


The Bridge



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Parish Magazine

December
2015
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THE BRIDGE

Editor: Giles Collins
giles.collins@btinternet.com

Armistice Day

There was a fine attendance at the war memorial on the 11th November when nearly thirty residents gathered to observe the customary two minutes silence. My thanks to all who turned out to show their gratitude to those from our two villages who gave their lives in both world wars.

Robin Shercliff



Five Lanes Women's Institute

Our meeting in November was attended by Sue Mason, who came along to show us how to create some floral decorations ready for Christmas. She showed us four different designs. The designs were all very easy to follow, so hopefully members will have some good ideas for their own creations. Generously, Sue donated the finished products to our monthly raffle.

Next month, we will be celebrating Christmas, by going out for a meal. We will therefore not be in the village hall in December. We shall return in January! Let me be the first to wish you all a Merry Christmas!

Jane Loveys, President



Christmas at Five Lanes School

Here are the school nativities/productions planned for the Christmas period.

Potterne Site - St Mary's Church

Tuesday 8th December at 2.00pm & 6.00pm

Worton Site - Christ Church,

Tuesday 15th December at 2.00pm & 6.00pm

All friends of the school are invited to attend if they would like to. Please note that the evening performances get very crowded, so the afternoon may be better for all concerned. Thank you.

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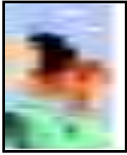
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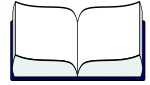


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Letter from the Vicarage



I like the buzz in the air come December. Some people think Christmas begins too early and causes too much stress. That depends on how you take the hype. It is not compulsory to sink under everything happening around you. We recently went to a garden centre and avoided the Christmas grotto altogether – it wasn't difficult. The nodding Santas and flashing icicles I can do without, but I am looking forward to Christmas, partly because I like celebrating and sharing time with those close to me.

But as a Christian, primarily this is for me the celebration of Jesus birth and one of my main concerns is that we remember the reason for the season. The clue is in the name. Christ-mas means 'the festival of Christ'. Take Jesus Christ away and there is no Christmas - a winter festival perhaps, but not Christmas.

I am certainly not against adding bits and pieces to the Christian meaning of this season, as long as they do not detract from the person of Jesus. And there is the crucial point. Jesus can sometimes simply be forgotten in the busyness and rush. We don't mean to, but there is just so much going on.

I recently re-read a poem by a famous First World War army chaplain known as 'Woodbine Willie'. In it he suggests that Jesus' story is so well known today, familiarity has bred indifference. And that is true more at Christmas than any other time of year.

In the poem Woodbine Willie (whose grandson is a Vicar in Marlborough) ima-

gines Jesus coming today. 2000 years ago Jesus caused a violent reaction which left Him on a cross, but today we are 'more civilised' and simply pass Him by without another thought. The second verse of the poem goes:

*When Jesus came to Birmingham,
they simply passed Him by.
They would not hurt a hair of Him,
they only let Him die;
For men had grown more tender, and
they would not give Him pain,
They only just passed down the street,
and left Him in the rain.*

It is a reminder that, amidst all we do to prepare for Christmas, we MUST remember this is about Jesus. It's not that we deliberately exclude Him; we just forget it's His day. This year, try putting Jesus at the centre of your celebrations; make a crib, go to Church, say grace before Christmas dinner, read the Christmas story; do something to remember this is Jesus birthday, and so make it a really special Christmas.

David Howard 01380 723189
email: dahoward@waitrose.com



SERVICE CALENDAR

December

Sun 6th ADVENT 2
 8.00am CHRIST CHURCH
 Holy Communion
 9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
 Family Service
 6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
Holy Communion
Rev Gary Gotham

Sun 13th ADVENT 3
 9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
 Parish Communion
 6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
Carol Service
Mrs Ruth McGregor

Sun 20th ADVENT 4
 9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
 Morning Worship
 6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
No Service
(St Andrews Devizes Carol
Service is at 6.00pm)

Thu 24th CHRISTMAS EVE
 6.00pm CHRIST CHURCH
 Carol Service

December

Fri 25th CHRISTMAS DAY
 9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
 Family Communion

Sun 27th CHRISTMAS 1
 9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
 No Service
 (Holy Communion is at
 St Mary's, Potterne, at 8.00am)
 6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
No Service

January

Sun 3rd CHRISTMAS 2
 8.00am CHRIST CHURCH
 Holy Communion
 9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
 Family Service
 6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
Covenant Service
Rev Gary Gotham



There was one Baptism at Christ Church during October
 for Lottie Ava Thomas

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

CHURCH ROTAS

Sidesmen – December 2015

Sun 6 th	8.00am	Mr R Shercliff	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Mrs A Pratt, Mrs M Armand-Smith	Family Service
Sun 13 th	9.30am	Mrs D Barcham, Ms L Hale	Parish Communion
Sun 20 th	9.30am	Mrs J Mason, Mrs M Boyns	Morning Worship
Thu 24 th	6.00pm	Mr P Witcher, Mr T Harwood	Carol Service
Fri 25 th	9.30am	Mr T Brewer, Mr T Walker	Family Communion
Sun 27 th	9.30am	No Service	

Sidesmen – January 2016

Sun 3 rd	8.00am	Mrs J Buckley	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Mrs A Cross, Mr R Boyns	Family Service

	Altar Flowers	Brass Cleaning	Church Flowers
December 6 th	ADVENT	Mrs J. Wright	tbc
December 13 th	ADVENT	Mrs Brierley	tbc
December 20 th	ADVENT	Mrs Mason	tbc
December 25 th	Christmas - all to decorate		-
January 3 rd	tbc	tbc	tbc

Church Cleaning

December 6 th	Mrs Walker	Mrs Brewer
December 20 th	Mrs Purchas	Mr Mitchell



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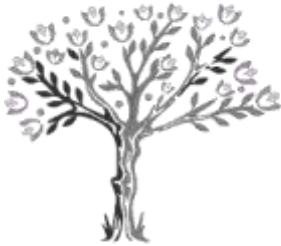
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Christmas Services

Sunday 15th 6 pm Carols at Marston Chapel

Christmas Eve (Thursday)

4.00 pm Crib Service for all ages, Potterne

6.00 pm Christ Church Carol Service

*11.30 pm Christmas Holy Communion at
St. Mary's, Potterne*

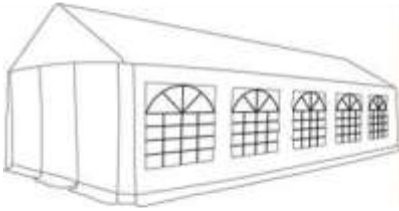
Christmas Day

9.30 am Christmas Communion for all the Family

27th December

8.00 am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Potterne

*'Worship Christ, the new-born King'
Without Christ there is no Christmas.
Do join us over this wonderful season*



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Szopka Competition – something to do in front of the TV these winter evenings.

An adaptation of a Polish tradition...create your own nativity to display in church for the carol services at St Mary's on 20th December and Worton on Christmas Eve.



Ideally the scene will be set somewhere in your village and be made using as much recycled material as possible. Don't necessarily try to depict the whole scene, a focus on one or two aspects is fine. How about sheep on a local hillside, the wise men going to buy their gifts at the shop, a stable at the village pub? It's not just for families with children; if you knit or sew you too can add a scene using your skills.

It's a great way to use your creative gifts to enhance our Christmas Celebrations, and also a reminder that Jesus came not only to Bethlehem 2.000 years ago, but to us in Wiltshire in 2015.



Worton and Marston Newcomers Party

We welcome all villagers, and especially those who have moved in during this past year, to the

**Newcomers party on January 29th
In the Village Hall**

Tickets available from:

Jean Lane 722069 Heather Walker 725785

Ali Pratt 726868 or PCC members

£5 per adult, under 10 years old free,
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Back to the Village Hall

It is so nice to be back in the refurbished Village Hall. Now we can start the term properly and tailor what we have to the needs of a very different group. We may be needing a few more boys to balance things up! Whether you are a mum, dad, grandparent or carer, you can bring your baby or pre-school child along and know that you will be made welcome. If you are a new parent or new to the village, we would love you to come.

We meet from 10-12 on Wednesdays during term time. We charge £1.50 per family and the first session is free.

Dressing up box

We have decided to have a dressing up box. If you would like to give a home to any outgrown outfits, hats etc. that you no longer need please bring them to Toddlers or call me if you would like them collected. Is anyone out there handy with a sewing machine? Thank you to the lovely lady who has offered to make capes.

Christmas Bazaar at the Village Hall

We are expecting to have a table at the Christmas Bazaar. If you have any unwanted toys you wish to offload please let me know, or better still drop them off at the hall on the morning of the sale.

Thank you.

Very best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year

Hilary Hams 130 High Street, Worton
 hilaryhams@yahoo.co.uk
 07805 303961

“What if the three wise men had been three wise women? Well, they would have asked for directions, and arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, brought a casserole and given the child much more practical gifts.” (Susan Periman)

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‘Keeping Wiltshire Warm’

December is always a busy month and the children have been hard at work, as well as preparing for the festive season ahead.

Christmas performances

Tue 8th Dec – St Mary’s Church, Potterne at 2.00pm & 6.00pm
(Potterne site)

Thu 10th Dec – Christchurch, Worton at 2.00pm & 6.00pm
(Worton site)

If you are planning to attend, then please try and do so in the afternoon, as the evening performances tend to be busy with working school families.

CHRISTMAS BINGO

Tuesday 1st December

7.30 - 8.00pm start

ALL WELCOME!

Potterne Village Hall

Great prizes and great fun!

A fund raising event for school PFA

Potterne Christmas Fayre - Saturday 12th December

The PFA have a stall at the fayre, selling Xmas puddings, reindeers, knitted dolls clothes, Christmas decorations & tombola jars.

Come and have a look!

Lantern parade

On Friday 27th November the children will be taking part in the Devizes Christmas Festival lantern parade. This is always a lovely event for children, families and friends to take part in – give us a wave as we take part in the procession.

From all at Five Lanes School we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supports the school in a variety of ways throughout the year, from Open the Book & church team, Governors, Parent & Friends Association (PFA), fund raisers, classroom & event volunteers and those who donate so generously.

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Frank and Dorothy Barcham will not be sending Christmas cards locally this year. Instead we will be giving a donation to the Air Ambulance Appeal. We would like to wish our friends and neighbours a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year. Also many thanks to our wonderful friends for their help and kindness during the past year.

Frank and Dorothy

Worton & Marston Link held its annual fund raising quiz with raffle in the Village Hall and raised £140. The winning table were Nick & Joy Stokes with Ian & Jane Loveys who very generously donated the winning prize to our **Link** scheme. Our thanks to Lesley Hawes for setting us some challenging questions, Keith Wright as Master of Ceremonies, who managed to keep order as the evening became more raucous, and everyone who turned up on such a miserable night. For further information on the **Link** scheme please check the Worton website or ring 720207. This number may also be used if you need a lift or if you wish to become a volunteer driver.

Alun Newman

What's happening on the farm!

With autumn very nearly behind us, the last of the cattle have been brought in. With such a mild autumn, there was plenty of grass for them to eat but as the rain had made the fields very wet, we thought better in than out!

As we have brought the cattle in, we have wormed every animal. This is because the wormer they were given at the beginning of grazing season ran out in October, thus them having exposure to lungworms and gutworms before housing. If we did not ensure they were wormed the cattle would suffer and no matter how much food we gave them they would not gain weight.

The maize harvest was successful. It was cut on the 6th of October with an average yield of 18 tonnes to the acre. The D value is 75% and a starch content of 382 grams per 1000 grams. My nutritionist tells me the cattle should do well this winter!!

In October Home Farm had its Red Tractor Farm Assurance Audit. The inspector comes once every 18 months to inspect the farm and all its paper work to make sure everything is in compliance with the body's rules and regulations. I can tell you all we passed with flying colours. No non-compliances at all.

Finally it's that time of year again. I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have not had a white Christmas for years; the odds for a white Christmas currently stand at 7-1, maybe just maybe!

Robert Goss



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Christ Church PCC Meeting

The Parochial Church Council of Christ Church met on Tuesday 10 November and discussed the following:

1. The heavy repair expenditure referred to earlier is now likely to occur next year, and in subsequent years, and the latest financial forecast indicates a close to break-even position for this year, despite the postponement of the annual fund-raising Village “Theme” supper.
2. Overall, as reported earlier to the PCC, repair expenditure to implement all of the recommendations of the church architect in his Quinquennial Report is likely to total £30,000 over the next 4 years. It is hoped that some of the fund-raising events being planned to mark the 175th anniversary of the dedication of Christ Church on 5 October 1841 (see below) will contribute at least some of the sums needed.
3. The 175th Anniversary of the church’s dedication will be celebrated throughout the year, next year, with a programme of events – some purely fun, some fund-raising and some designed to reflect on and give thanks for the church’s place in our community.
4. It was reported that Steve Dewar is planning an extension of his activities with a new group for the 11 to 14 age range. The continuation of his youth work beyond early 2017 is still dependent on being able to secure adequate funding. Steps have been taken to try to address this and it is hoped that other benefactors will come forward, to replace those who have so generously funded his work to date.
5. David drew attention to the Szopka competition advertised in November’s Bridge. This initiative, based on a Polish custom, attempts to depict the Nativity in a local context. The competition will be judged at the Carol Service on Christmas Eve.
6. The collection from the Remembrance Day service will be split 50:50 between the Royal British Legion and SAAFA, this being the recommendation of some of those who attended.

Peter Witcher, Secretary of the PCC

Village Hall Christmas Bazaar

Sat 5th Dec, 2pm - 4pm

Usual mix of stalls, gifts, raffle, refreshments

If anyone would like to have a stall, please contact Jo on 01380 726658

All proceeds to Village Hall funds

GARDEN SERVICES

General garden
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Keith Nisbeck

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Marston Chapel
Christmas
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 at 6pm



The 'Badgers'

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Teams are always looking for new parents to get involved with the running of teams in some age groups, but also stepping forward to help develop the skills of the children: **get involved, it's fun, and you get some exercise along the way!** Please contact the coaches, who are always looking for a helping hand.

With the Christmas holidays fast approaching, some of the teams are involved in various Cup competitions: The Under 15 passed Pewsey Vale to reach the last 16 of the Wiltshire Cup, whilst the Under 13 will play Wootton Bassett in the 2nd round.

U13: despite being 3rd in the League, they suffered their second defeat of the season losing away to 2nd placed team Bradford 4-2 recently.

U12 are joint leaders with 10 points (*at the time of writing this article*), but have played more matches. Recent win 3-1 against Amesbury, but losing a vital home match to local rivals Devizes.

Other teams in the lower age groups continue to develop their skills and play various matches in the respective 'friendly' leagues - where results cannot be published.

Team contact details:

Reception Year (tasters) + Under 6 & 8s:

Mark – 01380 813160 or 07974 723008.

Under 7 and 10/11 - Jason 07734 627449.

Under 9s - Dave 07843 678781

U12: Stuart 07756 540864

U13: Jake 07741 306303

U15: Neil 01380 818193

Happy Christmas to all our readers.

Steve Dagnall

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For all booking enquiries for the Village Hall please contact the Treasurer, **Pauline Crisp** at dpocrisp@uwclub.net or on **01380 720248**.

VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

The winners of the Village Hall 200 Club for October were Lorna Phillips (£50) and Judy Shercliff (£10). Congratulations to both.

THE VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall exterior refurbishment is now completed. There is obviously some remedial work to be done to the grass but apart from this I hope most Worton and Marston villagers will agree that Gaigers have done an excellent job and that the result is a vast improvement. For those of you not keen on the new colour, I am told that as it dries it will become lighter and so will blend in with the 'modern' extension better. Sorry to those of you who think the new colour is an improvement!! Trustees would again like to thank Viridor for a substantial grant, as well as the Area Board and the Community Foundation who also helped fund the project, and of course our own Parish Councils for considerable financial support as well as advice and encouragement that sustained us. In addition, we must thank Tim Weeding who supported the project from its inception by providing architectural drawings, applying for the planning permission and then project managing the work. Look out for an event in early 2016 to officially say thank you to our supporters (financial and otherwise).

Trustees have now given the Hall a major clean so it is now ready for use. If you would like to hire it Villagers are given preferential rates. Please contact our Treasurer Pauline Crisp on 01380 720248 for details.

And finally, don't forget the annual WORTON AND MARSTON CHRISTMAS BAZAAR on Saturday December 5th.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year!
Veronica Franklin, Chair of Trustees



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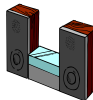
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Worton Ladies Knitt & Knat Monster Trail 2015

On Saturday 31st October we were blessed with warm sunny weather and a fantastic turnout of families. Adults, children and pets came from far beyond the village to marvel at the 27 magnificent creations in Worton's first ever Monster scarecrow trail. In fact it was so heavily oversubscribed that we ran out of programmes and had to print more....twice during the day! It was also the first event since the refurbished Village Hall reopened.

Scarecrows ranged from TV monsters, Dr Who, Loch Ness monster, Robots from the future, Lord of the Rings, super villains, weird skittles and a giant squid! The afternoon consisted of children's games and a Punch and Judy show, while the evening had food, a disco and a generous raffle star prize donated by the Rose and Crown.

The day raised a fabulous £640 which has been split between Five Lanes school and Worton Village Hall.

We also raised £100 from the raffle for the British Heart Foundation.

The Lucky Programme Hamper was won by Lily Benson from Potterne and the Knitted Witch & Wizard were won by Kaye Gwillam and Margaret Green.

The trail organisers Chris and Jo would also like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported the day in whatever way, whether as a traffic marshal, parking organiser, putting up signs, or in the Village Hall during the day or evening. But mostly we would like to recognise all those people who pitched in and helped out, namely:

David Johnson, Mark Fisher, Gerald Barnes, Jeff Stocks, Veronica Franklin, Bill & Dot Francis, Paul & Una Sperring, Cheryl Hailstone, Suzanne Bonfield, Lynne Vickers, Pam Woods, Keith & Prim Wright, Keith and Margaret Green, Jane Loveys, Tony & Geri Francis, Kirstie Reeve and Graham Davison. (If we've missed any one out in the excitement of the event's success, we sincerely apologise, but please count yourselves thanked!) And of course, not forgetting the fabulous Monster Makers - your creations were outstanding.

The day was all about community, family fun, a little bit of fundraising and a lot of making people smile. We hope we achieved all of that, so dare we say it.....

See you next year.....?

Jo Banks and Christine Johnson

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WORTON & MARSTON LADIES GROUP

We had a very enjoyable meeting in October when we were entertained by the Poulshot Ladies who organised a Beetle Drive (my first, good fun, a great way to get everyone joining in), after which we enjoyed the superb buffet that they had laid on for us.

To remind everyone our meeting on 25th November will be a talk on the German occupation of Guernsey in WW2 by Jean Parsons. Unfortunately I shall miss this meeting but I'm sure you will all find it most interesting.

Finally Teresa has booked Christmas lunch at Trowbridge College on Thursday 3rd December. Those of you who went last summer will remember what an enjoyable meal we had. If you could give your names to Teresa at the November meeting it would be appreciated.

Hostesses for November: Pat Barton & Lorna Phillips

Pam Woods

Community Speedwatch (CSW) Update

I am pleased to inform you that an enforcement team has been established within Wiltshire Police which will target CSW sites affected by persistent speeders or suffering a rise in recorded speeds, based on data provided by the Speedwatch team.

As a general rule, the enforcement team don't plan to announce the visit to a CSW site but information about when, where and the number of offences will be made available after the event. If a CSW team are present at the time, then they will be supported by the enforcement team. They will also be deploying ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) as part of the initiative.

On Friday 30th October three teams of officers using unmarked cars were out visiting various sites for 4 hours, including Worton. In total that day, 10 tickets were issued, all in excess of 14 mph over the speed limit, and there were 61 cautions.

Each officer involved in the operation is available during the week as well as the weekend. I can see this initiative growing and becoming more successful using the intelligence gathered by the Community Speed Watch teams.

In a recent hour long session in Worton during "school leaving time", 413 cars were counted travelling through our village of which 42 were doing in excess of the 30mph speed limit. If we are to keep the number of vehicles driving through our village at a sensible speed, then we need more volunteers to join our Speedwatch team. If you can spare even just an hour now and then, our team could use some extra help. For more information, please contact Debs Mackay on 01380 730564 or speak to a team member when you see them out and about.

Debs Mackay

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DECEMBER BOOK SWAP



Saturday 12th December

10.00 - 12 noon

at Homeground, 50 High Street, Worton

(hosted by Ann Darling)

Advance notice:

Saturday 9th January

at 48 High Street, Worton

(hosted by Pauline Stock)

Generous bookworms contributed just over £165 over the last 12 months (to The Children's Society), so over 300 books have been swapped, read & enjoyed, & over 100 cups of coffee consumed & also enjoyed, with biscuits & chat, a welcome for newcomers & catching up with old friends. It seems to be a recipe that works, do come & join us.

Interestingly the total has been within £5 of this for the past several years.

Judy Shercliff



Wiltshire Good Neighbours can put older residents in touch with the services and people who can help them to live more independent lives.

We can provide information on a variety of topics & these may include:

Befriending services and social activities

Benefits

Healthcare

Transport

and many more.....

If you think we can help you to find the services you need then please give Alex North a call. The details are below.

Alex North, Good Neighbour Co-ordinator for Devizes villages.

T: 01380 715892

M: 07557 922027

E: devizesgnc@communityfirst.org.uk

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

from

DEVIZES TOWN BAND

Thank you to everyone who supported the band throughout 2015. The band now has over 35 members, and increased audience numbers mean that we have raised more than ever for the Mayor's Appeal and the Poppy Appeal.

Email secretary@devizestownband.com

Web www.devizestownband.com

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Bianco Rosso Posh Fish & Chips

Saturday 5th December

Christmas Lunch Bunch

Wednesday 9th December
Roast Pork etc
Christmas Pud with Custard
Christmas crackers etc
Sit down 12.45, £12 per person, please book your place.

Christmas Draw

Friday 18th December

Christmas Eve

Carols, Mulled Wine & mince pies

Christmas Day

Open 12 - 2pm
Drinks only

Boxing Day

Open 12 - midnight
Drinks only

Closed 27th - 29th inc

New Year's eve

Party night, 8pm - late

**A very merry Christmas and a happy New Year
from Paul at the Rose and Crown**

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In the Bleak Midwinter

by Christina Rossetti

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed,
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim, worship night and day,
A breastful of milk, and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for him, whom angels, fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel, which adore.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air,
But His mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;





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A Message from Richard Gamble Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestone Division

Christmas is coming. It's the season of goodwill, and all that!

Except, as I write this, the mood is not exactly festive. The terrorist attacks in Paris have taken place and, for the time being, the f-word is fear, not fun. Dozens of families will have to get through the holiday season without their loved ones.

Such was the scale of the murderous outrage that I am sure it will still be in the front of our minds when you are reading this. Feelings of helplessness and impotence in the face of that malignancy may remain.

There are precedents to such events. 22 years ago the IRA exploded an enormous bomb in Bishopsgate destroying a part of London where my wife and I had both worked until only a few months before. Life in London carried on and now there is peace, more or less, in Northern Ireland.

In the 1970s the Baader Meinhoff group and the Red Army Faction conducted a series of terrorist attacks in West Germany. Remember them?

In 1913, the suffragettes exploded a bomb that partially destroyed Lloyd George's house, yet now we look rather kindly on Mrs Pankhurst.

No one now has even heard of the Sheffield Outrages, a series of explosions and murders by a small group of trade unionist militants carried out in the 1860s. They had a just cause in objecting to conditions in the steel industry but took their actions a little too far.

None of this makes the current situation any happier but I hope history allows us to put current events into context. The wartime message resonates now: Keep Calm and Carry on.

I hope you have a safe and happy Christmas.

You may contact me about this or any other matter by email to:
richard.gamble@wiltshire.gov.uk or by phone on **07762 018209**.

The **Old School Tuesday Club Market Lavington** (formerly known as the Day Centre) would like to say a big **'Thank you'** to all those who helped to make the Autumn Sale on the 24th October such a great success. The total amount raised on the day was £654.22 but this is still rising and is now over £700.00. We are so grateful to all our many loyal supporters who donated raffle prizes, cakes, books, bric-a-brac, tombola, etc. and came along on the day to buy. Thank you also to our amazing team of volunteers who helped set up, pack away and manned the stalls. The monies raised will help us to provide a Christmas meal for our members and will go towards outings in the New Year.



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Worton and Marston Gardening Club
New Members Welcome! – contact details below



This year, for the first time, we have decided to hold a Christmas Meeting. This will take place on Monday 14th December 7.00pm - 10.00pm in the Village Hall. It will take the form of a Christmas Wreath Workshop. The Gardening Club will provide the bases for the wreaths and we ask that everyone brings their own greenery and decorations and any that they can share with others.

We shall be serving mulled wine and mince pies.

If you are planning to attend, it would help if you would please let Dot (739986) or Suzanne (724098) know, or email as below).

A reminder that our January meeting will take place on 25th January (not our usual date). This will be our Quiz Night – more details to follow in the January Bridge.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and we hope to see you on the 14th for the Christmas Wreath Workshop.



Dot Francis, Programme Secretary

If you would like to receive a copy of the Gardening Club Programme please contact: suzanne.bonfield@gmail.com or Bill Francis at bllyb01@aol.com

‘You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time’.

‘Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt’.

‘We should be too big to take offense and too noble to give it’.

‘It has been my experience that folks who have no vices have very few virtues’.

‘The best way to get a bad law repealed is to enforce it strictly’.



‘When you have got an elephant by the hind legs and he is trying to run away, it’s best to let him run’.

Abraham Lincoln



Aladdin

a pantomime by Ben Crocker, directed by Craig Fisher

Friday 11th - Saturday 19th December at 7.30pm

Matinees: 12th and 19th at 2.30pm

No performances 13th or 14th

Tickets: Evenings £9, Matinees £7

Set in Peking, where Aladdin lives with his mother, Widow Twankey, the adventure begins when Aladdin falls in love with the Emperor's daughter, the beautiful Princess Jasmine, whom he should not even look upon let alone fall in love with. With help from his magical friends, the Genies of the Lamp and the Ring, Aladdin sets off to win his Princess. As we all know, nothing is straight-forward in panto and Aladdin must outwit his evil uncle, Abanazar, who will pull every mean trick in the book to get his hands on the wonderful Magic Lamp.

The Secret Lives of Henry and Alice

by David Tristram, directed by Kevin Smith

Friday 29th January – Saturday 6th February 2016 at 7.30pm

Tickets £8 & £9

For Henry Smith - actor, comedian, raconteur, sporting hero, business tycoon, secret agent, Casanova and acting President of the United States - life was rarely dull. For Alice Smith - housewife - life was rarely anything else. Enter Michel - tall, dark, and available. Exactly what happened next, no-one's quite sure, and only their pet goldfish Orca and you will ever know the truth.

David Tristram has been acknowledged as UK's most popular comedy playwright by Samuel French of UK and New York, the world's biggest agent and publisher of plays.

Please be aware that content includes mild swearing and adult themes. Audience discretion is advised.

Tickets are available from Devizes Books, Sidmouth Street. 01380 725944.

Worton Parish Council

Playground Review

We would like to conduct a review of the provision of playing fields in Worton.

Currently we have two large fields, one at Sandlease, one at Whatley's. Sandlease has more play equipment but there is still quite a lot of green space. Whatley's has less equipment; we had to remove the swings last year because of damage to the uprights and a big grass area. We are not sure how much the playing areas are used, certainly there is little concerted wear on the grass surfaces. Sandlease can get very wet during the winter and then is almost unusable. We did consider moving the play equipment to a drier part of the area but the cost of this is prohibitive.

The Parish Council spends about £1,800 a year on grass cutting and hedge maintenance. We also have to pay for a yearly risk assessment and make weekly assessments of the areas ourselves. The play equipment is expensive to repair if this is necessary and very expensive to replace. We would struggle to replace any of the play equipment from current funding and would have to raise money or apply for grants to do so.

The Parish Council would like to carry out a review of this provision. Do we want or need to continue to maintain two areas, should we provide more equipment, should we put greater efforts into encouraging use of the play areas, especially the green areas? In the longer term, the two areas at either ends of the village seem attractive to people coming into the village but can we manage in the shorter term? Or indeed do we need to consider other alternative uses of these areas that will bring other benefits to the village and mean less impact on council funding?

We would like your opinions of the playground provision please. Do you, your children or grandchildren use these areas, how often, are they enjoyed or are they problematic? How could we improve them, how could we increase use or access?

Please send your opinions by email to clerk@worton.org.uk, in writing to Bill Francis, 7 Gaisford Chase or place in a box that will be on the bar at the pub. In the New Year we will review all responses and see how we can take this forward. It may be that the next step will be a more formal meeting or perhaps a more detailed survey regarding use.

Kind regards

Bill Francis, Recreation Officer, Worton Parish Council

'If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way'.

Napoleon Hill

VILLAGE DIARY

Regular Meetings

In the Village Hall

- **Gardening Club**
3rd Monday 8.00pm (not Aug /Dec)
- **Ladies Group**
Last Wednesday (not Aug/Dec)
- **Women's Institute**
2nd Tuesday 7.45pm
- **Worton Toddler Group**
Wednesday 10.00 am—Noon
- **1st Worton & Marston Brownies**
Every Tuesday
- **Potterne Rainbows** (term time)
Tuesday 4.45-5.45pm
- **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 - 2.00pm

Next Dates

- Monday December 14th
- Monday January 11th

Call Wiltshire Library Services on **01225 713727** for information

Forthcoming Events

- 12th Book Swap
- 14th Gardening Club

Devizes Farmers' Market

Next: Saturday 5th December

The Shambles Antiques Market

Every Tuesday

Kerbside Collections

Black box and Plastic bottle and card recycling:
Wednesday 9th & 23rd

Household waste:
Wednesday 2nd & 16th & 31st

Garden waste:
Friday 4th & 18th



Worton and Marston Link

Need help getting to hospital appointments or visiting the doctor and dentist? Or maybe, need some transport to get you to the shops?

Call W&M LINK on 720207

Deadline for items for the next Bridge is 15th December 2015.

Giles Collins, Editor at Westview House, 109 High Street, Worton

Telephone: 01380 728664

E-mail: giles.collins@btinternet.com