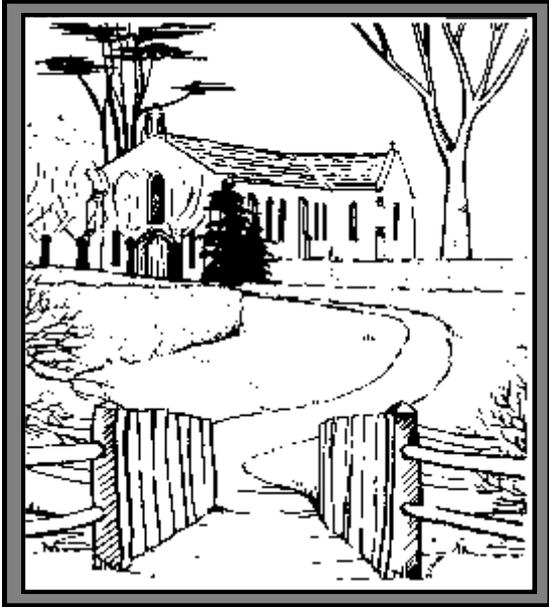


# The Bridge



Worton and Marston  
Parish Magazine

May  
2015  
Price 25p



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# THE BRIDGE

Editor: Giles Collins  
giles.collins@btinternet.com



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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.**

**M:** 07557 922027

**E:** [devizesgnc@communityfirst.org.uk](mailto:devizesgnc@communityfirst.org.uk)

## Coffee, Cake & Chat

Our next Coffee, Cake & Chat at Christ Church will take place on  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** from 10.30am - noon.

Why not come along to relax and enjoy some time with friends and neighbours.  
Voluntary donations will be for the benefit of Devizes Alzheimer's Society.

Heather Walker

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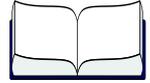


helen@oxleecedar.fsnet.co.uk  
www.helenleehomeopathy.com

01380 720311  
07773 983739



## Letter from the Vicarage



We don't usually take a newspaper, but Ann and I were on holiday post Easter (Vicars are encouraged to take a few days off then) and I read that a new survey had revealed some startling facts. Britain is the 6<sup>th</sup> most irreligious country in the world, it appears. Only 30% questioned said they were religious, whilst 53% said they were not. Interestingly, though, only 13% said they were atheists. That leaves the majority of people claiming to be 'not religious', yet neither are they unbelievers.

Often when someone dies I hear that they were 'not religious', but that they had favourite hymns or Bible readings. Is that because people have no time for organised religion with all its trappings, but are still spiritual? I have sympathy with that. There are times I am not fond of my part of the Christian church – it sometimes does and says things which make me uncomfortable. But that does NOT shake my faith in Jesus and His message.

Militant atheists say that we do not need religion to live in a civilised society; as though 'good' is hard-wired into us. China is the least religious country in the world according to the survey (although they were not allowed to poll in North Korea). It is interesting then, that the Chinese authorities are allowing more religious freedom at the moment. What is the official reason? China is also one of the most corrupt countries in the world and the leaders want the moral example of Christians to infiltrate into the non-religious people around them. I think those wanting a civilised, courteous, car-

ing society without faith should think seriously about that.

We are what we are in Britain today because of our Christian heritage. It is like a reservoir which, over the centuries, has provided us with our moral direction. Until recently the reservoir was topped up regularly, but now it seems to me it is running dry. We are fortunate in still having the water to draw on, but what will happen if and when it is empty? Already many things are condoned in society which are not encouraging Christian teaching or values, to put it mildly. There is only one answer, and that is to begin to put something back in to the reservoir.

What would you have answered if you had been asked the question in the survey? Are you religious, or an atheist, or one of the majority not sure what to think? I would encourage you to think about the important things of life, and especially Jesus and His claims. Don't worry too much about the church that bears His name, it gets some things right and other things wrong.

Just ask if **Jesus** is someone you could follow. It is in answering that question I believe we find the most important answers of all.

David Howard 01380 723189  
email: [dahoward@waitrose.com](mailto:dahoward@waitrose.com)

**SERVICE CALENDAR**

**May**

**Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> EASTER 5**  
8.00am CHRIST CHURCH  
Holy Communion  
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH  
Family Service  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Rev Gary Gotham*  
*Holy Communion*

**Sun 10<sup>th</sup> EASTER 6**  
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH  
Parish Communion  
3.00pm *Meet at Marston Chapel to*  
*begin the Rogation walk*

**Sun 17<sup>th</sup> EASTER 7**  
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH  
Matins  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Rev David Coppard*

**Sun 24<sup>th</sup> PENTECOST**  
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH  
Parish Communion  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Rev Gary Gotham*

**May**

**Sun 31<sup>st</sup> TRINITY SUNDAY**  
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH  
No service at Christ Church -  
we meet at St Mary's Potterne  
for breakfast at 9.00am  
followed by a joint service  
at 10.00am  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*Rev Simon Edwards*

**June**

**Sun 7<sup>th</sup> TRINITY 1**  
8.00am CHRIST CHURCH  
Holy Communion  
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH  
Family Service  
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*  
*TBA*



There was one funeral at Christ Church during March for Maria Dorothy Buck.

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

**CHURCH ROTAS**

**Sidesmen – May 2015**

Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00am	Mrs J Buckley	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Mrs J Mason, Mrs A Cross	Family Service
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mrs A Pratt, Mr T Walker	Parish Communion
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mr T Harwood, Mr T Brewer	Matins
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Mr R Boyns, Mr R Nott	Parish Communion

**Sidesmen – June 2015**

Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 am	Mr R Shercliff	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Mrs S Courth, Mr L Courth	Family Service

	<b>Altar Flowers</b>	<b>Brass Cleaning</b>	<b>Church Flowers</b>
--	--------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs Brierley	Mr Collins	tbc
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Walker	Mrs Mason	tbc
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Brewer	Mrs Hailstone	tbc
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Francis	Mr Keates	tbc
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Mrs Brierley	Mrs Brierley	tbc

**Church Cleaning**

May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs Walker	Mrs Brewer
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Purchas	Mr Mitchell

# Garden Services

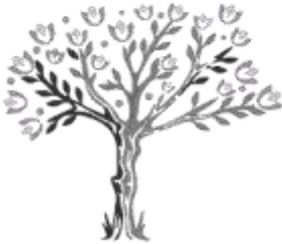
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**Five Lanes School and Christ Church  
Sports Tournament, Fete & Plant Sale  
Worton Site**

**Saturday 16th May  
Starting at 9.30 am!**



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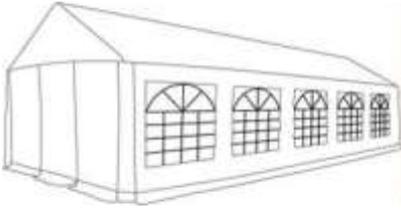
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**Five Lanes School and Christ Church  
Sports Tournament Fete & Plant Sale  
Worton Site**



**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May  
9.30 am**

The full advertisement for this event may be seen elsewhere in the magazine.

This is the annual combined village event for the benefit of both Five Lanes School and Christ Church. One advantage is the presence of sports supporters from other villages!! Support from all villagers is much appreciated – please would you once again look out the following items for this event. Thank you

Raffle Prizes and items for a tombola.  
Bottles for the bottle tombola  
Food items and jams etc for the Country Kitchen  
Gifts  
And of course your young plants and separated roots!



Please look out for raffle ticket sellers

As everyone seems to be so busy these days, perhaps we could ask for your contributions to be brought either to the church or the school in advance please – notes will be delivered giving contact numbers if delivery is difficult.

If you have even the smallest desire to help out at a village event then please let the school or church representatives know – many hands make lighter work, and thank you.

Proceeds shared between Five Lanes School and Christ Church unless otherwise stated

**LUNCH BUNCH**

The date for May 2015 is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> when the menu will be:

Roast lamb, roast potatoes and vegetables

followed by a lemon meringue

Tea or coffee

£12 per person

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

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## Rogation Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup>



Rogation is the time when people traditionally 'beat the bounds'. It was the custom to walk the Parish boundary and pray God's blessing on crops and animals.

We may not be able to walk the whole parish boundary, but we are walking through all three villages for Rogation this year. **Starting from Marston Chapel at 3 pm, the route will pass through Five Lanes Farm, where at 4 pm we shall have an act of worship followed by a tea.**

After tea, those who wish to are invited to walk on to Potterne, where lifts will be provided for those needing to return to Worton or Marston. If you are not able to walk you can, of course, drive to the venues and catch up with the important bits as they take place. If you need a lift please let the Vicarage know on 723189.

If you are coming, please bring a contribution of food for tea to the chapel, where a car will transport it to the farm, or drop your contribution in to Five Lanes Farm on the way to Marston. Do join us if you are able.



## Messy Church May 2015

Please join us again for the next **Messy Church** which will be on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May** from 3.30 pm or straight from school, again in Potterne Village Hall.

The theme is to be confirmed, but it will be good!!

We hope that you may be able to bring others with you.

Everyone is welcome, children with parents or guardians.

Don't forget you get your tea too!



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## Marston Parish Council report

24<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Philip Salaman chaired the meeting attended by 20 parishioners and representatives from Good Energy.

Prior to the start of council business, a Q&A session was held to raise issues regarding the solar farm development.

There were concerns regarding traffic movement and resulting damage to the village green. An area of Long Street will be widened to improve the access route. Potential encroachment on the green will be monitored and Good Energy has assured us that any damage will be repaired on completion of the project. A sum of money has been lodged with Wiltshire Council to cover any shortfall of works but it was generally felt to be insufficient.

Matters discussed by MPC:

Work on fencing the village field is nearing completion.

MPC will receive approximately £5000pa for 30 years once the solar farm is operative. In addition Good Energy is donating £10,000 towards the cost of upgrading broadband to the village. Fast speed broadband is expected to be available from March 2016.

Having attended a CATG meeting, Mr Salaman reported that it was unlikely that Marston will become a 30mph area. We would ask that drivers slow down on entering the village especially as there will soon be heavy lorry movements.

As part of our flooding precautions all drains and gulleys will be mapped and Wiltshire will ensure they are cleared.

MPC will support Worton's Neighbourhood Plan and has agreed our contributions to the Village Hall fund (£2,000).

Date of the next meeting; 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 7.30pm in the Chapel.

## The Old School Day Centre Market Lavington.....

.....would like to thank everyone who supported their Spring Sale on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March. The event raised a healthy £649.21. Our special thanks to all the local businesses who provided some lovely prizes for the raffle.

If you didn't make it to our sale, you might like to look out for our stall in the marketplace on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015 when we will be joining with others to remember a similar market which was held 100 years ago to raise money for the Red Cross Appeal. The 'Our Day' Market will take place from 9am-11am and will be raising money for the British Red Cross as well as local charities. We hope to see you there.

Janice Charlton



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Deb Mackay – 01380 730564. Email – [debsmackay@hotmail.com](mailto:debsmackay@hotmail.com)

This year at the AGM (Tue 21<sup>st</sup> April) I am hoping to stand down as Chairperson of our Village Hall. I've been in the role for the past seven years and have been involved in the hall since I moved to the area. I have enjoyed getting stuck into something for the benefit of the whole village. I think it's always good to have a change after a number of years in such a role, as fresh input is a positive thing. I have offered to remain on the committee and encourage everyone to have a think about any spare time you may have to consider how you can help in the community, whether it's with the hall (maintenance, fund raising, administration, etc.), Parish councils, Traffic Speed Watch, Church, or School, or by joining one of the clubs held in the village. As a full time Mum, I have managed to fit in a few hours each month to volunteer for several local groups & find it very rewarding. It would be lovely to see volunteers of all generations joining together to help in our community.

During my time as Chair, I have been fortunate enough to have worked with a supportive and friendly group of Trustees, all of whom have shared the same enthusiasm and passion for keeping our community building up and running. There will be two positions vacant on the committee at the AGM as sadly Tony Walker, Treasurer, and Frank Marshall, Trustee, will be stepping down and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their time, commitment, encouragement and support; it really has been appreciated.

As I look to pass the position on to someone else, we are awaiting the outcome of a large grant funding application to Viridor, which will enable us to replace the roof, walls and windows of the hall, whilst keeping the unique appearance of the hall. Both Marston and Worton parish councils remain very supportive of the hall and understand the costs involved in keeping the building up and running and we thank them for their assistance.

Hoping to report good news soon!

Helen Morse



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# The 'Badgers'

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01380-727976

## Worton & Cheverell FC

<http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/wortonandcheverellfc/>

**Date for diaries:** The Annual Club Fun & Presentation day is Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June from noon onwards (details of location to be advised).

Whilst the summer tournaments are starting to take shape for the various teams in the Club, the league and cup matches continue, with the Under 10s playing the Gordon Banks Cup Final against Corsham recently.

At Under 7 and 8 levels, the squads had a day out at Swindon Town FC, with a tour of the ground followed by an hour and half training session nearby, to then return to the stadium to watch Swindon beat Peterborough 1-0. Great day out, and many thanks to the coaches for organising this eye opener for the younger players. Training now takes place on Friday evenings at St Barnabas' with Under 5s from 5.30-6.00, and U7/8 from 6.00-7.00 pm.

At Under 11 level, a new Jose Mourinho is required! For next season we are looking for a new manager (when they will be at U12 level). The team are looking for any interested parent or prospective footballer to volunteer. Next season training will be Saturday a.m., with matches on Sundays. If interested please contact Ian Cook on 07825016411 or email [iancook21@yahoo.com](mailto:iancook21@yahoo.com). (Ed: Many thanks Ian for all your help throughout the last few years in giving the team the focus and development they deserved).

### **Team contact details:**

Reception Year (tasters) + U7 + U8: Dave 07843678781 or Mark 01380-813160

U6 + U9 + U10: Jason 07590-427999

U11: Ian 01380-848437

U12: Jake 07741-306303

U14: Neil 01380-818193

U16: Mike 07854-320605

Adults: Paul 01380-727242 or Chris 01380-812339

**Steve Dagnall**  
01380-727976

*'It is enough that the people know there was an election. The people who cast the votes decide nothing. The people who count the votes decide everything.'*

Joseph Stalin



St. Mary's Church, Potterne



## Flower Festival and Flowery Fete

Freedom and Justice in Flowers based on the  
Magna Carta – 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June  
10 – 6 pm

Flowery Greetings Cards and Gifts for sale

**Fete:** Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 11am – 4pm  
Vicarage Garden and Churchyard  
Lots of flowery stalls, items and activities



Just for Fun we will be enjoying flowers from a wedding  
on 6<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate marriage.

Come along on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 6pm** with  
your wedding photos and The Dress if you still  
have it, and a plate of nibbles. Some wine and some  
glasses too, so that we can enjoy some history and  
guess some dates.

Later this year on Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup>, Worton **Knit & Natt** will be hosting:

## Monster' Stinc

a fun packed monster themed day for all featuring:

Monster Trail round Worton & Marston

Kids Monster Party

'Monster Mash' for adults in the evening

## We need your help!

We need people in Worton & Marston\* who can be **Monster Makers** for the Monster Trail (it's like a scarecrow trail but with monsters)

Monster Makers will need to make a monster & put it outside their house on 31<sup>st</sup> October so it's visible to passers-by.

What you make is up to you but be creative – we don't want lots of Frankenstein's.

We'll need to know what you're going to make so we can design the trail.

All proceeds from the day will go to the Village Hall, Five Lanes School & the British Heart Foundation.

Please get in touch with Chris Johnson on 720580 or Jo Banks on 726658 if you want to sign up to be a Monster Maker – please let us know by end June.

\*Mill Road, Norney Bridge & some others (depending on where your house is) – for safety reasons we can't unfortunately include your houses in the trail BUT if you'd like to make a monster anyway, these will be displayed outside the Village Hall.

## Flower Show

This year's Flower Show will take place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

The photographic classes are listed below, to keep in mind when out and about with your camera.

**Children's Section** ( for those under 16 on 31st August 2015)

1. Leaves
2. A potted plant
- 3 A bird or birds in the garden

**Adult's Section**

1. Wet weather
2. Inside a greenhouse
3. Purple - in the garden - could be flowers, furniture, fencing, gates etc.

Heather Walker for Flower Show Committee

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## Superfast Broadband in Worton

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There are two Superfast Broadband (SfB) developments taking place that affect Worton:

### 1. **Commercial Programme.**

This is being rolled out and fully funded by BT, Virgin etc, where they deem it a sound business investment. To date, this programme has covered about 2/3rd of Wiltshire. The Devizes exchange has already been upgraded and can offer its customers SfB connection. The extension to Worton from the exchange was not included in BT's upgrade plans.

### 2. **Great Western Broadband (GWB) Programme.**

The GWB programme is managed by Wiltshire and South Gloucestershire Councils, as part of the Government-funded, national SfB initiative. It is being delivered, locally under contract by BT, to those addresses (such as in Worton) not included in the commercial programme. By 31 March 2016, GWB promises to provide access to broadband speeds of between 24-80 megabytes per second (mb/s) for 91% of homes and businesses in Wiltshire in its programme.

The GWB work to upgrade Cabinet 21 (next to the telephone box on Worton High Street) is almost complete. The high speed services should be available from May from the broadband service providers to those who wish to pay for it. Howev-

er, the Wiltshire Council Broadband Team confirmed in March that not all Worton addresses are serviced by Cabinet 21. Some are linked to Cabinet 3 in Potterne! Cabinet 3 is not part of the current GWB programme but remains the responsibility of BT plc to upgrade as part of its own commercial programme. BT has advised that they do not consider the Cabinet 3 upgrade to be commercially viable, at this time. Wiltshire Council is considering a second phase of the GWB programme from 2016 onwards but there is no guarantee that Cabinet 3 will be included.

As a first step in working towards a solution with BT plc, I need to find out which telephone lines in Worton are linked to Cabinet 3. BT plc will not provide me with a list. You can individually find out your host cabinet by entering your phone number at the **BT ADSL Checker** webpage. Search this via Google. **If you are linked to Cabinet 3, please e-mail your name, address & phone number to me at [martin.rose@btinternet.com](mailto:martin.rose@btinternet.com).**

I will keep you updated on progress - via your e-mail, and via the Worton Parish Council website ([www.worton.org.uk](http://www.worton.org.uk)), WPC meetings and the BRIDGE magazine.

Martin Rose Parish Councillor  
01380 726788



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## Five Lanes Women's Institute

Our April meeting featured Gordon Brockman, a professional auctioneer. He gave us some tips on researching and understanding antiques. He taught us how to understand the hallmarks on silverware. Unfortunately, my silver heirloom turned out to be electroplate! He also gave us some tips on how to spot forgeries in silverware. He finished off his presentation by valuing some items brought along by our members. These treasures ranged from a silver Vesta matchbox to an old pair of football boots from the 1950s. It is amazing what is seen as an antique. A good time was had by all, although I don't think I will be winning Bargain Hunt in the foreseeable future!

Next month, we are going to be getting energetic, when we are treated to Line Dancing for Beginners. I can't wait. If you fancy a go, please come along and join us. We will be meeting in Worton Village Hall, on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, at 8pm. I look forward to seeing you.

Jane Loveys, President

PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY NOW!

### West Lavington Fete and Fun Family Dog Show

on SATURDAY 11th JULY

FREE PARKING AND FREE ENTRANCE!

The **West Lavington Church Fete** will be on **Saturday 11th July** from 2pm on the Village Playing Field. There will be all the regular attractions, and more, including our annual **Fun Family Dog Show**, which last year's Judge declared to be "the best run in the area!". Other attractions will include **Children's Games, Face Painting, Bouncy Castle, Classic Cars**, and the fantastic **Prize Draw!** Plus lots of stalls, including the usual bargain Bottles, Books, Bric a Brac, Produce, Cakes, and Garden plants.

To keep you refreshed through the afternoon there will be homemade teas, ice creams, and a beer tent. Make a note of the date!

If you would like a stall at the Fete, please contact:  
Tony Morton on 812107 or Bob Giles on 813256.

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Winston Churchill



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## Five Lanes CE Primary School



The children have got an exciting and busy term ahead with plenty of outdoor activities and learning planned. Currently they are busy selling raffle tickets and also collecting any suitable prizes for the raffle – please contact either school site if you wish to purchase any tickets or have any new suitable gift items for the raffle. The fete & plant sale is combined with the school football and netball tournaments, so please come along and support this enjoyable event on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May (see separate advert).

**Rice Challenge** - Last month we wrote about how the children had started their ‘Rice Challenge’ to try and raise enough money to help educate secondary school children in Malawi. The work on this project was ongoing through March and on the 19<sup>th</sup> March the whole school spent the day together at the Potterne site. In the afternoon the school playground was turned into a Fair Trade Market, at which the children sold various items including bags of rice, recipe books, stress balls and block printed bags. The Devizes Mayor, Sarah Bridewell came along during the afternoon, along with Richard Gamble our local Councillor, to support the cause and have a go at ‘guessing the grains of rice in a jar’.

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, Miss Hurn & Mrs Harris took a small group of children to represent the school to the Good Afternoon Choir evening concert in the Corn Exchange, Devizes. The children sung alongside the Devizes Afternoon choir & The Bath Welcome Choirs, as well as performing solo pieces. Grenville Jones from the Golden-Oldies charity has been working on singing projects with the children, in school and at the concert he encouraged the audience to support the Rice Challenge, which they did most generously. By the end of the interval, Miss Hurn was able to announce that enough money had been raised from all the events to send a total of 5 children to school in Malawi.

Thank to everyone who has supported our Rice Challenge, the children and staff are thrilled with the support and generosity from our local community.

**PFA** - Chocolate Bingo in the Easter school holiday was a great success & made £544 for the School PFA (Parents & Friends Association). Thank you to all the Bingo goers and the team who organised and put on the event.

**Breakfast Club** - The school now offers a Breakfast Club for all pupils. The club runs from 7.45 – 8.45 a.m. from Monday to Friday in the hall at the Potterne site. The children receive breakfast and get to enjoy playing games, drawing and doing other fun activities for a cost of £2 per day, per child. Please call into the school office for further information or to collect a registration form.

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Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May

Fish & Chip Supper 6pm to 9pm

£7.00 per meal booking recommended

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Lunch Bunch 12.45pm

2course meal, tea or coffee for only £12 per person

Booking is required

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May

Sausage night 6pm to 9pm

£7.00 per meal booking recommended

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May

Steak Night 6pm to 9pm

Booking recommended

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May

BBQ & Fete

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Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May

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**Examples of church bulletins, from other parishes.....**

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

### Worton and Marston Gardening Club



For our May meeting, we have arranged to visit Windmill Cottage Gardens in Market Lavington on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

This will be a private visit for garden club members and their guests. There will be a small charge for the visit and all takings will go to the NGS charities.

We shall arrive at the gardens in Market Lavington by 6.30 pm. Meet at the Village Hall at 6pm to arrange car share.

Non-members are welcome to join us for the evening.

If you have any questions about the visit please contact Bill or Dot Francis 01380 739986 or email [blyb01@aol.com](mailto:blyb01@aol.com)

Please also visit the Windmill Cottage Garden website for further information.

Dot Francis, Programme Secretary

If you would like to receive a copy of this year's programme please contact: [suzanne.bonfield@gmail.com](mailto:suzanne.bonfield@gmail.com) or from Bill Francis at [blyb01@aol.com](mailto:blyb01@aol.com)



The statistics for April:

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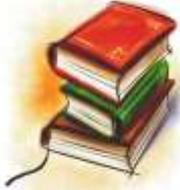


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**MAY  
BOOK  
SWAP**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2015**  
10.00am - 12 noon  
at Marsh Farm, Seend Road, Worton  
(hosted by Mandy Fielding)

**Advance notice:**  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June  
at Kilindini, Plough Lane, Marston.  
(hosted by Heather & Tony Walker)



We continue to have a good turnout (a dozen plus) for our convivial gatherings, a good selection of books, encouraging us to try different genres, coffee & chat by the fireside when cold & miserable, & enjoying each other's gardens when the sun shines. Come & join us, all are welcome.

**Village Hall 200 Club**

Thank you to all those who have renewed their subscription to the **Village Hall 200 club** and to those new members of whom we have had quite a few. So far we are at 69 members, so quite a way to go to reach our target of 200!! If you have not renewed yet but intend to do so please send £12 per number purchased to Veronica Franklin at: 11 Gaisford Chase, Worton.

**All money from this goes to prizes and maintaining and improving the Village Hall.**



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## **WORTON PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY – CLERK TO THE COUNCIL**

Our Clerk is retiring at the end of May, and so the Parish Council is seeking to fill this vital role.

The job is for part-time employment, for an annualised average of 7 hours per week (including paid leave) conditioned to national terms and conditions and model contract. The salary is linked to Scale LC1 SCP22 (currently £10.52 per hour) and subject to PAYE as applicable. Increments will depend on skills and experience.

With a home-based, flexible outlook, the successful candidate will need access to room/desk space, file storage space, personal computing/printing and a broadband/phone connection. A separate office allowance is paid monthly to support these facilities, together with expense re-imbusement for consumables as arising. Residing in Worton parish is not a requirement.

The Clerk, who is also the Responsible Financial Officer, is responsible for preparing meeting agendas and supporting papers, managing the Council's finances and accountancy, attending at and providing advice to its meetings, taking minutes and completing administrative actions arising from the meeting. The Council operates a website which is also managed by the Clerk, as is the High Street Notice Board.

The Council meets 12 times per year in the evenings of the first Monday of each month in the Village Hall (twice in May, none in August) with very occasional extraordinary meetings too.

Applicants should have experience of spreadsheet accounts, minute taking, and correspondence. A working knowledge of Parish Council procedures and/or public administration is also desirable, but not essential as training will be given. Good literacy, numeracy and IT skills are essential to the position as are the personal qualities of integrity, discretion, objectivity, and impartiality.

This is an interesting and challenging position, where you would be supporting an active and community-focussed Parish Council. It would suit a person with an interest in community development and engagement. The full Job Description and Person Specification can be found on our website at [www.worton.org.uk](http://www.worton.org.uk).

There are no forms to fill in – just write a letter and include your CV and a personal statement on your suitability for the role and send to the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Roger Wilshire, 26 Sandlease, Worton SN10 5SA. For an informal discussion about the role do not hesitate to contact the current Clerk, Peter Baxter on 07734 483883 or [clerk@worton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@worton.org.uk)

Closing date for applications is 15 May 2015 with a view to appointment from 1 June 2015.

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The ewes are in lamb again and we should have little black lambs arriving over Easter so keep your eyes open and PLEASE KEEP YOUR DOGS UNDER CONTROL.

**EGGS** – our hens are laying again! £2.50 a dozen  
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Please contact Cathie, Orchard Cottage in Back Lane or call 723032

**WORTON PARISH COUNCIL (WPC) – Tuesday, 7th April at 8.00 pm**

**Worton Tree Regeneration** - The Parish Council have agreed an initiative to plant young trees for the future to replace trees lost from within the village over recent years. If you could accommodate at least one tree then please contact us – you will have a choice of tree to ensure it is suitable for your spot and we will provide a protector and stake. All you have to do is plant it and admire it for many years to come! So please contact us so we can make arrangements for a winter planting.

**Solar Farm Community Grant** - The Clerk confirmed that he had received the draft agreement from Good Energy detailing the payment to be paid to Worton once the solar farm at Long Street, Marston comes on line. The payment of £2,450 and will be paid annually for 25 years and is index linked. The Parish Council will be discussing how to use this money at the next meeting so please come along and share your ideas.

**Village Survey** - Worton Parish Council is undertaking a village survey with the kind assistance of a number of parishioners in order to establish views on a range of matters affecting the village. Please look out for the survey which has been printed and will be delivered and collected by Parish Councillors. We plan to have a preliminary analysis of the results for our next Council Meeting on **Tuesday 6th May** and for the Annual Parish Meeting on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May**. Do please take a few minutes to let us know your views via the survey and come along to the May meetings if you would like know the views of the rest of the village. The results will follow in the Bridge and on the Worton website.

**Neighbourhood Plan** - The Parish Council will be discussing this further at its September meeting once Wiltshire Council has decided the settlement boundary for Worton. The information on which the Parish Council will consider the merits of a Neighbourhood Plan for Worton will be presented to the Village in an October Public meeting.

**Farewell to our Clerk** - All the Councillors would like to say a huge ‘Thank You’ to Peter Baxter who has been our clerk for the past couple of years. Peter will leave us at the end of May and he will be very much missed particularly because his dedication, advice and knowledge have been great assets to the Parish Council. We wish Peter the very best of health and happiness for the future.

**Parishioner Attendance** - We are delighted to report that we have had a significant number of parishioners attending the last few meetings which is very encouraging for the Parish Council. All your Parish Councillors are volunteers who have made a commitment to give up their time each month to attend meetings and to consider matters affecting the village and wider surrounds. By attending meetings you will gain a better understanding of what the Parish Council is doing and how you can support its efforts to maintain and enhance our village. The next **Council Meeting is on TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 in the Village Hall** and our **Annual Parish Meeting is on THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall**.

Cllr Roger Wilshire

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

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

## **A Message from Richard Gamble Wiltshire Councillor for The Lavingtons & Erlestoke Division**

How is your memory? If, like me, you are getting on a bit, you may find that it's easier to remember some events from your early life than it is to remember things from just days ago. Those old memories may give you the idea that life was once nicer than it is now.

Somebody recently told me that they thought the world was better 40 years ago. Less traffic, better television, polite children, respectable politicians. However, I'm not entirely sure they were right about the 1970s. I remember the oil crisis, the three day week, strikes culminating in the Winter of Discontent, stagflation, IMF bailout, devaluation, the cold war, Carlos the Jackal, Bloody Sunday, punk rock, maxi-skirts. Architecture was at its worst and I'm not even sure the weather was better.

At least in those days I was at ease with the cutting edge of technology. I was among the first to buy a Sinclair computer and I soon mastered the electronic game of tennis that it offered. I even had a phone-card that worked in cashless telephone boxes.

Unfortunately, I have since succumbed to another feature of the ageing process, that it is now harder to keep up with technology and social trends. I'm old enough to think that mobile phones are phones, but mobile. In fact, they are super computers that can access almost anything on the internet, can send or receive emails or texts, can take photos or movies, can direct you like satnavs and can have applications (apps) that perform miracles. With the **My Wiltshire** app, for example, you can report things like potholes, dog mess, graffiti, litter and street lighting on the go using your smartphone. More details are here <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/report.htm> . If you are young enough, give it a try!

Education is one of those areas where, to some, the old world was particularly sweet. However, I have recently had the opportunity to visit many of our schools and, without exception, I have been impressed with the teachers and the children that I have met. Over 85% of children in Wiltshire are now in schools rated by Ofsted as Good or Outstanding, which is well above the national average. All of the schools in this area come into one of those categories and the head teachers, the staff and the pupils all deserve credit for that achievement despite the fact that our funding from government per child is about the lowest in the country.

Of course, the world is not perfect and who can tell what lies ahead, but I hope one phrase used by my grandfather still holds true. When asked how things were going, he'd invariably reply "Onwards and upwards".

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**.

### Neighbourhood Plan Public Meeting - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 pm

Worton Parish Council held a public meeting to provide an opportunity for parishioners to discuss a range of matters relating to the future development of dwellings within the village. The meeting was very well attended and Worton Parish Council would like to thank all who attended and supported the meeting.

The Wiltshire Council Core Strategy uses a large range of criteria to classify villages and Worton is classed as a Large Village. The Parish Council did seek clarification of the designation and did consider an appeal. However, on consideration of the criteria used it was clear that the designation was not a marginal decision and that on balance there were merits to Worton being a large village. One of the merits being that as a Large Village the Wiltshire Core Strategy does not permit development outside the settlement boundary.

It was explained that the settlement boundary for Worton will be made clear when the first draft of the Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations DPD is issued for formal consultation during July to September 2015 and that it is expected to remain broadly as at present with the notable inclusion of the newly built Sandlease Court.

The status of **Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)** sites was explained and discussed. SHLAA sites are parcels of land put forward by landowners to Wiltshire Council to be added to a register of *potential* housing sites. Development on a SHLAA site outside a settlement boundary is against the Wiltshire Core Strategy and will only be permitted by a Neighbourhood Plan or a Development Plan Document (DPD) both of which are lengthy consultative processes and in both cases the normal planning process of public consultation would still apply.

Worton Parish Council is constantly reviewing the merits of a Neighbourhood Plan and the next review is due in September followed by a Public Meeting in October.

### Worton Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm

An extraordinary meeting was convened to discuss matters that had arisen which needed a decision before the 7<sup>th</sup> May meeting.

**Solar Farm** - Two representatives of Good Energy attended the meeting to advise that work was to begin soon on the Solar Farm at Long Street Marston. Good Energy confirmed that Worton Parish would receive an annual payment of £2,450 for a period of 25 years. Good Energy confirmed that note had been taken of the current condition of the roads and verges along the route to be used for construction vehicles and that Good Energy was in discussion with Wiltshire Council to ensure that the roads and verges would be restored to be as good as or better than they were prior to construction.

**Village Hall** - Representatives of the Village Hall Committee explained that a pledge of additional funding was needed in order to progress the grant application to Viridor. The Council unanimously agreed to provide an additional £3,000 and recognised the dedication and commitment of all the village hall volunteers in their support of this much loved facility at the heart of the Marston and Worton communities. It was agreed that a more equitable joint funding arrangement should be sought with Marston for the future.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir

I was one of some 50 residents of Worton who found out about the poorly advertised Parish Meeting last Tuesday run by the Parish Council before their monthly session. The purpose of the meeting was said to be to make a 'two-way conversation' and to share our views on housing development in the parish and neighbourhood planning.

In the event, the first half of the meeting was taken up by the Parish Council attempting to explain their views and actions to date, which left limited time for wider participation. Nearly all the comments that followed were in favour of a Neighbourhood Plan, which would give us a greater say on the scale and location of any housing developments in the village. However the Parish Council refused to take a vote or have a show of hands on this or any potential development on the basis that the 50 of us were not representative of the village and it would be misleading and a waste of time.

This left many of us puzzled, especially as the Parish Council, in their meeting, then took little notice of what had been said and decided to delay making any decision on a Neighbourhood Plan until September, which is likely to be too late for any current development plans.

As a concerned resident, I would like to know what the purpose of the meeting was if our views were not considered, and why the Parish Council appear to think that those who turned up were not representative of the village. Over 10% of the adult population were present and I understood that the Parish Council were elected by us to represent us so surely they should take more notice of what was said.

Yours sincerely

N J Stokes

**Potterne Village Hall**  
**Management Committee and Gardening Club**

invite you to their

***SPRING MARKET***

incorporating

*Food Fair, Plant Sale, Arts and Crafts*

**Saturday May 9th**

**10.00 till 2.00**

**Free Admission**

**Mill Road, Potterne**



## CALLING ALL SINGERS!

Edington Arts is delighted that the international choral composer and 'hero of contemporary choral music' **BOB CHILCOTT** is coming to Edington Priory Church on **SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE** to take a day's workshop on his own St John Passion.

9.30-5.30, followed by a full run-through public concert 6-7.

Only £20, £18 Edington Angels, £10 students in full-time education or training. You can download an application form from [www.edingtonarts.org](http://www.edingtonarts.org), or phone Anne on 01380 831454. Concert tickets at £10 also bookable through the website, or ring 01380 871549 or 831256.

Linking Environment and Farming, [www.farmsunday.org](http://www.farmsunday.org)

**Open Farm Sunday held at Five Lanes Farm, Potterne**

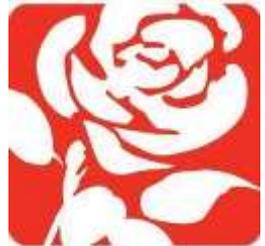
**Sunday 7th June 2015 10am to 4pm**

What can you do at the Farm?

Wiltshire Fire & Rescue team will be on hand, with rural safety team, new & old machinery, pony rides, Keeper's Trail, a look in the bee hive, N.F.U reps., demonstrations, refreshments, toilets and free car parking.

All welcome.

John & Teresa Chandler & Family



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**THE EDINGTON MUSIC FESTIVAL  
DIAMOND JUBILEE  
MUSICAL EVENING & SUPPER  
(in aid of Village Charities)**

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND –  
OUR TRADITIONAL BUFFET  
WITH DELECTABLE DESSERTS!**

The Musical Evening and Supper celebrating the Festival's Diamond Jubilee will take place at the Parish Field (adjoining the village Churchyard), by kind permission of Edington Parish Council, on Wednesday 26 August 2015, 6:30 for 7pm.

Tickets are £22.50 each and may be ordered on, or after, Sunday 21 June from Mr WJ Pepler, Chapel Plaister's Cottage, Chapel Plaister, Box, Wiltshire SN13 8HZ. Tel: 01225-811344. Cheques should be made payable to 'Edington Priory Church Music Evening' and please enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your application. We will endeavour to accommodate requests to sit with friends if this is stated when ordering tickets.

Parking: Please use the Festival Parking – if you require Disabled Parking please contact John Pepler (details as above).



The elves have been busy over the Easter Break preparing the sandpit at the back of the Village Hall for use again! I don't think it has been used for at least 15 years and unbelievably some Mum's remember playing in it when they were children! I hope the children will be able to enjoy playing in it during next term if the sun shines. Any spare buckets and spades gratefully received!

Loads of other activities are coming up including a trip to the bluebell woods in Urchfont (always a favourite with the children) and a teddy bears picnic for the official opening of the sandpit!

Please come and join us on Wednesdays during term time 10.00am-12.00pm. All babies and under 5s welcome. £1.50 per family.

Corinna

**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 4.30-5.30pm

**In the Village Hall**

- **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 May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>

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

**May**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Lunch Bunch
- 9<sup>th</sup> Book Swap
- 12<sup>th</sup> W.I. meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> Fete & Plant Sale
- 18<sup>th</sup> Gardening Club
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Coffee & Cake

**Devizes Farmers' Market**

Next: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May

**The Shambles Antiques Market**

Every Tuesday

**Kerbside Collections**

Black box and Plastic bottle and card recycling:  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

Household and Garden waste:  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>



**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> May 2015.**  
**Giles Collins, Editor at Westview House, 109 High Street, Worton**  
**Telephone: 01380 728664**  
**E-mail: giles.collins@btinternet.com**