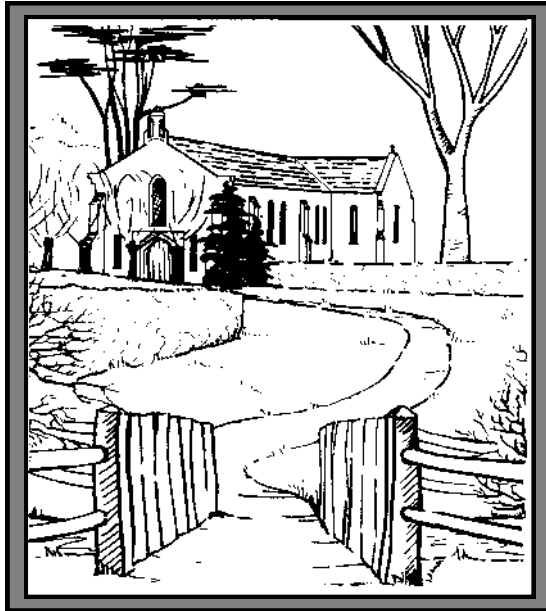


The Bridge



Worton and Marston Parish Magazine

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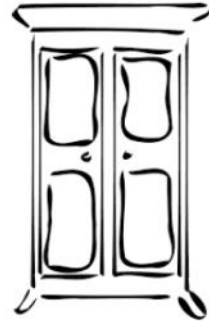
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THE BRIDGE

Editor: Catherine Malli-Dawson editorofthebridge@gmail.com

A Note From the Editor

Thank you to everyone who contacted me with ideas for new information to be included in The Bridge. You'll see some updates on the Village Contacts page as well as the Worton & Marston bus schedule. Please note that while the bus schedule is published in the magazine, you should always check the route for any changes on your day of travel.

I also had a lovely visit with some local residents and I'm hoping to include some of their stories of what life was like in the villages when they were a child—several decades ago—in the coming months. Stay tuned. If you are interested in sharing your stories, please contact me. I'd be happy to provide a cup of tea and some biscuits to capture it.

I believe that sharing stories is how we stay connected, how we remember the past and influence the future. Stories create a sense of community. They are the bread crumbs of society, showing us the path of what has been and what is possible. Now that spring is well and truly here, let's dust off the cobwebs of the past and share our stories with each other.

Speaking of spring, I've started some spring cleaning around the house and garden—as I'm sure many of you have as well. When I was out walking the girls recently, I noticed the state of the phone box 'library' on Marston common and wondered who tends to that. It looked like it could use a bit of spring tidying. It honestly looked as if someone had been cleaning out cupboards and had dumped a box of random stuff in the bottom. I recognize that this could have been random passersby. Someone who doesn't live in the beautiful village and doesn't care about what it looks like.

My ask is that if you happen to notice it getting messy, to please take a moment and do a bit of spring cleaning. If you're not able to, please contact me and either I will take care of it or arrange to have it cleaned up.

The phone box library is for books and games to be shared amongst the community so let's take care of it and enjoy the bounty of sharing.

Catherine
07984 301 258



Maureen's Ramblings April '24

Every year the church walks the walk with Jesus from Good Friday to Easter Day – remembering the love story and seeking fresh inspiration for our faith. On Easter Eve we light a fire in the darkness to celebrate the first light of Easter and that Jesus is the “light of Christ” coming into the world. From the fire we light our own candles and bring them into the darkened church which gradually became awash with light. Beautiful symbolism!

Some years ago, as I looked at the candlelight, I had a sudden realisation – what does “Resurrection” really mean? Do I really understand what I am celebrating here? My faith tells me it means that Jesus is with us always and that death is not the end of the story - but here I was being given an invitation to explore afresh this central mystery of our faith.

Since then, I have never taken the Resurrection for granted. Each Easter I look at the candles casting their light into the darkness and feel that I am caught-up in an eternal love story which is beyond all telling. Do I understand the Resurrection any better now? Of course I don't! The depth of love involved in what Jesus did for us is something I will never be able to understand. Jesus' parables of the man searching for the pearl of great price and the woman searching for her lost coin challenge me continue to search for the meaning of Christ's Resurrection, especially in the midst of all the confusion, doubt, conflict and brokenness that is within me and the world.

The disciples didn't understand the Resurrection either! On Easter morning they had only an empty tomb, a missing body and rumours of Jesus being seen alive again. Mary Magdalene thought the man she met was a gardener - discovering, when he spoke her name - “Mary”, that it was Jesus himself. I would love to have been with those disciples - listening to their conversations as they moved from despair to the bare beginnings of hope, then to their own encounters with Jesus, and finally to the realisation that he had indeed ‘risen from the dead’ and was truly with them now and always.

(continued on next page)

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Do I understand what Resurrection means? No - but I don't have to understand what it means, and I don't have to explain it or convince anyone that it happened. It is enough for me to believe that God came among us simply because he loves us. He spent his life healing, forgiving, and showing, by everything he did and said, that we are loved with a love which is infinite and eternal. It is enough to believe that the Resurrection shows that love does triumph over evil; that light does expel darkness and that there is a joy and hope which is deeper than pain, betrayal, trauma or death and which is ocean deep and always ready to rise again.



The Revd. Maureen Allchin
(Retired priest)



MTM

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BRAMM



!! Get Your WELLIES On !!



Worton's Environment, Landscape and Leisure. Improving Existing Spaces

At their March meeting, Worton Parish Council approved the formation of a Village Maintenance Working Group aka 'The Wellies'.

The purpose of the working group is to organise working parties to undertake maintenance of:

- Parish Footpaths
- Whatleys Open Space
- Sandleaze Open Space
- Sandleaze Playing Field and Play Equipment
- Sandleaze Bank and 'King Charles Copse'

The working group will also consider and undertake projects which will be of benefit to the parish and increase the use of the parish footpaths and recreational spaces. It will also work with other village groups and organisations for the benefit of the above.

Another duty of the working group will be the regular inspection and safety checks of the Sandleaze play equipment.

The working group will consist of Parish Councillors and residents. So if you are interested in helping your community in maintaining and improving our village environment then please join us. All are welcome.

We will meet at least four times a year at Sandleaze Playing Field on the first Saturday of the Month -
1st June and 3rd August for footpath maintenance and general strimming/pruning and 5th October, 7th December for hedge cutting.

Other jobs will be scheduled around this. If you see a job that needs doing around the village then please let us know on Worton Parish Council Facebook Page.

Please come along to the Annual Parish Meeting at the Rose & Crown, Tuesday 30th April, 7pm, where we will talk about the working group and take your suggestions for maintenance and improvements.

Many Thanks

Cllr Malcolm Powell

FIVE LANES WI

Our March meeting in the Village Hall was an illustrated talk by John Girvan on “Devizes’ Hidden Secrets”. John is a well-known and popular Devizes historian who gives various talks and tours of the town. He showed us close-up pictures of statues, plaques and artefacts, then the full picture of the buildings they were on. He was surprised to find that some members knew at least some of the places! As each building unfolded, John had amusing and interesting stories of their history, and also pinpointed for us, where in Devizes they all were. What we realised very soon, was that we all spend a lot of time looking down or straight ahead, and really need to pause and look up from time to time! (In a safe manner, of course!)

Following our AGM in February, we are very pleased that Carol and Julie have joined the Committee to take responsibility for planning the programme. The year until next March is almost sorted.


On **APRIL 10th** we meet again in the Village Hall at **7:00PM** when Jenny will be asking us to “**Move it or Lose it!**”! Jenny runs classes at the Village Hall and will give us a taste of what she does. We all need to keep ourselves mobile, whatever our age, and this sounds like a fun way to do it. Even if you’re not yet a WI member, why not come along and give it a try.

MAY 8th will see us visiting **DEVIZES MUSEUM**—always a delight.

Jean Lane 722069

Devizes & District Foodbank

Collection box for donations in Christ Church



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

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FAMILY OF CHURCHES IN WORTON AND MARSTON

We do hope you were able to join us for the Good Friday walk and soup lunch and enjoyed seeing the cross at the Village Hall decorated with flowers on Easter Saturday to depict the New Life brought to us by the Resurrection. A full report of the day will appear in the May Bridge.

Jean Lane 722069 Heather Walker 725785



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2024

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- Toys and games

**No books
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Village Hall**

SERVICE CALENDAR

April 2024

Sun Apr 7th	EASTER 2 9.30am. 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
Sun Apr 14th	EASTER 3 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Morning Praise
Sun Apr 21st	EASTER 4 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
Sun Apr 28th	EASTER 5 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Family Service

May 2024

Sun May 5th	EASTER 6 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
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There were no weddings, funerals or baptisms at Christ Church during January

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

Worton United Charities

REMINDER: The Charity is able to offer some financial support to residents of Worton or Marston who are facing times of hardship. Please contact one of the Trustees named below.

Bill Francis, 07775616901
Alison Cross, June Mason, Chris Nixon, Rev Gerry Lynch

All contacts or requests are dealt with in strictest confidence.



WELLSPRINGS BENEFICE SERVICES

APRIL 2024

Sunday 7th (Easter 2)

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

Sunday 14th (Easter 3)

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

Sunday 21st (Easter 4)

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

Wednesday 24th

5pm	Celtic Service	Poulshot
-----	----------------	----------

Sunday 28th (Easter 5)

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

Every Tuesday, 9am Daily Prayer service at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

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

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

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Ministry Team

Rector:	Rev Gerry Lynch	07521 440 622
Associate Priest:	Rev Caroline O'Neill	01380 828302
Benefice Administrator:	Sarah Leckie	07516 224057
		sarahleckie.wba@gmail.com

Church Registers

No baptisms, weddings or funerals this month.



**Wellsprings
Benefice**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL
CHURCH MEETING**

Parish of Christ Church, Worton & Marston

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in Christ Church on the 21st day of April 2024 at approximately 10.30, following the morning service which is at 9.30.



Everyone is invited to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to find out what has been happening in our parish church over the last year.

Please attend if you can.

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Saturday 9.00AM & 10.30AM
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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Hello everyone, I'll start off this month by summarising where we're at with the main items and events noted last month.

MAINTENANCE

I am grateful and delighted to announce that Dave Pilbeam has kindly offered to be the active lead for Village Hall maintenance. We'll put a new reporting, logging, and priority process in place, as I am aware of a number of outstanding maintenance items that need urgent attention. Dave will be fully onboard at the beginning of April, so expect additional communications around this to regular users, on the W&M Facebook page and a further update in the May Bridge magazine.

ANNUAL JUMBLE SALE: 6th APRIL 2pm– 4pm

A little delayed this year because of Easter, but we'll be accepting **donations on Friday 5th April, 4pm-7pm.** Donation types include good clean clothes, bric-a-brac, unwanted toys, gifts, games and household items, plus small working electricals, CDs, and vinyl records.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept any books this year because paper books are becoming less desirable and we are sadly left with mass wastage, which inevitably just goes to the tip.

NEXT AGM is 1 May 2024 at 7pm

The annual open AGM will be held at the hall on the above date and time, where we'll cover such items as governance, the overall annual report, Finances, and accounts audit.

KITCHEN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

As reported last month, we have stalled on the original kitchen build-out due to spiraling costs, versus the budget envelope set aside. We still have an expansion project in mind, but are awaiting some new plans, approvals and tenders. We expect to start making progress on this again during April and will provide further updates next month.

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WEB SITE

Per last month, I now have access to the website (<https://www.wortonmarstonvillagehall.org.uk>) and am familiarising myself with the platform and slowly making the updates. The Trustee list, prices, and regular user dates have all been updated, but I'm still working through some of the broken links and documentation, so please bear with me.

SUPPORT AND FUNDING

We are in need of funds to maintain, run and improve the hall for the benefit of the community, so are always highly grateful for donations and volunteers to help. We'd like to see more bookings and use of the hall so if you have an event or regular class/meeting in mind please connect with Pauline Crisp (dpcrisp@uwclub.net) for bookings.

For donations please connect with WMVHChair@yahoo.com, or the Treasurer, Pauline Crisp, also at dpcrisp@uwclub.net.

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FROM CHRIST CHURCH

What a lovely happy morning in Christ Church for Mothering Sunday, with 11 children, including some Brownies and families, along with Brown Owl Vicky and her Mum, Pat Barton. It was good to see Pat again following her move to Devizes. The children took part in the service and gave out the beautiful posies to all the ladies. Thank you to Margaret for making them, what a picture they were. The children enjoyed their time after the service playing together and joining the adults in delicious refreshments.

Coming up, following all the Easter services, we have the next Community Café on Saturday 20th April from 2-4pm.

The joint Christ Church and Five Lanes School fete will be held on Saturday 11th May from 2-4pm. A time for all the family to relax, have fun and spend time with others. Any offers of help with this will be very welcome.

Ahead a bit further, Christ Church will be hosting the teas for the Village Open Gardens on the weekend of 8/9th June. Again. we will be pleased to have offers of cakes and help with serving on either day. This will be a good Community weekend.

If you, or anyone you know needs any pastoral support, please let us know, and we can pass any request on to Sarah, the Benefice administrator, or the Ministry team.

Heather and Jean,
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WORTON & MARSTON LADIES GROUP

On the 28th February, Jenny from 'Move it or Lose it' gave a short programme of what exercises to expect at her classes. Movement, balance, co-ordination etc. most enjoyed the evening, unfortunately couldn't persuade any to join.

Our next meeting on 27th March, Mark Fisher from Worton will be giving a talk on Birdlife. Hosts for the evening Val and Rosa.

Moving on to April 10th we have an outing to the Wharf Theatre to see Agatha Christie's masterpiece (so they say) '**And then there were none**'. Thirteen amateur sleuths' will be trying to work out 'who done it'.

Looking ahead to May 29th Jenny Groome from neighbourhood policing team, responsible for Worton will be with us, an opportunity to highlight any concerns.

And finally, I must convey very sad news our oldest and one of our longest serving members Lorna Phillips passed away peacefully on 12th March. Lorna was a much-loved member and will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Always cheerful, smiling with a cheeky grin. Gone but never forgotten. Our thoughts are with Victoria and Nicholas.

Pam Woods
01380 726679

VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

£50 200 Club winner for **MARCH**: Tony and Heather Walkers' Grandchildren. Congratulations to them.

Only £12 for the year. The first draw of the season starts **APRIL 2024**

There is still time to complete your subscription form, just fill it in and pop it through my letter box (address on form).

Thank you to everyone who has renewed, or joined for the first time, you are helping to keep your Village Hall running.

Good luck to all taking part.

Pam Woods
Administrator, Worton & Marston Village Hall
01380 726679

Worton Community Speedwatch – February 2024

(Speedwatch sessions are of 45 minutes duration)

Sessions: **EIGHT**

Total Vehicles Counted: **2659**

Vehicles recorded for exceeding the 30mph speed limit: **119** of which **27** were reported to Wiltshire Police for excess speed.

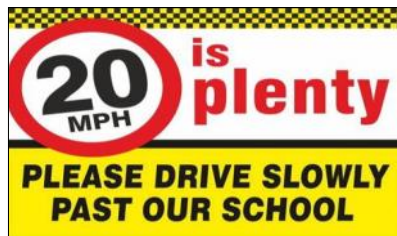
Maximum Speed Recorded: **42mph** on Monday 19th February between 08.15 and 09.00.

Highest vehicle count **400** on Monday 19th February between 08.15 and 09.00.

(The comparable figures for **February 2023** were:

Sessions **9**, Vehicles **2311** with **115** vehicles exceeding 30mph of which **15** were reported for excess speed. Maximum Speed Reported **45mph**)

Bob Mitchell



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1st Lavington Guides have a fun packed programme planned for 2024 and you could be a part of it too!

Our activities throughout January, February and March will include Fimo Model making, celebrating St Patricks day and all things Irish, exploring a variety of communication methods including emojis, flag signalling and more, games nights, badgework, cooking and crafting workshops.

We are a small, friendly, welcoming group, based in Market Lavington. We meet every Thursday during termtime 615-745.

Please drop Emma a message if you'd like to join us for a taster session or to find out more info

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Rose and Crown Worton

01380 724202

	Lunch time opening	Evening opening
Monday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Tuesday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Wednesday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Thursday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Friday	Closed	6pm -11.30pm
Saturday	12.00 - 2.30	6pm -11.30pm
Sunday	12.00 - 2.30	7pm-10pm

Rolls and sandwiches available.

We have a pool table, darts and skittles.

We have a quiz on the last Sunday of every month.



MARCH BOOK SWAP



Saturday 13th April
10.00am - 12 noon
36 Mill Road, Worton
(hosted by Jill Duckworth)

Saturday 18th May
(NB 3rd Sat to avoid clash with Fete)
10.00am - 12 noon
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MONTHLY QUIZ ROSE & CROWN

Fancy a quiz night? Come along to your local with Jackie & John at the Rose & Crown Worton.

Please note change of date **MARCH** quiz only, due to Easter falling on the last Sunday of the month.

Quiz will take place on Sunday 24th March **NOT** 31st March.

£2 per person, up to five people per team.

All proceeds go to the winners Charity of choice. February quiz £50 sent to Air Ambulance.

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Does your
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Home Upgrade Grant Scheme (HUGS) - do you qualify?

Wiltshire Council has been successful in securing more than £3.6m government funding for home energy efficiency upgrades. This funding will allow the council to support retrofitting in owner-occupied and privately rented homes (landlords with no more than four properties).

The qualifying criteria are:

- not connected to mains gas
- have an energy performance certificate (EPC) rating of band D-G
- household income of less than £31,000

The retrofits will include:

- energy efficiency measures such as wall and loft insulation
- low-carbon heating technologies such as heat pumps
- renewable technologies such as solar PV
- smart measures such as smart heating controls

It would be great if qualifying residents in Worton and Marston could take advantage of this brilliant opportunity for warmer and more energy efficient homes.

Please contact me at tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk or 07711 824864 for more information.

Kind regards

MESSAGE FROM OUR WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

April 2024

Parish Councils and residents across Devizes Rural West tell me that improving our roads and transport must be an absolute priority for Wiltshire Council. I'm pleased to report that additional emphasis is being placed on these important issues with a reorganisation of Wiltshire Council Cabinet responsibilities. I have been appointed Cabinet Member for Transport and Assets, and I will work alongside Cllr Nick Holder, who has taken on responsibility for Highways, Street Scene, and Flooding.

The council has allocated an extra £10m over the next two years to spend on filling potholes and a road resurfacing programme that will help to prevent potholes and other highways defects across all areas of the county. The investment will also fund more small, local repairs to verges on rural roads. This funding is in addition to the £20.7m the council receives from the Government's Highways Maintenance fund for 2024/25, plus the £5.2m from the Department for Transport's recently announced Road Resurfacing Fund following the cancellation of HS2 (northern section). The council also allocated an extra £1m in its recent budget for emptying gullies around the county to prevent flooding and enable teams to focus on problem areas that are most at risk - on top of the £1.27m the council already spends on gully emptying.

In my extended Cabinet role, I am responsible for all transport across the County including Rail, Buses, and Active Travel (walking, cycling, and wheeling). I will lead the Council's work on its Local Transport Plan 4 (to 2038) which will set out the council's objectives, plans, and indicators for transport in Wiltshire and provide a framework for all other organisations with a direct or in-direct involvement in transport in Wiltshire. I have supported the development of the brilliant Wiltshire Connect "demand responsive" bus service which now connects Devizes, Pewsey, Marlborough, and Hungerford. Over the coming months I am very much looking forward to ensuring that we have more travel choices which connect our communities, enabling people to get to work, and school, and provide transport connections for people visiting the area.

Meanwhile, of course, I will work with Cllr Nick Holder and the Highways Team to secure improvements to our local roads and to accident black spots such as Black Dog and Bell Crossroads. As always, please use the MyWilts app to report highways and flooding "maintenance" issues. Whilst requests for "improvements" should be raised with Parish Councils so that these can be taken to the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group. (LHFIG).

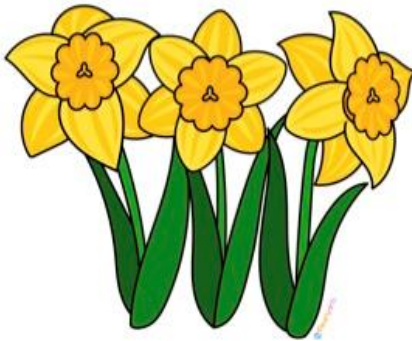
Tamara Reay

Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West.

Tel: 07711 824864 Email: tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk

Spring Community Café

**Drop in any time for hot drinks,
cake, games; a chance to relax,
meet new people and make friends.**



**Saturday 20th April
2:00pm – 4:00pm
in Christ Church
Everyone welcome**

WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

I owe thanks to Richard Slack for ably chairing the March meeting whilst I fulfilled a long-held ambition to visit New Zealand.

New Housing Development

I was able to keep an occasional eye on things happening on the other side of the world and have returned to find that work has finally begun on the new housing estate. This is an important step towards the end of a period of uncertainty in the history of our village that has been a challenge for so many of us in different ways.

Now we can have more assurance on what this will mean for us socially, environmentally, and economically. We will attempt to provide a lead on this enabling concerns, suggestions etc. to be communicated and plans made to move forward together. The Parish Council is engaging with Newlands on a regular basis and will update as often as we can using social media as well as more traditional methods which will, of course, tend to be slower! We have a contact established with them and will liaise with them to smooth things if needed during the construction process. It will be important to establish that the Parish Council's role should be limited to general concerns and that direct communication by residents with the developers may often be more appropriate and effective.

The next few months are likely to be interesting!

Village Hall

We continue to liaise with the Village Hall trustees in relation to their kitchen refurbishment plans and are very ready to support appropriately. As a side note, I think it's important to stress that the positioning of one of the Walkway plaques by the Village Hall is no longer being proposed by the Parish Council, though the application from the newly established committee for Community Fund support was agreed. This should enable progress to be made soon.

Transport and Road Safety

As far as Highways issues are concerned, we have agreed to take two proposals forward with LHFIG, specifically a reduction of speed limit on the eastern village approach to the village and a new crossing point (similar to that by Cedar Close). Both of these can be viewed as linked to concerns leading on from the new housing development, from where we would hope to have useful support.

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

Mill Leet

Unfortunately, concerns about Mill Leet and Semington Brook continue and are causing considerable stress for some of our residents. Tamara Reay has confirmed her intention to work with interested parties, including Worton Parish Council, to come to a satisfactory resolution as soon as practicable. We are always willing to listen and will do what we can to support in a highly complex situation.

Annual Village Meeting

We have set a date for our annual village meeting, which will take place at the Rose and Crown on April 30th (thanks John and Jackie) at 7pm. We are hoping to arrange for a Newlands Home representative to be able to attend as well as a sharing of our ideas for the name of the new estate. We will be able to share updates on what new finance will be available linked to the development and listen to ideas about how it could be best used. There will also be a chance to learn about how the new “Wellies” environment group led by Cllr Powell will work in practice.

It would be great to see lots of you there.

Your Councillors



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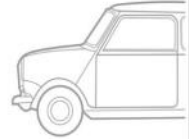
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The Worton and Marston Link Scheme AGM

7.30 pm 22nd April 2024
Rose & Crown
Worton



All are welcome and lifts are available if needed

Volunteering for the Link scheme is a great way to give something back to your community by helping out those who are in need. The scheme relies on a team of drivers who use their own cars to help clients without their own means of transport. Drivers are paid a mileage allowance to cover the costs of fuel.

If you would like to find out more please join us at the AGM or call
Lyn on **07413 912828**
or email **wandmlink@gmail.com**

The Worton and Marston Link Scheme

We are your village charity offering transport for doctor visits and medical appointments. If you would like to use our services call Lyn on **07413 912828** or email **wandmlink@gmail.com** to find out more



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For more information, please call
Hilary: 07805 303961 Linda: 07921 867206
or email us:
WortonToddlers@gmail.com



What a busy month we have had. We made our donation for Red Nose Day. The children have been busy exploring magnets using sensory play. We also really enjoyed making pinwheel sandwiches, in fact, some didn't make it to snack time. They were enjoyed that much! This month we also welcomed a new addition to Toddlers, who at 2 and a half weeks old, may be one of our youngest ever members to join!

As we approach May, the children will have fun making maypoles ready for May Day.

Date for your diary

No toddlers on Wednesday 29th of May as half term.

WORTON AND MARSTON GARDEN CLUB

“Spring is nature’s way of saying “Let’s Party”
Robin Williams

It’s April already which means we have 2 months until Worton and Marston Open Gardens is upon us. 8th and 9th June – Put it in your diary.

We will have several gardens open throughout the 2 villages offering a range of gardens and planting ideas. Our lovely Allotments on Mill Road will also be open – who doesn’t love an allotments! Teas will be at the Church raising funds for the church.

Our main charity will be Julia’s House Children’s Hospice in Devizes along with various village clubs and The Village Hall Fund.

Now, all the garden owners who have kindly offered to open, will be hard at work beavering away to ensure everyone has a lovely day with lots of colour and interest in their gardens. We also have some volunteers lined up to help on the weekend however, we would love to have some more volunteers to help make it a success and keep everyone safe. An hour or two would be wonderful. If you can help please email me or phone – contact details below.

This month our meeting is about “Plants that do well in your garden” There will be a talk, tea and biscuits and the chance to buy some lovely plants. Visitors welcome.

Dates for your Diary

April 15th Chris Wilde of FR Daw Talk on Plants that “do well” in our gardens. Many plants for sale.

May 20th Garden visit. Details to follow

There are lots of lovely gardens opening for the National Garden Scheme in May use the following link

<https://ngs.org.uk/wiltshire-gardens-in-may/>

Alison Parker
aelparker@aol.com
07786 985741

WORTON AND MARSTON VILLAGE SHOW

A note for all your diaries. This year's show will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 31st August. The first show was held in 1974 so this is our 50th anniversary. So, among all the usual classes of vegetables, flowers, fruit, home produce, crafts, photographs and children's entries, there will be a few with golden themes.

We have made a few changes in the schedule for this year. We have made the whole show open to all, except for the geranium entry which will remain gardening club members only and streamlined the number of awards. Therefore, all entries will count to the award of Show Champion. We have introduced a "people's award" prize to be voted on by visitors on the day.

Each month, we will give details about classes in each section before delivering the full schedule to every house in Worton and Marston in July.



This month a few words about growing vegetables. As I write this in early March, the weather remains a little chilly and the gardens are still very wet after a rainy winter. So, you may need to delay planting seeds outside for a few weeks. You can start thinking about planting seeds inside, in greenhouses or on windowsills before planting out in April or May.

Potatoes are traditionally planted on Good Friday which is early this year but just about when you should get this magazine in your hands. Nowadays you do not need a big veg patch, many things can be grown in bags or large pots on patios. Later in the summer, we will give some advice on how to make the most of your produce on the show bench.

Come on, give it a go.

Good luck to all

Bill Francis, on behalf of the show committee



White Horse Opera was founded over 20 years ago by the late Keith Lawley and his wife Geraldine to bring full scale opera to the community of Devizes. Since then it has produced at least one main opera a year and recently has introduced a Touring Opera which performs in local venues such as churches, village halls and gardens as a community fund raiser.

Puccini's La Bohème
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The beautiful romantic music and the compelling story line will tug at your heart strings so don't miss it!

Tickets are now available for White Horse Opera's
La Bohème by Puccini

When: Wed 10th, Fri 12th, & Sat 13th April

What time: 7.30pm

Where: Lavington School.

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Tickets from Devizes Books and
www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera

FLOWER OF THE MONTH



Sweet Pea
(*Lathyrus odoratus*)

The sweet delicate scent of sweet peas may never have graced our gardens if they hadn't been sent to England in the late 1600's by Francis Cupani, a Sicilian monk. From there, they may have languished in the laboratory of Dr. Robert Uvedale, a teacher and plant enthusiast, if not for Henry Eckford. His passion and expertise transformed the humble, yet fragrant and flowery, plant from minor garden subject to the 'Queen of Annuals'.

Sweet peas prefer sun and well-drained, rich, organic soil, so not really great for anyone living in Marston. Perhaps our Worton gardeners have better luck. Of course, raised gardens filled with rich soil might be a better option. They grow beautifully up trellis, arches, or fences and can make a lovely, scented transition between sections of your garden.

In France, bouquets of sweet peas are still given to brides providing good luck on their wedding day. And in olden days, sweet peas were often worn in pockets to provide fragrance to clothing. Perhaps, that is also why they are given to brides on their wedding days...to ensure they smell delightful to their newly betrothed.

Symbolism and meaning attributed to sweet pea:

- Thank you or Goodbye
- Gratitude
- Friendship
- Kindness

(sources: almanac.com, petalrepublic.com)

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1st Worton & Marston Brownies

I cannot express the huge sadness with which I am writing this. After 45 years of Guiding in Worton, through Brownies, Guides, Young Leadership, and as the Unit Leader, I have had to make the very difficult decision to try and find someone else to run 1st Worton & Marston Brownie Unit. Unfortunately the other two leaders will also be stepping down.

We have been sharing recruitment advertisements on social media in the hope that it would interest someone to enquire but as yet we have not had any luck. If you or anyone you know may be interested in a fun, fulfilling Volunteer role, please do get in touch. We really do not want the unit to close after being established for 60 years this June and we will do our utmost to ensure this doesn't happen.

We will stay in our roles until the Summer Holidays. After that, if we have not found a new leadership team, the unit will be closed. We really hope that it doesn't come to that.

I thank each and every parent that has supported us over the years and most of all the Brownies who have given me so much back by their enthusiasm to come to Brownies each week.

If you would like some information about Girlguiding and what Brownies do these days, please check out the website:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer>

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/brownies>

Or you can contact me direct for a chat - Vicky Earley
Email 1stWortonAndMarstonBrownies@gmail.com
Mobile 07702 033897

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USEFUL VILLAGE CONTACTS - 2024

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

Church Wardens:

Mrs Heather Walker 01380 725785 heatherwalker66@gmail.com

Mrs Jean Lane 01380 722069 joje@talktalk.net

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

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

Garden Club:

Alison Parker 07786 985741 aelparker@aol.com

Sally Brooks 07957 917851 svwood90@hotmail.com

Village Show - Bill Francis 01380 739986
dfrancis162@btinternet.com

Ladies Group: Pam Woods 01380 726679

Meet last Wednesday each month 8pm, in the Village Hall.

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

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

Newspaper Delivery: Richard Walker 07702 868863

Rose and Crown: John & Jackie 01380 724202

(continued on next page)

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

SpeedWatch: Bob Mitchell wortonspeedwatch@gmail.com

Tennis: Seend Tennis Club: Sally Jackson 07798 564712
Devizis Tennis Club: Barry Devine 07809 221341
Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings.

Toddlers' Group: Linda Rose wortontoddlers@gmail.com
text 07921 867206

Village Hall (Worton and Marston): Lionel Dawson
WMVHChair@yahoo.com 07385 162999

Wiltshire Council: Tamara Reay
Wiltshire Councillor of Devizes Rural West
tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk 07711 824864

Worton Parish Council:
Chair: Barry Devine barry@worton.org.uk bazandsaz@gmail.com
Other Parish Councillors: Richard Slack Dicky Parsons
Patricia Goodenough Malcolm Powell Chris Collins
Robert Goss Nick Stokes Anthony Higgins Clerk: Jules Slack

Women's Institute (W.I.): Helen Bodman (President) 01380 723593

Worton United Charities: Trustee Chair Bill Francis
dfrancis162@btinternet.com

(Please contact me (editorofthebridge@gmail.com) if there are any

Spring Is Sprung

Watch it fly
Excitedly out of your hands,
Explosively,
As a sudden bulb goes off,
A yellow trumpet blaring
So loud
So bright
It almost takes your eyes out.

A.F. Harold



WORTON & MARSTON BUS SCHEDULE MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

BUS SERVICES WEEK DAYS	76	76	77	BUS SERVICE WEEK DAYS	77	76	76
Worton Village Hall (E-bound)	10:14	12:54	15:58	Worton Village Hall (E-bound)		12:25	14:25s
Worton Rose and Crown (E-bound)	10:14	12:54	15:58	Worton Rose and Crown (E-bound)		12:26	14:26s
Worton Sandleaze (E-bound)	10:16	12:56	15:59	Worton Sandleaze (E-bound)		12:27	14:27s
Worton Sandleaze (W-bound)	10:16	12:56		Worton Sandleaze (W-bound)	07:49	12:27	14:27s
Worton Rose and Crown (W-bound)	10:17	12:57		Worton Rose and Crown (W-bound)	07:49	12:28	14:28s
Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	10:18	12:58		Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	07:50	12:29	14:29s
Marston Norney Bridge (S-bound)	10:20	13:00		Marston Norney Bridge (S-bound)		12:30s	14:30s
Marston The Green (NW-bound)	10:23	13:03		Marston The Green (NW-bound)		12:33s	14:33s
Marston Norney Bridge (N-bound)	10:24	13:04		Marston Norney Bridge (N-bound)		12:33s	14:33s

SATURDAYS

BUS SERVICES SATURDAYS	76	76	BUS SERVICE SATURDAYS	76	76
Worton Village Hall (E-bound)	10:19	12:54	Worton Village Hall (E-bound)	12:35	14:40
Worton Rose and Crown (E-bound)	10:20	12:54	Worton Rose and Crown (E-bound)	12:36	14:41
Worton Sandleaze (E-bound)	10:21	12:56	Worton Sandleaze (E-bound)	12:37	14:42
Worton Sandleaze (W-bound)	10:21	12:56	Worton Sandleaze (W-bound)	12:37	14:42
Worton Rose and Crown (W-bound)	10:22	12:57	Worton Rose and Crown (W-bound)	12:38	14:43
Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	10:23	12:58	Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	12:39	14:44
Marston Norney Bridge (S-bound)	10:25	13:00	Marston Norney Bridge (S-bound)	12:40s	14:45s
Marston The Green (NW-bound)	10:29	13:04	Marston The Green (NW-bound)	12:43s	14:48s
Marston Norney Bridge (N-bound)	10:30	13:05	Marston Norney Bridge (N-bound)	12:43s	14:48s

(Source: <https://bustimes.org/localities/>)



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Historical Extracts from *The Bridge* (April 1994),
kindly provided by Tony Walker

The Bridge

School News

Worton and Marston School News

The school was alive with activity throughout our Week of Opportunities. The aim was to give the children a structured play week based on the world of work. Every child at our school now knows about the process of applying for a job and attending for interview.

Before we started our week, the Advisor for English, Mr Alan Howe, spent a morning in the school working with the staff and the children on the process of being an interviewer and an interviewee. The juniors worked on the story of Red Riding Hood. They had to play the parts of the characters and be interviewed by their classmates.

The following week, on Monday the children were very busy filling in their application form for a job that was advertised in our school "Job Centre". They also had to write a letter of application to give more information. On the Tuesday, every child had an interview. These were conducted by the teachers, governors, parents and friends. The children took this role play very seriously and attended for the interview in suitable smart clothes. One child brought along examples of her work to support her application to be a designer. On Wednesday morning every child was appointed to a job. For the next three days they worked on their task. Each job had activities and tasks that were suitable for the children but also related to the adult job.

Thus the nurses learned how to save a life by putting a casualty into the recovery position. They also learned how to summon help without endangering their own life. Mrs Watts helped the keep fit trainers produce a keep fit video. The financial consultants visited Lloyds Bank in Devizes to find out about the world of finance. They conducted a survey to find the best bank or building society in which children should save their money. The gamekeepers visited Mr Frank Chandler to learn how to trap vermin that prey upon pheasants. They had to design and make their own magpie trap. The health visitors found out about caring for babies. They did some research into which is the best nappy for a baby to wear. The orthoptists found out about testing children's eyes. They designed their own tests for eyesight and colour blindness as well as making some prototype spectacles. Mr Dave Churchill helped the fire fighters find out how to protect their home and school from fire. They conducted a survey to see how many families have a smoke alarm as this simple device can save many lives. The security officers used the work they have been doing in school this term to help them make a burglar alarm. The commercial producers had to make an advertisement for our school that was exactly 30 seconds long. They went to Mr Dawson's recording studio to make their tape. The nutritionalists cooked some healthy food for everyone to sample. The designers had to design and make an egg cup for an Easter Egg. Mr Terry worked with the trading standards officers to test our school weights and make a range of accurate measures that the children can use for cooking. The landscape architects conducted a survey to see how the children would like to improve our school grounds.

April 1994

9

VILLAGE DIARY

Regular Meetings

Around the Village

Village Hall

- **Garden Club**
3rd Monday 8.00pm (not Aug/Dec)
- **Fitness Group**
Fridays 5:30pm-6:30pm
- **Move it or Lose it**
Mondays & Thursdays 3:30pm-4:30pm
- **Ladies Group**
Last Wednesday 8pm (not Aug/Dec)
- **Women's Institute**
10th Wednesday Village Hall
- **Worton Toddler Group**
Wednesday 10.00 am - Noon
- **1st Worton & Marston Brownies**
Tuesdays 6pm-7.30pm
- **Potterne Rainbows**
Tuesdays 4.45pm-5.45pm
- **Worton Parish Council Meeting**
1st Monday (not Aug) or as shown on notice boards

In the Chapel at Marston

- **Marston Meditation**
1st & 3rd Sunday of each month 6pm start
- **Marston Parish Council Meeting**
7:00pm Last Tuesday of the month
26th March (or as shown on notice boards)

Various Venues

Announced Monthly

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

Forthcoming Events

- 13th Book Swap
- 10th WI
- 15th Garden Club

Kerbside Collections in April

**Black box, and plastic
and card recycling:**
Tuesdays 2nd, 16th & 30th

Household waste:
Thursdays 11th & 25th

Garden waste:
Fridays 12th, & 26th



Worton and Marston Link

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

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

Mobile Library

Location: The School
1.10pm - 1.50pm
Next Date: Monday 22nd April

Call Wiltshire Library Services
on 01225 713727 for information

Deadline for items for the next Bridge is 15th April 2024

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