


The Bridge



Worton and Marston
Parish Magazine

January
2015
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THE BRIDGE

Editor: Giles Collins

Poppy Collection

This year's Poppy Collection for the Royal British Legion, which included donations at the Remembrance Service and the sale of Knitted Poppies, amounted to £843.99.

Thank you very much indeed all the village collectors who turned out in some pretty bad weather, and of course thanks to everyone who gave so generously.

Robin Shercliff, Village Poppy Coordinator

Parish
Pump



Link Scheme

At the **Link** Quiz last month Jane Loveys won the hamper and a deal was done with the Rose & Crown which resulted in another £20 being donated to the **Link Scheme** many thanks to both. Also thanks to everybody who has driven for or donated to the village **Link** transport scheme during the year it helps enormously when people are able to get to appointments.

If you require any information about the scheme please ring 720207.

The Bridge

Pat Tuck and Roger Robilliard will both be making their last deliveries of the Bridge when they deliver the January edition at the end of December. Likewise Steve and Wendy Ellis have collated their last edition of the Bridge. The Bridge team would like to thank them for all their efforts over the years.

This also means we need new helpers. If anyone else would like to join the team, and help out in some capacity (e.g. distributor - once a month, collator - once a year, committee member - once a year, reserve printer - once in a blue moon), please email me: giles.collins@btinternet.com.

Advance notice:

The distributors of **The Bridge** will be asking for £2.50 annual subscription when they distribute the March edition at the end of February. The price remains the same as in 2014.

Keep Updated..... To keep up to date with special offers at the Rose & Crown, Worton, text keep me updated to 07779659615 and include your name.
Keith

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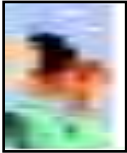
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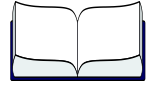


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Letter from the Vicarage



Let's begin 2015 with some really good news!

Ofsted visited Five Lanes School in October and rated it a good school.

Ofsted is the government inspection service which strikes fear into everyone in education. An inspection is a challenging experience for every school. Ofsted speak is bland, but rest assured this is an excellent result. Here are three comments from the inspector:

'Pupils are well motivated and enjoy their learning. They behave well and feel very safe because the school provides a secure place to learn.'

'All groups of pupils achieve well'.

'Pupils benefit from teaching that is consistently good.'

What brilliant comments! I hope you are proud of your local school, because you should be. The inspector said as much.

We all know education is vital, and external markers like Ofsted are there to give guidance. But here is a strange thing. Perhaps because our children are so important to us, when it comes to schools, many people tend to think there is something better on offer elsewhere. Now, I am not casting aspersions on any local school, far from it. We have many excellent schools close by. But the tendency to think 'the grass is greener' is strong when choosing schools.

When I was a student I had a poster showing four cows. They were in a field, divided into four quarters by fences. Each cow was in one quarter and had its head through the fence, eating the grass in the next cow's area. 'The grass is greener' we think; but is it really? I wish I still had the poster. It told so much truth without even needing words.

All that those of us connected with our village school want is this: come along and look at us. We believe Five Lanes School has as much to offer as any school in the area, and more than most.

Ofsted's affirmation is one great start to the New Year; how we need Good News today. It seems the state of our world defies any attempt to be positive, but that is exactly what I want to encourage this year. Christians are people who know that, regardless of the news, God is still in His world and one day everything will be re-created as He intended it to be. Christmas celebrates the coming of Jesus, the light of the world. He does not abandon those who follow Him, and is always there for anyone who turns to Him. May He guide you into His truth in 2015.

David Howard

SERVICE CALENDAR

January

Sun 4th CHRISTMAS 2
8.00am CHRIST CHURCH
Holy Communion
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
Family Service
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
Covenant Service
Rev Gary Gotham

Sun 11th EPIPHANY 1
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
Parish Communion
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
No service

Sun 18th EPIPHANY 2
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
Morning Worship
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
Rev Cathy Arscott

January

Sun 25th EPIPHANY 3
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
Parish Communion
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
No Service

February

Sun 1st EPIPHANY 4
8.00am CHRIST CHURCH
Holy Communion
9.30am CHRIST CHURCH
Family Service
6.00pm *Marston Chapel*
Rev Gary Gotham
Holy Communion



A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Ashy Stokes took place at Christ Church during November.

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

CHURCH ROTAS

Sidesmen – January 2015

Sun 4 th	8.00am	Mr R Shercliff	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Mrs A Cross, Mr T Harwood	Family Service
Sun 11 th	9.30am	Mrs S Courth, Mr L Courth	Parish Communion
Sun 18 th	9.30am	Mr T Brewer, Mr R Boyns	Morning Worship
Sun 25 th	9.30am	Mrs M Boyns, Mrs J Buckley	Parish Communion

Sidesmen – February 2015

Sun 1 st	8.00am	Mr R Shercliff	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Mrs J Mason, Mrs A Pratt	Family Service

	Altar Flowers	Brass Cleaning	Church Flowers
January 4 th	Mrs Brierley	Mrs Brierley	Mrs J Mason
January 11 th	Mrs Francis	Mrs Lane	Mrs L Phillips
January 18 th	Mrs Brewer	Mrs Mason	Mrs P Wright
January 25 th	Mrs Smith	Mrs J Wright	Mrs P Woods
February 1st	Mrs Brierley	Mrs Brierley	Mrs M Brewer

Church Cleaning

January 4 th	Mr Harwood	Mrs Harwood
January 18 th	Mrs Walker	Mrs Brewer



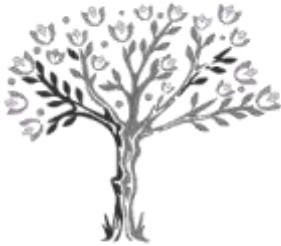
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Burns Night Supper

**Saturday 24th January
Potterne Village Hall**

7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start

Tickets £12.50 4 courses

This has become an annual fundraiser for Potterne's Youth Centre.

By far the best thing to do is to get together with a group of 8 friends for a great night out and ring 723189 or see Steve Dewar for tickets. It is an easy and fun way to support the young people in our community and to give them the opportunity to wait on you. Don't let them say 'no-one cared'. We particularly welcome the patrons of the Youth centre at this event and thank you for your continued support. (To find out more about becoming a patron of Potterne Youth Centre please contact Ciara)

Don't expect haggis this time – there may be a broader Scottish connection, chef likes variety... All Welcome.

Donations of raffle prizes (especially if you are unable to come) are welcome, please.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING



The next service with prayers for healing and peace will take place on:

**Sunday 25th January at 6.00 pm
in Christ Church.**

The service will be very gentle and include plenty of quiet. If you are in need of prayer, or wish to pray specially for someone else, there is also the chance to receive individual prayer. Please come, and encourage others who may appreciate this opportunity.

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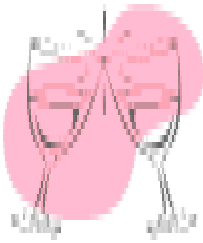
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Worton and Marston Newcomers Party

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

Newcomers party on January 30th In the Village Hall

Tickets available from:
Frank Barcham 725994, Jean Lane 722069
Heather Walker 725785 or PCC members

£5 per adult, under 10 years old free, family ticket £10
(Newcomers free)

Price includes a glass of wine
and good food!

It's always a great evening, do join us.



100th Birthday Celebration

Calling all family, friends, team mates and villagers to help **Mr Leonard Hol-loway** CELEBRATE his **100th Birthday** on Tuesday 3rd February 2015 in Pot-terne Village Hall between 2pm & 7pm. Please call in during the afternoon or early evening for refreshments, a chat or sing along with the Salisbury Plain Military Wives. A presenter will be hosting THIS IS YOUR LIFE, and our local Land Girls will be serving teas.

Please no presents. Hoping for your company.

Teresa Chandler 07970 953 557



Many thanks to those who supported the Coffee Morning and Soup Lunch in December. Gifts to raffle were kindly donated by stall holders at the Christmas Market.

We were able to send £472.00 to the Ebola Crisis Appeal, well done.



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From Christ Church:

Coffee, Cake & Chat


Our first 'Coffee, Cake and Chat' was enjoyed by many, in a very friendly, relaxed atmosphere; the chat was helped along by lots of coffee and cake! The generous donations enabled £151.60 to be sent to Dorothy House Hospice Care. Our next 'Coffee, Cake & Chat' will be held on Saturday 24th January from 10am -12noon. Why not pop in and meet some people you know, and maybe some you don't? Just a social time together, with children's activities available. There is no charge, but voluntary donations will be for the benefit of Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Christmas

Many thanks to John & Mandy Fielding for the gift of the Christmas tree to Christ Church, and to Dennis Rennie for transporting it. Thanks also to the Toddlers Group and helpers for decorating the tree, a lovely addition for the Christmas season in Church, and for the flowers arranged by Norah & the team. Jean Lane & Heather Walker

Pop in for
COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT
at
CHRIST CHURCH
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on
SATURDAY
24th January 2015
10.00am – 12 noon

Activities for children
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Sunday 4th January

Breakfast
9am-11am



Tuesday 6th January

Sausage & Mash Night
6pm to 9pm Booking is recommended

Tuesday 13th January

Basket Meal Night
6pm to 9pm Booking is recommended



Wednesday 14th January

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



Tuesday 20th January

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

Sunday 25th January

7.30pm Pub Quiz

Tuesday 28th January

Pie & Pud Night
6pm to 9pm Booking is recommended



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Happy New Year to all our readers.

Why not make step forward this year and come along and train/play with the Badgers – it is never too later to start (and Parents you can take part too).

Players are required in all the various age groups:

Reception Year - 'Taster half hour sessions' and Under 7s & 8s during winter months, training is at Lavington School Sports Hall on Friday evenings – contact: Dave 07843678781

Under 6s, 9s and 10s - Training Fridays at Devizes Astro pitches from 4 - 6 pm, full kit and tops provided - contact Jason: 07590427999

At Under 14 level (boys born 1 Sept'00 to 31 Aug'01), even with a squad of 16, due to the demands of some of the boys in other sports at County level, often we can only field a squad of 11 - so please contact Neil 07769261750

For other teams - please visit our website for contact team details.

Summary of team activity:

Adults 1st - Remain in 2nd in League 2, with 24 pts., despite a recent 3-2 loss to Bradford Utd.

Adults 2nd - Close match against Oakhill, losing narrowly 2-3, with 2 goals from Curtis putting the Badgers in the lead twice. (Adult 3rd team - had to withdraw due to numbers)

U16s - Mid table with 6pts. With a recent away win 1-3 against Bromham

U14s - Disappointing set of results culminating in a League Cup exit against league champions Melksham. Mid table - 10 pts in the top flight Mid Wilts league.

U12s - 4th in the table, with recent 8-0 win against Bromham, following a 2-17 win away at Melksham Harriers.

U11s - not doing so well this season in this particular league losing 2-0 to Malmesbury.

U10s / 9 / 8 / 7 / 6 age groups are now in 'friendly leagues/matches' where F.A. rules dictate that results cannot be published. However, U8s recently took part in a Festival of Football at Stanley Park/Chippenham coming Runners Up.

As ever, we thank all the team Coaches and Parents for their support and help so far this season, without this we could not make it happen.

Steve Dagnall 01380-727976



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LUNCH BUNCH

The date for January 2015 is Wednesday 14th when the menu will be:
Roast Beef, roast potatoes and vegetables
followed by sticky toffee pudding with custard or cream

We gather from 12 noon onwards and sit down to eat at 12.45.
If you would like to come along, meet people and support your local pub
please contact Keith the landlord of the
Rose and Crown 724202



**Worton and Marston
Gardening Club**



Our Quiz will take place on Monday 19th January 2015, at the Village Hall.
Doors open at 7-30 p.m.

We welcome back Keith Wright as Question Master.

Members and non-members are all welcome to attend and entrance is free!
Do come long if you can - teams of 4 if you can manage it, although we can make
up teams on the evening if necessary.

Tea and coffee will be served but if you prefer you can bring along your own
drinks of wine, beer etc.

We will also be holding a raffle so if you have anything you would like to contrib-
ute please bring it along on the night.

We look forward to seeing you.

Dot Francis , Programme Secretary

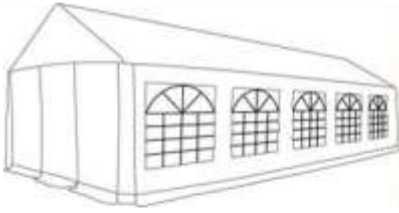
Contacts: blyb01@aol.com or suzanne.bonfield@gmail.com



Christmas Country Fair

A big thank you to everyone who came to and/or supported the Christmas Coun-
try Fair in Market Lavington Community Hall on November 15th. I do hope you
all enjoyed it and found some great things to buy. I thought you would like to
know that the Fair raised the fantastic total of £1,070 for ABF The Soldiers' Cha-
rity, which is £400 more than last year! Thank you all very much! This money
will help a lot of serving and former serving soldiers and their families who are in
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Eric Proctor

Eric Proctor of 44 High Street Worton died last month in the RUH aged 80. Eric and his wife Ann met at school in Chippenham. They went into engineering and teaching respectively, and practised their professions around the world, notably in Brussels, Hong Kong and in Canada. In due course they retired to Worton some twelve years ago to become very keen gardeners here, and Ann in particular has been very active in the Gardening Club.

Eric was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease some years ago, and earlier this year they found it necessary to move to more manageable accommodation back in Chippenham. Eric had been treated in the RUH for some time, but sadly succumbed to his illness and died there on the 25th November.

The sympathy of his many friends in the villages lie with Ann at this sad and difficult time immediately before Christmas.

Robin Shercliff

Brownies and Rainbows

1st Worton & Marston Brownies and 1st Potterne Rainbows will be holding a **Chocolate Bingo night** in the Village Hall on Tuesday the 3rd February 2015, to raise funds for their units.

Entrance Fee will be charged at £5.00 per person which will include your books for the evening,

(concession for Children and any Rainbows or Brownies that will be attending)

Doors open at 5:45pm Eyes down at 6:15pm

Tea & Coffee will be available during the break.

The prizes will all be Chocolate related, so if you have any excess chocolate after Christmas that you would like to donate to help you with your New Years Resolutions then please call Vicky Barton on 01380 720928 or Cathy Hucker on 01380 723450 to arrange collection

Seend Acoustic Club

Upstairs in Seend Community Centre 7.45 for 8pm:

Wednesday 7th Jan - a favourite local group - The Yirdbards - entry £4

Wednesday 21st Jan - the unique sound of Lightgarden - entry £4

Plus support acts, floorspots, raffle and free chocolates!

Grand New Year Quiz Night!

Saturday 10th January in Seend Community Centre, 7.45pm

Cash first prize plus other prizes. Teams of four, £2 per head.

Book a table by ringing 01380 828617.

See also www.seendcommunitycentre.com and our facebook page.

Thanks, and Yuletide wishes to you all.

Tessa tessa@tessadoe.org.uk 01380 828617



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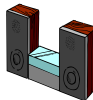
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Thoughtless and Irresponsible Act

We are sad that a local person deliberately connected a powerful electric fence used to keep our donkeys and sheep within our field to a metal five bar gate. As well as our children, some very young local children and toddlers stand on the gate to see the donkeys and sheep. Had we not noticed that the gate had been wired to be live, it would have delivered a painful electric shock to any unsuspecting child.

We know that the person concerned gained access over the adjacent Goss's farm because we could see the footprints in the grass. The person concerned clearly knew what they were doing as the method used to connect the wire was not that which a child or average person would use and they also knew how to disconnect and reconnect the electric fencer and battery.

We hope that the person concerned will examine their conscience and realise that this kind of behaviour causes indiscriminate harm and has no place in our community. We wish everyone (including the person concerned) all the very best for the New Year.

John and Cathie Simpson

**JANUARY
BOOK
SWAP**

Saturday 10th January 2015
10.00am - 12 noon
at Park Farm House, 39, High Street,
Worton, (hosted by Judy Shercliff)

Advance notice:
Saturday 14th February
at Homeground, 50 High Street,
Worton (Ann Darling)



The dark days of January are an opportunity to curl up with a good book by the fire, come & join us to find/choose one, have coffee & catch up with friends/ neighbours new & old for the New Year.

A duck walks into a post office and asks the man behind the counter: 'Do you have any corn?' The man answers politely: 'No, we don't have any corn here.' The next day, the duck enters again and asks: 'Do you have any corn?' Annoyed, the man answers: 'No! We don't have any corn.' This goes on for a couple more days until finally, when the duck asks 'Do you have any corn?', the man gets so upset he yells: 'NO! For the last time we don't have any corn, and if you ask again I'll nail your beak to the counter!' The next day, the duck returns and asks: 'Do you have any nails?' The man answers: 'No'. Then the duck asks: 'Do you have any corn?'

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Thank you to everyone who helped and came along to support the Christmas Bazaar - we raised £467. In particular, thanks goes to the Fieldings of Marsh Farm, who very generously donated a Christmas tree as the 1st prize in the raffle. Best wishes for the festive season and for the 2015
From the Village Hall Trustees



Five Lanes Women's Institute

2014 has been another successful year for the Five Lanes group, and we have had an interesting selection of speakers, days out and craft demonstrations. We ended the year with our celebration of Christmas at the Greyhound in Bromham, and had a great time.

Now that the Christmas and New Year celebrations are over, it is time to focus on 2015. I hope that everyone had a marvellous time over the holidays. Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Tuesday, January 13th, in Worton Village Hall, at 8pm.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Jane Loveys, President

Worton and Marston Ladies Group

I was unable to attend our last Ladies Group meeting in November, but I understand I missed a very interesting evening about past times with Mr Robin Hodges. Our next meeting is on January 28th when we gather for a meal at the Rose & Crown. See you all there.

Wishing everyone a very happy New Year.

Sheila Hale

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Marston Parish Meeting (25/11/2014)

Philip Salaman chaired the meeting attended by 18 parishioners.

Items discussed:-

Footpath repairs and maintenance - Dave Hansford is chasing the team at Wilts to assist with signage.

Flooding prevention - Landowners are requested to clear gulleys and ditches on their land.

Speed limit in the village - Speeding continues to be an issue and a METRO count will be requested.

Village Green - Wiltshire Wildlife Trust are to send information regarding good management and we will continue with the present contractor. It was agreed to cut a ride to the pond.

Ladies Group funds - The surplus funds will remain under the control of the Village Fund.

Next meeting: May 26th 2015

Marston Parish Council Meeting (25/11/2014)

Philip Salaman chaired the meeting attended by 10 parishioners.

Apologies for absence were received from Kathy Kavanagh and Richard Howard.

The following items were reported on:

Upgrading broadband services would cost £60,000. Richard Gamble reported that upgrading work is due to be started in early 2015.

SSE will be advised that trees need to be cut back in order that electricity cables are not affected. William Warden will undertake a survey of all trees on common land and quote for any remedial works required.

New stiles will be positioned before the end of December to comply with the PIGS application.

In order to relieve some of the cost of fencing the Village field the existing tenant is prepared to offer 5 years rent in advance.

The book share/borrow facility is now open in the telephone box. Thanks to all volunteers who helped with this project.

The following items were discussed:

Wiltshire Highways Authority has confirmed their ownership of the Norney Bridge "triangle" and have asked for all stones to be removed. MPC have asked for the bushes to be removed. In the spring work will be undertaken to clear shrubs and trees from the riverbank and a new seat will be provided.

There were no objections to 2 planning requests for trees to be removed.

The precept for 2015 will remain at £2,000.

MPC has been asked to provide an update on the number of unpaid carers in the village. Please inform a member of the council if this applies to you.

Date of the next meeting: 7.30pm 28th January 2015.

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Depression, in a variety of forms, is increasingly common in our society. There is a range of common symptoms, which include exhaustion, insomnia, loss of appetite, crying for no apparent reason, or mood swings, low self-esteem and all kinds of negative thoughts. It can range from mild to very severe, and result from loss, suppressed anger or grief, loneliness, mental stresses and strains, or physical stress (e.g. after an injury or a prolonged illness) among other things.

Depression is never causeless: there may be an inherited weakness - perhaps a family susceptibility to depression, and those with a typically negative outlook or low self-esteem may be more vulnerable.

Depression often goes undiagnosed in those who tend to be 'copers': hiding their deeper feelings while getting on with daily life, they feel they cannot let others down or appear to be anything but perfect. However, depression is always easier to deal with if help is sought early on. Anti-depressant medications can help to ease the symptoms in the short term, especially where the depression is acute, but the underlying causes will remain undealt with. They can also take away the motivation to make any necessary changes in your life.

Homeopathy can be very effective in dealing with the underlying causes of depression. Rather than altering brain chemistry in the way conventional medications do, it powerfully stimulates your own powers of recovery. It encourages your mind and body to restore their own balance, so you regain a sense of well-being, energy and motivation. By strengthening the person rather than removing a symptom, homeopathy enables you to adapt to the stresses and strains of life in a healthy, more flexible way. It is always advisable to seek professional homeopathic help with depression, as your depression is unique to you, and your homeopath will need to hear your whole story in order to choose a remedy which is right for you. There are a large number of homeopathic remedies which can be beneficial in depression, depending on the context: your character, family history and causative factors, together with what affects you physically, emotionally and mentally.

For more information on treating depression and other conditions contact:

Helen Lee DSH RSHOM

07773983739

helen@oxleecedar.fsnet.co.uk

www.helenleehomeopathy.com



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We finished a very eventful year at Worton Toddlers with Christmas Activities in Christchurch followed by a Party in the Village Hall, and of course a visit by a very important man dressed in red! Everybody had a really great time and it was a fitting end to a fun filled year.

It has been fantastic to watch our Toddlers grow and develop over the year and they have thoroughly enjoyed all the activities we have planned from singing to making beanbag frogs, cleaning cars with shaving foam to making Elmer elephants out of milk cartons. We have many more exciting ideas to keep the Toddlers entertained in the New Year.

Please come and join in all the fun, all babies & under 5s welcome, Wednesdays during term time 10am - 12pm. £1.50 per family which includes a cup of tea or coffee & cake for parents!

Corinna 01380 727739

What's happening on the Farm!

This month has been another busy month for us at Sandleaze Farm. We have just had our annual TB Test and I am pleased to say that we had another clear test. What a relief! It is always a worrying and stressful time when we have the annual TB Test. There are always lots of fingers crossed!

Most of the cattle are now in the sheds for the winter months. There is one group left out because we are waiting for the new barn to be finished before they can come in. They are being fed their winter ration in ring feeders out in the field. They have made the field a little muddy however it is due to be ploughed in the spring and reseeded; hopefully they can come in very soon.

We have been laying more concrete at the new farm making the yard outside the new buildings bigger. I had forgotten how tiring laying concrete can be or maybe it's just that I need to get fit! Because the outside yard will get heavy traffic driving across it we had the strongest mix that Wiltshire Concrete can supply and we also had fibre glass fibres included in the concrete mix, making the concrete when dry even more durable.

Finally I hope that everyone had a most enjoyable and merry Christmas, and I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. I did hear that Ladbrokes were offering 5/1 odds on a white Christmas; I do wonder if these odds are based on true weather forecasts or that some bookmaker plucks them out of thin air!

Robert Goss



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HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT IT MEANT?

There is one Christmas song that has always baffled me – what in the world do leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans and especially a partridge in a pear tree have to do with Christmas?

Today I found out. From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practise their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to the members of their church. Each element in the song has a code word for a religious reality, which the children could remember.

The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.

The two turtledoves were the Old and New Testaments.

The three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.

The four calling birds were the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The five golden rings recalled the Torah, or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit:

Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.

The eight maids a-milking were the eight Beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing represented the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control.

The ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.

The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles Creed.

So there is your history for today!

(Sent in by Gill Holiday)



The statistics for December:

Market Highest 58.0ppl

Market Average 48.9ppl

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Potterne Rainbows

A big welcome to our new girls, Libby, Ruby, Amelia, Kacey and Eleanor. We also welcome Debbie who has been helping us over the last few weeks.

We have been working on our Poppy Challenge badge which included:-

- Learning about the 1st World War and why we use poppies for remembrance

- Laying a poppy wreath at the war memorial on remembrance Sunday

- ‘Invictus games’ style indoor assault course which included being guided around an obstacle course, guessing food by feeling, smelling and tasting it all whilst being blindfolded and eating marshmallows without being able to use fingers to pick them up!

- Making poppy icing decorations to put on cakes and biscuits which were sold at the village bazaar to raise money for the RBL poppy appeal. We have raised a total of £23.90 for the poppy appeal so far.

Next term we will be completing our poppy challenge. Arrangements are being made for a visit by some of the choir of the Military Wives to teach us a song and then hopefully we can join in one of their rehearsals, we will be able to tell you more about this next year.

We have also been preparing for the Christmas party at the end of term and making a big rainbow ready for the promise celebration for Amelia, Ruby, Libby, Olivia and Elisha. We also had an amazing fairy princess come to our party to watch the girls make their promise and give out the Christmas presents.

Snowy and Bluebell have had some busy Rainbow weekends during November, starting with the Remembrance service, then we took some Rainbows off to @Bristol with other units from the division. The following Sunday we went on a day’s Rainbow training to Sparkford and last weekend Bluebell iced the cakes with the poppy decorations the girls made.

One of the things that we would still like to make is a 1st Potterne Rainbow ‘standard’. We have started it and if you know of anyone that would be prepared to come in to our meeting and do some sewing with the girls over a few weeks we would love to hear from you!

Cathy Hucker Louise Hale
Snowy Owl Bluebell

Mobile Number: 07856 210283

Email address: Potternerainbows@outlook.com

Facebook: 1st Potterne Rainbows (closed group - please send request to join group)



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Here at Carers Nest Pre-school as a team we are delighted with our recent Ofsted inspection report, where we received a good grading.

Our aim is to provide a homely Pre-school environment where children feel safe and secure. Ofsted recognised that "Children are happy and relaxed within the warm and welcoming environment that the Pre-school provides." Additionally, we provide children with access to a stimulating outdoor area and Ofsted documented that 'Staff recognise that some children learn best outdoors and have increased concentration in the outdoor environment'.

As a team since our last inspection we have been focusing on our planning for children's individual needs and as a result of the progress we have made Ofsted reported "Planning for children's individual progress means that children do well in the environment which includes stimulating resources and activities".

We are proud to work so closely with Five Lanes Primary School who too received a good grading from Ofsted just a couple of weeks before us. The transition from Pre-school to Primary School is a gradual process due to the opportunities our older children have experiencing their future in this environment.

We welcome children from 2 years and can offer free entitlement places for children aged 2, 3 and 4. Anyone interested in their child joining Carers Nest should contact Emma Blackmore 01380 698088 or look at our website www.carersnest.co.uk or check out our FaceBook page.

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

Over half a century ago, it was common practice for a school child, as I then was, to learn passages from Shakespeare. One rather gloomy passage I recall from the Scottish play includes the phrase:

"Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow, creeps in this petty pace from day to day to the last syllable of recorded time".

It is one of the curious aspects of memory that I can still remember those words clearly, yet I sometimes struggle to recall what I did yesterday. Intuitively, one might expect the recent past to be fresh in the mind while old memories fade. In fact, as you may agree, it is not so.

Shakespeare's words imply that time grinds on relentlessly. By definition, surely, the ticking of the clock or the turning of the calendar should be regular and unchanging. In fact, Einstein proved that time is not a constant. In simple terms (and that is all I can manage as far as Einstein is concerned) I think he said that, if you travel faster, time slows down.

I know Einstein was referring to cosmic speeds rather than terrestrial travel, but that concept also seems to be counter intuitive. A slow journey is tedious. It certainly doesn't make time seem to pass faster!

The point I am coming to is that, for me, time seems to be getting quicker. I had barely got used to 2014, yet 2015 is already here! All those things I had plenty of time to do are now overdue. Where did all that time go?

If your life is rushing along, I hope you will enjoy the thrill of the new year. If, on the other hand, your life is more measured and well-paced, I hope you will enjoy the opportunity to savour every moment. Who knows, perhaps 2015 will prove to be a year to remember!

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

Patient: Doctor, doctor. I've come out in spots like cherries on a cake.

Doctor: Ah, you must have analogy.



‘A lack of compassion can be as vulgar as an excess of tears’.
The Countess Dowager, Downton Abbey

WORTON PARISH COUNCIL (WPC)

Road Safety

The road safety improvements have almost been completed. There is now a crossing point near the junction of Cedar Close and the areas for the school bus near Sandlease will be completed shortly.

The Parish Council is continuing to explore ways to reduce speed within the boundary of the village and to consider ways to make our roads and pavements safer for all users. In addition, we have extended our efforts to cooperate with adjacent Parish Councils to examine ways that the C20 towards Seend can be made safer for all.

You may recall that as part of the process to improve road safety, we learnt that unless the police attend an accident (and they will only do so if there has been an injury or significant traffic disruption) the accident will not be recorded in the road safety statistics. Apparently it was the lack of RECORDED accidents at the western end of the village that contributed to the decision not to reduce the speed limit. Therefore, we ask all residents to record accidents; take the registration number, note the time, date and weather conditions, take a photo if possible and then give this data to any member of WPC.

PEAS (Parish Emergency Assistance Scheme) - A wonderful acronym for a scheme introduced by Wiltshire Council to assist Parish Councils to help their parishioners deal with emergency flood situations. To benefit from the assistance on offer (which comprises 1 ton bag of sand, 50 empty sandbags, 50 gel sacs, road flood warning signs and fluorescent 'flood warden' tabbards - now there's an incentive to get involved!), the Parish Council will need to develop a flood/emergency plan. Once we are a member of the scheme, we will receive the emergency kit and be able to liaise directly with an Operational Duty room during emergency weather situations. We will be discussing this at 7.00 pm BEFORE our next Council meeting on 12th January so if you are interested or could help in any way such as storing the emergency equipment, please do come along.

EMAIL contact list - If you would like to keep in touch with the activities of the Parish Council by email please contact us via the website and we will email you meeting notices and minutes and any other relevant information relating to Parish Council matters.

Thank you for your support

We have decided to continue meeting in our village hall and we are pleased to note that there is more participation from the village. We enjoy the increased contribution from parishioners who join us for all or part of the meetings and look forward to welcoming you to our PEAS meeting at 7.00 pm followed by our Council meeting on Monday 12th January at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

Cllr Roger Wilshire

www.worton.org.uk

clerk@worton.org.uk



It feels very odd writing an article for January at the beginning of December. By the time you read this everyone will have taken down all of the Christmas decorations, the days will be getting longer again and most of us will have already reneged on our New Years resolutions!

This past 6 months I have met many people and helped with a wide range of queries. Increasingly I have been linking people up with local social groups and activities and bringing people together to look at new ways of tackling isolation in our rural areas.

The lunch clubs have been fantastic and I regularly link people up with these groups. I have included a couple of pictures from the Christmas meals at the Churchill and Green Dragon which were both well attended and enjoyed by all. Great food and great company across the board has meant that over the past few months we have had a regular attendance in excess of 100 individuals across the 6 lunch clubs I support, with many people attending more than one a month! Personally I have very much enjoyed my involvement in the two Lavington lunch clubs. Many thanks to Crystal, Helen, Isobel and Pauline for the smooth running of the others and thanks also to the Bell (Great Cheverell), Churchill Arms (West Lavington), Crown (Bishops Cannings), George and Dragon (Erlestoke), Green Dragon (Market Lavington) and the King's Arms (All Cannings).

Going forwards into the New Year I will be exploring new ways of bringing people together and I am keen to hear any thoughts or ideas that people may have for how to do this. I am already discussing coffee mornings, book swaps, skittles nights and much more so anyone keen to work with me on this please do get in touch!

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

M: 07557 922027

E: devizesgnc@communityfirst.org.uk





Five Lanes CE Primary School

Ofsted

We have recently received the report following our Ofsted inspection in October and are very pleased that the school are categorised as 'Good' with comments such as 'All groups of pupils achieve well', 'Teachers are particularly effective at ensuring that the work gains pupils' interest and encourages them to succeed' and 'The early years' provision is good so that children make a positive start at school'. The report read that Pupils are well motivated and enjoy their learning, especially using the new technology provided by the school and 'The behaviour of pupils is good. Typically, they are friendly, polite and very considerate of each other'. A full copy of the report is available at the school.

Christmas

Thank you to everyone who came along to support the children in their festive performances. The younger children acted out the nativity play 'It's a Baby' at St Mary's on Tuesday 9th December, then the following week the older children staged a special festive World War II play 'Keep the home fires burning', to tie in with their learning during the past term.

The last week of school was a busy one with a trip to see 'Mother Goose' at Salisbury Playhouse, Christmas dinners & parties and even a visit from Father Christmas!

PTA

A big thank you goes to the PTA and all those involved in organising the Bingo and the PTA stall at the Potterne Christmas market in December. All the school children enjoy the benefits that PTA fund raising brings and we do appreciate your contributions.

From everyone at Five Lanes School we would like to thank you for your support throughout 2014 and wish you a very happy festive season. The new term begins on Monday 5th January 2015.

Helen Morse

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 January 12th
- Monday January 26th

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

January

- 10th Book Swap
- 13th WI
- 14th Lunch Bunch
- 19th Gardening Club
- 24th Burns Night Supper
- 28th Ladies Group
- 30th Newcomers Party

Devizes Farmers' Market

Next: Saturday 3rd and 17th January

The Shambles Antiques Market

Every Tuesday

Kerbside Collections

(Various days due to rescheduling)

Black box and Plastic bottle and card recycling:
Friday 9th and Wednesday 21st

Household and Garden waste:
Saturday 3rd, Thursday 15th, Wednesday 28th



Worton and Marston Link

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Deadline for items for the next Bridge is 15th January 2015.
Giles Collins, Editor at Westview House, 109 High Street, Worton
Telephone: 01380 728664
E-mail: giles.collins@btinternet.com