

The Bridge



**Worton and Marston
Parish Magazine**

May 2023

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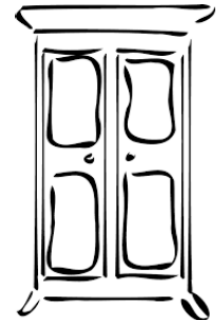
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THE BRIDGE

Editor: Giles Collins editorofthebridge@gmail.com

Grateful thanks to all the ladies listed below who give up their time and efforts to make Christchurch so lovely and welcoming every week, especially over the Easter period. We had such wonderful comments.

Francine Smith, Dot Francis, Jill Duckworth, Evelyn Burt, plus one anonymous!! If you or anyone else would like to help, from posies to pedestals, please contact Margaret Charlton on 07943 468 425



MAY BOOK SWAP



Saturday 13th May
10.00am - 12 noon
at 11, Mill Road Worton
(hosted by Elizabeth Murray)

Saturday 10th June
10.00am - 12 noon
at 36 Mill Road, Worton
(hosted by Jill Duckworth)



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Pastoral Letter

The days are getting longer and lighter, spring is here, the sun is shining and it's getting warmer.

As the sun shines through my windows into the dark corners of the house, it prompts me to start thinking about spring cleaning. Looking around the different rooms, I have decided that it's time to put a bit of extra effort into making everything in our house clean and in order.

And so I begin – I know that I am going to turn my house upside down as I clean out the cupboards, take things apart, clean and scrub everywhere. I am going to reach into every dark corner of my house in order to make it presentable, fresh, and new, getting rid of junk and rubbish in the process.

I wonder how many of you still do a thorough spring clean of your homes, or perhaps you may find it all just a bit too much.

We may find it helpful to make a decluttering plan. Mess can affect our mood, but it's not always easy to get rid of things or know where to begin. Why not start by identifying your cluttered hotspots and visualising how you'd like them to look. Break it down into small areas, perhaps even taking "before" photos so you can monitor your progress. Once you get going, put everything into designated bags for recycling, rubbish, selling and donating.

Sometimes we need to do the same thing with our minds, souls and bodies – we need to clean them up and get rid of the junk and rubbish that add clutter and affect our well-being. Things like worry, anger, gossip, bad habits and anything else that can drag us (and other people) down. I hardly ever watch the television news now and am careful what posts I read on Facebook – I just don't need that negativity in my life.

As humans, we are programmed towards negative thinking and generally need five positive thoughts to counteract one negative one. Why not practice gratitude every day? Start each morning by thinking of five things you're grateful for, such as a warm bed or a nice message from a friend. Do the same in the evenings just before you go to sleep.

There is a lovely verse in the Bible in Paul's letter to the church at Philippi that says something similar: *"Finally, brothers and sisters, what-*

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ever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." (Philippians 4:8)

Liz Starling (Licensed Lay Minister)

FAMILY OF CHURCHES

Our annual Walk of Witness was held on GOOD FRIDAY. A large group of people started in Marston Chapel with some Easter hymns and the first readings telling the Easter story. Then the walk to Christ Church involved some stops to continue the story. Arriving at the Village Hall the cross was placed in the prepared hole, ready to be decorated with flowers on Easter Saturday to announce and celebrate the joy and wonder of the Resurrection. Hot homemade soups were served in the church with bread rolls and a good time of fellowship was enjoyed. Thanks to the soup makers and to Rev Gary for leading the walk and service.

A quiet time follows now for this very small committee but if you feel you would like to be a part of this ecumenical group, do let me know. As I have said many times before, representation from the Catholic community here in our villages would be great!

Jean Lane 722069



The village hall now owns this 9m x 3m party gazebo
Ideal for parties or even wedding receptions
It is available for hire for just £50.

Please contact:

Pauline (720248) or Jeff (726845) or any other Trustee

SERVICE CALENDAR

MAY

Sun May 7th	EASTER 5 10.00am.	CHRIST CHURCH Coronation Songs of Praise followed by Community Café
Sun May 14th	EASTER 6 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Marston Mindfulness</i> <i>Meditation</i>
Sun May 21st	EASTER 7 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion
Sun May 28th	WHITSUNDAY 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Family Service. <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Marston Mindfulness</i> <i>Meditation</i>

JUNE

Sun June 4th	TRINITY SUNDAY 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion
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There were no weddings, funerals or baptisms at Christ Church during March.

Visit the church website: www.christchurchworton.org.uk



**WELLSPRINGS BENEFICE SERVICES
MAY 2023**

Sunday 7th (Easter 5/Coronation weekend)

10am	Coronation Service	Poulshot
10am	Coronation Songs of Praise	Worton
11am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
11am	Holy Communion	Seend

Sunday 14th (Easter 6)

9:30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
9:30am	Matins	Poulshot
9:30am	Holy Communion	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
6pm	Evensong	Seend

Friday 19th

3:30pm	Messy Church	Potterne Village Hall
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Sunday 21st (Easter 7)

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Seend
9:30am	Holy Communion	Poulshot
9:30am	Holy Communion	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Bulkington
11am	Morning Praise	Potterne

Sunday 28th (Easter 8)

9:30am	Family Service	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
11am	Holy Communion	Seend
4pm	Evensong	Poulshot
6pm	Holy Communion	Bulkington

Wednesday 31st

5pm	Celtic Meditative Service	Poulshot
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Every Tuesday, 9am Daily Prayer service at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

Tuesday Group meets each week at 10am in Potterne. Call 723289 for details.

Please visit our website www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk for more details of all our services, latest updates and to keep in touch.

Ministry Team

Rector: Vacant
 Associate Priest: Rev Caroline O'Neill 01380 828302
 Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie 07516 224057
sarahleckie.wba@gmail.com

Church Registers

No baptisms, weddings or funerals this month.

Reverend Ali Bridewell

St Mary's church Potterne was full for the service to celebrate Ali's Ministry in the Wellsprings Benefice, and to mark her early retirement due to ill health and continuing treatment. The service was led by Bishop Andrew, Bishop of Ramsbury, who accompanied one of the hymns on his guitar. It included humorous anecdotes and reminiscences from several people, and a very moving testament from Ali, telling how she came to terms with her cancer diagnosis which has affected and changed her life. She told of her great admiration for the NHS and everyone involved in her care and treatment.

She was presented with a cheque, and she and Stu had opportunity to chat to people during a lovely buffet lunch in church.

We send Ali and Stu our very best wishes, on their move back to Salisbury, and pray for a return to full health to Ali.

Heather Walker



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From Christ Church:

Lots of children and their families, including the Brownies, enjoyed the Mothering Sunday service, and helped to distribute the posies, which were so beautifully made by Margaret Charlton, to all the ladies in church.

In the last week of term, the children from Five Lanes School came into church twice, once for Experience Easter, to visit the Stations of the Cross, to hear and understand the Easter story, using props, and creative activity.

They also held their Easter service in church, a very polished performance of readings, prayers and songs.

Easter Day was a relaxed Communion service followed by the Easter Egg Hunt in the churchyard- fun for adults and children on a beautiful morning. Thank you to Margaret and team for the wonderful flowers in church.

Many thanks again to James and Emma Phipps for the gift of the Easter Eggs.

Coming Up in May:

Sunday May 7th: Coronation Songs of Praise 10am in church followed by Community Café- open to all- if you don't come to Songs of Praise, please do come to the Community Café about 11am.

Christ Church café is open every Sunday after the Morning service. If you don't come to a service you are very welcome to pop in for coffee and biscuits and very often cake. Most services are about an hour, so have a look at the time of the service in the Bridge (usually 9.30am apart from 'Specials') and come along about an hour after that, have a chat and relax for a while.

Saturday May 20th, Fete and plant sale 10.30 -12.30. We welcome donations to any of the stalls, including plants, gifts, books, bottles, raffle, Country kitchen (Cakes, preserves, home produce) and cakes for refreshments.

To limit traffic issues in Church Lane, we ask that where possible all donations can be delivered to church on Friday 19th, between 5pm and 7pm, and on Saturday all setting up can be completed by 10am and cars removed, as parking at church will not be possible. Many thanks.

Heather and Jean, Churchwardens

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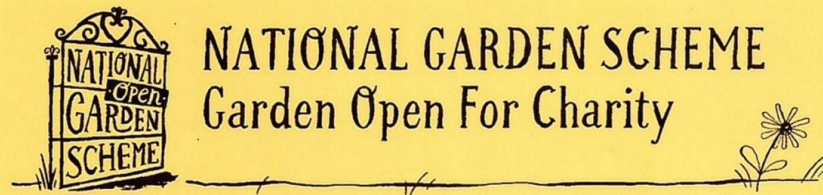
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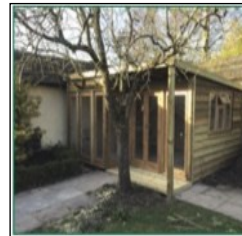
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KING CHARLES' COPSE SANDLEAZE PARK

On Good Friday over 40 residents young and old came and planted and named the remaining trees in King Charles' Copse, below Sandleaze playground. What a terrific turnout, and what a happy afternoon, thank you one and all.

Special thanks to Oliver Symes (project initiator), Robert Goss, Bill Francis and Roger Wilshire for overseeing and assisting the planting posse. We also had donations of trees from Bill Francis, Giles Collins and Richard Slack, thank you for these.

We named trees for the Royal Family, and there are tags for many family residents past and present. Altogether we have had donations of over £450 to the Village Hall. We have also had a letter from Buckingham Palace as follows:



"The King thanks you for sharing the news that the loyal residents of Worton and Marston are to mark His Majesty's Coronation by creating a plantation of woodland trees to be named King Charles' Copse. His Majesty was immensely touched to hear that your community will be celebrating together in such a rewarding way.

The King hopes you enjoy your planting day, and sends his very best wishes for your endeavours."

Patricia Goodenough



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Edington arts

A HEADS UP FOR OUR JUNE CONCERT, and a reminder about the May Choral Workshop

We've been waiting a long time for this, but finally we can let you know that the extraordinarily talented and charismatic pianist **Martin James Bartlett** will be performing in the Priory Church on Saturday 24th June at 7.30pm.

Having won the BBC Young Musicians competition in 2014, he has gone on to fulfil the promise of a glittering career, performing all over Europe and making a number of recordings which have received brilliant reviews. He combines flawless technique, adventurous and wide-ranging musical tastes, and huge emotional depth to produce performances which are remarkable on many levels.

His programme for us is mostly, but not exclusively, French: Couperin, Debussy, Rameau and Ravel, interspersed with Haydn and Schumann/Liszt. This will make for a delicate and expansive evening's music, entirely appropriate for a midsummer concert.

Full details are on the Edington Arts website, and you can secure your tickets, still at 2014 prices, by ringing Chrissy on 01380 831256 or emailing sue@edingtonarts.org; £20/15/10, and 18 and unders come free.

Don't forget also about the 2023 Choral Workshop with Jeremy Summerly on May 20th, when we will be learning, and learning about, Spirituals. Full details are on the Edington Arts website, www.edingtonarts.org. There are still spaces available for all parts.

Devizes & District Foodbank

Collection box for
donations in Christ Church



With the cost of living rising and more families than ever asking for support from our local foodbank, we have set up a donation box at the back of Christ Church. The Devizes & District Foodbank is very grateful for any non-perishable items that you are able to donate. Perhaps you could consider popping in with one small item each week to put in the box, such as a tin of tomatoes, a sachet of instant mash or a bottle of shampoo. All donations are much appreciated.



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Christ Church Worton and Marston

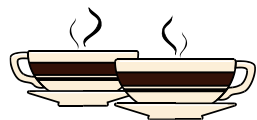
Spring Fete and Plant Sale

Stalls Raffle

to be held at Christ Church
Saturday 20th May 2023
10.30am to 12.30pm

Stalls to include
Plants * Books * Gifts
Bottle Stall * Games
Country Kitchen

Refreshments



All proceeds to Christ Church

Worton and Marston Garden Club

As I write this for May, it is pouring with rain and we have just had wild winds, thunder and lightning and hailstones. So I hope when you read this, that we will have turned the “weather corner” and are enjoying a warmer more gardening sympathetic climate.

Our lovely Village Crab Apple Tree is beginning to open its blossom, so pretty and joyful and is even showing signs of new growth already. The plaque is ordered and should soon be in place. Also, the village troughs have been planted and should provide a lovely display over the next few months.

We had an excellent talk from Sara Willman on growing flowers for cutting. I think one of the interesting points from both Sara and a recent talk at Topping Books in Bath, on the same subject, by Rachel Siegfried, is how in both cases their “Flowers from the Farm” Growing journey has changed from 80/20% Annuals to Perennial plants to 80/20% Perennials and shrubs to Annuals. Something to consider if you love having flowers in your house. In spring, using Blackthorn Blossom, Crab apple, then main crop Apple blossom, along with early flowering shrubs and spring bulbs just gorgeous. Many of these are already in our gardens or hedges and are sustainable and free.

Upcoming Events.

Great Chalfield Plant Sale Sunday 30th April 1030 at Great Chalfield Manor SN12 8NH. You can see their beautiful gardens too. This is in aid of Jamie's Farm an excellent Charity based in Box.

Bushton Manor Plant Fair Monday 1st May 11am - 3pm. at Bushton Manor, SN4 7PX. Garden open to see as well.

Open Garden Marston for The NGS

Many of you will know Wellaway, Pam Lewis’s beautiful garden in Marston. It is open for the National Garden Scheme on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th May from 1pm until 5pm. Now I understand there is apparently another event of national importance occurring on that weekend. However, I do hope you will find time to pop along and support this charity opening and enjoy tea and cake in this most lovely of settings. Admission £6, children free.

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Further NGS Open Gardens May

Julia's House Children's Hospice Saturday May 13th 10 - 4pm.
Lovely little sensory garden for the hospice, hopefully tours of the Hospice on the day.

Trymnells (Potterne) Sunday May 14th 12-5pm

New to The NGs and opening for the first time. A lovely garden created over the last 4 years. Also opening nearby is 1 Southview, Wick Lane, Devizes.

More details ngs.org.uk.

Garden Club Meeting Monday 15th May Doors open 7.30pm

We are very much looking forward to having Rupert Wade along to give us hints and tips for showing fruit, vegetables and flowers in our Village Show in September. Rupert is an expert Gardener, member of The Cottage Garden Society and Hardy Plant Society, as well as being a judge at many local flower shows. We are hoping to have lots of entries in our September show so do come and get some expert tips.

Alison Parker aelparker@aol.com

Diary dates

These meetings are held in the Village Hall - doors open at 7:30. New members always welcome.

Monday 15th May - talk by Rupert Wade

Rupert is from Market Lavington and is coming to give us hints and tips for showing fruit, vegetables and flowers; plenty of ideas for when it comes to the Village Show in September!

Monday 19th June – Visit

Beggars Knoll Chinese Garden,
Westbury

Monday 17th July – Barbecue

Members and guests.

Sally Brooks svwood90@hotmail.com



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Worton Community Speedwatch – March 2023

(Wiltshire Speedwatch sessions are restricted to 45 minutes)

Sessions: **TEN**

Total Vehicles Counted: **3,249**

Vehicles recorded for exceeding the 30mph speed limit: **117**
of which **18** were reported to Wiltshire Police for excess speed.

Maximum Speed Recorded: **43mph** on Friday 24th between
09.30 and 10.15.

Highest Vehicle Count: **532** on Tuesday 21st between 08.00 and
08.45.

(The comparable figures for **March 2022** were: Sessions **8**, Ve-
hicles **2540** and **254** vehicles exceeding 30mph of
which **52** were reported for excess speed.)

Indications are that the two Speed Indicator Devices now estab-
lished in the village are having an effect. Data from the units
shows that the vast majority of motorists are observing the
speed limit and they are acting as a reminder to people to slow
down when inadvertently straying over. We will still have people
who totally ignore the speed limit but these are in a minority.

Wiltshire Police are currently running a pilot project with data
downloaded from SIDs around the county and we will in due
course be adding the results from ours. This will enable them to
highlight areas for deploying the speed enforcement teams.

Bob Mitchell

ECO-CORNER

Help needed!

We have been writing this column since December 2020 in an attempt
to raise awareness about environmental issues which affect us all and
to suggest ways that we can all make a difference. After all that time,
we're finding it difficult to come up with fresh ideas or novel ways to
present old (but still very relevant) ideas.

We're hoping that one of you reading our articles might be interested
in taking on Eco-Corner and developing it in new ways.

We leave you with one final suggestion to help boost tree planting
around the world. You can do this by using the ECOSIA search en-
gine: <https://www.ecosia.org>.

Ecosia makes money each time a user clicks on an advert displayed in
the search results. Ecosia put 100% of its profit into climate action
through tree planting schemes.

The amount of money Ecosia earns per ad click depends on the value
and the competition for the keyword, which means a click on an ad
using lucrative keywords will be able to finance multiple trees, where-
as other ads may only finance a fraction of it. On average it takes
about 45 searches to plant one tree.

Ecosia helps you to see the impact you are having by displaying on its
opening page the total number of trees that have been planted by the
Ecosia community as well as the number planted as a result of your
individual searches.

At the time of typing, this total was 172,020,645 trees but the counter
increases every 1.3 seconds! The number of trees planted as a result of
Anne's searches is 5! She doesn't often click on adverts but she will
do this more often now that she can see it can have a positive effect for
the environment.

However, Ecosia says that it doesn't matter if you never click on ad-
verts; by using the search engine you help to increase the number of
users and that makes Ecosia more attractive to advertisers, thereby
helping to increase their revenue.

Ecosia publishes monthly financial figures on their blog concerning

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their income and spending as well as regular updates about their tree planting projects across the world, including the UK.

If interested, this is a really simple and effective way that you can all help to boost tree planting. More information is available here: <https://blog.ecosia.org>

Information about how to set Ecosia as your default browser can be found here: <https://footprinthero.com/how-to-make-ecasia-your-default-search-engine>

Happy planting and thank you for your support over these past 2+ years!

Anne Wilson mrsannewilson@gmail.com and
Sandra Gamble acanadiangamble@gmail.com

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

Sunday 7th May 2023

To mark the Coronation of King Charles III, there will be a special morning Songs Of Praise service at 10:00am in Christ Church, followed by a Community Café – an opportunity to come together, wave flags, share stories and mark this special event. Free refreshments, games and good company (amongst other things) await!



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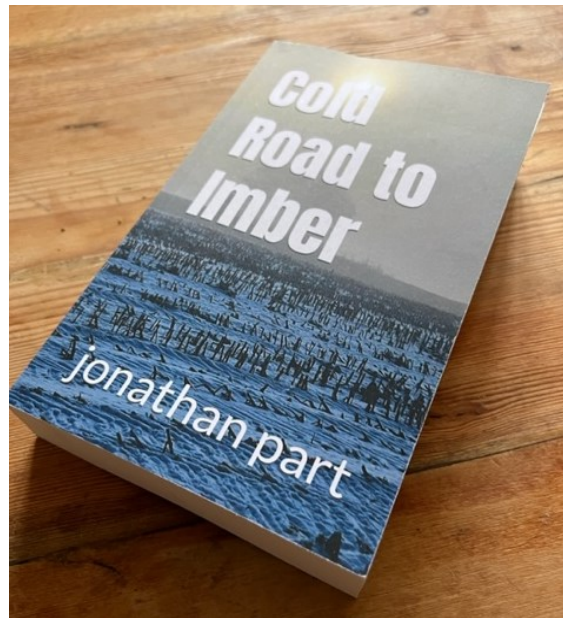
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Cold Road to Imber

Local novelist, Mark Pearson (writing as Jonathan Part) has written a book called ‘Cold Road to Imber’. **It is available on Amazon.**

‘Enjoyable page turner thanks to interesting characters, locations and plot twists. Evocative and romantic in tone, a very visual narrative peppered with atmosphere. Imber has such an interesting story, its hard to believe it is not better known. I would highly recommend curling up in an armchair with this book and getting lost for a few hours!’



‘A really well researched story combining the elegance of Cambridge University life with the stark reality of post war East Germany. The mixture of fast moving spy novel and love story has been eloquently described by the author. Well done an excellent read.’

‘This excellent novel is different from your usual Cold War spy novels. It’s a story of love and betrayal throughout the Cold War and up to the fall of the Berlin Wall. The story and its characters kept me gripped throughout. Well-paced and beautifully written, I’d recommend this novel to anyone’.

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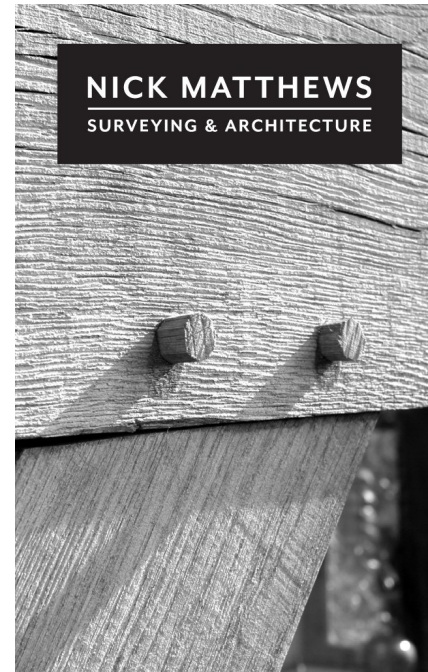
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FIVE LANES WI

For our first week of meeting on a **WEDNESDAY**, we met to play some table- top games in the Village Hall. Three groups played each game twice, and some did much better than others! We played table skittles, shove halfpenny and bagatelle, then enjoyed a hot drink and delicious cakes supplied by Sarah. It was all great fun and we welcomed a new member.

Our May meeting will be on **WEDNESDAY MAY 10th at 7:00 PM** in the Village Hall. We will have a speaker on the subject of "Crowning Glory"; all about crowns and tiaras, very fitting for the week following the Coronation. To enter into the spirit do come with a tiara or crown and maybe wear something red, white and blue.

We do hope the change of night will suit people and that if you have thought of coming, but weren't free on a Tuesday, then this is the time.
Jean Lane 722069



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Saturday 20th May 2023

Including plant sale, cake stall, book booth, games, cream teas, and more.

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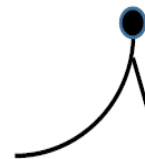
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Email: WortonToddlers@gmail.com



We hope you all had a fantastic Easter break. Hilary had a bad fall in the holidays, and whilst she will be attending it will only be in a limited capacity while she is in recovery. If anyone is able to offer any help, please give us a call. You do not need to have children / grandchildren at the group to support us.

We will be celebrating King Charles' Coronation this month. We also have other fun crafts and activities for the children to enjoy.

We will be closed on Wednesday 31st May for the school holiday.

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Worton and Marston Village Show

When you receive this magazine, there will be only four months to the date of the show, 2nd September. The spring has been difficult for growing, cold and wet so we hope it's going to get warmer at the very least. You may have a greenhouse full of small plants, waiting to go into the ground, tomatoes, cucumbers and chillis in the greenhouse, courgettes, pumpkins etc and runner beans to go outside. Usually, we see the middle of May as the latest time for frosts but keep an eye on the weather forecasts.

We have finished the schedule and aim to deliver a copy to all in the July edition of this magazine but hope it will be available electronically also.

To encourage the crafters amongst you, can we give the details of the classes again.

84. A handmade greeting card, max A5, theme Congratulations
85. A painting, no theme, any medium
86. An item of decorative needlework
87. An item of needlework or crochet
88. An item made from wood, ceramic or metal
89. An example of a sewn textile, hand or machine made

The more entries, the better the display. Give it a try and good luck.

Bill Francis on behalf of the committee

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir

I have seen with interest that the Parish Council have taken on what I would call a wish list e.g. to widen the pavements in some places (which would mean that even 2 cars would not be able to pass safely at the narrowest parts). I have also inquired if there has been a survey by the Parish Council as to how many people use the pavements and when, and also as to the weight limit, and what are the alternatives? As yet, I've had no real reply. A big question mark...

Yours

Roger Wilshire

Annual Report – May 2023

This month, Annual meetings will take place for Parishes, Parish Councils and Wiltshire Council – they are great opportunities for coming together as a community to reflect on the previous year and discuss the challenges ahead. Some of the highlights from Wiltshire Council, and my own work to support residents in Devizes Rural West are below.

Wiltshire Council's budget for 2023/24, which is underpinned by the council's 10-year Business Plan, is £466m – this includes an additional £69m to cover inflation and increased demand for services and is broken down as follows:

Whole life pathway (mental health, autism spectrum conditions and learning disabilities support services) - £96m, an increase of £11m

Living and aging well (adult care) - £83m, an increase of £15m

Families and children - £63m, an increase of £2m

Environment (which includes waste and recycling services)- £48m, an increase of £4m

Highways and transport - £41m, an increase of £3m

Education and skills - £29m, an increase of £6m

Last November, Wiltshire Council invited the Local Government Association to carry out a Corporate Peer Challenge – the review found that the council's Business Plan provides a clear set of objectives and that focus on improving outcomes for some of the most vulnerable in the community is none more evident than in children's services. It was also noted that the council is excelling in work to address climate change.

In addition to funding of £22.9m from the Government's Highways Maintenance Fund, £3.6m was received from the Department for Transport's Pothole Fund which will be used to target pothole hotspots around the county. Anyone who spots a highways issue must report it using the MyWilts app or via the website – and if it doesn't get fixed, please email me at tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk

Wiltshire has welcomed 1,374 guests so far and is one of the top authorities in England for taking in Ukraine nationals - 165 families have now moved into private rented accommodation and every Ukrainian household has a named Case Worker assigned to support the guests to help them integrate into the community. More information is at [Wiltshire stands with Ukraine - Wiltshire Council](#).

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Over the last three years I have led the project for a new rail station to serve Devizes and secured almost £500,000 from the Department for Transport for business case assessment. The Interim Feasibility Study undertaken over the last few months has now reported. It shows that whilst there isn't a current rail service which could stop at Devizes Gateway without affecting the rest of the rail network, Network Rail has concluded that there may be opportunities for a new train service and station following a broader Wiltshire Wide Rail Review. This is really good news. Devizes is very much at the heart of future rail developments in Wiltshire and along with our MP, and other local organisations such as the Devizes Development Partnership, I will continue to push the case for Devizes Gateway. The detailed Interim Feasibility Study is online at [Findings of Devizes station feasibility study released - Wiltshire Council](#)

It has been a pleasure to support Parish Councils, community groups and residents with a whole host of local issues over the last year including flooding, road safety, footpaths and planning matters. If there is a local issue that you are concerned about, please do get in touch and I will do my very best to help.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the Parish Councils across Devizes Rural West – they and the many other local organisations help ensure our villages are such fabulous communities and brilliant places to live.

Tamara Reay, Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West.
Tel: 07711 824864 Email: tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk

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Village Hall News

Jumble Sale – The Trustees have finally distributed the large number of items remaining after the jumble sale to various charity shops in the area. So, although the attendance and amount raised was a bit disappointing, it's worth noting that we have also helped to raise funds for a number of other local charities.

200 Club – subscriptions to the 200 club for the year April '23 – March '24 are up on the previous year, and have now just passed the 100 mark. Thank you to all who have subscribed, but if you haven't renewed yet, there is still time before the April draw. Payment can be by bank transfer, cash or cheque, but don't forget to let Veronica have your form with up to date contact details (11 Gaisford Chase) £50 winners for February and March respectively were Christine Marshall and Steve Morse.

Coronation Afternoon Tea – you will have seen posters/received fliers regarding our next event in the hall, and indeed some of you have already purchased tickets. This will be at 3:30 after the Coronation on 6th May, and we hope lots of villagers will be joining friends and neighbours to celebrate together. This is a **TICKET ONLY** event, as we have to have numbers well in advance to prepare a delicious home-made afternoon tea. We have advertised a ticket sales closure date of 29th April. However, as the Bridge is likely to be distributed on or around 30th April, we can extend this to 1st May for Bridge readers. But you must contact Veronica (01380 726845) or Pauline (01380 720248) **on or before Monday 1st May** to purchase tickets. Tickets are £8 (children under 10 £5)

AGM/Trustees – Our AGM will be held at the hall on Wednesday 3rd May at 7pm. All village residents are welcome to attend, and we ask regular user groups each to send a representative, as this forms our Management Committee in accordance with our Charity Commission governing document.

This year we are likely to be facing a crisis situation as at least half of current Trustees are planning to stand down at or shortly after the AGM. We currently have had no volunteers to replace them, so the future of this important village facility is in grave danger. If you feel you could help, please contact Veronica on 01380 726845.

Pauline Crisp, Treasurer and Bookings Co-ordinator

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Marston Parish Council

At our last meeting on the 28th March 2023 the following applications to the Solar Community Fund were discussed and agreed upon: an application from the Village Hall Trustees for development of the kitchen was granted £4,000.00 (From the Solar Fund Large Project Fund), two applications from Marston Parish Council were put forward; one for two oak noticeboards, to be placed on the Green and at the land at Norney Bridge, was granted £1,700.00 and an application for a new bench, on the Green, was granted £410.00. The £1,000.00 granted to Worton and Cheverell Youth Football Club, last year, has been carried over until legal aspects of the project are completed by the applicants.

The Parish Council ask members of the public to clear up after their dogs on Plough Lane, Close Lane and on the common land and keep dogs on leads on the highway and public footpaths through private land in the Parish, as is requested by the Country Code.

A bonfire beacon will be lit on the Green at 7.00pm on Saturday the 6th May 2023, to celebrate the accession of King Charles to the throne. All are welcome. Please bring drinks and snacks, if you wish.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 30th May. The Parish Council Meeting will be preceded by the Village meeting starting at 7.00pm.

clerk@marstonpc.co.uk



Poulshot Cricket Club

We are always on the lookout for cricketers of all ages and abilities to join this thriving, friendly and affordable club, to play either occasionally or on a regular basis. Matches are mainly on Wednesday evenings although there are also some Friday evening and Sunday afternoon fixtures. Kit is provided.

For more information, please phone the captain, Phil Ireson, on **07802 756465**

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Worton Parish Council

I'd like to start this month's article with an update on our SIDS. Bob Mitchell has been keeping us all in the picture with the information we can download from the devices. They are proving to be both effective and informative.

In the broadest terms, we have evidence of significant improvements in both the numbers exceeding the speed limit and the type of speeds being registered. Thanks to the diligence of our Speedwatchers we can do "before and after" comparisons. There is lots of analysis that can be done but, to make it simple, there's about half as much speeding as there was a year ago.. Which is remarkable. In addition, all but a handful of those that do speed are within 5 miles per hour of the limit. As we change the SIDS locations we are reviewing how effective each is and the impact they have on the different directions of movement.

We have been delighted that the locations used so far have been excellent in the utilising of solar energy and, perhaps surprisingly, data is recorded at night and in the opposite direction to that which the SID faces.

One extraordinary statistic that has emerged is that, if current traffic flows are typical, about 1.25 million vehicles pass through our village each year ! (I must confess I have relied on colleagues for the calculation!). Whatever the final figure, this is extraordinary for a "C" road, and may prove useful in any future negotiation with relevant authorities.

I have previously referred to ideas that have been considered to further improve the traffic situation. These tend to be expensive and our budget is limited. A year ago we devoted most of our annual parish meeting to enable ideas to be shared about what we could try to do. That generated a list which the Parish Council considered and prioritised following initial communications with the "experts" at Wiltshire Council. We would only proceed with any projects if they were deemed safe and effective (including cost effectiveness from our perspective as well as other organisations). This all takes time, but as we are seeing with the SIDS, it's worth the wait to get the best outcome. We

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(continued from previous page)

intend to seek views again in this year's Parish meeting which will now take place on Monday 15th May. As there is a clash with another important event, we will be holding the meeting at the Rose and Crown, using the skittle alley (many thanks to John and Jackie for their support). We intend to start at 6.30 allowing those who wish to also get to the Gardening Club event.

The annual Parish meeting allows residents to give and receive reports about what has been going on, as well as the opportunity to share ideas and any concerns. By now, various village organisations and groups should have received an invitation to attend. (If your group has been left out, please let Jules, our clerk, know and we will rectify clerk@worton.org.uk). It isn't necessary to give an oral report (of course, you are welcome to do so), but a brief summary (a paragraph or two would be ample) would suffice and would be added to the minutes and made available on the website. We are hoping that the new location for the event will allow everyone to chat to councillors more informally.

By now, we should have seen the culmination of the tree planting project initiated by Oliver Symes and then ably supported by Patricia Goodenough and Rob Goss. We have decided to give the development the title "King Charles' Copse". (Royal Oaks wouldn't have been historically or environmentally accurate!). I must confess I'm really proud of the way the village community have worked together on this , with Patricia even finding a way to involve the youngsters in a very entertaining and educational way. Thanks to all involved.

Patricia has indeed been very busy. Worton and Marston have now joined a very elite group of locations. What was formerly a humble path linking the two villages is now one of a handful of paths designated as a "Queen's Platinum Jubilee Walkway". This will be recognised by way of two rather splendid commemoration plaques which will be suitably sited in due course. The few others that have been designated are in much more high profile locations so we really are joining an elite group.

(continued on next page)

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(continued from previous page)

I must report that Suzanne Bonfield has decided to step down from her role as a Parish Councillor. She has been involved with making our village a better place for many years, both on and off the Council. Most of you will be aware of the tireless way she has led on the issue of traffic volume and speed with great determination and resilience, whilst also taking a full role in the wider work of the Council. We will certainly miss her practical and, at times, passionate presence.

So, we have a big gap to fill! If anyone is interested in taking up what is referred to as a "Casual vacancy", please get in touch with Jules (clerk@worton.org.uk) myself (barry@worton.org.uk) or indeed any of the other Councillors.

To finish, can I quickly mention that thanks are due to Brendan Lovett and the gardening club for the replenishment of the planters on the western end of the village. I understand that this was done whilst withstanding the double threat of wasps and speeding traffic. He is truly a committed resident!

Barry Devine

Worton & Marston Link

Last month we had our AGM (minutes and reports available please use email below) where we discussed amongst other things our formation just over 25 years ago and are still going strong. The Queen Consort has been the Link patron for many years so we must be doing something right. Due to the problems in the NHS we are carrying out less journeys than 3 years ago but are still essential to those who need it at the time. Over the next few months I will be publishing some of our adventures from the past. If you would like to be part of the future as a driver or helping to organise us please ring 07413 912828 or email wandmlink@gmail.com. Of course if you need assistance call the same number where Lyn will be only too happy to help.

Alun

Rose and Crown Worton

01380 724202

	Lunch time opening	Evening opening
Monday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Tuesday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Wednesday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Thursday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Friday	Closed	6pm -11.30pm
Saturday	12.00 - 2.30	6pm -11.30pm
Sunday	12.00 - 2.30	7pm -10.00pm 7pm -11.00pm (on Quiz Sundays)

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WORTON & MARSTON LADIES GROUP

Our meeting in March had to be rearranged at the last minute due to the speaker being unwell, with no time to make other arrangements Lorna stepped up and gave us an insight into life in the Village Shop which Lorna and husband Dennis ran for a number of years. Lorna recounted the time when 'Mrs. Sparrow' an old character was in the shop and the elastic in her 'drawers' snapped, much to the surprise of Lorna and Dennis she casually stepped out of them and rolled them up and put them in her bag, and the times when she had to measure the inside leg of male customers when ordering trousers, and a few other amusing stories which perhaps I shouldn't mention here! It was an entertaining evening, and everyone contributed to life in Worton, past and present.

We have had to rearrange our speaker for the April meeting on the 26th so instead of Karen Hurley- Wet Felting it will be Katy Goodship from Bath Cats & Dogs Trust who was due to speak in March. Hopefully Karen Hurley will be available for our meeting in July.

Over the Coronation weekend the Village Hall (are holding an afternoon tea) and the Church on the Sunday will be displaying old photos and cuttings relating to Ladies Group and Celebrations that have taken place in the village over many years. These photo boards were put together by our late member Primrose Wright and Keith has passed them onto me. The church has kindly agreed to keep them stored safely in the church for future occasions (rather than under my settee collecting dust), but before they are packed away it would be nice to display them over the weekend of 6th & 7th May.

Hosts for April meeting Chris & Ann.

Pam Woods



Worton & Cheverell FC (Youth)
'The Badgers'

<http://www.wortonandcheverellfc.com>

Next Season Recruitment Drive as Squeaky
Bum Time Approaches!



The weather has again severely affected fixtures over the past month for all age groups, especially the young ages playing early on Saturday mornings. As a result, the season has extended well beyond the traditional end of April, with some teams having league games scheduled until the end of May! For all, the season has entered what Sir Alex Ferguson called 'squeaky bum' time when promotion and relegation issues are decided. A number of our teams have it all to play for as the season heads towards a dramatic finale. With the clocks going forward, all teams are now into summer training, mostly at Northbrook on Friday evening and Elisha Field on Saturdays, West Lavington. For exact times and locations, please contact the team coach below.

At this time of the year, attention is already turning towards preparations for next season. The main effort at present is a recruitment drive. The club welcomes new players to register over the summer for next season in all age groups but particularly for U9s, U11s and U13s to ensure we have sufficient players for at least one team in all these ages. Please contact the Club Secretary or any of the team coaches directly.

The end of season bash will take place on the 10th June.

Committee

Chairperson: Pete Huntley
Treasurer: Vicky Goddard
Grounds: Mark Goddard
Newsletter: David Groves

Secretary: Rob Nuttall
Welfare Officers: Hannah Kervin
Web Pages: James Partington
All Team Managers

Team Contacts

Badger Cubs- James Partington - 07532 628219
Girls Team - Liz Gaule - 07949 176623 U8 - Rob Nuttall - 07706 167347
U9- Pete Huntley- 07974756131
U10- Nick Church nickchurch88@gmail.com
U11- Mark Goddard - 01380 813160 U13 - Neil Black- 07769 261750
U15 -Mark Goddard- 01380 813160 U16- Dave Kiddle- 07843678781
U17/18s- Andy Morris -07488 240243


SUMMER EVENTS: DATES FOR YOUR DIARY


We are in the process of planning two events in aid of St Mary's Church, Potterne this summer and we invite you to put the dates in your diary!


POTTERNE OPEN GARDENS on Saturday, 17th June.
Ten, or maybe more (!) beautiful gardens open in and around Potterne. Tickets, maps, stalls and refreshments available from St Mary's Church on the day. Please contact Jackie Sawyer (07810 132036) for more information.

POTTERNE HISTORY WEEKEND - 15th & 16th July.
Please contact Fi Walker (01380 727327) or Sheila Gover (07969 455461) for more information.

Did you know?

Fish: 

Fish: 

Fishes: 

The plural of fish is *fish*. When referring to more than one species, you can use *fishes* as plural

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TO BOOK TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT - DENISE 01380 827010;
 KATE 01380 828333 OR MANDY 01380 828464

IN AID OF WILTSHIRE YOUNG CARERS



Useful Village Contacts - 2023

The Bridge:

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 01380 727993

Book Swap: Judy Shercliff judy.shercliff@gmail.com 01380 723136

Christ Church, Worton (part of the Wellsprings Benefice):

Contact the Benefice Office on 07516 224057 or
 at contact.wellsprings@gmail.co.uk

Church Wardens:

Mrs Heather Walker 01380 725785 heatherwalker66@gmail.com
 Mrs Jean Lane 01380 722069 joje@talktalk.net

Cricket (Worton and Poulshot): Giles Collins 07530 771405
giles.collins@btinternet.com

Football (The Badgers): Club President Pete Huntley 07974 756131
 or Club Secretary Rob Nuttall 07706 167347

Garden Club:

Alison Parker 07786 985741 aelparker@aol.com
 Sally Brooks 07957 917851 svwood90@hotmail.com
Village Show - Bill Francis 01380 739986
dfrancis162@btinternet.com

Ladies Group: Pam Woods 01380 726679
 Meet last Wednesday each month 8pm, in the Village Hall.

Link Scheme: Lyn Vickers Transport Coordinator 07413 912828
 Alun Newman (Chair)
wandmlink@gmail.com for further information

Marston Parish Council: Steven Bennett
clerk@marstonpc.co.uk

Rose and Crown: John & Jackie 01380 724202

School (Five Lanes): admin@fivelanes.wilts.sch.uk

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SpeedWatch: Bob Mitchell wortonspeedwatch@gmail.com**Tennis:** Seend Tennis Club: Sally Jackson 07798 564712
Devizes Tennis Club: Barry Devine 07809 221341
Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings.**Toddlers' Group:** Linda Rose wortontoddlers@gmail.com
text 07921 867206**Village Hall (Worton and Marston):** Veronica Franklin
veronica.franklin@btinternet.com 01380 726845**Wiltshire Council:** Tamara Reay
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tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk 07711 824864**Worton Parish Council:**Chair: Barry Devine barry@worton.org.uk bazandsaz@gmail.com
Other Parish Councillors: Richard Slack Dicky Parsons
Malcolm Powell Suzanne Bonfield Robert Goss
Nick Stokes Chris Collins**Women's Institute (W.I.):** Helen Bodman (President) 01380 723593**Worton United Charities:** Trustee Chair Bill Francis
dfrancis162@btinternet.com(Please contact me (giles.collins@btinternet.com) if there are any contacts you would like to add, change or remove.)**VILLAGE DIARY****Regular Meetings****In the Village Hall**

- **Garden Club**
3rd Monday 8.00pm (not Aug/Dec)
- **Pilates classes**
Thursdays 7pm-8pm & 8pm-9pm
- **Ladies Group**
Last Wednesday (not Aug/Dec)
- **Women's Institute**
2nd Wednesday 7.00pm
- **Worton Toddler Group**
Wednesday 10.00 am - Noon
- **1st Worton & Marston Brownies**
Tuesdays 6pm-7.30pm
- **Potterne Rainbows**
Tuesdays 4.45pm-5.45pm
- **Worton Parish Council Meeting**
1st Monday (not Aug) or as shown on notice boards

In the Chapel at Marston

- **Marston Parish Council Meeting**
Last Tuesday (every odd month)

Various Venues

Announced Monthly

- **Book Swap**
2nd Saturday 10.00 - Noon

Mobile Library**Location:** The School, 1.10 - 1.50pm
Next Date: Monday 22nd MayCall Wiltshire Library Services
on **01225 713727** for information**Forthcoming Events**

- 6th Coronation Celebrations
- 10th WI meeting
- 13th Book Swap
- 15th Garden club
- 20th Village Fete

Kerbside Collections in May**Black box, and plastic and card recycling:**
Tuesdays 2nd & 16th & 30th**Household waste:**
Thursdays 11th & 25th**Garden waste:**
Fridays 12th & 26th**Worton and Marston Link**

If you need help with transport for hospital appointments visiting the doctor and dentist or other important journeys.

**Call W&M Link
on 07413 912828**

Deadline for items for the next Bridge is 15th May 2023
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