

# The Bridge



**Worton and Marston  
Parish Magazine**

**June  
2014  
Price 25p**



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# THE BRIDGE

Editor: Giles Collins

## JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014

2.00 – 4.00 p.m.

Worton & Marston Village Hall

Refreshments served & Raffle

A fund raising event for the hall.

Donations gratefully received for sale, raffle or refreshments

(Can be dropped off at hall between 10.30 - 11.30 a.m. on morning of sale)

## Village Hall Maintenance Day

The next maintenance day will be held on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 9am - 1pm. The adage 'Many hands make light work' certainly applies in this instance. There are lots of small jobs that need tackling so if you can spare an hour or more please come along and help out. Enthusiasm is more important than ability!

If you have any questions,

please phone: Veronica Franklin (726845) or Mark Fisher (726489).

The next **parish walk** is on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July, leaving the pub at 10am and returning about 11.30am for bacon rolls.

## JUNE BOOK SWAP

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June

10.00am - 12 noon

at Westview House, 109 High Street,  
Worton (hosted by Sally Collins))

### Advance notice:

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July

at The Dell, 32 High Street, Worton  
(hosted by Cheryl Hailstone)



The number of bookworms meeting/swapping books/ chatting over books with coffee has been quite high over the past few months which has been convivial & interesting, but new participants are always welcome - no age limit, qualifications or cliques!

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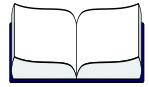
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## Letter from the Vicarage



Some of you will know that Ann has been doing a sponsored walk for the past few weeks - not every day, but averaging one walk per week. She is following the Wessex Ridgeway from Marlborough to Lyme Regis, about 127 miles. On the way, she has arranged meetings with Mothers Union groups (she is raising money for MU projects) seeking to encourage members and raise the profile of the MU.

I have found myself walking almost all the route with her, which is no hardship for me, I love walking and being out in the countryside. We have travelled through some amazing areas, often walking all day and seeing hardly a soul. It is easy to forget this is one of the most crowded countries in the world.

I value walking for several reasons.

First, it is great exercise; if nothing else it gets the blood pumping round the body and I would much sooner be outdoors than stuck on a treadmill in a gym.

Second, there is so much to look at. Even walking the same route things change from day to day. I try to vary my walks, but everywhere there is so much to appreciate.

Third, I find the rhythm of walking helps me think. Sometimes I can sit at my desk for hours mulling over a problem and come to no solution. Then I take the dog for a walk and within a few minutes things become clear.

So, is this letter intended to encourage you all to take up walking? Not really, it is wider than that. It's about finding an answer to busyness. That is the fourth reason walking is so good for me.

One of the things I hear often is the cry that 'I am so busy!' Someone came to our door and told me just that a few minutes ago. In a world which becomes more and more frantic, where do we find the space and time to build in quietness and reflection? Carl Jung was one of the founders of modern psychology, and he wrote "busyness is not of the devil, it is the devil". He knew that for our mental well being we all need to slow down and take time.

As a Christian I take my lead from the Bible. Jesus was busier than most of us will ever know. However, he found the time to be alone with God. Sometimes he got up early in the morning and went out by himself to pray. Sometimes he took a few days break, with or without his disciples, to recharge his batteries.

In the Old Testament we are told of the importance of quiet and solitude. Psalm 46 tells us to 'Be still and know that I am God.' The prophet Isaiah says: 'in quietness and trust is your strength'. And over and over again people find God in the stillness.

However you do it, I would urge you to try and build some kind of rhythm into your life. It is good to be busy at the right time, it is also good to take some time out and listen to God's voice. We all want our lives to be the best they can be – we were created to walk closely with God, and to do that we need to find time to be quiet and listen to Him.

David Howard

**SERVICE CALENDAR**

**June**

**June**

**Sun 1<sup>st</sup> EASTER 7**  
8.00am CHRIST CHURCH  
Holy Communion  
10.00am Joint Family Service in the  
Vicarage garden, followed by  
a bring and share lunch  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Rev Simon Edwards*

**Sun 29<sup>th</sup> TRINITY 2**  
10.00am CHRIST CHURCH  
Joint Service with St Marys,  
'Embrace the Middle East'  
with focus on Syria, following  
breakfast at 9.00am in Worton  
and Marston Villlage Hall  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Local Arrangement*

**Sun 8<sup>th</sup> PENTECOST**  
9.45am CHRIST CHURCH  
Parish Communion  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Rev Gary Gotham*  
*Holy Communion*

**July**

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup> TRINITY SUNDAY**  
9.45am CHRIST CHURCH  
Matins  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Rev David Coppard*

**Sun 6<sup>th</sup> TRINITY 3**  
8.00am CHRIST CHURCH  
Holy Communion  
9.30am Family Service in  
Worton and Marston village hall  
(Please note the earlier start time)  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Mr Eric Clifford*

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> TRINITY 1**  
9.45am CHRIST CHURCH  
Parish Communion  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Rev Cathy Arscott*



There were no baptisms, weddings or funerals at Christ Church in April.

Visit the church website: [www.christchurchworton.org.uk](http://www.christchurchworton.org.uk)

**CHURCH ROTAS**

**Sidesmen for June**

Sun 1st	8.00am	Mr P Witcher	Holy Communion
Sun 8th	9.45am	Mrs J Mason, Mrs M Boyns	Parish Communion
Sun 15th	9.45am	Mr T Harwood, Mr R Boyns	Matins
Sun 22nd	9.45am	Mrs S Courth, Mr L Courth	Parish Communion
Sun 29th	10.00am	Mrs D Barcham, Mr J Keates	Joint Communion (after 9.00 breakfast)

**Sidesmen for July**

Sun 6th	8.00am	Mr R Shercliff	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Mrs A Pratt, Mr N Coleman	Family Service (in Village Hall)

**Altar  
Flowers**

**Brass  
Cleaning**

**Church  
Flowers**

June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs Brierley	Mrs Brierley	Mrs P Woods
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Puckle Hobbs	Mrs Mason	Mrs G Holiday
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Smith	Mrs Purchas	Mrs J Mason
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs Lewis	Mr Keates	Mrs L Phillips
June 29 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Brierley	Mrs Brierley	Mrs M Brewer

**Church Cleaning**

June 8 <sup>th</sup> :	Mr and Mrs Harwood
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> :	Mrs Walker, Mrs Brewer





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**9.30am**

Service Times at Christ Church

The service time is changing at Christ Church  
for a trial period of six months.

**From July 6<sup>th</sup> until the end of the year the service  
will begin at 9.30 am.**

For some time many have been asking whether this would be more sensible, now is the time to find out.

The new time will enable the service taker to talk to people after the service, and also to arrive at Potterne able to begin the service on time!

Please make your views known to PCC members as the months pass and you have a chance to reflect on the change.

(Our parishes are the only ones in local villages with the same start time each week - we are very fortunate!)



## 2014 Holiday Club for Primary School Children

Potterne Vicarage Garden

28<sup>th</sup> July – 1st August 10.00 – 12.00

£1.00 per session - booking forms  
available through school soon.

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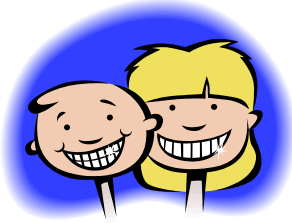
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## Family Service June 1<sup>st</sup>



The Family Service this month will be a joint service held in the Vicarage Garden at 10.30 am.

We shall be joined by about 30 friends from Coventry. These are some of the people the Howard's used to camp with each year in their last parish, and it is the last event of Ann's Big Birthday Celebration.

Please bring a contribution to a shared lunch and stay and enjoy the garden and each other's company. We may even go for a short wander around the village.

If wet, the service will be in St Mary's Church.

## Fifth Sunday Service, June 29<sup>th</sup>

The fifth Sunday service this month will be held in Christ Church.

Breakfast will be in the Village Hall at 9.00 am followed by the service in Church at 10.00 am.

We shall welcome Richard Jones from Embrace the Middle East (formerly the Bible Lands Society) as the preacher. He will bring us up to date information on many of those situations we see on the news, and tell us about the Christian Church in these places.

Do come and share in our fellowship and worship.



## Community First Oil prices

The prices for Kerosene this month are:

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# WORTON



Devides  
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# FAMILY



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## What's on at the Rose & Crown?

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**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

Breakfast  
9am-11am

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

Curry Night  
6pm to 9pm Booking is recommended

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June**

Pizza Night  
6pm to 9pm Booking is recommended

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June**

Lunch Bunch 12.45pm  
2 course meal, tea or coffee for only £12 per person  
Booking is required

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

Fish & Chip Supper  
6pm to 9pm Booking is recommended

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

Live Music from 9pm

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

Pie Night  
6pm to 9pm Booking is recommended

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June**

1pm Meat Raffle  
7.30pm Pub Quiz





**LUNCH BUNCH**

The date for June is Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> (**the second Wednesday**) when the menu will be:

Roast Chicken, roast potatoes and vegetables  
followed by a homemade strawberry cheesecake  
Tea or coffee  
£12 per person

We gather from 12 noon onwards and sit down to eat at 12.45.

If you would like to come along, meet people and support your local pub please contact Keith the landlord of the  
**Rose and Crown 724202**



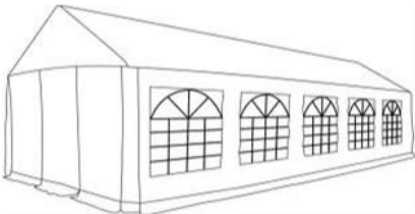
**Five Lanes Women's Institute**

Lotte Berk became world famous as the deviser of the 'Lotte Berk Technique', which was a revolutionary fitness program. This brought her fame and wealth during the 1960s and 1970s. This May, our speaker was Lotte's daughter, Esther Fairfax. She talked of the quite unique relationship that she had with her mother. It certainly was not a conventional one! I am keen to start reading Esther's book, 'My Improper Mother and Me', to learn more about their relationship.

There will not be the usual village hall meeting in June. Instead, we are having a summer outing, and visiting Mottisfont Abbey, a National Trust property near Romsey in Hampshire, for a day trip. Hopefully the weather will be nice for us!

We will not be back in the village hall until August, as we have another outing lined up for July. Hope to see you when we get back to our regular meetings.

Jane Loveys, President - 01380 729539



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## WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Village Hall** - It is a new dawn for the village hall. Having celebrated its centenary in 2011 the village hall is still a key hub of our village with a wide range of groups using its facilities. Worton Parish Council is actively supporting the village hall by making £7,000 available to enable the Village Hall Trustees to apply for an £80,000 grant to upgrade the structure of the village hall. The Trustees are currently starting this upgrade process with the porch and entrance area to maximise the use of the available space. Worton Parish Council has donated £1,400 to enable the Trustees to apply for a smaller grant to start the initial work. Worton Parish Council will be talking with Marston Parish Council to agree how to share the support of the village hall in the future for the benefit of both villages.

**Relocation of Parish Council Meetings** - As well as the village hall, both Worton and Marston Parish Councils provide an essential means of bringing villagers together to exchange ideas and views for the collective benefit of the villages. To demonstrate its commitment to the future of our communities, Worton Parish Council has decided to hold the next 6 meetings in the village hall which it is hoped will facilitate more debate and involvement in our meetings by members of the public. All Parish Councillors and village hall trustees are volunteers and it does make a difference when support is given by the public attending these meetings.

**Wiltshire Council Street Scene** - Now that the weather is improving we hope you will be able to benefit from the recent tidy up of our village pavements by Wiltshire Council. It should now be easier for residents to maintain the pavement and footpaths adjacent to their property by keeping them free of debris and pruning back the greenery that is springing into life. Wiltshire Council is responsible for the upkeep of the pavements and footpaths (including Back Lane) and the Parish Council voluntarily does what it can to keep footpaths in good condition but ultimately footpaths are the responsibility of Wiltshire Council and the landowners over whose property the rights of way exist.

**Road Safety**- Talking of pavements, details have now been received for the design of our requested road safety improvements, including an Informal Crossing Point for pedestrians near the School. Drawings will be on show at the Annual Parish Meeting and the Council will be discussing the designs at its next meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June (in the Village Hall) - all are welcome to attend and consultation with nearby residents will be arranged shortly and a more detailed report placed in the July magazine.

**Thank you for your support** - Finally, at the start of another Parish year, the Worton Parish Councillors would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the council meetings by joining us and exchanging their views. We welcome you again in 2014/15 and hope to see new faces too.

**Cllr Roger Wilshire**

[www.worton.org.uk](http://www.worton.org.uk)

[clerk@worton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@worton.org.uk)



# Worton & Marston

## Village Hall

run for the community  
by volunteers

**200 Club** - May winners drawn by Ellie & Freya, Year 6 pupils at Five Lanes School:  
£50 = No. 38, Cathy Kavanagh      £10 = No 140, Joy Stokes

**AGM** - The Village Hall AGM was held on 29<sup>th</sup> April and the 6 Trustees remain in their positions for the forthcoming year. The Village Hall financial accounts were submitted and a big thank you goes to Tom Harwood who audited them for us and also to our volunteer Treasurer, Tony Walker, who kindly prepares the financial information. The committee would also like to extend their thanks to all the volunteers who maintain the hall both inside and out, as well as those who support and donate in various ways, and to the W.I. for volunteering to carry out an annual 'deep clean' of the hall. The main aim for the forthcoming year is to obtain grant funding in order to make vital structural renovations to the building, therefore securing its future.

**Maintenance** - A very big thank you to all of you who came along on Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> for the second village hall maintenance day. We managed to dodge the rain for most of the morning and undertook the following tasks:

- Sanded and painted the wood surrounding the new front door – looks really good now!
- Fitted a water proof notice holder to the main door.
- Sanded and primed the emergency fire exit door on the side (to be painted on next maintenance day).
- Sanded the railings and painted majority (rain stopped us completing last section).
- Fixed the end piece to the cupboard in the kitchen & made secure.

**The next maintenance day will be held on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 1pm.** Amongst the tasks we hope to tackle is to begin repairing the holes in the outer walls of the building. This will be a holding job until the grant application currently being made by the trustees is successful and a more permanent solution put in place. In addition, there are lots of small jobs that need tackling so if you can spare an hour or more please come along. Veronica Franklin (726845) or Mark Fisher (726489).

The Village Hall Trustees will be holding a **Jumble Sale** to raise funds for the ongoing Hall maintenance on Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2pm until 4pm in the Hall. Please save any clothes that are in good condition, and/or bric-a-brac and we will let you know about collection/dropping off details in July's edition of The Bridge. However, if you need to get rid of them now rather than hold onto them until early July then please contact Veronica Franklin on 726845. Many thanks.

Veronica Franklin, Trustee



# The 'Badgers'

## Worton & Cheverell FC

[www.pitchero.com/clubs/wortonandcheverellfc/](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/wortonandcheverellfc/)

**Steve Dagnall**  
**01380-727976**

A big thanks to all the parent and team coaches for their help in developing the children this last season, as we now look forward to next Season after taking notes on skills from the forthcoming World Cup.

As a reminder:

1. **Annual Fun Day and Open Day, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June at the Lye Fields in Seend, starting at 12.00 and ending approx. 17.00pm.** All welcome to attend including new potential players
2. All players/parents to register on the Pitchero club website for participating next season and payment of fees.

Team News:

- Under 17/18: with new recruits joining mid-season, the team have had some respectable results, winning 3 out of the last 4 matches, with a recent 6 – 1 win against Calne, and losing only narrowly to the league leaders. The team ended joint 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- U15 - with the last two matches ending in score draws, the team gained a respectful 4<sup>th</sup> in the league.
- U13 - Taking part in a few tournaments, including preparation for the 9 -a-side tournament in Saint Marcel (France) on 7/8 June. The squad for next season is starting to take shape, but we are always on the lookout for talent - especially in defence.
- U12 - mid table, with 21 pts, with recent 6-1 win against Westbury
- U11 - 2 teams, struggled a bit in their first year at 11-a-side, but developing well.
- U10 - mid table, 19 pts, with recent 6-1 away win against Trowbridge.
- U9/8/7 are in so called friendly ('competitive') leagues. Recently the U7, who had a great first season, played in a tournament at Salisbury FC, playing in a group at U8 level but holding up well. Great day out with a tour of the stadium and medals presented by Will Puddy (Salisbury Goalie).
- U6s have a large number of recruits who are doing well in their development.

Well done to all teams of all ages, and we look forward to next season including the new Under 6s (currently U5 'reception').

**Steve Dagnall**  
01380-727976

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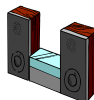
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## Worton and Marston Gardening Club



Our April Meeting gave us the opportunity to learn more about herbaceous perennials from our speaker Mike Burgess. These plants can be used in a range of situations and can give colour and interest for most of the year. We will see Mike again at the Flower Show in August when he will judge our entries to the flower section.

On **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June** we have arranged a private visit to a garden in Frome. This garden opens as part of the National Garden Scheme (NGS). The garden belongs to Dave Moon and his wife Pru.

Late last year they gave us a talk on the work of the NGS and included some pictures of their garden. Dave and Pru describe their garden as “an ever evolving and extraordinary garden behind a very ordinary house”.

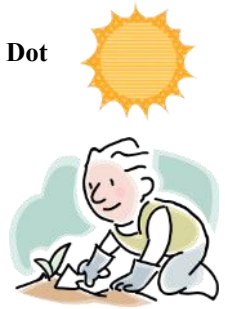
We meet at the Village Hall to share transport at 6.15pm. Please feel free to come along and bring guests. The cost of entry to the garden is £4 all of which goes to charity. There will be no refreshments but we do have the garden to ourselves and Mike and Pru will be on hand to tell us more about the garden.

If you would like to know more about the visit please call **Dot Francis**, programme secretary, on 01380 739986.



If you would like to receive a copy of this year's programme please contact:

[suzanne.bonfield@virgin.net](mailto:suzanne.bonfield@virgin.net) or  
Bill Francis at [bllyb01@aol.com](mailto:bllyb01@aol.com)



## **Worton & Marston Ladies Group**

We had a very enjoyable meeting in April when we went to the Whitehall Garden Centre for lunch. The weather was good so we walked around the garden admiring the beautiful plants which some of us bought.

Our May meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> is a Museum Talk and Tour with tea and biscuits at 7.30pm. Cost £3.

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## **Christ Church Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held in Christ Church on Sunday 27 April, preceded by the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, at which Mrs Jean Lane and Mrs Heather Walker were both elected as churchwardens for the forthcoming year.

The APCM was attended by 23 members of the congregation and it was reported that the Electoral Roll remains at 66, the same as last year, after a couple of changes.

The Financial Statement for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013 was reviewed and reflected the very generous donation from relatives of Anne Shand, given in her memory. Unfortunately all of this was (or will be) accounted for by the expenditure necessary to strip and rebuild the organ, to rid the church of the risk of asbestos dust. Consequently, the overall resources, which the accounts show to have increased, in fact will remain about the same, once all of the costs have been met. There are many outstanding maintenance requirements as well as ideas for further improvements and the policy of the PCC is to maintain reserves as such a level as to be able to face the unexpected, as proved to be our salvation in 2013.

The Churchwardens, in their Fabric Report, thanked all of the many people who help to keep the church and the churchyard looking so well. These teams inevitably become depleted over the years, for one reason or another, and new volunteers are always required for church cleaning, flower arranging and brass polishing.

A report was received about the work done by the Deanery Synod, where part of the focus has been on strengthening the church's mission, especially among young people. Also reports were made about the link with the Worton and Marston Family of Churches and about the work of the parish magazine team. The editor of *The Bridge* was thanked for his work, along with many others who contribute in various ways, and it was confirmed that the publication remains financially viable, helped by support from our advertisers.

Margaret Brewer and John Lane were re-elected to the PCC, along with our new Treasurer, Louise Hale. The two further vacancies for elected members will be filled in the meantime by co-option. Two of our regular sidesmen have recently left the village, but we gained one more during the year and all 15 currently on the list were re-elected, en bloc. Frank Marshall was also re-appointed as the Independent Examiner of the church accounts. He was warmly thanked for his work, as was the retiring Treasurer, Tom Harwood.

The vicar discussed his personal comments, as included on the cover of the Annual Report. These were very positive and he commented on the warm welcome, which is usually a feature of Christ Church services. He is also encouraged by the work with children and young people, although it remains to be seen whether this will translate in all cases into a lifelong commitment to Christian worship. The Holiday Club remains very popular in the school summer holidays, but more adult and teenage leaders are always required. David also drew attention to the fellowship which has become such a feature of the joint Fifth Sunday services with St Mary's, Potterne, and of the Family Services at Christ Church when families with children are present.

Peter Witcher (Secretary to the PCC).

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### Christ Church PCC Meeting

The Parochial Church Council of Christ Church met on Thursday 8 May and discussed the following:

1. Attendance at the Family Service continues to be patchy. On balance, more people seem to come when the service is held in the Village Hall, but this may be a coincidence and, anyway, requires a lot of work in setting up (and, of course, hire charges). It was agreed to continue for the time being with alternating this service between the Hall and the church, but anyone with a view on this should contact the Vicar.

2. The following officers were elected for the coming church year:

Vice Chairman of PCC: Jean Lane

Electoral Roll Officer: Peter Witcher

Honorary Treasurer: Louise Hale

PCC Secretary: Peter Witcher

3. There was a discussion regarding the proposal to move forward to 9.30 the start time of morning services, this having been raised at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Although discussed before, this has never been implemented (for fear of disturbing the *status quo ante*) but would make it easier for the Vicar to get to Potterne for their 11.00 service and, perhaps, provide better opportunities for David to meet parishioners after the service at Christ Church. A survey is being undertaken to try to gauge the feelings of *all* interested parties but, as an experiment, morning services at Christ Church will start at 9.30 with effect from 6 July for a period of about 6 months (in other words, until the dark days of winter!). It is hoped that anyone with a view about this will contact anyone they know who goes to church regularly (quite a lot of us!).

4. The annual Holiday Club, run in the grounds of the vicarage in the school summer holidays, will this year focus on "People who encountered Jesus", as recorded in St Matthews gospel. Although very popular and usually attracting upwards of 100 children each year, we are this year rather short of volunteer helpers (adults and teenagers) for one reason or another, and so anyone interested in helping with this valuable work (it is only a week and training is offered!) should contact David or Ann Howard on 723189.

5. As mentioned at the APCM, we now have an urgent need for more church cleaners, flower arrangers, bible readers and intercessors, if anyone feels they would like to contribute to the life of the church in any of these ways.

Peter Witcher, Secretary to the PCC.

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## Two Summer Concerts

My name is Eleanor Corr. I am a professional violinist, and latterly Top Scholar at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Before a family move to Somerset, when my sister and I won scholarships to Wells Cathedral School (one of the four UK specialist music schools), we lived for many years at Well House in Marston. It was here that we started learning violin and viola at Super Strings Club, Market Lavington.

I would like to invite our former neighbours to 2 concerts of light classical music in June, advertised in this edition of The Bridge:

On **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June** at 3pm in The Community Hall, Market Lavington, I will play sonatas by Mozart and Brahms with Daniel Beskow, an award-winning Swedish pianist. The concert will be about an hour long and costs £8 (£3 child).

On **19<sup>th</sup> June** I am doing an important fund-raising concert for the Teenage Cancer Trust South West Appeal with the amazing London Chamber Soloists. Money raised will go to help fund the newly opened unit in Bristol for the treatment of cancer patients aged 16-24 in your area. An age-appropriate unit made all the difference to my sister when she was treated for cancer in Bristol in 2013. Happily, as she is now in remission, Florence will join me as one of the soloists in Mozart's masterpiece Sinfonia Concertante which will be played alongside Tchaikovsky's popular Serenade for Strings in a programme lasting about an hour. We hope you will consider the drive to Bristol well worth your while, both musically and charitably.

The concert is at 7.30 pm at St George's, off Park Street, Bristol, BS1 5RR. Tickets are priced £15 (£10 concessions) Family Tickets (2 adults, 2 children) £35 Groups 10 for price of 9.

For details and tickets email [info@londonchambersoloists.com](mailto:info@londonchambersoloists.com) or call 07708 289449.

St George's fabulous concert hall is right by Brandon Hill with its parkland and panorama –the ideal spot for a summer picnic prior to the concert. If the weather is poor there are many great restaurants to suit all tastes and budgets in the Park Street or Harbourside areas nearby. Parking is easy in the evening either on street or in The Harbourside or Trenchard Street car parks.

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Eleanor Corr



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### **A Snapshot of the History of Marston**

Called Merstone in 1309, derived from a Saxon name mersctun (marsh settlement).

In the early 1600s Potterne Manorial Court asked the Inhabitants of Marston to repair the ditch known as 'le gripp' leading from Marston to Bulkington. The villagers were also told not to let their pigs roam in the lanes of Marston.

1646 saw Potterne and Marston grievously visited by the plague.

A survey of the Manor of Potterne carried out by John May in 1656 shows many houses in Marston that have long since disappeared. A similar map, dated a year later, clearly shows the cobblestone path which probably joined up with a causeway that came from Potterne.

The bridge leading from Worton to Marston called Raw Bridge was in 1740 out of repair and dangerous to travellers and the Marston Supervisors of the Highway were asked to make repairs within two months. These Supervisors or Surveyors of the Highways were responsible for the upkeep of the lanes, bridges and drains in the parish. Their account books make fascinating reading and in those days labour was one shilling per day.

Between 1815 and 1830 George Watson-Taylor was building up the Erlestoke Estate and by the time the Wiltshire Tithe Apportionment was agreed in 1841, there were 33 landowners in Marston. The main owners being: George Watson-Taylor (405 acres), Valentine Hale Mairis (107 acres) and Martha May (63 acres). Marston had 525 acres of meadow, 320 acres of arable land and 26 acres that were lanes etc.

By 1835 the Chapel had been built (Primitive Methodists in those days) and by 1841 Christ Church had also been built after £1200 had been raised mainly by subscription.

Most of the houses that had been built in Marston prior to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century were built from bricks made from local clay, the majority of which would have come from local brickworks either on the outskirts of Worton or at Stoke's Marsh, Coulston. The latter probably belonged to the Watson-Taylors, their bricks being bigger than most, perhaps to reduce the brick tax paid?

The first Parish Meeting for Marston was held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1894 and Charles Frederick Biggs was elected chairman. By June 1899 approval had been given to make a new road between Worton and Marston in place of the footpath and bridleway. Until then the Horse Road had been the main way through between the two villages.

In June 1910 much of the Erlestoke Estate was sold including most of the Watson-Taylor's property in Marston. What remained was sold in 1920.

The Grip appeared to still be an important source of water in Marston in the 1920s, with much correspondence with the Ecclesiastical Commission in London regarding keeping it clean. The villagers depended on the water for domestic use, a 'dipping place for water'.

(continued over the page)

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(continued from previous page)

In her Memories from Childhood, Jean Carter tells of her life on a farm in the 1920s, and how very different it was from life today. Families were virtually self-sufficient, the days were long and work was hard and manual. Pigs and chickens were kept for food and butter was made once a week. Haymaking was a very hard job with long hours as it was all done by hand and horses. The toilet was a little wooden house at the bottom of the garden and the only lighting in the home was oil lamps and candles. The children walked to school at Worton and although school life was very strict, at Christmas there was a party with presents. Saturday night was bath night, with the water coming from a well in the garden. Monday was washing day, Tuesday ironing day and on Wednesday the eggs had to be cleaned and counted ready to be taken to Devizes Market on Thursday.

Marston was known as Marston in the Mud, the lanes were very muddy as seven herds of cows were driven four times a day from farm to field or field to farm until the weather got too bad for pasture feeding.

In 1937 the Coronation of George 6<sup>th</sup> was celebrated with Worton and during the war years American soldiers were frequent visitors to the Plough Inn as they were stationed at Erlestoke Park. Italian prisoners of war worked on some of the farms in Marston and some families had evacuees from London.

After the War, the Parish Meeting continued to oversee Marston and deal with many local issues, including taking over the Green from the Church Commissioners, getting a telephone kiosk and in 1954 a Coronation seat.

In 1958 a Parish Council for Marston was established and in 1960 it was agreed to build a bus shelter. Times were changing in Marston and by April 1978 there was concern about the high level of soil round the Jubilee oak tree due to the Green improvements being done by Pearces. Unfortunately by 1984 the oak tree was dead and had been cut down.

To be continued.....

Dave Hansford, May 2014.

### **Worton & Marston Link Scheme**

Due to the volunteers in our villages forever being on holiday the Link scheme would like to recruit more drivers.

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Alun Newman, Chair, Worton & Marston Link

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**Please come along and support this event.**

All money raised will go to help the Children that use the Centre!

## A Message from Richard Gamble

Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestone Division

If you live in one of the villages where this parish magazine is distributed, you can't have missed the fact that the army is close by.

You will have heard the big guns and, sometimes, will have been shaken by the explosions. You will have seen the flares at night and will have heard the rattle of machine gun fire. You may have observed the occasional convoys of exotic-looking vehicles on our roads or may have driven past as they waited to cross the public highway. You will have looked up as planes and helicopters fly low over our heads.

For most of us, these are reassuring signs of the presence of our defence forces. For some, however, they may also be reminders of the sounds and sights of conflict many years ago when our nation was in peril and when our brave men and women put their lives on the line to uphold our civilization against the forces of barbarity.

It is right that, over the coming months and years, we will remember the horrific carnage that took place a century ago because we owe our freedoms to that sacrifice. While that conflict marked the end of the glorious empires of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it also marked the beginning of much that is good in the modern world.

I will write again about how I believe many positives came out of the horrors of war (technology, emancipation, etc.). Nevertheless, the very fact that the army is here on our doorstep is proof that, despite two world wars and a cold war, the victory of good over evil is not yet complete.

In Wiltshire, therefore, we are honoured that nearly 5,000 more soldiers and their families (a total of about 8,000 people) will be stationed here as the MoD withdraws units from our bases in Germany over the next few years. The county will be the largest recipient of rebasing of any area in the country. Thousands of more families will need thousands of more homes, more school places, more doctors, etc. etc. Their presence will stimulate our economy in general and the business of the army will promote science and technology industries in the county in particular.

If the army will save our national way of life, will increase our local prosperity and will expand the opportunities for our young people, then I hope we can all put up with the bangs.

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

## What's happening on the farm!

I think I jumped the gun when I said spring was finally here! The last month has seen a good 4 inches of rain. What a nightmare! We had to bring some of the cattle back in to allow the grazing fields to dry out again however with the weather finally on the turn all the cattle are now back out enjoying the grass and the sun.

The maize that we planted last month is up and growing at a rapid rate, its roots are well established and have found the fertiliser that was put in the ground when it was drilled. We were one of the lucky ones who got it drilled in the good weather just before Easter; many other farmers who were caught out by the bad weather are only just drilling their maize now!

With the weather sunny again, we decided the time was right to cut some of the fields of grass to bale up for winter feed for the cattle. In total we cut 40 acres of new leys (re-seeded fields of grass) about 1/3 of the fields that are to be cut. The rest of fields need an extra week or so to bulk up this is because they are pasture leys and they take a bit longer to mature. We like to get the grass fairly dry before it is baled and wrapped, so after mowing, a machine called a tedder is used to spread the grass out of its mower rows to allow the air and the sun to dry the grass. It is then left for at least 24 hours before it is rowed back up again using a machine called a rake. Then finally our contractor comes in with his baler and wrapper. The grass is baled up and then wrapped in black plastic. The black plastic is wrapped tightly around the bales to keep the air out and to allow the sugars in the grass to ferment to create silage (the winter feed for cattle).

On a more awkward note and I do not want to have to keep writing it month after month because it is not why I am writing this column. But please can all dog walkers keep their dogs on leads whilst walking over the land. Over the past week whilst working in the fields I Am pleased to see that some of you are giving the wildlife the respect that it deserves by keeping your dogs on leads but for the rest of you I must reiterate the importance of keeping your dog on a lead. Dogs that are allowed to run freely are hunting the hedges and disturbing wildlife, how can wildlife survive and stay here if dogs are hunting the hedges every day. In a more serious case two weeks ago, a loose dog was killing Mr Elliot's chicken at will; this is a farmer's livelihood that has been affected by dogs that are not on leads. I am sorry to rant on about this but I need everyone to understand their responsibilities when out walking their dogs.

Robert Goss



## Roger L D Wilshire

### Handyman

General maintenance  
Painting  
Garden work  
Restructuring walls  
etc.

Sandleaze, Worton

07810127922



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# Notice Board

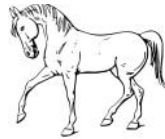
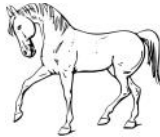
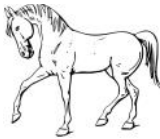
*One-off, personal classified for the notice board are free of charge.  
Forward details to the Editor.*

## FOR SALE

Bosch dishwasher in very good order.  
Just out of warrantee but infrequently used. £90.

Please contact Dot and Bill Francis  
on 01380 739986 or by e mail [bllyb01@aol.com](mailto:bllyb01@aol.com)

**Lost property** - A gent's casual jacket was left in Christ Church several weeks ago. If you think it may belong to you please contact Jean Lane on 722069 or Heather Walker on 725785.Thank you



COXHILL LANE, POTTERNE, DEVIZES, SN10 5PH  
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**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 4.30-5.30pm

**In the School**

- **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 - 1.00-1.40pm

**Next Dates (every other Monday)**

- Monday June 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Monday June 16<sup>th</sup>
- Monday June 30<sup>th</sup>

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

**June Events**

- 7<sup>th</sup> Village Hall maintenance day
- 11<sup>th</sup> Lunch Bunch
- 14<sup>th</sup> Book Club
- 16<sup>th</sup> Gardening Club

and lots happening in July

**Devizis Farmers' Market**

Next: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June

**The Shambles Antiques Market**

Every Tuesday

**Kerbside Collections (Wednesdays)**

- Black box recycling - 11 & 25 June
- Plastic bottle/cardboard - 11 & 25 June
- Household waste - 4 & 18 June
- Garden waste - 4 & 18 June



**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 15<sup>th</sup> June 2014.**  
**Giles Collins, Editor at Westview House, 109 High Street, Worton**  
**Telephone: 01380 728664**  
**E-mail: giles.collins@btinternet.com**