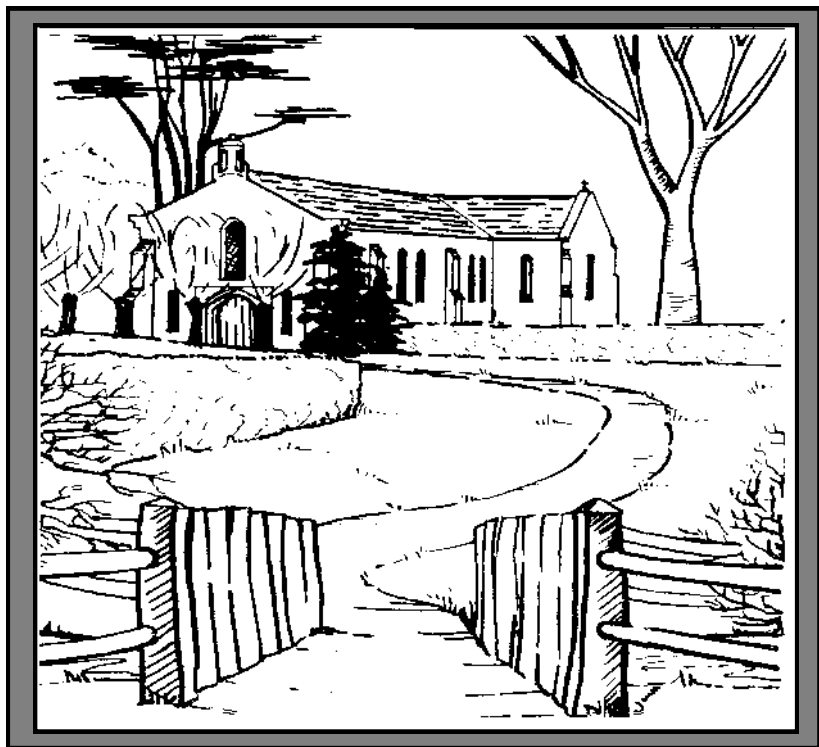


The Bridge



**Worton and Marston
Parish Magazine**

**September
2025**

Price 50p

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THE BRIDGE

Editor: Catherine Malli-Dawson editorofthebridge@gmail.com

A Note From the Editor

Inspiration

We are slipping into the tail end of summer with memories of holidays and children returning to school. The villages are still abuzz with lots of autumn activities. Although there are limited updates from clubs and councils, there is so much to be inspired by in this month's magazine.

Whether it's going for a bike ride, bagging a bargain, or celebrating VJ Day, or enjoying a peaceful stroll through a sculpture garden, there are lots of activities in the coming months. Along with all the fun stuff, there is also lots of improvement projects around the area. Be sure to check out the message from our Councillor, Tamara Reay, where she highlights all the highways updates happening in the next few months.

The Village Hall is looking quite spiffy with its new paint both inside and out. It reminds me of a young lady in a new summer dress. There is even a new accessory acquired by the Trustees in the form of a new marquee.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming events like a Race Night. And there may even be another murder mystery on the horizon.

With all the new families coming into the villages, we hope they see the beauty and are inspired to join in some of the activities happening in their lovely new home. And that brings me to the Newcomers Committee, we have a solid group of village members who have stepped forward to help in pre-planning, setup and coordination on the evening. Thank you to all who have volunteered to welcome our new families to our beautiful and inspiring villages.

Catherine

PASTORAL LETTER

I'm writing this having just had a more than usually cosmopolitan few weeks. In the last five weeks, I've spent time in five countries, not including the UK – Portugal, France, Switzerland, Italy and Germany, to be specific.

Linguistically, this has been rather a rollercoaster, since I am fairly confident (if not necessarily equally *competent*!) in French and German and can manage simple Italian, but my Portuguese is basically non-existent. Of course, people in large cities and popular tourist areas often speak good English, but I feel that at least making an attempt to engage with the local language is important when a guest in another country.

Whilst away, I've been to church services in three different countries and this has been a good reminder that the wide success of the Revised Common Lectionary (the list of bible readings used in church services) means that I can use the Church of England app to follow the same readings whilst they are read in the local language, even though all the services were Roman Catholic. Also, unlike in the past, the structure of the modern Roman mass service is now extremely close to the Common Worship services we have. This meant there was a particular pleasure in hearing many parts of the service that I know in English being read in a language that I would otherwise have been lost with. I was even able to have a stab at saying the Nicene Creed in Italian or the Lord's Prayer in Portuguese which I found a valuable way to engage with familiar texts in a newly meaningful way.

Whilst it was not quite as familiar as the experience a fifteenth century traveller would have had (when all church services in Western Europe would have been identical, since they were all in Latin), there was a profundity of experience here for me. I was in a church hundreds of miles from home, alongside people with whom I neither had nationality nor first language in common – foreigners, I suppose, in a word – but I was sharing the same service and, through familiarity with the same thing in English, I knew what was being expressed and could engage with it as I do in England. As such, the feeling of being part of a wider Christian family was brought home to me afresh and those around me did not feel like foreigners: we were all brothers and sisters in Christ.

Having come home to yet more exasperating news stories where people of different origins and languages continue to be 'othered' and cast as 'the enemy' by those who seek to profit from hatred, I will be trying to take this experience with me into the coming months to remember that we are all God's children, made in God's image, working for the coming of God's Kingdom on Earth.

Mark Harrison
Lay Licensed Minister

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JOANNA BUCKLEY

Twelve friends and neighbours from Worton joined Joanna's family for her Memorial Service on Friday August 15th at St. Mary and St. Nicholas Church in Wilton. Her children, William and Becca gave eulogies, covering her interesting and full life, with several years being spent abroad and the UK before finally settling with her beloved 2nd husband, John in Stretch Cottage, Mill Road.

She was extremely modest about her great talents in writing (often very funny "pomes" as she called them), playing the piano, solving crosswords at great speed and being a witty and appreciative dinner-party guest.

Her five grandchildren read a moving poem between them – "She is gone" by David Harkins.

We all felt it had been a privilege to know her and shared some of our memories with the family after the service. A beautiful lady, inside and out.

A copy of the order of service will be on the table at the back of Christ Church for people to read.

Jean Lane

HARVEST THANKSGIVING WORTON AND MARSTON

**CHRIST CHURCH SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 14th 9:30AM**



There will be an informal, family-friendly church service with harvest themed activities for children and a collection for the FOOD BANK. (Check their website nearer the time to see what they need most!)

We hope this will be a fun event for all villagers, as we celebrate this special time of year, especially living in a rural community!

In addition to drinks and cakes to enjoy after the service, we will have a mini harvest market for people to bring surplus from their garden and baked goods to share with others.

PUT IT IN YOUR DIARIES NOW!

SERVICE CALENDAR**SEPTEMBER**

Sun Sep 7th	TRINITY 12 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Mindfulness</i>
Sun Sep 14th	HOLY CROSS 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Harvest Family Service (collection for Devizes food bank)
Sun Sep 21st	ST MATTHEW 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Mindfulness</i>
Sun Sep 28th	TRINITY 15 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Morning Praise

OCTOBER

Sun Oct 5th	TRINITY 16 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i>
	6.00pm	<i>Mindfulness</i>

There were no weddings, baptisms or funerals at Christ Church in July.

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

FROM CHRIST CHURCH

On a glorious day at the beginning of August, the lovely wedding of Edward and Kathryn took place in Christ Church, such a lovely church and setting to hold a wedding. Congratulations to them both.

Saturday 13th September sees the annual Historic Churches Trust 'Ride and Stride' take place. More details elsewhere in 'The bridge'

Sunday 14th September, at 9.30 am the Family Service will be Harvest themed, with lots of activities and fun for the children, and maybe the adults too!. There will be a collection for the Food Bank, and bring along any surplus produce from the garden or baked goods which can be shared with others.

There will be the usual cakes and refreshments after the service.

Thank you so much to all who have donated to the wall appeal. If you still wish to donate, details of the various ways of doing so are inside church. All the legal/planning aspects are coming together now, so hopefully work to restore the wall may be able to start soon.

Christ Church PCC

FAMILY OF CHURCHES

It has been an encouraging time for the future of **THE NEWCOMERS' PARTY**, which has always been under the umbrella of the above group, but which has now formed a new Committee of people from both villages, added to the "old guard". We are grateful to Cathy and Sally for spearheading this transition and to the other new committee members. Catherine explained it all on p10 of the August Bridge, if you missed it.

Several houses have already changed hands and we hope we have reached out between us to all of them so far, with a Welcome card and a promise of a follow-up ticket to the Welcomers' Party, now on the first Friday in February 2026. Watch out for Cathy's updates in each edition of The Bridge.

Other events, provided by the F of C are the **BEER AND CAROLS** event kindly hosted by Jackie and John at the Rose and Crown and **CAROLS BY CANDLE-LIGHT** at Marston Chapel. The dates for these will be confirmed and will appear in the October Bridge.

The F of C Committee is pleased to welcome a new member but a few more would be delightful. Christ Church and Marston Chapel are represented but members of the Roman Catholic worshipping community in our villages would be an excellent addition.

Jean Lane 722069



WELLSPRINGS BENEFICE SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday 7th (Trinity 12)

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

Sunday 14th (Holy Cross)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Seend
9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
9:30am	Harvest Festival Family Service	Worton
11am	Communion	Bulkington
11am	Communion	Potterne
6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Potterne

Friday 19th

3:30pm	Messy Church	Potterne Village Hall
--------	--------------	-----------------------

Sunday 21st (St Matthew)

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

Weds 24th

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

Sunday 28th (Trinity 15)

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

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)

(continued from previous page)

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

Kathryn Gilmartin and Edward Mardon on 9th August at Christ Church, Worton.

No baptisms or funerals this month.

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

THE WELLSPRINGS BENEFICE REFRESHER AND TRAINING COURSES 2025

These courses are open to all in our Benefice area. You are welcome to join any or all of the courses, even if you are not currently involved in the specific areas of ministry. It is intended that all who are currently involved in the specific areas of ministry attend the related courses, if possible.

These courses will be led by Rev. Maureen Allchin and the venue is 4 Northfields, Bulkington, SN10 1SE. Each course will be from 10.30-12.30 on Saturdays.

Saturday, September 6 th , 2025	Intercessory Prayer in church. This is for all those who lead or would like to lead intercessions in our (or other) churches and who would like to learn more about intercessory prayer.
Saturday October 18 th , 2025	Lay Ministers of the Sacrament (Eucharistic Ministers) assist with the distribution of Holy Communion during church services and can take consecrated bread and wine to those who are sick or unable to attend church.
Saturday November 29 th , 2025	Looking after the linen, vessels and vestments. This is for all who prepare our Eucharistic services and care for the vessels, linens and vestments and who prepare the altar for services.

Please contact Maureen Allchin **as soon as possible** to let her know if you will be attending and which course (s) you will come to. This is important as she will need to know numbers for refreshments and handouts, etc. If you are unable to attend on a specific date – please let Maureen know, as courses might be repeated in 2026 if there is enough interest.

If you would like further details of any of these courses or to put your name on the attendance list, please contact: The Revd. Maureen Allchin maureen@mallchin.co.uk 07421 137462



Friday 19th September
3.30 pm – 5.15 pm

Potterne Village Hall, Mill Road, SN10 5ND
(parking available at the hall and old school)

Crafts – games
worship
food – fun

You are welcome to arrive any time in the first hour.
Refreshments when you arrive, then crafts and activities,
Bible story and song, followed by a sit-down family meal

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult



RIDE + STRIDE
for Churches

**WILTSHIRE'S
CHURCHES
OPEN DAY**

Join us on a bike, on foot or on horseback to keep Wiltshire's historic churches, chapels and meeting houses looking beautiful and open for the future by raising money for your own church and the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust.

**13th SEPT
2025**

Contact:
whct.rs@btinternet.com
www.wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk
01380 831199

Your Local Organiser:
Catherine Bridger
cathbridger@hotmail.com

Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust
Supporting Wiltshire's Churches since 1993
Charity Number 1275398

St John the Baptist Church, Chippenham

Wiltshire Ride + Stride

Could you support our local group of cyclists, riding to raise funds for Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust on **Saturday 13th September**? Please consider sponsoring us by adding your contact and donation details to the sponsorship form at the back of Christ Church or donating online at <https://www.justgiving.com/page/christchurchrs>. This charity provides essential grants to support the maintenance and upkeep of churches like Christ Church in our village.

If you would be interested in riding or walking for this good cause, please contact Catherine Bridger at cathbridger@hotmail.com. For the last two years we have cycled between 30 and 70 miles and visited over 50 churches along the way, so we are aiming to do the same again, or perhaps even better!



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Please see our website for more details

www.whistleykennels.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Hi Everybody,

Thank you to all those who came to the Breakfast Baps event on the 9th of Aug and of course those that worked hard to make it a success. We rely on such events to raise the funds to pay the bills to keep the hall going, so please continue to support these events.



The hall has been painted internally and is looking smart after the ravages of the kitchen work. Hopefully, you will like the bright and airy feel of the hall now.

The trustees have purchased a new marquee, which is now available for loan for a donation. It is slightly smaller (3m by 8m) than the previous one but hopefully more robust, so will last longer.

Having had a water leak near the inlet to the hall fixed and the stopcock in the pavement by the bus shelter replaced, it seems we have another leak causing a boggy patch to the rear of the notice board. Unfortunately, we have to pay for this as it is not Wessex Water's responsibility.

Some dates for the diary:

- 5 –7 September End of WW2 celebrations with tea dance on the Sunday.
- 17 September Soup Lunch.
- 1 November Race Night

The Friends of the Village Hall idea for a team of supporters has not been as successful, and so please think hard about volunteering to help organise events.

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

That's all folks,

Joe

On behalf of the Trustees

Treasurers Footnote:

A huge thank you to Tim & Roz Humpage for the donation of £150 towards the purchase of the marquee. See next page for details.

Worton and Marston Village Hall

Run for the community by volunteers

Available to hire for: parties, meetings, weddings, talks and more

Capacity of 80 seated, 120 standing -

fully fitted kitchen included in hire costs

All proceeds go towards sustaining the Village Hall
for the benefit of the community

Visit our website **www.wortonmarstonvillagehall.org.uk**
or e-mail the Village Hall Booking Secretary at [booking4vh@gmail](mailto:booking4vh@gmail.com)



The village hall also has a new
8m x 3m marquee.

Ideal for parties or even wedding receptions.
It takes 2-3 people around 1.5 hours to put up.
It is available for hire for a £50 donation.

Please contact:
Village Hall Booking Secretary
booking4vh@gmail.com



THE WILTSHIRE
BOBBY VAN TRUST

Registered charity 115370

By kind permission of our
hosts, Mr & Mrs John Robins

*with music from
The Olde Boston
Tea Party*

Pre-loved ladies' designer
bargains, fabulous accessories

BAG A BARGAIN



Deverill Storage

*c/o Manor Farm, Longbridge
Deverill, Warminster BA12 7DF*

Wednesday September 3,
10am to 6pm

Tickets £6

and Thursday September 4
10am to 2pm **Free entry**

Refreshments
available at
our licensed
pop-up cafe

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.



80TH ANNIVERSARY VJ EVENT **CELEBRATING THE END OF WW2**

6 -7 SEPTEMBER

**WORTON AND MARSTON VILLAGE HALL AND
FIVE LANES SCHOOL**

Saturday 10.00 – 16.00 Free entry

Military equipment display.

Family activities, histories / models and quiz.

Cadet display. "Bound by Veterans" charity stall.

Refreshments and raffle.

Sunday 11.00 – 16.00 Free entry

Military equipment display:

Family activities, histories / models and quiz:

Cadet display. Refreshments and raffle:

Tea Dance (Live music) 14.00 -16.00 SUNDAY

WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

ALL DONATIONS TO "BOUND BY VETERANS" CHARITY

WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

ADVANCE NOTICE

80TH ANNIVERSARY VJ EVENT 6 -7 SEPTEMBER 2025

1. Residents need to be aware the Parish Council field at Whatleys will be used as a car parking area during this event. Residents should take care as there may be an increase in volume of vehicles entering and leaving the area.
2. Residents need to be aware that a section of Church Lane will be used as a display area adjacent to the village hall. Residents who need to access this area should take care as there may be an increase in the numbers of public and vehicles in the area.
3. Residents should take care as there may be an increase in the numbers of public and vehicles using the entrance to Five Lanes school from the High Street.

The Worton and Marston Link Scheme

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

If you would like to use our services call Lyn on **07413 912828** or email **wandmlink@gmail.com** to find out more



St Peter's Church, Great Cheverell

Returning for its second year

Spring Bulb Sale

Bigger and better

Bulbs supplied direct from the Growers in Lincolnshire

**Saturday 6^h September 2025
10.00 am – 2.00 pm
The Pavilion, Great Cheverell**

**Fill a bag of your favourite Spring Bulbs
At competitive prices**

Delicious refreshments available too!



MONTHLY QUIZ
ROSE & CROWN

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

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

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

All proceeds go to winner's Charity of Choice. **JULY QUIZ RAISED £80 FOR WILTSHIRE & BATH AIR AMBULANCE**

Winning team : **'THE CELTS RETURN'**

Pam Woods (Quiz Mistress)



Sing With Us!

There's a great opportunity to learn from the best and have a really good sing at the same time, on Saturday 13th September, when King's Singer Chris Bruerton comes to Edington Priory Church to lead a choral workshop for Edington Arts.

If you can read music and have some experience of choral singing, this will be a day you won't want to miss. Chris's huge experience in precision unaccompanied singing and his joy of teaching will combine to give us the skills and confidence to perform (to friends and family) pieces by four very different composers from the King's Singers' library: the 16th century polyphonist Orlando di Lassus, Ralph Vaughan Williams' 'Over hill, over dale', Eric Whittaker's beautiful 'This Marriage' and an arrangement of Greensleeves by former King's Singer Bob Chilcott.

We won't always be on our own; our good friend Chris Totney will be providing support and piano accompaniment when needed. Anyone who would like copies in advance can contact Anne Curtis on 07977 464375 or anne@edingtonarts.org; the cost of the day at £25 includes music hire and refreshments on arrival and at midmorning. We're aiming for a well-balanced choir, and have spaces in all voice parts though unusually, we're a bit short of sopranos and basses, but we'd love to welcome you whatever voice you are. The more the merrier!

The day runs from 10-4, preceded by registration and followed by tea and cakes to which anyone and everyone is invited before a quick run-through of all we've accomplished.

You can book your place online at www.edingtonarts.org/whats-on or by phoning Anne on 01380 831425 | 07877 464375.

SCULPTURE EXHIBITION RETURNS TO AVEBURY MANOR GARDEN

This autumn, the garden at Avebury Manor again becomes an outdoor gallery, hosting a range of beautiful sculptures and artwork set against the backdrop of colourful seasonal planting.

The popular annual exhibition will showcase a wonderful variety of art in all 11 'rooms' of Avebury Manor Garden. Works from 23 artists will be on display, with the 2025 list featuring a host of returning names and some first-time exhibitors. All sculptures are for sale.

The 2025 Sculpture exhibition begins on **Saturday 30 August and will be open daily between 10:00am and 5pm until Sunday 19 October.** There is no need to book and entry is free for National Trust members, with normal admission to the garden applying for non-members.

See the [National Trust Avebury website](#) for more information.





THE WILTSHIRE BOBBY VAN TRUST

Registered Charity No: 1153790

Gifts galore at fundraising sale for Wiltshire Bobby Van

THE popular Devizes Autumn Fair, which has been running for more than 20 years, will once again be featuring unique gifts, clothes and crafts to raise funds for the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust at **The Corn Exchange in Devizes from 10am to 4.30pm on October 3.**

The fair will feature dozens of stalls from craftsmen and women and producers from across the South West. There will also be refreshments available at the event's pop-up café.



Tickets are £5 per person but anyone booking online in advance can get two for the price of one. Tickets are available at devizesautumnfair.co.uk.

The charity operates two vans, both staffed by former police officers, which visit homes across Wiltshire and Swindon to offer free practical home security measures, fire safety assessments and online safety guidance for people over 60 or over 18 with a registered disability. It works in partnership with Wiltshire Police and other organisations including Victim Support, Age UK, housing associations and Wiltshire Council's trading standards department to identify people who need help and reassurance.

Director Jennie Shaw said: "This will be a wonderful chance to get started on the Christmas shopping, with so many stalls featuring some unique hand-crafted gifts from local producers – and help us to continue keeping older and vulnerable people safe in their homes."



WILTSHIRE BUILDINGS RECORD

STUDY DAY

SATURDAY

18 OCTOBER 2025

10.30 – 16.30 (FROM 10.00)



THE AGE OF INNOVATION - BUILDINGS IN THE 19TH CENTURY

❖ WILLIAM MORRIS AND HIS IDEAL HOME

CLAUDIA SUCKLING

❖ THE VICTORIAN MODEL FARM IN WILTSHIRE

JULIAN ORBACH

❖ FROM ANCIENT GREECE & MEDIEVALISM TO GAS FIRES &
ELECTRIC LIGHTING: VICTORIAN INTERIORS

ANTHONY COUSINS

❖ FROM ROGUES TO ROYALTY: RACECOURSES

ROLAND SMITH

❖ QUAKER ARCHITECT BRIGHTWEN BINYON 1846-1905

MICHAEL GRAY

❖ THE POLITE REVOLUTION – WILTSHIRE BUILDINGS IN 19TH C

DOROTHY TREASURE

At The Corn Exchange, Devizes, SN10 1HS

£26, Senior Citizens £25, Students £21, Members £19.50

Optional Buffet Lunch (booked in advance)

01249 705508 dorothy.treasure@wiltshire.gov.uk

www.wiltshirebuildingsrecord.org.uk



SAVE THE DATE

Race Night

in the Village Hall

Saturday, November 1st - 7pm



All funds will go towards the repair of the wall and upkeep of the Village Hall.

Book a table for friends to get together and have a fun night – food included.

Tickets go on sale from Helen Bodman on 6th October.

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.

WHITE HORSE OPERA

"Having A Ball"

a cocktail of operatic party songs



DEVIZES TOWN HALL

SAT 18th OCTOBER 7.30pm

Tickets £15

DEVIZES BOOKS &

www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera

CHARITY NO: 1194308

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Sally Jenkinson (07947 060763) sallyjenks51@gmail.com

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



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Saturday 11th October
10:00am—12 noon

Westview House, 109 High Street, Worton
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WORTON & MARSTON LADIES GROUP

On a hot evening in July sixteen of us enjoyed a Canal Trip Quiz night. We set 'sail' at 7pm, after ordering our drinks, we tucked into our fish & chips delivered to the boat, which were delicious. After being fed and watered it was down to business, quiz hats on, we were in teams of four, my team's name 'Last Again'. We found it quite challenging, but surprisingly we managed to come last but one. Back in 'port' by 10pm after a great evening, everyone enjoyed it and looks like it will be on the programme for next year!!

We are back in the Village Hall Wednesday 24th September when we will have a speaker from Wiltshire Museum, 7.30 start. Hosts: Ann and Christabel, look forward to seeing you all.

Looking ahead to October 29th we have a 'Resuscitation Talk' given by Monica Ford. Something we all need to be aware of.

Anyone interested in finding out about Ladies Group or interested in either talk please come along you would be most welcome.

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WORTON AND MARSTON GARDEN CLUB

Not another heatwave! The big dry is now even bigger than big and although not yet of antipodean proportions, for plants it is survival of the fittest. Attenborough might think it marvellous seeing Darwinism at work, firsthand, but I'd prefer it was not in my backyard. Staying with the natural World it was entirely predictable that global warming took a day off for the annual barbecue, and it was beneficial that the rain was somewhat reluctant until late in the evening. Cassandra was obviously not the soothsayer of the day at the Metoffice and the ever-changing forecast added to the suspense.

The venue was Kim and Graham's stunning walled garden and was exceptional, and they were the perfect hosts. Poulshot provided outstanding burgers and sausages, and the marinated chicken deserves special mention. Nick's marinade technique is worth the visit. While the meat and the halloumi were cooked to near perfection by Dave and his sous chef, the real culinary highlights were the extraordinary array of salads, outclassed only by the magnificent desserts, which made the Ritz look shabby. It seems that the enthusiasm of the gardening club for gardening is more than equally matched by that for eating and drinking.

Now the emphasis is on the Village show, which, by a quirk of fate, has not yet occurred as this is being written, but will probably be over by the time it is out. Adverse conditions are a problem, but as the motivationalists or influencers might say, "See problems as an opportunity." They probably don't have gardens. Anxieties abound as flowers and vegetables are struggling, but the fruit should be spectacular and, as far as I am aware, arts and crafts are exempt from the vagaries of weather. The show will be colorful, entertaining and provide an enlightening glimpse of the impressive gardening, craft and photographic expertise we have locally. The weather will be what it will be, but worrying about rain presently is a curious paradox.

Monday, 15th September, is an important date (**NB 3rd Monday September**) for the next Garden Club meeting. The visit is to Special Plants at Cold Aston Nursery. As always mindful of your delectation, this arranged visit promises to be exceptional. Renowned plants woman, Derry Watkins has a wonderful garden and particularly impressive late colour. Whether your interests lie in floriculture, olericulture, pomiculture (not the Aussie varietal) or just seeing a beautiful garden, there should be something for everyone.

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Note.

1. Pam Lewis's garden, Wellaway, is open in Marston for the NGS 13th and 14th September 1 till 5pm.
2. Brow Cottage in Seend is open Sunday 21st September 1til 5pm for the NGS.

Garden tip of the month. Futures in water butts looking promising.

Neil Soni

WRITING CLUB

The Writing Club was held on 28 July and our group of burgeoning writers are exploring different mediums of expression.



The prompts were:

- Tell a story about something that happened many summers ago.
- Write a story inspired by the phrase "It was all just a dream."

We had some fun with these prompts sharing some memories of golden olden times. Some of us shared an experience that changed our lives and others explored the creative path of a dream.

Our next meeting was 18 Aug as we are averaging every 3-4 weeks. The one after that will be 8 Sep. So, I'm sure I'll have lots of interesting items to share in the next edition.

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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MESSAGE FROM OUR WILTSHIRE COUNCILOR

September Highways Updates

I'm pleased that several much-needed highways improvements which I have lobbied for at Wiltshire Council, in conjunction with your Parish Councils, are progressing over the next few weeks.

Black Dog Crossroads

Black Dog is a key junction and the installation of traffic signals, alongside a reduced speed limit, will make a real difference in reducing risk and improving traffic flow following some nasty collisions in recent years.

SSE is scheduled to instal the electrical supply for the traffic lights from Wednesday, September 3. This phase involves excavating a trench and laying approximately 550 metres of new cable, primarily within the carriageway from near Frieth Farm to the crossroads. Temporary two-way signals will be in place during this period, transitioning to four-way signals as work reaches the junction. This initial work is expected to be completed by Monday 19 October.

Following this, the traffic signal installation will begin on 20 October, with the work expected to be completed in February 2026. In addition to the signal installation and speed limit changes, the scheme will also include drainage system repairs and carriageway resurfacing, helping to prevent future issues and reduce long-term disruption.

Caen Hill Improvements

Preparatory works at another accident black spot are also progressing thanks to the additional investment in highways made possible by the previous Conservative-led Council. This will see the installation of traffic lights at the staggered junction of the B3101 Marsh Lane and Poulshot Road. The lights will be sensor controlled, so that traffic can flow freely along the A361 when there are no vehicles at the junctions.

Along with the traffic lights, the project will include several other critical improvements to improve road safety including speed reductions on Caen Hill, and at the junctions with Marsh Lane, Poulshot Road and Whistley Road.

Seend HGV Issues

As you may know Seend recently commissioned a traffic count to understand traffic volumes travelling east and westbound on the A361 and A365. The results are quite startling, showing that the A361 carries far more HGV traffic than the A365 - the local advisory freight route. And the situation is even more pronounced for westbound traffic.

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I am working with Seend Parish Council and Highways to review mitigations that could improve the situation in Seend High Street. I will keep you updated.

Worton High Street

Thanks to the persistence of Worton Parish Council to secure improvements for traffic flow and road safety on the C20 – calming measures are being put in place near the Rose & Crown and Cedar Close. Following a settling-in period, traffic counters will be installed to monitor vehicle volumes and speeds

Road surfacing

A significant programme of road surfacing is ongoing across the county because of the £22m additional investment and I was pleased to see on the latest notification from Highways that the C20 at Bell Crossroads to the Bulkington junction, and Poulshot Road from the A361 to the C20 are scheduled for improvement works in late October/November. Please do look out for signage and allow extra time for journeys where necessary.

Thank you for your patience whilst all these works are carried out. I know that road safety issues and road maintenance are your biggest concerns locally, and I will continue to work hard on your behalf to secure improvements.

Finally, please do continue to report maintenance issues on My Wilts and if they don't get fixed, please let me and your Parish Clerk know, so that we can chase outstanding issues with Highways. For road safety and traffic issues, please engage with your Parish Council so that Councillors can consider making a request to the Local Footpaths and Highways Improvement Group.

Tamara Reay

Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West.

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WORTON COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

(Speedwatch sessions are of 45 minutes duration)

With the closure of the High Street due to commence on the 11th of August we have decided not to have any sessions this month.

Normal service will be resumed in September.

Many thanks

Bob

Worton Community Speedwatch Figures for July 2025

Date	Time	Vehicles	Total 30MPH+	Vehicles Reported	Max Speed
Monday 14th	08.15 - 09.00	466	50	5	38
Tuesday 15th	08.00 - 08.45	459	9	3	40
Wednesday 16th	08.30 - 09.15	398	5	0	0
Thursday 17th	08.00 - 08.45	334	7	1	36
Friday 18th	08.15 - 09.00	469	12	2	37
Sessions: 5	Average: 425	2126	83	11	
2024 Sessions: 9	Average: 437	3937	169	35	40



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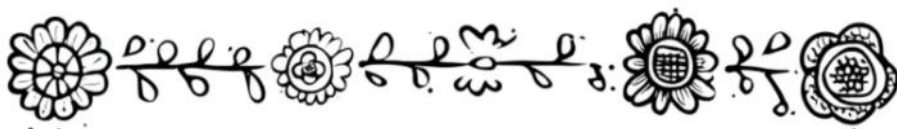
Parish Council meeting schedule

Marston Parish Council's meetings will take place bi-monthly as follows:

Tuesday 9th September 2025
Tuesday 11th November 2025
Tuesday 13th January 2026
Tuesday 10th March 2026
Tuesday 12th May 2026

Meetings will be held in Marston Chapel at 7pm.

Please submit any agenda items requests or correspondence to
Clerk@marstonpc.co.uk at least 10 days prior to the meeting taking place.



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Five Lanes CE VC Primary School



We are now enjoying the summer holiday but there were a couple of weeks of term after the last magazine submission so we'd like to share those with you. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to our fabulous Year 6 but we know that they are ready for their next adventure.

Year 6 Trip

The Year 6 pupils travelled to London by train then showed great enthusiasm and resilience on an action packed day. They journeyed on 4 different tube lines, visited the Natural History Museum, and walked from Westminster to Buckingham Palace via Whitehall, Trafalgar Square and the King's Guards.





Leavers' Service

On the final day of term we had our Leavers' Service at Christ Church with Reverend Gerry. We shared some memories, sang songs and wished the Year 6 good luck. Fun Family Survival packs were also handed out by the Friends of Five Lanes (FoF) - the newly reinstated Parents and Friends Association, to provide some light relief at the start of the school holidays.

New Term

Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September 2025 are teacher training days so we look forward to welcoming our pupils on **Wednesday 3rd September**.

Happy Holidays!



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KIDS CORNER



FLOWER OF THE MONTH



Morning Glory

(Ipomoea)

*They bloom up the fresh green trellis,
In airy vigorous ease,
And their fragrant, sensuous honey,
Is best beloved of the bees.*

Madison Julius Cawein

To live and die in a single day, would that change the way we experience our lives? Would we turn our faces and seek the warmth of the sun? Would we through our arms wide and embrace our neighbours? Welcome them into our homes and offer them tea and cake?

Morning glories started in China and Japan. They were used for their strong ropes and as medicine. From there, they traveled all over the world. The seeds even went into space! Now, morning glories grow almost everywhere.

These flowers mean a lot to people. They show love that is not returned but also love that lasts forever. Each color of the flower has its meaning, too. For example, blue means **trust**, while pink shows **warmth** and **happiness**.

Morning glories bloom only for a day and then die off, showing our short life. In old English times, people gave meaning to these flowers, too. They said it was simultaneously about love in vain or being pretty but fragile.

Finally, morning glories stand for pure unconditional love, making them special!

(sources: almanac.com; petalrepublic.com)

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07984 301 258

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07854 195 162

Book Swap: Judy Shercliff judy.shercliff@gmail.com 01380 723136

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 Brian Badge

Anthony Higgins David Johnson Ed Marks Richard Parsons

Worton United Charities:

Trustee Chair Bill Francis dfrancis162@btinternet.com

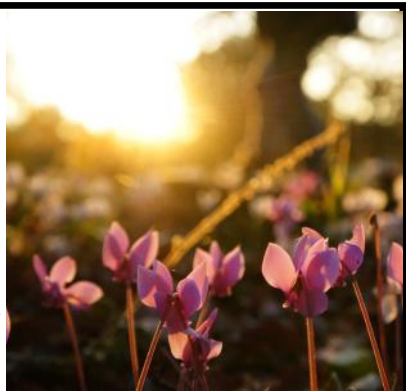
(Please contact me (editorofthebridge@gmail.com) if there are any
contacts you would like to add, change or remove.)

September

Morning

Pleasant calm morning,
Birds' whispers tel something.
A bright day's starting.

Biswajit Ganguly



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

	77		76	
Operator	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>)

*The Bridge**September 1995**WORTON PARISH COUNCIL*

RECREATION AREA - We are not at the end of the path yet! Every time we expect our application for change of use to be dealt with by Kennet another snag appears. Three of us met a Kennet Planning Officer and a representative from the National Rivers Authority a few weeks ago.

One of the problems was that some photographs submitted appeared to indicate that one of the two bridges we were using for access to the lakes and woodland area and recreation ground was new and unauthorised. One bridge was built by Italian prisoners of war 50 years ago and the other was built in 1935! We did state that we would follow totally Kennet Forestry Officer's recommendations for landscape planting of trees and shrubs. We had hoped to deal with this later under a section 100 agreement but the planning officer, it seems, wants details before it goes before the planning committee. Also they thought, goodness knows why, that we wanted to sell off the woodland and lakes after we bought them for commercial fishing, after consistently opposing such use over many years.

The area of the football pitch is some 2 metres above the level of the ground at the stream boundary and they require a further plan showing a section through the undulating land showing the existing and proposed levels. We are not removing any soil, just levelling it.

The meeting was constructive in that we were able to deal with a number of problems that we had not realised were of concern to the planning department and we hope we will have approval soon as there does not appear to be any major difficulties.

We are lucky in that the councillors dealing with the various aspects of the purchase and study of the scheme are widely experienced, one knowing the land intimately, another having been Chairman of a New Town planning committee and having bought a similar parish recreation area, another expert in financial matters and a fourth with wide business experience particularly dealing with similar authorities and with similar problems to overcome. We have had a great deal of expert advice from WALC, WCC, KDC, NRA, the District Valuer and are consulting with environmental and safety experts. It may be taking a long time but we are concerned that all aspects have been covered before it is handed over to the community.

AMENITY SKIP - A skip will be located at Sandlease Car Park from Friday 15th September to Monday 18th September.

K.H.

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

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 8 September

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

For distribution questions:

Richard Costen
richardcosten434@hotmail.com
07854 195 162

Forthcoming Events

- 13th Book Swap
- 15th Garden Club
- 24th Ladies Group

Kerbside Collections in SEPTEMBER Worton & Marston

Black box and Blue lidded Bin recycling:

SEP 2nd, 16th & 30th

Household waste:

SEP 11th, & 25th

Garden waste:

SEP 12th & 26th

Close Lane, Marston

Black box and Blue lidded bin recycling:

SEP 9th & 23rd

Household waste:

SEP 4th & 18th



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 SEPTEMBER 2025

Catherine Malli-Dawson, Editor

Telephone: 07984 301 258

email address: editorofthebridge@gmail.com