll see the roof of the courtyard stables, with its clock and bell tower. I always understood that a 'lad' had to sleep above the stables in old times; it was his job to ring the bell should there be a disaster, such as fire, theft or an escaping horse.

Go back towards the woodland and you'll pass a huge rotting tree stump on your right, with three saplings growing from it. Further on, there's a pond and before we reached it, I thought the 'grasses' I could see were reeds, though no water was visible. Once we stood at the pond edge, I saw water! To the right, there's a low and sunken wall and I told Katie it looked like a 'haha'; she hadn't heard of



Mansion

that before, but that's what it was! It's really an optical illusion that meant people in the house could see animals close by, but the animals couldn't get to the house and lawns and make a mess of them! Back

on the path and away from the wooded area, you'll see Lacock Abbey itself, founded in 1232 by the Countess of Salisbury. Some early buildings remain, such as the cloisters and the chapter house. Here, Katie and I used a side track, back through the trees again, looked over a 'normal' wall and saw Lacock village ahead of us. Moving again, we found running water nearby, a stream maybe, with a weir and a false rock wall, built to 'enhance' the view.

After that, in open country again, you'll see fields ahead, beyond metal railings. Find the gate through the fence and you're in the fields, with mowed footpaths crossing and circling them. Katie and I explored a bit and could have crossed several fields – but it was



Courtyard

nearly lunchtime; please extend our walk for us, if you can! Afterwards, look for the main track again, somewhere near a truncated tree with fungus on its trunk, and a huge wattle 'decoration' at its top. As we walked round the tree, we found metal railings and removed ourselves from the field, getting back on the wide track yet again. Here's where I found something really exciting – a beautifully slim and slimy, tan-coloured slug, though Katie wasn't sure why such a find thrilled me!

From there, walk along the front of the Abbey building and turn right at the octagonal corner tower, built after the Reformation, when Sir William Sharington

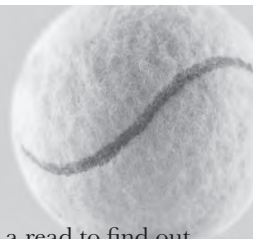
turned the Abbey into a country mansion. Round that corner you'll find a later, possibly Georgian, stepped entrance into a newer building. Through the 'Gothic' archway ahead, Katie and I

saw the stable clock and bell tower again, and turned right into the stable courtyard, to use facilities. Leaving the Abbey grounds, we found Fraser and Charlie, and had a hot lunch at the Red Lion pub at the junction of High Street and East Street; my macaroni cheese was yummy!



Truncated tree

Corsley Tennis Club News



Autumn in the UK starts in September and runs until the end of November. Despite the weather being more unpredictable at this time of year, for us tennis players the joys of autumn leaf clearance on the courts is a very good pre-match warmup! It must be said that there is no 'cancel culture' at CTC; we play all year round unless rain, ice or fog gets in the way.

On a crisp sunny day at the beginning of October, a very competitive but, of course, friendly Over 70s tournament was held. Congratulations to all 10 players who took part and to the winners, Mary and Garth. Once again, a big thank you to Diana for organising all the tournaments over the years so efficiently.

This is the month for the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) re-registration which links Corsley Tennis Club to the national governing body. The LTA website has a wealth of information including a library of club resources and models of good practice to help run a tennis club effectively. This includes club management, facilities and funding, safeguarding and volunteer role

descriptions. It's worth a read to find out what is involved in running a successful club.

On that note, after our plea for new committee members, thank you to those people who have come forward to help with the vacancies – we will be hoping to launch into the 2025/2026 year with a full complement on the committee with key posts such as the Chairman and the Treasurer filled. We are still on the lookout for someone who can manage the website so please let us know if you can help.

The junior coaching is going strong with Callum enthusiastically at the helm. Younger children dressed up early for Hallowe'en and lots of fun and laughter was had (as well as some tennis skills learnt!).

Lastly, two dates for your diary: The Annual Presentation Evening at The Woolpack, Beckington Friday 22nd November 7pm and the AGM on Monday 13th January 2025 in the Corsley Reading Room.

Look forward to seeing you on the courts soon!

Kate Jackson

Church and Community Coffee Mornings

Third Thursday of each month
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Whitbourne Chapel

'The Son of Man did not come to be served...'

Mark 10:45

Why Four Gospels?

The central theme of the Bible, Old Testament and New, is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Focal Point. The New Testament Gospels focus on the Saviour's life and teaching; the word 'gospel' means 'Good News'. These written accounts tell the wonderful message of forgiveness, reconciliation and new life, through the Lord Jesus.

The four reporters who wrote the Good News are Matthew, a converted tax collector; Mark a missionary; Luke a physician and John a fisherman; each provides a snapshot of the Saviour's life. Why four gospels? Because one wasn't enough to give a balanced portrait of the Lord Jesus.

Let us examine this wonderful Saviour through the eyes of the Gospel writers. Matthew wrote primarily for the Jews; he saw the Lord Jesus as a Mighty king, and sought to convince Jewish readers the Lord Jesus is the Messiah. At least nine times he shows that Jesus is the fulfilment of Old Testament Prophecies - Christ came to establish His Kingdom.

Mark viewed the Lord Jesus as a Suffering servant, one engaged in serving His fellow man. It is a 'Gospel of Action' - Jesus' actions as a servant, as in Mark 10:45: "for the son of

Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many."

Luke wrote of Christ as the ideal man and emphasises Jesus' humanity, giving us more detail about the birth than any other writer; he is only one who tells of Jesus' childhood. Luke presents the human-interest stories and parables Christ shared, lingering longer on the death of Christ...

John presents the Lord Jesus as the Divine Son of God, not only a king, or merely a servant, or simply a man. He was the Lord God - Deity. He never stopped being God, even while on this earth.

John presents the Lord Jesus performing one miracle after another, ones that only the Divine Son of God could perform. There is a progression, called 'signs', seven in all, from Changing Water into Wine to Raising the Dead, showing Christ as the only Son of God and master over all.

How does this apply to us today?

We are called to be Servants of the Lord Jesus. Whatever role we are facing right now, God's desire is that we live out each day for his Glory, to be his Servants and Disciples, so that by seeing each one of us, others may believe that the Lord Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Trevor Brain

Occasional Preacher at Whitbourne



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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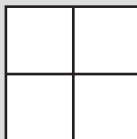
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What are they charging you?

Do you live at the Heathway, Corsley? Then read on...

There is no mains drainage in Corsley so most of the houses have their own drainage systems. However, many of the homes along Heathway and the flats behind were built by the council in the 1930-50s. These homes are on three different shared-drainage systems. Over the years, some of them were bought by their owners and others are now managed by Selwood Housing.

The deeds for all the homes specify that Selwood Housing can charge you for the waste management provision or replacement of the system if necessary. Specifically, to quote Selwood Housing “Under clause 12.6.2 of the transfer you are obliged to contribute a fair proportion of the cost to Selwood on demand of the operating costs of emptying, cleansing and replacing septic tanks and/or sewage disposal works. There is no obligation on Selwood to itemise the bill.”

Around 12 months ago the soakaway for numbers 1 to 6 Heathway was reported as broken and subsequently claimed to be repaired by Selwood Housing contractors. Since then their engineer has assessed the system every month and written to Selwood Housing to say the system is still broken. To support his assessment, waste collection has gone from a normal six months to every four to five weeks.

Despite the service getting worse, our bills have gone up!

Speaking to home owners along Heathway, we have found out that each of us are charged different amounts with the figure ranging from £500-£800 per annum.

With the help of Parish Councillor Dr Neil Carpenter, County Councillor Bill Parks and Dr Murrison MP, we have been trying

to get to the bottom of the charges from Selwood Housing for waste management and why they vary so much for identical homes. Dr Murrison has written multiple times to Selwood Housing who have refused to provide adequate explanations to all his questions. It is not a surprise to find out that less than 50% of Selwood Housing’s customers are satisfied with their approach to handling complaints.

This ability to charge home owners whatever cost Selwood Housing feel is acceptable is at the heart of the issue and, despite all the work by those involved, Selwood Housing has failed to provide an adequate explanation for their charging policy.

Selwood Housing have claimed that the charges are based on the rateable value of the properties. Council Tax was introduced in 1993 – before Selwood Housing took over the properties – however, whatever system they are using, all the houses are the same, so they should all have the same charges.

Finally, they do not offer single person, pensioner or benefits claimants discounts, so this pricing is not a reflection of lower occupancy, lower amounts of waste or the ability to afford the charges. Wessex Water, who provide the potable water into the homes, does provide these discount.

In conclusion, we would like to collect more data to force Selwood Housing to provide fair charging for all residents. Could you please let us know how much you are paying? Your information will be kept in confidence and no names will be shared.

You can either drop information off to me at 3 Heathway, message me on village Facebook page, email glynspurr88@gmail.com or WhatsApp 07769 298309.

A view from over the hedge...

Countryside Matters

Autumn in the countryside is possibly the most spectacular Month and October has excelled itself

Wonderful sunsets, the harvest moon and most of the British Isles experiencing the northern lights, early morning mists, followed by lovely warm days. The colours of the leaves in our woodlands and hedgerows could be compared with those in New England, USA.

But what so many will remember of October 2024 is the heavy rain storms, with flooding reaching areas not normally seen or experienced for many years.

The late harvesting of maize and potatoes has been hampered by soil compaction and soil movement from field to roads on the tyres of heavy tractors and harvesting equipment.

The erosion of soil from freshly-worked arable and reseeded fields and the impact of extremely heavy rain storms has caused blocked drains, ditches and excess water on normal flood plains.

By early October, the cattle had to be housed above flood level at least a month earlier than normal. Extending the winter feeding programme an extra month will be costly, creating a drain on already smaller stores of home-produced feed stuffs.

During the autumn, breeding sheep are often moved from mountainous areas such as Scotland and the northern counties to the south and south west of England to graze on dryer dairy farms until spring when they will be transported back north for the lambing season.

Other lambs not suitable for breeding will be sold at market in the east such as the Kent

Marches and sold to farmers who will feed them on grass here in the south/and south west. This helps to graze the grass shorter than cattle would, their weight will help to level the ground and bring a welcome increase in income to the dairy farmer when they go to market in the early spring.

Hallowe'en has become more popular in recent years, with pumpkins and gourds being grown for pick-your-own or sold in great numbers in our supermarkets; great fun for children and another cash crop which, if marketed well, can be another source of income to farmers.

Early November sees Guy Fawks and the Gunpowder Plot being celebrated with large communal fireworks parties and bonfires. Can I just remind those intending to host a party to please check for hedgehogs that may be nesting in the pile of wood waiting to be burned and please let neighbours who own cats, dogs or horses that you intend letting off fireworks so that they can take precautions with their pets.

As winter looms enjoy the highlights and prepare for cosy evenings by the fire.

Judith Helliar

Rainfall recorded for September:

2023 65.0 mm

2024 198.4 mm

Yearly totals to 30th September

2023 751.48 mm

2024 788.19 mm

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

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

Coffee morning

Did you make it to the re-launched coffee morning on Wednesday 2nd October?

If not, do try again! The next one will be on Wednesday 6th November, 10.30 to 12 noon.

Film Club

What a start to the Film Club! Thank you to all those that attended and please check the website for more info. Next showing is Monday 25th November at 7.30pm - if you have not signed up for membership already or would like to know more about the films please email films@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

Its nearly time for the Christmas Fair – Thursday 7th November 3pm to 8pm

We are holding it on a Thursday to allow those who couldn't come on a Saturday to experience the lovely crafts and food stalls. The ever-popular raffle, with all the prizes being donated by the stall holders, will be drawn at 7.30pm. The bar will be open, and we will be selling teas, coffee and cakes, kindly donated by WI members.

Developments

We are still waiting on news of our grant applications for solar panels and a battery, and a new floor with underfloor heating. The work

on replacing the floor by the back door and putting new toilets and sinks in for the ladies is scheduled for the end of October/early November.

Annual General Meeting

The Reading Room AGM will be held on the 20th November at 7.30 pm. We would love to see you there. You could hear about our plans and hopes for the coming year. And we do need more trustees, so if you would like to be part of this exciting time in the development of the Reading Rooms please come along and find out what that involves.

Also, please note that our governing document states that Corsley Parish Council and up to three other suitable community organisations operating within Corsley Parish can nominate a representative member to the Reading Room Board if they so wish.

Any organisation wishing to nominate a representative should notify the name of the person nominated to me as secretary for the Trustees

Lizi.garrett@btinternet.com

Trustees

Denise Crossland, Chris de Groot, Claire Firman-Ford, Liz Garrett, Caroline Hutton
Jackie Jasper, Mark Richards (Jamie and Charlie Owen look after bookings)

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 Portuguese
- 2 Ash
- 3 Casablanca
- 4 Mercury
- 5 Leonardo da Vinci
- 6 1989
- 7 The Netherlands
- 8 George III
- 9 A nautical mile (it's approximately 1.15 miles)
- 10 Sofia
- 11 Pinocchio
- 12 It will fall – try 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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