

Village Tapestry - A True Stitch in Time

A TAPESTRY that has been five years in the making has been unveiled at Christ Church, Worton. The tapestry was a millennium project for Worton and its sister village Marston that sprang from a meeting in April 1999.

It consists of a number of nine inch squares, each depicting a different aspect of the village, surrounding a central area incorporating the three churches shared by the two villages.

The whole creation measures 6ft 8in by 4ft 2in. The squares were worked in many ways cross stitch, patchwork, collage, painting among others.

The subjects depicted include Worton High Street, Devizes Castle, Marston Green, the Girl Guides, Worton Youth Club, the village hall, the football club and Worton and Marston School. Round the side of the tapestry is a list of the different spellings of Worton and Marston over the centuries.

The principal creators of the tapestry were Jo Howse, Belinda Johnston, Rohaise Haynes, Margaret Armand-Smith, Lydia Overton, Sue Hiscock, Theresa Chandler, Jennifer Haynes, Una Sperring, Val Wright, Jo Thomas, Rosemary Rosenfeld, Sheila Abraham, Ena Harris, Christine Marshall and Linda Cave as well as school pupils, Brownies and youth club members.

The tapestry is one of three projects supported by fundraising by the Worton and Marston 2000 committee. The others were the Domesday Book of the two villages, and the refurbishment of a footpath between Sandleaze and Church Lane.

(Report from The Wiltshire Gazette and Herald 17 February 2005)