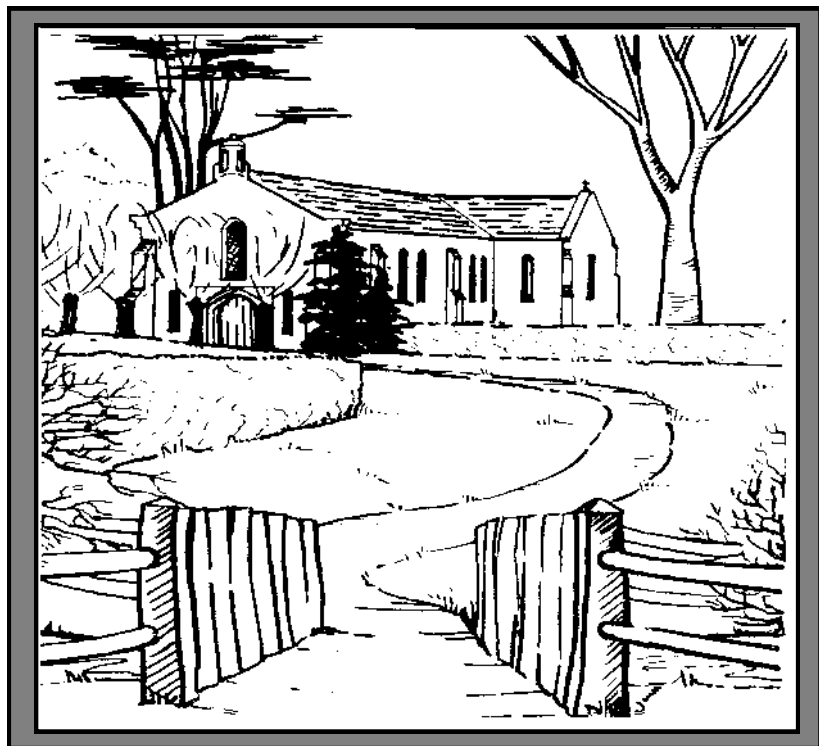


The Bridge



**Worton and Marston
Parish Magazine**

**July
2025**

Price 50p

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Church News

Pastoral Letter.....	4-5
Community Announcements.....	5
Family of Churches.....	6
From Christ Church.....	7
Church Service Calendar.....	8
Wellsprings Benefice Services Schedule.....	10-11

Happenings Around the Village

Village Hall News.....	14-15
Community Events.....	16-24
Community Clubs.....	27-33

Council Updates

Wiltshire Council.....	38-39
Worton Council.....	40-41
Speedwatch.....	43

School Update & Kids' Clubs

Five Lanes Update.....	48-49
------------------------	-------

Fun Stuff

Kids Corner.....	50
Flower of the Month.....	51
Sudoku.....	52-53

Important Stuff

Village Contacts.....	54-55
Bus Schedule.....	58
Village Diary (back page).....	60

THE BRIDGE

Editor: Catherine Malli-Dawson editorofthebridge@gmail.com

A Note From the Editor

New businesses. New families. New houses.

The villages are changing— well, Worton mostly. Marston is still the sleepy little hamlet with little happening—except the occasional stray sheep or rescued pigeon (there’s a story in that last one for certain). We have new Council members in both villages. New businesses starting out. My back garden is getting a hefty revamp from Dan at Apex Property Solutions and Cherry Farm Café is the cutest morning stop for coffee and a bacon sandwich.

I think about when we first arrived in the village almost 2.7 years ago now. One of the things that struck me was the warm welcome we received from everyone we met. From our neighbor dropping off a bucket of wood to the bottles of wine and our first copy of *The Bridge*. We felt right at home from the very beginning. Then there was the Newcomers event in January where we had the opportunity to learn about all the clubs and activities in the villages.

This event sealed it for me. I had never felt so welcomed and appreciated in a new community before. The Newcomers Event marked 50 years this past January. Because I was so impressed with how it made us feel so welcomed, I volunteered to help out for the next one.

Now many of you know that this event had been spearheaded by the inimitable duo of Jean Lane and Heather Walker who have announced they are stepping back after many years of tireless contribution. The Newcomers Event being one of them. And with all the changes of households this past year, the next Newcomers event should prove to be quite a big one.

We will start the planning in the next month. As Heather and Jean transition to more behind the scenes activities we are hoping others will step forward to create a new Community Newcomers Committee. I and Sally Collins have stepped forward to help and we would love to have a few more members of the community join us in planning for next year.

If you’re interested in joining the Community Newcomers Committee, please reach out to either Sally or me and we’ll add you to the invite.

Catherine

PASTORAL LETTER

I'm sure I'm not alone in feeling powerless in the face of a world where power and the will to abuse it seem to be spiralling out of control. I feel powerless in the face of the grim events in Ukraine and the Middle East, where human ingenuity is put to building ever more ingenious ways for people to kill other people.

I often worry that the fruits of our intellect are outstripping our wisdom to use them well. Why is it that every couple of months, one of the pioneers of Artificial Intelligence research pops up in the news to tell us it could wipe out the human race? Most recently, it was Professor Yoshua Bengio from Canada, whose research is cited more often than any other computer scientist in the world, who left Faisal Islam visibly shocked when he told him bluntly on *Newsnight* that “the worst case scenario” from AI “is human extinction”.

I feel powerless in the face of not only of Artificial Intelligence galloping ahead but also Genetic Modification. I worry about why we feel driven to develop these very powerful technologies quickly, even when we know things as seemingly innocuous as social media and video streaming are drive some people crazy, partly thanks to smartphones that follow us everywhere, constantly buzzing and demanding attention.

Despite these problems, technology is often presented to us uncritically as good of itself. We live at a time when people seek truth in spreadsheets rather than sonnets. Yet human beings are more than rational creatures. We are made not for power, which often brings out the worst in us, but for beauty, truth, goodness, and love.

One beautiful idea from Christian theology is that the Holy Spirit is the circulation of love between God the Father and Jesus Christ—Love as a person in its own right, Love as God.

What does this have to do with our daily lives? Well, if power brings out the worst in us, it is often other people who bring out the best. We see this most powerfully in the love within families, but a strong society is made up not just of families but dense networks of organisations and communities.

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In the smartphone era, many voluntary organisations have weakened as people retreat into their own homes, streaming entertainment and having their shopping delivered. In this context, it is a radical act of good to stay involved in the cricket club or the parish church, the art group or the Royal British Legion, especially if we help with the back office finance work and administration necessary for any voluntary group to thrive.

At a time when it feels like we are powerless to stop the world spiralling out of control, these little local gifts of our time and ourselves are one thing we can do; and they remind us that we are made not for power but for love—of our families, our neighbours, our country, and ourselves.

The Rev'd Gerry Lynch
Rector

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONDOLENCES

JOANNA BUCKLEY

A Memorial Service for this lovely lady, friend and good neighbour to many, will be held on FRIDAY 15 th AUGUST at 2:00pm at St Mary and St Nicholas, Wilton.

All who knew Joanna are welcome to attend.

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.

All contacts or requests are dealt with in strictest confidence.

The Trustees

Bill Francis (dfrancis162@btinternet.com), June Mason, Alison Cross, Chris Nixon, Revd Gerry Lynch

FAMILY OF CHURCHES IN WORTON AND MARSTON

THREAT TO THE FUTURE OF NEW- COMERS' WELCOMING!

As has been shared over several months in the Bridge, the decades long welcoming of people moving into Worton and Marston and the planning and putting on of the Welcome Party at the end of each January, is at risk.

Were you welcomed by someone when you moved in? Did you receive an invitation to the Welcome Party? Did you stand at that party chatting to people thinking “what a great idea”, “never seen this happen anywhere else?” Well, maybe it’s your turn to be one of the people who make it happen!

A team is urgently needed to get together, find out what’s involved, and get started on the following:



- Noting new people moving in and delivering a Welcome Card.
- Making a note of the address and names of the new people.
- Delivering their free ticket in January for the Welcome Party. (Usually last Friday in January)
- Making sure all organisations have a free ticket for one representative.
- Selling tickets to longer-standing villagers.
- Planning and helping with the Welcome Party itself, especially setting/clearing up, shopping, making food, asking other caterers, booking Village Hall, ordering drinks and getting license etc.

TIME IS SLIPPING BY AND HOUSES ARE CHANGING HANDS. HELP IS NEEDED NOW!

Speak to Heather on 725785 or Jean on 722069 to find out more.

FROM CHRIST CHURCH

The joint Five Lane School/ Christ Church Fete was again blessed with a lovely sunny day. A good community event, with thanks to all those who helped in any way to make it a success. A lot of planning, and action is needed including advertising, parking marshalls, raffle ticket sellers, stall holders, and those setting up and clearing away. Thank you to all for helping to make it a successful and enjoyable afternoon.



At the time of writing, the school team is still awaiting details of some expenses, but the approximate total raised is £1500 to be shared between school and Church.

Church was full for the funeral service for Dorothy Barcham. Dorothy had lived a long life, so there were lots of stories to hear from her family, Joanne, Kay, and Peter about her life, especially with dear husband Frank, during around 60 years living in Marston.

Huge thanks to Philip and Dennis Hale for generously repairing the broken seat in the churchyard. It was obviously not easy removing it, repairing and replacing. It now looks great back in place, and a lovely spot to just sit and relax and enjoy the peaceful surroundings.

Basic update on the wall: Plans are now with Wiltshire Council to approve the required work to re-instate the collapsed boundary wall. Thank you to John Lane and Bob Mitchell for the enormous amount of time they have spent on this. It has been a great test of stamina and patience to get this far.

Christ Church runs very much on teamwork, so much goes on behind the scenes to keep services running and to keep the building in good order. Without volunteers, this would not happen. If you have time or any talents you could offer, please let the Rector, Rev Gerry, know.

Contact details elsewhere in *The Bridge*, and on Church noticeboards.

Christ Church PCC

SERVICE CALENDAR**JULY**

Sun July 6th	TRINITY 3 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Mindfulness</i>
Sun July 13th	TRINITY 4 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Morning Praise
Sun July 20th	TRINITY 5 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Mindfulness</i>
Sun July 27th	TRINITY 6 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Family Service

AUGUST

Sun Aug 3rd	TRINITY 7 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Mindfulness</i>
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A Service in Loving Memory of Dorothy Barcham took place at Christ Church during May. Also the Baptism of Charlie Michael Ralls.

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

And the Wall Came Tumbling Down

At the end of September, after heavy rainfall, around six metres of the west churchyard wall collapsed. Unfortunately, our insurance claim was declined, as the rainfall didn't qualify as storm damage. The repair is no simple fix. As a **retaining** (not just boundary) wall, it supports the southern section too. In addition, the wall is in a conservation area, falls within the curtilage of a Grade II listed building, and is the boundary to sacred burial grounds.

We have employed the services of a structural engineer to survey the damage. This raised immediate concerns about the adjoining southern wall at the corner near the footpath gate, as it was no longer properly supported and risked collapse. On safety advice, we applied for – and were granted – a footpath closure order from Wiltshire Council: the first six months cost £1,850, later extended by 12 months for a further £875.

The engineer's plan for restoration involves clearing the rubble, laying foundations, constructing a reinforced retaining wall with drainage, and facing it with salvaged stone to match the original. After reviewing several quotes, we awarded the job to a specialist conservation firm that has previously worked on the church.

Before work can begin, we have needed to apply for several layers of approval. A Faculty (planning permission within the Church of England) was granted by the Diocese of Salisbury and the Consistory Court. Because the wall falls within the curtilage of a Grade II listed building within a conservation area, Wiltshire Council have required an application for full planning permission. With help from a planning consultant and an arborist, the application is now in and posted at the churchyard gate. Worton Parish Council raised no objections at their meeting on 9th June.

The restoration is expected to cost in the region of £23,000. We have begun the fundraising process and are applying for grants, but we will also need local support to bridge the gap. We are holding an event on Saturday 12th July 2025 to provide more information and to begin our community fundraising – see the poster elsewhere in The Bridge for details.



Bob Mitchell
On behalf of Christ Church PCC



WELLSPRINGS BENEFICE SERVICES

JULY 2025

Sunday 6th (Trinity 3)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9:30am	Communion	Worton
9:30am	Matins (BCP)	Poulshot
11am	Communion	Potterne
11am	Communion	Seend
6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Bulkington

Sunday 13th (Trinity 4)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Seend
9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
9:30am	Morning Praise	Worton
11am	Communion	Bulkington
11am	Communion	Potterne
6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Potterne

Sunday 20th (Trinity 5)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9:30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
9:30am	Communion	Worton
11am	Morning Praise	Potterne
11am	High Eucharist (BCP)	Seend
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Poulshot

Sunday 27th (Trinity 6)

9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
9:30am	Family Service	Worton
11am	Communion	Bulkington
11am	Communion	Seend
11am	Communion	Potterne
6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Seend

Weds 30th

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

Every Tuesday, 9am Said Matins at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

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

(continued on next page)

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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

Weddings

Samantha Turk and Robert Llopis McCormack on 28th June at Christ Church, Worton.

No baptisms or funerals this month.



Marston Meditation

MARSTON CHAPEL ON THE GREEN

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month
Doors open at 5:45pm
All are welcome

gary.gotham@gmail.com
mobile 07946 475587



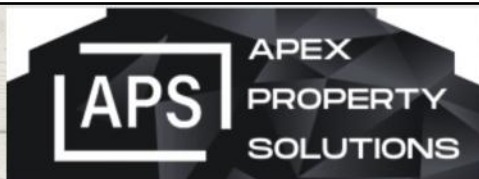
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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Hi everybody,

After the excitement of last month, the AGM and re-election of Trustees, it is back to normal. It is nice to see a few private bookings and loans of the Marquee and tables and chairs. Please think about your Village Hall if you have an event, private or for the whole village, as it's a great place to hold it with our new kitchen, Wi-Fi, and projector. We rely on the village communities to use it to keep the hall going.

To that end we, are looking for volunteers to cut the grass. Please let Dave Pilbeam or me know if you can help.

We are still on the lookout for a Chair of Trustees. We are very friendly. Please let me know if you are interested.

One of Trustees, Brian Badge, has been co-opted on the Parish Council. Well done Brian and he can act as a good link between the Village Hall and the Parish Council.

Some dates for the diary:

- 5 July Pop-Up cafe and Rail/Rummage Sale.
- 16 August Breakfast Baps. We may have to reconsider this if the High Street is closed for the Road Safety Work.
- 30 August Village show
- 5 September to 7 September End of WW2 celebrations
- 17 September Soup Lunch.

That's all folks,
Joe
On behalf of the Trustees.



COMMUNITY



T O G E T H E R

Your Village Hall needs you!!

The trustees of your village hall are looking for keen volunteers to be a part of the 'Friends of the Village Hall'.

Duties would be on an as and when basis and could entail organising events, helping at events, gardening etc.

One area we are currently looking to bolster is the village hall grass cutting rota. All equipment is supplied; all we need is your enthusiasm.

If you are interested, please contact:
Joe Kidd at WMVHChair@yahoo.com
(0770 7241389)

or

Dave Pilbeam at WMVHMaintenance@yahoo.com
(07896 192291)

The background of the top section is a photograph of Christ Church, Worton & Marston. The church is a light-colored stone building with a prominent square tower topped by a conical roof. The church is partially framed by green trees on either side. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

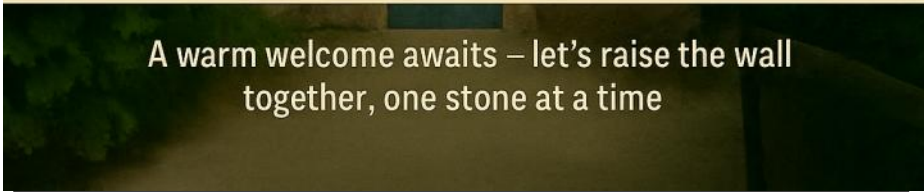
CHRIST CHURCH, WORTON & MARSTON

TEA & STONES MORNING

TOGETHER WE BUILD MORE THAN WALLS:
WE BUILD COMMUNITY

SATURDAY 12TH JULY 2025
9:30AM – 12:30PM

- Come and learn about why conserving the collapsed churchyard wall is important for our whole village
- Rev Gerry Lynch and members of the PCC will be available to provide information about the restoration project, footpath access, planning and fundraising so far
- Sponsor a stone – leave a lasting legacy
- Be part of something meaningful – the preservation of our graveyard and sacred ground – and find out how your support can make a difference

The background of the bottom section is a photograph of a path leading through a churchyard. The path is made of light-colored stones and is flanked by green grass and trees. The lighting is soft, suggesting a warm, sunny day.

A warm welcome awaits – let's raise the wall
together, one stone at a time

**BREAST
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The research &
support charity



Afternoon Tea

Saturday 2nd August

Village Hall, Worton

2pm - 4pm

All Welcome



WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE FETE
SATURDAY 12th JULY from 2pm
VILLAGE HALL & FIELD

Family Dog Show-2.30pm

CLASSES

Classes start from 2.30 pm

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WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE FETE
SATURDAY 12th JULY from 2pm
VILLAGE HALL & FIELD

All The Fun of the Fete!

To be opened by Mr John Davies, Headmaster, Dauntsey's School



Live music from the Amesbury Town Band

Sponsored by Aster Homes

Fun Family Dog Show

Sponsored by Rangebourne Pets

Devizes Morris Dancers

**3pm procession: Harley Davidson Bikes from
the Great Western and Oxford Chapters**

Bake off Competition!

Children's Games

Bouncy Castle

Grand Prize Draw!



Homemade Teas

Drinks Tent

PLUS LOADS OF STALLS!

Lots to see, do and buy!

FREE ENTRY AND PARKING!

Edington Music Festival: August 17th-24th

The Edington Festival of Music within the Liturgy is celebrating its 70th birthday this year! Started in 1956 by the Priory Church's new vicar, Canon Ralph Dudley, over one weekend with half a dozen of his choral scholar friends, it was part of a bid to raise enough money to repair the church's very leaky roof. In its 69 years so far, and now with three choirs, six organists, over 70 participants in all, and over 8 days of services, the festival has raised over £250,000 for the benefit of the parish and the wider communities which host this wonderful event.

Its congregations now come from all over the globe, from New Zealand to North America, drawn to what is the oldest, and generally regarded as the finest, celebration of church music within the context for which it was written.

This year's theme, "The Ways of the Lord", follows journeys made along roads and ways in the Holy Land, with music celebrating the anniversaries of the birth of the leading composer of the late 16th century, Palestrina, and of some more recent composers, Sir John Rutter and Bob Chilcott, whose compositions for the season of Christmas feature in Tuesday's 'Road to Bethlehem'. In between, there is a wide range of music from Byrd, Gibbons, and Hassler, through to Warlock, Daley and McDowall, taking in favourites such as Stanford, Howells and Britten en route. Three choirs will sing at four daily services including Choral Evensong, recorded for later broadcast on BBC Radio 3, on Wednesday afternoon; a rare liturgical performance of Wood's Mark Passion on Friday evening; and Choral Matins on both Friday and Saturday mornings. Services are free, and everyone is welcome to enjoy sublime music and spiritual solace.

The Festival Supper, the light-hearted demonstration of the relationship between festival and Parish, is an evening of food and music this year on **Wednesday 20th August**, and tickets can be bought from Hugh Hancock; musicalsupper@edingtonfestival.org.

WORTON PARISH COUNCIL
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VJ DAY
80TH
ANIVERSARY

6TH AND 7TH SEPTEMBER 25

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tickets: wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events





THE WILTSHIRE BOBBY VAN TRUST

Registered Charity No: 1153790

Bargains and bluegrass at Wiltshire Bobby Van's sustainable fashion event

A SUSTAINABLE fashion event in aid of the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust will give shoppers the chance to meet friends while browsing nearly new designer bargains.

The Bag A Bargain event, held at Deverill Storage on Manor Farm, Longbridge Deverill, near Warminster, will have a wide range of nearly new designer clothes, accessories and jewellery, as well as entertainment from acoustic bluegrass quartet The Olde Boston Tea Party.

The two-day sale begins at 10am on Wednesday, September 3 from 10am to 6pm with tickets at just £6. The sale continues Thursday, September 4 from 10am to 2pm and entry is free.

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust works with Wiltshire Police to protect over 60s and people aged 18 and over with a disability in their homes by fitting security devices free of charge. It also operates a Stay Safe Online team of volunteers who provide free cyber security advice through home visits and talks to groups.

Director Jennie Shaw said: "We had a really successful event last year at the same venue and this year will be even better. With a licensed bar and refreshments, plus some excellent music, it'll be a wonderful location to meet friends and do some shopping.

"The sale itself is an opportunity to add some sparkle to your wardrobe, with rail after rail exquisite nearly new designer clothes and jewellery. And as ever, all proceeds from the event will go towards the running costs of the Wiltshire Bobby Van.

"We'd like to say a huge thanks to John Robins for allowing us to use the venue, our fashion experts and all our volunteers."

The popular Olde Boston Tea Party performs traditional bluegrass songs, fiddle tunes and original material written by vocalist and guitarist Charlie Boston.

Tickets can be booked at wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/events. Find out more about the work of the charity at wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk.



Market Lavington Museum

Summer opening

**3rd May Museum opens 14.30-16.30 Wednesday Saturday
and Sunday every week.**

29th July – 26th August Activities for children

**Look out for more information in future editions of this
magazine.**

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!

**Your Worton and Marston
Link Scheme needs you:**



We are your village charity offering transport for doctor visits and medical appointments.

The scheme urgently needs **volunteers** 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.

Driving for the Link scheme is a great way to give something back to your community by helping out those who are in need.

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or email wandmlink@gmail.com**

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While many members have been, or still are, actively involved in GirlGuiding, we welcome everyone, with or without previous involvement in the Guide or Scout Movement.



A warm welcome awaits you at one of our meetings at:

The Guide Hall

Coate

Devizes SN10 3LU

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month from 2-4pm.

For more information, please contact:

Sally Jenkinson (07947 060763) sallyjenks51@gmail.com

You can read more about the Trefoil Guild at: www.trefoilguild.co.uk



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Quiz takes place the **last SUNDAY** of the month 7.30 start.

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All proceeds go to winner's Charity of choice. **MAY QUIZ ONCE AGAIN
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Pam Woods (Quiz Mistress)

BOOK SWAP



Saturday 12th July
10:00am—12 noon
NB: Change of Venue
11 Mill Road, Worton
Hosted by Elizabeth Murray



Saturday 9th August
10:00am—12 noon
Carpe Diem, Plough land
Marston
hosted by Catherine Malli-Dawson

Come enjoy a chat about a good book over a cup of tea or coffee with good friends and a biscuit (or three).



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WORTON AND MARSTON VILLAGE SHOW

Saturday 30th August at the Village Hall

Now as we get closer to the show, this month's update will focus on the process of entering the show rather than specific sections or classes.

Remember, the show is open to all residents of the Worton and Marston, the children's entries open to any child with a connection to the villages. Only one of the 93 classes is restricted to members of the Gardening Club.

The schedule which gives full details of the classes and how to enter is currently with the printers. We are aiming to deliver a copy to every house in Worton and Marston early in July. Entry is open to individuals rather than couples or families. If anyone would like an extra copy, please get in touch. We will work with Five Lane School on a few classes before the end of term but otherwise, the entry form in the middle of the schedule needs to be completed and delivered to one of the committee members by Wednesday 27th August. This gives us a couple of days to help count the number of entries and plan the appropriate amount of space and tables etc each class and section will require on the day.

On the day itself, entries will need to be delivered to the Village Hall by 10.30. Obviously, this will be a busy and anxious time, so please give some thought about how to display entries to ensure maximum effect, plates, vases, bowls, etc. There is some guidance in the schedule to help. Vegetables will need to be washed, some tied up, so this will have to be done beforehand. Flowers may have been picked a few hours earlier, but please check whether you are required to enter blooms or stems. Make sure all labels are correct. If entering the classes in the Craft section, you may need easels or stands or even perhaps a clothes dummy. Committee members will be on hand to help if necessary.

The Show will be open to the public from 2.30pm. Hopefully, it will be a nice sunny day, we have been lucky with the weather the last few years but we will have a marquee so there should be plenty of space to marvel at all your efforts and take part in what we think is the best village day of the year.

As ever, we are always appreciative and welcoming to offers of assistance for the show and on the day. We will have a raffle, so donations gratefully accepted. If you can offer an hour or so to help with judging on the day, teas and cakes, helping with the raffle, please get in touch. Also, we will set up the show on the Friday evening so again an extra pair of hands will not go amiss. And in

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the longer term, if you want to help organise next year's show, new inputs, voices and ideas are vital to keep the show fresh and exciting.

Good luck to all and thanking all for taking part in whatever way.

On behalf of the organising committee,
Bill Francis

WORTON AND MARSTON GARDEN CLUB

Roller coaster weather; a dry spring with hot days and freezing nights interspersed with unseasonally high winds wasn't ideal but preferable to the wet, wet and more wet of yesteryear. Even the plants were confused, some bursting into life too early while seeds were reluctant to germinate but now, roses are phenomenal, herbaceous beds are burgeoning and the extraordinary fruit blossom promise plenty a bumper harvest. Perhaps the weather has aided the recovery of insect life, paradoxically best assessed by windscreen fly squash, with plenty of butterflies and hover flies, though even more of the less desirable varieties including award winning hornets. Only slightly larger, swallows are fledging, the transition from sedentary chicks to daredevil acrobats taking just a single day. All good news, because of or in spite of the weather. If it were predictable, gardening would surely be less entertaining.

So much for what the gardening club is doing when it is not meeting but the meetings have been excellent. Engaging and informative best describes the talk on climbing plants. Many useful tips but always hard to hear the common sense you, yourself, never thought about. Cortington Manor was a truly great visit. A safari-like excursion across the plain into the unknown, for some, made the visit worthwhile in its own right. That was paled into insignificance by the extraordinary gardens, or rather, the series of wonderfully individual pockets of garden each with its own character, though the term pocket seriously understates both their magnitude and their simple but inspirational design. Lawns, ponds, borders, but also areas of wild flowers and grasses and the river Wylie flowing through it. Sensational. Our hosts provided a refreshing glass of something cool and sparkly as a grand finale and as a bonus the weather couldn't have been better.

Neil Soni

WORTON & MARSTON LADIES GROUP

A good attendance for our last meeting on the 28th May, which was again another very interesting talk/presentation given by Claire from Wiltshire & Bath Air Ambulance.

As a registered charity they rely entirely on voluntary donations. The aircrew attend on average four missions a day, are on call every day for up to 19 hours and can fly anywhere in Wiltshire within 11 minutes and be in the centre of Bath in just four.

The name has been changed in the last few months to the Wiltshire & Bath Air Ambulance, which now means they can fundraise in Bath. The charity needs to raise over £5 million to deliver their lifesaving service each year.

Moving on to June 25th a number of us are going to the Wharf Theatre to see Calendar Girls, which we are all looking forward to.

Looking ahead to July 17th sixteen members are going on a Quiz night canal trip with fish & chip supper, fingers crossed for good weather!!

Pam Woods
01380 726679



VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

£50 200 Club Winner for JUNE: CHRISTINA GREEN

Congratulations

Pam Woods
Administrator, Worton & Marston Village Hall Trustee
01380 726679

WRITING CLUB

The first Writing Club was held on 9 June and we had light attendance for the first one. Our prompts were:

- Explore the concept of home. What does it mean to you?
- Create a narrative about a place that hides something beneath the surface.

One of the things I love about writing to prompts is the varied responses they generate from writers.

For example, home for me isn't so much about a place as a who I'm with and what I make of it. While other writers harkened back to their childhood homes and the sense of security they felt there.

The narrative of something hiding opened up lots of opportunity for us to explore everything from gardening, to bones, to scars that hold the memories of their creation.

Writing is an opportunity to stretch our imaginations, to reminisce, explore and create. Whether your preference is poetry or prose, the interpretation and outcome of the prompt generates marvellous, sometimes magical words that can be shared or held private.

If you're interested in trying your hand (or pen) with the next prompts, please reach out to Catherine at editorofthebridge@gmail.com.

It's not about what you write, or how well your words are crafted, it's about the fact that you write. Writing is creative expression, and to express is to be human.

Catherine





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Giles Collins (scheme co-ordinator for Worton/Marston) - 07530 771405



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MESSAGE FROM OUR WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

There's a right place for solar PV! And have you thought about Solar Together?

I know that many of you are concerned about too many “solar farms” taking over the beautiful landscapes across Devizes Rural West and Wiltshire as a whole, and I have been working for many months alongside the Potterne Solar Action Group and Potterne Parish Council to make the case to Wiltshire Council that One Tree Hill and Potterne Park Farm are the wrong locations for large-scale solar installations.

Some months ago, I called these planning applications into Planning Committee, which means that the Planning Officer's report and recommendation, is considered by Wiltshire Councillors sitting on the Planning Committee, rather than the decisions being made by the Planning Officer under delegation. After a huge amount of detailed work by the brilliant Potterne Solar Action Group (supported by Potterne and Easterton Parish Councils amongst others) and bringing together a wide range of local skills to make compelling “planning” arguments why these are the wrong locations. I am pleased to say that for One Tree Hill - the Planning Officer agrees with us – it is entirely the wrong location for a solar farm.

The Officer's report could not have been clearer – he cited concerns of harm to the landscape, loss of “best and most versatile” agricultural land, impacts on biodiversity and unacceptable Highways concerns. As he refused the application it will not now go before the Committee. This is a great step forward and I very much hope that similar points will be made when the Potterne Park Farm (and Poulshot) applications are considered in the coming months.

So that brings me on to Solar Together – Wiltshire Council's group-buying initiative for homes and businesses which offers high-quality solar panel and battery storage installation from trusted suppliers at a competitive cost. Delivered in partnership with iChoosr, an independent group purchasing provider, it uses “group buying” to secure competitive prices from vetted

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installers. This means residents and businesses can get a better deal than they might get on the open market — with no obligation to proceed and clear, personal recommendations are provided to every household or business that registers.

The scheme is open to homeowners, small and medium-sized businesses, and associations. Now in its fourth year, the scheme continues to grow in popularity. In previous years, it has enabled more than 1,700 Wiltshire households to install solar panels and battery storage, with a combined investment of over £15 million into local green energy.



It's free for residents to register their interest and there is no commitment to go ahead. Those who register will receive a personal recommendation based on their roof and energy needs. Registrations close on 8 August 2025 and more information is at <https://solartogether.co.uk/wiltshire/home>

I hope the sun continues to shine this summer!

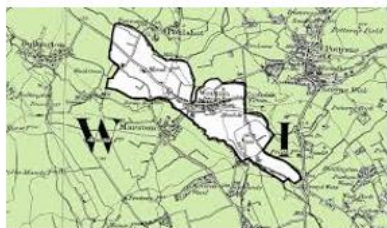
Tamara Reay

Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West.

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

*And the stately lilies stand,
Fair in the silvery light,
Like saintly vestals, pale in prayer;
Their pure breath sanctifies the air,
As its fragrance fills the night.*

- Julia C. R. Dorr



WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting 9th June 2025

I am pleased to report that following co-option of 6 new councillors at our recent meeting we now have a full complement of 9 councillors. The council is as follows:

Malcolm Powell - Chairman
Richard Slack - vice-Chairman
Brian Badge
Chris Collins
Anthony Higgins

David Johnson
Ed Marks
Richard Parsons
Nick Stokes

Update on Traffic Calming Scheme

From Cllr Richard Slack

Following extensive consultation with the village and Wiltshire Council, a number of road safety measures were considered by Wiltshire Council. Traffic calming measures in the centre of the village was recommended by Highways Engineers and approved by Wiltshire Council.

The benefits of this measure include:

- Providing a second informal pedestrian crossing to allow pedestrians to cross the road where the single pavement switches from the northside to the southside in the vicinity of the Rose and Crown.
- To calm traffic approaching the western end of the village into the restricted section in the centre of the High Street. With priority afforded to traffic passing from west to east in the vicinity of the Rose and Crown, this will prevent traffic on the left-hand side of the road assuming it has right of way on what is effectively a single lane road.
- To protect resident's cars that park on the road between the school and the Rose and Crown.

Funding for this works comes from Wiltshire Council funds that are specifically allocated for small scale projects to improve road safety in towns and villages. The Parish Council will fund 25% of costs through funds paid for by development in the village. If the Parish Council do not use these funds, they will be returned to Wiltshire Council.

Wiltshire Council Senior Traffic Engineer has also stated that he will be doing a letter drop to the effected premises and will speak with local businesses. He acknowledges that there will be some disruption but says that the end result will be worth it. He has also advised that the formal parking restrictions that were in the preliminary proposals are no longer being pursued but that they will be marking existing accesses with white access markings to highlight where cars should not park.

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How is the Parish Council Funded?

The principle method of funding a Parish Council is through the Precept. This is calculated by dividing the amount of money the council needs to meet its annual budget by the Tax Base (number of Band D properties in the parish less discounts and exemptions). For 2025/26 this equates to £43.68 per year for a Band D property (or 84 pence per week). You will find this itemised separately on your council tax bill. This was a rise of only 0.5% compared with last year.

Whilst the Precept covers all the day-to-day running costs such as employment of a Clerk, Grass Cutting, Insurances and Subscriptions, small grants etc it is not enough for any real investment into the village, for that we have to rely on grants from Wiltshire Council or other agencies. However, we now have an opportunity to make improvements with monies received because of new housing developments.

Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106

Since 2015 Wiltshire Council have charged a Community Infrastructure Levy to property developers to pay for local infrastructure. This has only impacted the village in the last couple of years since we have had a number of new property developments in the village. The Parish Council gets 15% of these monies which must be spent within five years on:

- a) The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- b) Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area

We have already given the Village Hall Trustees grants of £1,200 and £10,000 and will use a small proportion to pay 25% of the cost of the traffic calming scheme proposed by Wiltshire Council.

We still have over £30,000 to allocate to projects over the next few years and are developing a Parish Plan over the coming months with village improvement ideas. If you have any suggestions as to how you would like the Parish Council to spend this money, then please email me and your suggestions will be discussed at our next meeting.

In addition to the CIL monies the development at Sandlease attracted a Section 106 payment. This is a planning obligation to mitigate any negative impacts of the development. Two payments are due to be made to the Parish Council:

- a) Off-site play area contribution of £27,855.36 for equipped play which would enable an upgrade to the existing play area at Sandlease.
- b) Sports contribution of £10,670 to go towards Sandlease playing field

Whilst the location of any improvements is part of the agreement, the actual play equipment and improvements to the playing field is up to us. This will also be added to the Parish Plan and your suggestions would be welcomed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is on Monday 7th July at 7pm.

Malcolm Powell – Chairman

malcolm@worton.org.uk



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WORTON COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

(Speedwatch sessions are of 45 minutes duration)

Worton Community Speedwatch Figures for May 2025

Date	Time	Vehicles	Total 30MPH+	Vehicles Reported
Monday 19th	08.30 - 09.15	387	6	1
Tuesday 20th	10.00 - 10.45	312	3	0
Tuesday 20th	15.00 - 15.45	437	13	3
Thursday 22nd	16.00 - 16.45	401	16	4
Friday 23rd	15.45 -16.30	444	7	0
Sessions: 5	Average: 396	1981	45	8
2024 Sessions: 9	Average: 377	3395	112	16

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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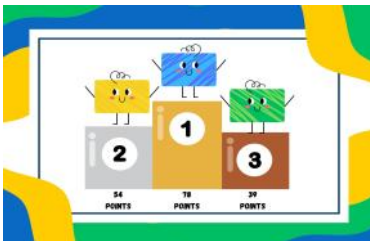


Five Lanes CE VC Primary School



Cotswold Wildlife Trip

We were all thrilled to go on a whole school trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park. The children loved it, and it was a great opportunity to enrich their learning outside the classroom.



House Points

Last term, it was Blue team who earned the most house points and won a non-school uniform day. Well done Blue Team!

The Treehouse

We are delighted to announce that wraparound care is back at Five Lanes School. Our new provision, The Treehouse, is now up and running, offering after-school care for children in reception to year 6. It provides a warm welcoming environment with a focus on fun, creativity and connection. Breakfast Club continues as before.



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☎ Phone: 01380 723 565

Parent and Friends Association (PFA)

Five Lanes School has also reinstated our Parent and Friends Association which has held its first meeting already. It was great to see the support for the school and we look forward to watching this grow.

Upcoming:

Next week, we have our annual **Sports Day**. You may have already seen the children excitedly practising on the field. We hope to bring you photos next month.

Shuffle up day– our 2025/2026 reception starters will have the opportunity to join us for a morning and our existing pupils will get to see where they'll be from September.



KIDS CORNER

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF



FLOWER OF THE MONTH



Calla Lily
(*Zantedeschia*)

*In all things of nature
There is something of the marvellous.*
Aristotle

The lily that is not a lily. With thick waxy flowers and leaves they are hearty garden additions. Like soldiers with their shields and swords raised, they guard the edges of the garden or clump together for solidarity.

Native to South Africa they are considered tender perennials as temperatures below -3°C will likely kill the rhizome. They can be dug up and stored over the winter for replanting in the spring. With their trumpet like flowers heralding the coming summer from May to June.

Be sure not to confuse the Calla lily (*Zantedeschia*) with the hardy bog loving cousin *Calla palustris*. Although the names are similar and they produce the same white waxy flowers, the *Calla palustris* need to be grown in a shallow pond which will drown the Calla lily.

You are spoilt for choice when it comes to picking the colours. They range from the classic pure white, to soft pink, to vibrant orange, to burgundy and even a near-black. Additionally, you can find Calla lilies in various combinations of the colour varieties.

Calla lilies are one of my favourite flowers—most likely due to their hardiness and ease of growing. Their sturdy stems and thick flowers make me smile when I see them swaying gently in the light breeze.

(sources: almanac.com; gardenersworld.com)

S U D O K U — J U L P U Z Z L E S

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S U D O K U — J U N A N S W E R S

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3	4	5	1	8	6	9	7	2
6	8	1	9	7	2	5	4	3
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USEFUL VILLAGE CONTACTS - 2025

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Christ Church, Worton (part of the Wellsprings Benefice):

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

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 7:30pm, in the Village Hall.

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

Marston Chapel

Rev.d Gary Gotham 01380 724264 gary.gotham@gmail.com

Marston Parish Council: Steven Bennett

clerk@marstonpc.co.uk

Newspaper Delivery: Richard Walker 07702 868863

Rose and Crown: John & Jackie 01380 724202

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

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

SpeedWatch: Bob Mitchell speedwatchworton@gmail.com

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

Village Hall (Worton and Marston):

For the Chair: WMVHChair@yahoo.com 07707 241389

For Bookings: bookings4vh@gmail.com 07385 162999

For Invoices, payments, general financial communications
treasurer4vh@gmail.com

For Maintenance: wmvhmaintenance@yahoo.com

Wiltshire Council: Tamara Reay

Wiltshire Councillor of Devizes Rural West
tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk 07711 824864

Worton Parish Council:

Chair: Malcolm Powell

Other Parish Councillors: Chris Collins Nick Stokes

Worton United Charities:

Trustee Chair Bill Francis dfrancis162@btinternet.com

(Please contact me (editorofthebridge@gmail.com) if there are any
contacts you would like to add, change or remove.)

July

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WORTON & MARSTON BUS SCHEDULE

	76			77		
Operator	Faresaver			FRMN		
Trowbridge Clarendon Academy (SE-bound)				15:17		
Trowbridge, opp Wiltshire College				16:45		
Trowbridge John of Gaunt School Grounds (NW-bound)				15:22		
Trowbridge, o/s Manvers House	09:55	12:30	14:30	15:30	17:05	
Paxcroft Mead Newhurst Park (E-bound)	10:00	12:35	14:35	15:35	17:10	
Steeple Ashton Memorial (NW-bound)	10:07	12:42	14:42	15:43	17:18s	
Great Hinton Crossroads (N-bound)	10:11	12:46	14:46	15:46	17:20	
Keevil Field Head (E-bound)	10:13	12:48	14:48	15:49	17:22	
Bulkington War Memorial (E-bound)	10:18	12:53	14:53	15:54	17:27	
Worton Village Hall (E-bound)	10:22	12:57	14:58	15:57	17:33	
Worton Sandlease (E-bound)	10:24	12:59	15:00	15:59	17:35	
Potterne Duck Street (N-bound)				15:04	16:03	17:39
Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	10:26	13:01				
Marston The Green (NW-bound)	10:30	13:05				
Devizes Fire Station (S-bound)				15:10		
Devizes The Pelican (NW-bound)				15:15		
Poulshot The Raven (N-bound)	10:38	13:13				
Devizes Mayenne Place West (S-bound)	10:41	13:16				
Devizes Market Place Bus Island (SE-bound)	10:45	13:20			16:08	17:45

Operator	77		76	
	FRMN		Faresaver	
Devizes Market Place Bus Island (SE-bound)	07:30	09:45		
Devizes The Pelican (NW-bound)			12:05	14:10
Devizes, o/s Business Centre			12:08	14:13
Potterne Duck Street (S-bound)	07:35	09:50		
Poulshot The Raven (S-bound)			12:13	14:18s
Worton Sandlease (E-bound)			12:21	14:26s
Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	07:41	09:56	12:23	14:28s
Marston The Green (NW-bound)			12:27s	14:32s
Bulkington War Memorial (W-bound)	07:45	10:00	12:32	14:37s
Keevil Field Head (W-bound)	07:50	10:05	12:37	14:42s
Great Hinton Crossroads (S-bound)	07:53	10:08	12:40	14:45s
Steeple Ashton Memorial (NW-bound)	07:57	10:11	12:43	14:48
Paxcroft Mead Newhurst Park (W-bound)	08:05	10:16	12:48	
Trowbridge, o/s Manvers House	08:15	10:22	12:54	

Times marked **s** – “set down only” – the bus will only stop to drop passengers off

NOTE: Not all stops are shown in the above schedules
 (Source: <https://bustimes.org/services/76-trowbridge-steeple-ashton-worton-devizes>)

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CONTACT: Vicky 07966 247291



<https://www.wortonandcheverellfc.com/>

VILLAGE DIARY

REGULAR MEETINGS Around the Village

Village Hall

- **Garden Club**
3rd Monday 7.00pm start (not Aug)
- **Ladies Group**
Last Wednesday 7:30pm (not Aug/Dec)
- **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
NOTE: next meeting is 7 July

In the Chapel at Marston

- **Marston Meditation**
1st & 3rd Sunday 6pm start
- **Marston Parish Council Meeting**
(as shown on notice boards)

Mobile Library

Location: The School

1.10pm - 1.50pm

Next Date: Monday 14 July

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

Forthcoming Events

- 12th Book Swap
21st Garden Club
17th Ladies Group

Kerbside Collections in JULY

Worton & Marston

**Black box and Blue lidded
Bin recycling:**

July 8th & 22nd

Household waste:

July 3rd, 17th, & 31st

Garden waste:

July 4th & 18th

Close Lane, Marston

**Black box and Blue lidded bin
recycling:**

July 1st, 15th & 29th

Household waste:

July 10th & 24th



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**

Deadline for items for the next Bridge is 15th JULY 2025

Catherine Malli-Dawson, Editor

Carpe Diem, Plough Lane, Marston Telephone: 07984 301 258

email address: editorofthebridge@gmail.com