

The Bridge

September 2024

monthly magazine for the villages
of Corsley and Chapmanslade



Lap up a Lite Bites Soup Lunch, audition for the pantomime, celebrate the village hall's 50th, bask in the beautiful garden at Corsley House, chow down at the harvest supper, there's lots to do in September...



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monthly magazine for the villages of Corsley and Chapmanslade

Articles

Please submit articles either by email to **paradisefound86@icloud.com** or by hand (legible handwriting please!) and take them to the drop-off locations at Barbers Plant Centre, Chapmanslade, or Acres Supply Garden Centre, Corsley by the deadline – and with the fee!

News, reports, updates, thank you's, etc, from individuals or local organisations are free – the more the merrier – keep 'em coming!

File types

Save your files as .doc – please don't send .docx files – I can't always open them successfully.

Advertising:

Small ads are £1 for each item whether 'For Sale' or 'Wanted'.

Events/local organisation ads

(churches, clubs, playgroups, etc) are £2.50 per month for a boxed advert.

Full page ads cost £8, are subject to space availability and cannot be guaranteed,

If you are advertising, don't forget to take the fee – cash or cheque in a sealed envelope please, to either of the drop-off points (Barbers Plant Centre or Acres Supply).

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 September**

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

Diary Dates



September

Sunday 1st

Illyria presents 'Romeo and Juliet' – 4 pm, Heywood House

Thursday 5th

Corsley Tennis Club - Over 70s tournament – 10 am, Memorial Playing Field

Cash and Prize Bingo – doors/refreshments 7 pm, eyes down at 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Sunday 8th

Corsley House National Garden Scheme Open Garden – 11 am to 5 pm, tickets £10 for adults, children go free. Cream teas, cake and coffee in aid of St Margaret's Church

Monday 9th

Corsley Parish Council meeting – 7 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Tuesday 10th

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

Thursday 12th

Corsley WI – 6.30 pm, History of the Orchardleigh Estate (see page 28 for info)

Chapmanslade Parish Council meeting – 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Thursday 19th

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

Auditions for Chapmanslade Players pantomime Rapunzel – in the evening, at the Village Hall

Wednesday 25th

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Saturday 21st

Corsley and Chapmanslade Churches Harvest Supper – 7 for 7.30 pm, Chapmanslade Village Hall

Saturday 28th

Chapmanslade Village Hall's 50th Birthday – 3 pm til late at the hall

October

Tuesday 8th

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

Thursday 17th

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

Wednesday 23rd

Lite Bites Soup Lunch – 12.30 pm, Corsley Reading Room

Thursday 24th

Poppy Appeal launches today

November

Thursday 7th

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

Lite Bites Soup Lunch is back soon!

Minestrone or mushroom or maybe broccoli (with Stilton) or beetroot? Whatever your favourite soup is we are sure you will find one you like out of the four choices we provide each month. Why not come along to the Reading Rooms on Wednesday 25th September from 12.30 and sample our soups. You're welcome to tell us your particular favourite and we will aim to provide it at some time during the year.

Lite Bites soup lunches take place on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 12.30 until 2pm in the Reading Rooms - except in December when we have our Christmas lunch – but it won't be on the fourth Wednesday as that's Christmas Day! We always offer a choice of soups and although we do not make a charge for our soup we do ask you to make a donation, of whatever you would like to give, to our chosen charity of the month.

We look forward to seeing all our regular "customers" again and hopefully plenty of new faces too. Everyone is welcome. Please come and give us a try!!

Call Maureen Willcox on 01373 832171 if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help!

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2024

This year's Poppy Appeal will launch on Thursday 24th October, marking the start of our collection period that continues to Remembrance Sunday on the 10th November.

Our village collectors will be out during these dates 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. From care homes to recovery centres, the RBL provide a vast array of welfare support services to our Armed Forces Community and their families.

If anyone would like to help by becoming a collector or to host an event please do contact me.

Jackie Jasper
Poppy Appeal Coordinator (Corsley and
Chapmanslade)
07816231442



You're all invited to join us for Chapmanslade Hall's

50th Birthday!

Saturday 28th September
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Bob's bafflers

- 1 How many planets in the solar system have only one moon?
- 2 Which company makes the Galaxy chocolate bar?
- 3 What type of animal was Beatrix Potter's 'Mrs Tiggywinkle'?
- 4 If you saw a road sign welcoming you to Shakespeare's County, which county would you be entering?
- 5 Who was the original presenter of 'Masterchef' on British TV?
- 6 Name one of the two landlocked countries of South America.
- 7 What happened to the character Jack Griffin in a novel by HG Wells?
- 8 What can a tiger and puma do that a cheetah cannot?
- 9 Accra is the capital of which African country?
- 10 How many pairs of ribs does a human have?
- 11 GK Chesterton described what as an expensive way of playing marbles?
- 12 Which are the two horse racing events that must be shown on free to air TV in the UK according to OFCOM?

Answers on page 44

News from the Chapmanslade Players!

We're very excited to announce that our next panto is going to be **Rapunzel**

Show dates will be 27th – 29th March 2025.

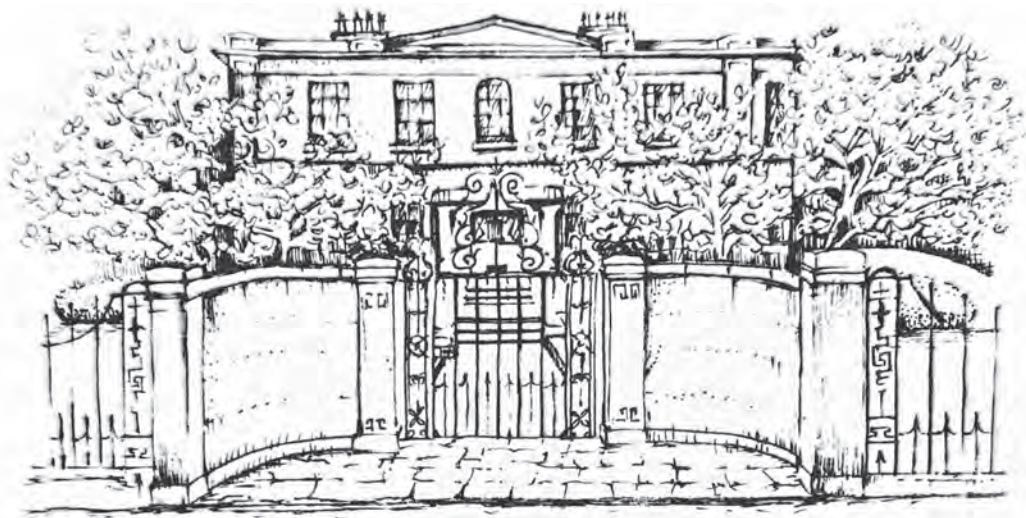
Auditions for children and adults will be held the evening of
Thursday 19th September at Chapmanslade Hall.

All information will be posted on our Facebook page:
'Chapmanslade Players presents Rapunzel'.

If you would like to help in any way behind the scenes, we'd love to hear from you!

For more information, please contact **Lou Knight** on **07806 486295**

Corsley House NGS Open Garden



● Corsley House ●

Sunday 8th September from 11 am to 5 pm

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The development of Chapmanslade Church as a wider community space moves forward

Development plans for St Philip and St James' Church Chapmanslade have taken a big step in the right direction with the award of up to £15,000 from CIL funds. Chapmanslade Parish Council are providing funding towards projects in the village which benefit the community as a whole. The CIL fund comes from a planning levy on the building of Honey Glade.

First discussed pre-pandemic, plans to develop the Church into a more effective community asset, have accelerated recently. Half of the original bench pews were put into storage, in order to allow 32 temporary chairs to be used for evaluation. These have gained wide approval and an application is being prepared for them to be used permanently. The chairs in use were donated by a church in Weymouth and talks are underway for the bench pews in storage to be repurposed in another local church, in an ideal demonstration of environmental responsibility in action.

The next stage will be installing a temporary toilet outside the west end of the church when the application procedures are complete. This will be followed quite quickly with applications for a permanent toilet, a drinks making facility and possibly a glass door close to the existing wooden door to make the building more welcoming and accessible.

Churchwarden Ian Buick commented that the support shown by Chapmanslade Parish Council is worth even more than the amazing grant. It will aid further applications for funding from wider grant providers by demonstrating the commitment of the community towards the church as a valuable village asset, especially if match funding is demanded. Chapmanslade's portion of development funds already raised for both our parish churches, through the generosity of the owners of Corsley House, will be put towards this project.

Car park machines to be upgraded

Payment machines in Wiltshire Council-run car parks will be upgraded this summer as part of a £380,000 investment programme.

The work, which will take place between July and September, will see new more robust and resilient machines installed across the whole of Wiltshire, making it easier for people to pay for their parking. Installation of the new machines started in Marlborough, with further installations cross the county in the coming months. The full programme of works

is available at Car Parking Information on the Wiltshire Council website.

The new payment machines will give customers the choice of paying for their parking using cash or contactless with a card or mobile device. People can also continue to pay using the MiPermit app or by text.

There will be minimal disruption to users during installation, as other machines will remain available to take payments.

Corsley & Chapmanslade

HARVEST SUPPER

Please come and join us on Saturday 21st September
7 for 7.30pm at Chapmanslade Village Hall
for an evening of good food and good
company to celebrate Harvest

Tickets £8 and £4 for children under 12 can be obtained from
Janet Buick 07974 287095,
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Chapmanslade Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Councillor Phil Holihead reports on the PCs activities in August

At its meeting on 8th August the Parish Council considered the following:

- Statements from members of the public for and against a planning application for development of land to the south of 92 High Street and the proposed pollarding of a tree at 96 High Street.
- A statement regarding the application for community infrastructure levy (CIL) funds for the refurbishment of the Church as an alternative community facility
- Proposals for highways and footpaths improvements for additional 'kissing gates' and for a survey of road marking, speeds and signs in the vicinity of the entrance to Short Street.
- It also heard an initial proposal regarding improving active travel in Chapmanslade.

Decisions

The Parish Council agreed to allocate CIL funds up to £15,000 for the expansion of the village church into a community facility subject to the identification of how the funds would be spent.

The Council was pleased to announce that money for work to create the new plaque for the war memorial with two WWII names had been released to the manufacturer and that work will commence soon overlapping with the diocese process to finalise the cleaning and repair work to the war memorial. It is hoped to have everything in place in time for Remembrance Sunday.

The Council supported a request for funds for seven new kissing gates to replace stiles on Chapmanslade's footpaths and has forwarded the request to the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvements Group (LHFIG). Additionally funding up to £100 was agreed to support the current work of the volunteer kissing gate team (the 'Secret Stilers') to purchase concrete.

The Council also supported a request for a survey of the road in the vicinity of the turn off to Short Street with special emphasis on signage, white lining and speed. The request has been forwarded to the LHFIG.

The Active Travel proposal, which seeks to improve safety for walkers and cyclists between Barters Nursery and Short Street, was agreed for further consideration. It was suggested that a public meeting would be a valuable start to raise issues and awareness with the possibility of seeking support from local businesses such as Hesdin Hall and Thoulstone Park. Watch this space.

Planning applications

PL/2024/06875 – 96 High St. Consent under Tree Preservation Order T1 - Ash Tree - monolith to 3m.

The Council agreed in principle with the proposed pollarding of this tree which has signs of ash dieback but had wider concerns that in other separate plans the tree has been removed in total with no replacement being proposed which is contrary to current regulations for trees subject to a preservation

order. We have requested the Wiltshire Tree Officer to look holistically at this plan and the adjoining proposed development.

PL/2024/04800 – *Land south of 92 High St. Demolition of stables and construction of a new sustainable house with associated works and change of use of land to C3.*

The Council continues to object to this application on the grounds that it overlaps the settlement boundary and has negative impact upon the amenity of neighbours and on the views from a number of footpaths and the wider countryside. The Council is also very concerned about access to/from the site from the High Street and the road safety risks that are involved.

The Council noted that the application for the extension at Rosebank (PL/2024/05248), to which it had previously objected, had been refused. Similarly, a proposed music event at Thoulstone Park, to which Environmental Services had objected, has been withdrawn.

Finally

Advertising for a new replacement parish councillor has not thrown up any nominees, and we are now in the process of co-opting someone to the Council for the period up to May 2025 when there will be council elections. If you wish to be considered, please see the link below for further details and how to apply to the Clerk at: chapmanslade@pc@yahoo.co.uk

<https://www.chapmanslade.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/110/2024/08/Coooption-vacancy-August-2024-.pdf>

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday 12th September 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.chapmanslade.org.uk

Local farmer fined for removing water pollution samples

Corsley farmer, Neil Dyke of Chipps Farm, has been fined in excess of £4,000 after an Environment Agency officer looked into a pollution incident that was reported in Rodden Brook. At Bath Magistrates Court he admitted intentionally obstructing the officer whilst carrying out his duties.

The Environment Agency said Mr Dyke’s behaviour was “totally unacceptable”. He was fined £289 and ordered to pay £116 victim surcharge and costs of £3,699.

The officer visited the farm in January following a report of potential pollution. He noted slurry pollution was coming from a tractor and that the water in the brook was discoloured with foam on the surface and smelled strongly.

Following a water sample test, the results were at the maximum reading measurable, at approximately 10mg/l. Mr Dyke arrived at the scene on a tractor and, when the officer explained his business, then asked his name which he refused to give. Mr Dyke returned later, disputed the officer’s authorisation to take a sample and said he would not allow the samples to be taken off the farm. He took the samples, put them in the tractor, refused to give them back and drove away.

A spokesperson for the Environment Agency said: “The officer was carrying out his lawful duties to establish slurry pollution in the brook. We will not hesitate in pursuing anyone who tries to prevent our officers from carrying out their work to protect the environment.”

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Corsley Parish Council

Parish Council Briefing

Neil Carpenter, Chair, rounds up the PC's activity during the summer

This summer, the Parish Council has worked hard to make sure that verges have been cut, not just at junctions but along the sides of our many narrow verges. We know that some residents feel that we have not done this frequently enough but we have to manage costs, environmental sustainability as well as keeping our many roads clear. Wiltshire Council do not cut back these unlisted roads anymore as part of their sustainability and climate emergency strategy. Provision for doing this had been made as part of the budget setting. We are grateful to the Hares Partnership for doing the cutting.

For those on the village Facebook page you will know that there have been a spate of graffiti, some of it inane but others offensive and misogynistic. We are now clear who did these different graffiti and I wanted to personally thank the parents who came to see me with their children to own up to some of this and offer to put right the mess that they made. For the parents of the children who did the more offensive graffiti, and bragged about doing it on the school bus, I would ask that you at least address their behaviour at home. We will be painting over the graffiti in the next few weeks.

Thanks to support from the Tree Council and Wiltshire Council we have been able to run a summer pruning training event to follow the winter pruning training at the orchard at the old school field. Also thanks to Matt and Rachel for mowing the paths around the orchard. For those who have not been, I would

recommend a walk around it. We have many different species of fruits and nuts there and you can help yourself to the ripe fruits.

As you know, the Parish Council works very hard with landowners to make sure that the footpaths and bridleways across Corsley are kept open and in good condition for everyone to use. If you find any issues please let us know and we will get them addressed. We are also very aware that we have many stables and riders in the village and hence the temporary horse signs asking drivers to slow down when passing horses. Please do not assume when driving around our very narrow lanes that you are the only user and think about horse riders, dog walkers and others who you may come across.

Finally, many of you will have seen on the BBC news feed that one of our farmers has been fined for stopping the Environment Agency doing their duty ensuring that pollution is not getting into our water course. Many people are worried about raising pollution issues for fear of getting on the wrong side of the polluter. If you do find pollution, or other issues, please let us know at the Parish Council and we will make sure it is addressed as we have done in this case.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 9th September at 7pm in the Reading Rooms. All are welcome to attend.

Clerk to the Council

John Wilcox

corsleypc_jdw@aol.com



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Six Open Doors

Dear Friends,

As I write I am aware that it will soon be time for me to move and to take up my new position in the Diocese of Truro. I feel as though there is a bit of a countdown, there are things I must attend to, and sometimes it's not clear which one to do first! Alongside those priorities that need attention there are the emotional feelings that surface as I prepare to say good bye to people I have grown to love and to work with in the village where I live but also those within the deanery. I am reminded of the words of St Paul in his letter to Timothy where he says "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

I am mindful as I approach these final weeks of my intention to 'finish well', and as I do so, I am inspired by those who have taken part in the Olympics. Men and Women of differing abilities who have worked hard preparing for the moment when they will be tested against others who have also been training hard. I recall one interview where a contestant spoke eloquently about her hope for success was dependent not solely on her own will power but on the knowledge, skills and dedication of the team around her and that she was grateful to them no matter what the outcome might be, as without their support and encouragement along the way, she wouldn't be at the Olympics at all.

Being in ministry is much the same. There are no success markers, such as a bronze, silver or gold medal, indeed, this is not the reason we practice ministry. However, we are dependent on the teams and people with whom we practice. It is the pooling together of skills, experience, knowledge, wisdom, joy, compassion, dedication, prayer and willingness to serve one another that enables a church to become the beacon of love and light that Christ calls us into being. I am thankful to those in the parish, the deanery and Diocese who have supported and empowered ministry in the belief that we are enabling the Kingdom of God to be made visible in the places and communities where we live. I have valued the opportunities to share in leadership with pastoral assistants, worship leaders, lay ministers and retired clergy as well as current serving clergy.

It has been a privilege to come alongside so many people, some I have come to know quite well through regular attendance at church, or during a course for celebration and others we have only met at times of great sadness and loss. I will greatly treasure the time I have spent being part of Dilton Marsh and the White Horse Team, and as Rural Dean across Heytesbury. Thank you for making me (and my husband, Cliff) so welcome and enabling us to make our home with you.

Grace and peace
Caroline

September Church Diary

1st September: 14th Sunday after Trinity

8 am Holy Communion Kingston

10 am Eucharist, Corsley

10 am Morning Worship, Longbridge Deverill



8th September: 15th Sunday after Trinity

10 am Praise and Worship, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Kingston



15th September: 16th Sunday after Trinity

10 am Eucharist, Brixton

11 am Matins, Corsley



22nd September: 17th Sunday after Trinity

10 am Eucharist, Chapmanslade

10 am Eucharist, Longbridge



29th September: 18th Sunday after Trinity

10 am Benefice Service, Horningsham

Church and Community Events in September

Craftafternoons

Wednesday 11th and Wednesday 25th September – 3 to 5 pm, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Community Church Coffee Morning

Thursday 19th September – 10 am to 12 noon, Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Corsley House National Garden Scheme Open Gardens

Sunday 8th September – 11 am to 5 pm

Cream teas, cakes and coffee in aid of

St Margaret's, Corsley and St Philip and St James', Chapmanslade

£10 for adults, children go free

Corsley and Chapmanslade Parish Harvest Supper

Saturday 21st September – 7 pm for 7.30 pm

The plans for our new parish priest are underway

Following the retirement of Pauline Reid, who was the Rector of the Cley Hill Villages Benefice, the process of finding her replacement is underway. The benefice consists of two parishes, our own in Corsley and Chapmanslade and the other covering villages of the Deverills and Horningsham. Unfortunately we are no longer able to provide 100% of the funds for a priest, so we are in the process of creating a new role which will be operating 2/3 within our parishes and 1/3 working in our local rural parishes with the aim of developing closer links with the community as well as the way different parishes work together. This is something other areas in England are doing effectively, the main aim being achieving our mission to serve everyone in the Heytesbury Deanery.

In order to allow this to happen, our Archdeacon Alan Jeans is applying to two alternative fund providers for 1/3 of the cost of the role for a period of three years. The aim is for the post holder to work towards changes to the Deanery structure, as well as making church activities more relevant to those who live in our villages. The grant process will take some months to complete, followed by advertising the position early in the new year. The realities of ageing congregations everywhere in the country are having to be addressed. However the funding of the Diocese, and the way what is called our parish share, is being changed. The formula for calculating what we must pay the Diocese each year has been radically updated, so we will at last know exactly what each part of the payment is going towards. Following big cost reductions in Salisbury Diocese, involving the sale of Church House close to Salisbury Cathedral, as well as heavy staff reductions, the amount needed for central funding is being reduced.

These changes should enable the parish to communicate its needs to everyone more effectively and hopefully allow us to continue to serve everyone into the future. As further information becomes available, it will be published in this magazine.

Parish Contacts for Corsley and Chapmanslade

Rural Dean

rdcarolineh@gmail.com

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

Lay Pastoral Assistants	Claire Tanner	01985 218099
	Barbara Hughes	01373 832273

Pastoral Visitor	Barbara Hughes	01373 832273
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Churchwardens:		
St Margaret's	Vacant	
St Philip & St James	Ian Buick	01373 832318

Deputy Churchwardens:		
St Margaret's: Currently	Vacant	
St Philip & St James':	Janet Aylesbury	07808565878

PCC Secretary	Sue Fear	01373 832074
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PCC Treasurer	Ian and Janet Buick	01373 832318
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Tower Captain	Mike Attenborough	01373 832777
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Electoral Roll	Di Britten	01373 832515
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50/50 Club	Sue Fear	01373 832074
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Time to Think	Trudi Hopkinson	01373 832393
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Lite Bites Lunches	Maureen Willcox	01373 832171
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Benefice Administrator	Vacant	
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Benefice Webmaster	Mike Palmer	mjp.mikepalmer@gmail.com
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Safeguarding Officer	Sarah Humberstone	cleyhillbeneficeoffice@gmail.com
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Church Diary

For all events at St Margaret's Church, please book into the diary through Di Britten on 01373 832515 or 07714 204663

Copy for Six Open Doors should be sent to Di Britten at dianabritten69@gmail.com
Please contact Di if you would like to receive weekly news of Church events and activities

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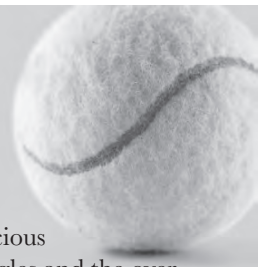
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Corsley Tennis Club News



Wow - what a wonderful summer of sport we have had! The Olympics... what an amazing spectacle seeing so many competitors fight for medals with grit and determination but also humility. Well done Team GB finishing Paris 2024 with 65 medals! I am sure many of us were glued to our screens (or lucky enough to be there!) watching the wide-ranging mix of sports including, of course, nine days of jam-packed tennis matches. From Andy Murray retiring, to Iga Swiatek getting stunned, China punching above their weight, to Novak Djokovic achieving his life-long dream.

Well, at Corsley Tennis Club, we're not necessarily aiming to achieve Olympic glory but many of us have been enjoying playing much tennis over the summer months when the weather was fine, having lots of fun and trying to improve in the process. Martin's superb weekly ladies coaching sessions proved very popular, covering many skills and culminating in a (very competitive!) game of "Queen of the Court". At the beginning of August, seamlessly organised as always by Diana, the men's doubles and ladies' singles tournaments were played. A big thank you to all who took part, the spectator support and most importantly all

who provided the delicious nibbles! The men's singles and the over 70s are yet to be played in September. Enormous gratitude also needs to go to Diana for all her time and effort organising the tournaments over the last six years – no mean feat! She will be handing over the baton next year, earning a well-deserved break!

It will almost be the start of a new school year when you read this which means the start of the junior coaching now being run by Callum. A very exciting time to be part of, with a thriving programme in store. Why not persuade your child to give it a go! Check out the website for details of those sessions and how to book. There are a number of amazing health benefits for adult players too like stronger bones, reducing stress, cardiovascular fitness and making new friends. We are a friendly, inclusive club so come and give it a go or come along and play again if you've had a break. Again, check out the website to see club times and what adult coaching is on offer from September.

Look forward to seeing you on court soon!

Kate Jackson
Committee member



Church and Community Coffee Mornings

Third Thursday of each month, 10 am to 12 noon

The Three Horseshoes, Chapmanslade

Corsley WI

August news

Patricia Sharrocks rounds up the August meeting and announces a forthcoming events



Our August meeting was planned as a social event and in recent years it has been held outdoors to make the most of the summer weather. This year we had decided to meet indoors for a craft and games evening. A good decision as it turned out; the rain which had fallen all afternoon gave way to a very dull, overcast evening.

It may seem a little early to be thinking about Christmas but, as we all know, it can never be too early to start planning! Members had collected up various unused craft items lurking at home; together with fabric, card,



paper and lots of glue and set about turning them into small Christmas decorations. There was a happy buzz in the room as the bits and pieces on the tables were recycled and made into attractive decorations. Members were soon chatting and catching up with each other's news as they worked. There was lots of laughter as things inevitably went wrong and there were lots of sticky fingers by the end of the evening!

The plan was also to play some good old fashioned board games but that will have to

wait for another day as members focused on the craft work which continued throughout the evening. The room began to resemble a little production line as the unwanted items were repurposed!

Our next meeting is at Orchardleigh on Thursday 12th September at 6.30 pm when we will be finding out about the history of the Orchardleigh Estate. Non-members are welcome to join us (£5), if you would like to come please contact Alice Helliarr on 07989 339632 for further information.

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New government proposes 81% increase in new housing target for Wiltshire

Your opportunity to have your say

For some years all political parties have advocated building more homes – the report from the House of Commons Library - Tackling the under-supply of housing in England is a very useful summary of the issues when people are unable to access suitable housing – including overcrowding, young people living with their parents for longer, impaired labour mobility, which makes it harder for businesses to recruit staff, and increased levels of homelessness.

You may recall that Wiltshire Council has taken a very detailed and measured approach to planning new development through the Local Plan Review which sets out the vision and framework for housing, infrastructure and land for employment growth for the next 15 years and is the most important place-shaping document for Wiltshire. The revised draft plan features increased environmental protections, including that all houses must be zero carbon, boosting small-scale energy generation such as solar, and increasing biodiversity. The plan also requires 40% of all new greenfield housing developments of 10 homes or more, to be affordable, with greater flexibility to make it easier to provide affordable housing in villages where there is clearly identified demand, but those developments will still need to be proportionate to the size of a village.

However, the new government's proposed

reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) are the opposite to Wiltshire Council's strategy and plans to increase house building from 300,000 houses a year to 370,000 across England - in Wiltshire this will result in an extra 23,385 houses built in a 15-year Local Plan period. A new housing target system is proposed which will inevitably see most of these houses built on green fields and, in some cases, green-belt sites in rural England.

One direct adverse consequence of the proposed changes is that developers will be even more firmly in the driving seat and will be able to decide what is built and where. This will result in more "identikit" out of settlement developments being built without the necessary supporting infrastructure plus there will be no requirement to make new developments "beautiful". The deliberately slow progression of some sites by developers has enabled them to argue that land supply targets have not been met, even though the council has delivered 400 more houses a year than existing government targets required.

Additionally, recognition of the value of our most productive farmland is set to be deleted from planning law. Climate change makes our food supply from abroad increasingly precarious, and home-grown food more important (as the Ukraine war demonstrated). The Government is looking

to build on the very land we need most to feed the country. With an increasing population, we need to increase our ability to grow our own food, or we run a real risk of facing food shortages and higher prices in the future.

The other reform in the NPPF refers to 'Planning for climate change'. Para 164 is now proposed to say that local planning authorities should support applications for all forms of renewable (i.e. including wind turbines) and low carbon development, giving 'significant weight to the proposal's contribution to renewable energy generation and a net zero future'. Existing RE sites will be afforded great weight for repowering or life extensions. Many applications are granted on the premise that they are a temporary use of land (despite being for 25-40 years), but this would make them permanent, and in Wiltshire these sites are mostly on agricultural land.'

I am keeping my fingers firmly crossed that the additional protection given to National

Parks and AONBs by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act is retained. I feel very fortunate that the majority of my Division is within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape, but fear that the large areas of National Landscapes in Wiltshire will only increase the pressure on areas which are not as protected and the pressure for development will become much, much harder to resist.

If you don't want to see an intensification of development on the fields around Wiltshire and to ensure that local communities do not lose their voice in the planning process, it is crucial that you make your voice heard. You can respond to the consultation, which closes on 24th of September at: Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and other changes to the planning system - GOV. UK (www.gov.uk)

Bill Parks
Wiltshire Councillor for Warminster North and Rural.
07712 490075
bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk

Pothole reports

When Wiltshire Council receive a pothole report, it is assessed by an engineer and given a priority based on their defect criteria, as set out in the Highways Safety Inspection Manual. Not all reported potholes meet the defect criteria, and so not all reported potholes are repaired. Some reported potholes will be repaired at a later date, but not immediately as they are of lower priority. They aim to fix Priority 1 potholes by the end of the next day, while Priority 2 will be fixed within 14 days, Priority 3 in 28 days, Priority 4 in 60 days, and Priority 5 are referred to a manager for further consideration.

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Wonderful Walks

Bridport Harbour



This walk follows on from the Chandlers Coach first stop, at Bridport itself. The short drive from there to West Bay took us past the meadows I'd seen across the River Asker that morning, so it may be possible to walk from Bridport to the harbour at West Bay; if I go that way again, I'll try finding that out! And if you find out first, please let me know!

The coach stopped at West Bay railway station, no longer used by trains – but with a railway carriage in use as 'The Station Kitchen' café! Not knowing where anything was, I followed signs to the harbour, actually called Bridport Harbour. There's car parking near the station, if you visit by car. Walk along Station Road towards the harbour and you'll see a left turning across shingle, with the West Bay Discovery Centre ahead and left of you, after a café and before public toilets. If time had been on my side, I'd have explored the Discovery Centre, housed in what was

a Methodist Church built in 1849, on West Bay's East Beach. The shingle here is a glorious shade of sun-tanned-gold, the sand-filling tiny pebbles leading onto a beach of mostly the same material.

West Bay's first harbour was built in the 1200s, but it kept silting up and falling into disuse, though the River Brit (as in Brit-port, maybe?) was navigable as far as the town, two miles away; a forerunner of the present harbour began in the early 1700s, though silting up has been a constant problem ever since. To your left now, is an expanse of open ground, with a path heading onto East Cliff and the South West Coastal Path; the beach here marks the start of the 'Jurassic Coast'. If you try this walk, please wear sensible shoes (trainers, maybe?), not open sandals! After a long struggle, I turned one-eighty degrees and staggered to the nearest patch of tarmac. Once on the same road, you'll see a long jetty



Shingle beach

Discovery Centre

jutting out into the water, but the road you're on terminates in a viewpoint, on an earlier jetty. Walk to the end and look out to sea, then look left; you get a better perspective of the East Cliff and the Jurassic Coast here, plus a view of huge grey boulders around and below you. Turn back from here, but keep to the left, with the sea and River Brit inlet beside you.

The area becomes the usual built-up scene from most coastal resorts, but you're now heading for Bridport Harbour, which is inland – or so it seems. Ahead of you are the usual harbour attractions, shops, amusements, eateries and so on, plus blocks of flats. Across the harbour, to your left, is

the start of the longer jetty, with West Beach beyond. There's an esplanade, too, opened in 1887; there are two shelters built on it, to mark Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. It's possible to climb uphill from the esplanade, onto West Cliff and the South West Coastal Path heading towards Lyme Regis. How sad my time here was limited, because East Cliff and West Cliff both look wild and uncrowded - my kind of country! And 'wild' is right; the 'West Bay History' website details frequent erosion and rock falls occurring over hundreds of years, plus an earthquake in 1863, which was felt from here to Lyme Regis. The website also records the frequent use of dredging



Two jetties



Harbour

equipment even today, plus the loss of some into the sea!

In 1805 a battery point was built on West Cliff (it had three 64-pounder guns), due to fears of an invasion by Napoleonic troops. Things must have been more settled in 1895, because West Beach became the site of three bathing machines and three white tepee-type tents, in which people could change! From 1901, the early morning train to West Bay was known as the 'Bathing Train'! Hopefully,



East Beach and cliff

no-one was bathing on the beach in 1940, on the day a German bomber crash-landed here, the occupants thinking they'd reached France. And did Field Marshal Montgomery see any bathers when he was here, the same year, visiting the troops stationed locally?

In the 1920s and 1930s, the enigmatic T E Lawrence – Lawrence of Arabia – came to West Bay often, on his Brough Superior motorbike. Perhaps he found somewhere that served cake as delicious as the cherry and almond traybake I had, in the café near the Discovery Centre, before I made my way back to West Bay station and the coach back to Warminster..?



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Whitbourne Chapel

"What must I do to be saved?"

Acts 16:30

Is there such a thing as 'borderline'?

In Somerset, we cut the verges at the side of the highway. We have a new contractor and, as Somerset only cut one swathe of grass as a policy to save money, we told them that any 'street furniture' (signs and bollards) outside of the one-metre would not be cut or trimmed. We were sent a picture of a sign which we had not cut around. Signs are mounted on galvanised poles which the cutter comes up to and which need to be trimmed round. This sign was clearly further in the hedge, but was classified as borderline. I don't think so!

During the Euros (if you, like me, are not a football fan, it was a contest between European football teams), in one match a very late goal was scored, which rendered that team the winners. 'He was offside', went up the cry! It was borderline. Modern technology showed that the player was onside, because just the kneecap of one of the other team's players put him onside. It was not borderline; those are the rules of the game!

I wonder if some people think that there will be borderline cases of situations where some people just get into Heaven and others don't?

They may question whether they have done enough to merit a place in Heaven. Some

may wonder if they have been good enough to get into Heaven. Have they given enough to their favourite charity? Some may claim church attendance for much of their lives. "I have never killed anyone," was put to me once when we were talking about the Gospel. We

sometimes forget there are nine other commandments, which we fail to keep and which render us as what the Bible calls sinners.

'All have sinned and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3v23). No borderline there, then!

So what are the conditions that have to be met? Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father but by me." No borderline there.

At Jesus' birth, Joseph was told, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he will save a people from their sins." Not everybody will be saved, then?

In the Philippian jail, the jailer asked the Apostle Paul, "What must I do to be saved?" The answer was simple: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved!" Read John's Gospel, Chapter One, where John talks about Jesus coming to His own, the Jews, but they did not believe in Him – but as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become the sons of God. No borderline there.

*Ray Mead
Chapel Secretary*

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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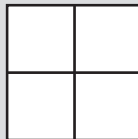
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David

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



Join us to raise funds
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which helps to
make our Café
available to the
local community.



CANCER SUPPORT FOR YOU

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

 opendoorwarminster.org

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

A view from over the hedge with Judith Helliard...

Rainfall for July

2023 – 150.5 mm

2024 – 53.0 mm

Countryside Matters

This is the time of year to enjoy the golden fields of oats and barley swaying in the wind, with the occasional field of sunflowers turning their heads to catch the sun.

The oil seed rape lost its vibrant colour as the seeds formed ready for harvesting to make rape seed oil – considered to be healthier for us and considerably cheaper than olive oil.

Harvest got going early in August as we all know from the lorries of golden barley straw being trailed down the A303 from Salisbury Plain and further east, bringing feed and bedding for cattle and dairy cows in Wiltshire, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall.

Due to the dreadful autumn and winter of 2023, many arable farmers either failed to get their seed planted or, due to heavily sodden fields, germination of seeds was poor, resulting in lighter crops.

Fortunately, the good harvest weather, especially in the eastern counties, helped the grain dry naturally, drastically cutting the cost of expensive mechanical drying and, although there is less straw, that has also been bailed and hauled away from the fields and safely stored in large covered clamps or hauled straight to the farms where it is stored in barns for winter feed and bedding.

It's a quick turn around to the get the hedges trimmed especially on the inside hedges before the plough comes in to get the next crop planted. Legally, farm hedges can be trimmed from 1st September onwards. Then when the winter rains come, the new shoots show and roots are established stopping any soil erosion.

By early August, the maize that was planted in May was showing tassels and approximately

7-8 weeks after this the maize cob will be ripe and ready for harvesting in late September. Again, due to our awful spring, it was impossible for some farmers to get onto the fields to plant maize until June, so their harvest will be October/November when the ground can be wet and heavy, with the maize becoming dirty and less palatable to feed to cattle.

The grass has continued to grow all year, allowing good crops of silage (when the rain abated), a quick window of sunshine for hay making and plenty of grass for grazing, except where the fields were waterlogged!

Thankfully, the grass slowed in growth in August just as the cows that were due to calf from September onwards needed sunshine and rest away from the hustle and bustle of daily milking; they need dryer grass to keep them in good condition as they enter their last few weeks of pregnancy. A week or so before they are due to calf, they return to paddocks close to the farmhouse and buildings where they will be given regular nutritious feed to help with safe delivery and a good supply of milk for their calf.

For the next few months, the dairy staff will be flat-out 24/7 observing and assisting calving where necessary, making sure they have their ears tagged with their individual and herd numbers. This is essential as each calf has its own passport for breeding records and traceability from birth to death.

Do try to find time to enjoy the early signs of autumn with the trees, especially beech, changing colour, the hedgerows are full of berries for birds and small mammals and elder and blackberries for our own larders.

Corsley Reading Room

Your 'village hall'

Chairman, Hugh Deed, reports on the latest happenings at the hall



Coffee Mornings

There are no coffee mornings at the Reading Room until further notice. Please ensure you check the Bridge, village Facebook page or the Reading Room website to see if (or when) it will restart. Please contact any trustee if you are willing to take on running this monthly social event.

New Trustees

Additional trustee(s) are still sought as I will be leaving the village soon if all goes to plan! Please contact Mark Richards or any other trustee to find out more.

Developments

We have made an application for a grant specifically for the installation of solar and batteries as part of an SSE scheme. Mark Richards is leading this bid – the application timetable was very tight and more details will be shared if we are successful.

We also plan to do some further building repairs in the autumn.

Date for your diary

7th November – Craft Fair from 3 pm onwards – more details nearer the date.

Booking the hall

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

Hugh Deed

Chairman of Management Committee

Chairman@corsleyreadingroom.org.uk

01373 832897

Trustees

Denise Crossland, Hugh Deed, 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!

Wiltshire Mobile Library

Chapmanslade School

Arrives 1.45 pm, departs 2.30 pm

Wednesday 4th September

Wednesday 18th September

Wednesday 2nd October

Wednesday 16th October

Wednesday 30th October

Wednesday 13th November

Wednesday 27th November

Answers to Bob's Bafflers

- 1 One (Earth)
- 2 Mars
- 3 Hedgehog
- 4 Warwickshire
- 5 Lloyd Grossman
- 6 Bolivia or Paraguay
- 7 He became invisible (Novel was 'The invisible man')
- 8 Retract claws
- 9 Ghana
- 10 Twelve
- 11 Golf
- 12 The Derby and the Grand National

Local organisation adverts

£2.50 per month for a small boxed advert or £8 for a full page. Full page adverts are allocated depending on space available and cannot be guaranteed. All monies must be at one of the two drop-off locations (Barbers Plant Centre or Acres Supply Garden Centre) by **4pm** on the **19th** of the month. Please note: no cash, no advert!

Trade advertising

Annual trade advertisements (12 issues, when space is available)

1 space	(69mm wide x 33mm high)	£24
2 spaces	(69mm wide x 66mm high)	£47
3 spaces	(quarter page - 69mm wide x 100mm high)	£68
4 spaces	(138mm wide x 66mm high)	£85
6 spaces	(half page - 138mm wide x 100mm high)	£120

Trade advertisement material should be supplied in print-ready format, to the chosen standard size and correct shape.

For trade advertising enquiries, please contact David James (Trade advert coordinator/Treasurer) at either thebridge832@gmail.com or 01373 832443.



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