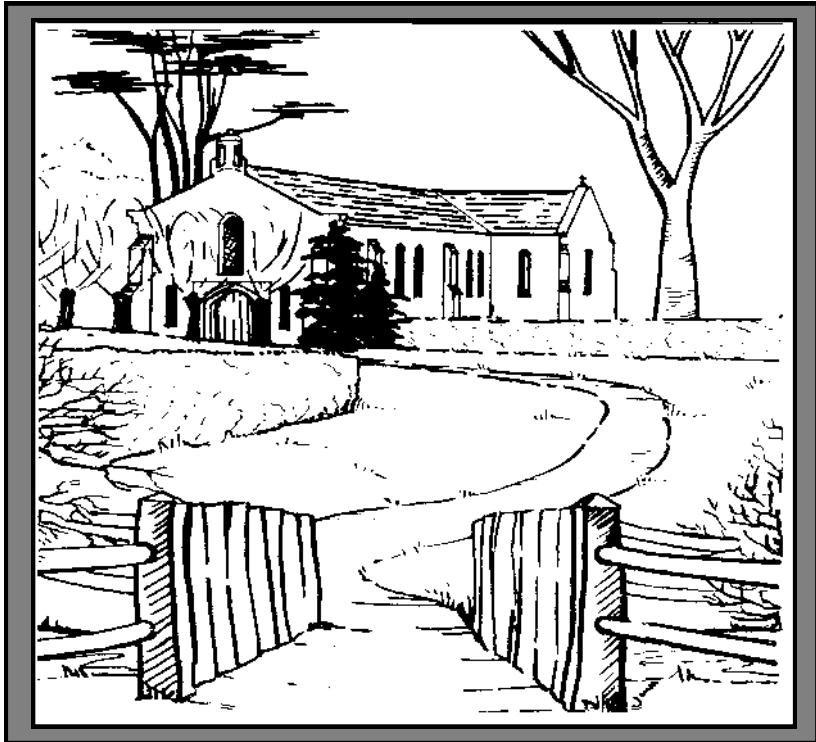


The Bridge



**Worton and Marston
Parish Magazine**

**January
2025**

Price 50p

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THE BRIDGE

Editor: Catherine Malli-Dawson editorofthebridge@gmail.com

A Note From the Editor

It's hard to believe it's already been a year of editing The Bridge. As 2024 drew to an end, I reflected on what I had taken on. Here's a little poem about what it's like to be the editor of The Bridge:

Editor of The Bridge
I can do that.
It's just a little parish magazine.
How hard could it be?
The previous editor lasted 13 years.
Collect the submissions.
Adjust the pages.
Save the formats.
Send to the proofreader.
Oh wait.
I'm missing one.
Chase the submitters.
Re-adjust the pages.
Save the formats.
Oh wait.
They aren't divisible by 4.
Adjust the pages,
Find new content.
Adjust the pages.
Save the formats.
Send to the proofreader.
Oh wait.
Wiltshire Council submission.
Adjust the pages.
Remove the extra content.
Add filler.
Adjust the pages.
Save the formats.
Send to the printer.
Oh wait.
A new submission.
Too late.
Next edition

Catherine

FAMILY OF CHURCHES IN WORTON AND MARSTON

NEWCOMERS' PARTY

FRIDAY JANUARY 31ST at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Please make sure we know who you are, if you moved into Worton or Marston during 2024, so that we can deliver your free tickets to you!

Other villagers, get in touch if you would like to buy a ticket to attend. Always a very special evening, with a delicious buffet and a bar to purchase drinks.

BEER AND CAROLS

The Family of Churches organised the usual **BEER AND CAROLS** at the Rose and Crown on December 2nd. Thanks to Jackie and John for their warm hospitality. A good crowd gathered in the Skittle Alley, together with Rev Gary and Rev Gerry, and the carol-singing season got off to a fine start.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

MARSTON CHAPEL was packed for the Carols by Candlelight on Sunday 8th. The chapel had been decorated with lovely greenery and nightlights and Rev Gary led a service of readings and carols. We heard about plans for a major refurbishment to the chapel which sounds very exciting.

Jean Lane 722069 Heather Walker 725785



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FROM CHRIST CHURCH

As part of the Family of Churches, Christ Church was involved in organising the Beer and Carols evening at the Rose and Crown, everyone enjoying singing Carols and delicious refreshments. Thanks to Jackie and John for all the preparations.

The Toddlers spent a morning in church preparing and adding decorations to the Christmas tree. It's amazing what you can make with a few cotton buds! Thank you to John and Mandy Fielding once again for the gift of the Christmas tree, which looks lovely. Why not pop into church to have a look before it comes down on Twelfth Night?

At the time of writing, Five Lane School KS1 has held their Nativity in church and KS2 will be held a few days before the end of term.

Thank you to all who help prepare and take part in all our services, including the Christmas activities, services and celebrations.

Thank you also to all who help maintain our lovely church and churchyard in such good order throughout the year, no names mentioned, but you know who you are! Always appreciated by so many locals and visitors.

Rev Gerry has been with us for nearly a year. Thank you, Gerry, for leading and helping us and the whole Benefice through the year.

At the end of a difficult year worldwide, we send our whole community best wishes for 2025.

Heather and Jean,
Churchwardens





WELLSPRINGS BENEFICE SERVICES

JANUARY 2025

Sunday 5th (Christmas 2)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9:30am	Communion	Worton
9:30am	Matins (BCP)	Poulshot
11am	Communion	Potterne
11am	Communion	Seend
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Bulkington

Sunday 12th (Baptism of Christ)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Seend
9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
9:30am	Morning Praise	Worton
<u>11am</u>	Communion	Bulkington
<u>11am</u>	Communion	Potterne
<u>11am</u>	Morning Praise	Seend
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Potterne

Friday 17th

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

Sunday 19th (Epiphany 2)

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

Sunday 26th (Epiphany 3)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
9:30am	Family Service	Worton
<u>11am</u>	Communion	Bulkington
<u>11am</u>	High Eucharist (BCP)	Seend
<u>11am</u>	Morning Praise	Potterne
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Seend

Wednesday 29th

3pm	Celtic Service	Poulshot
-----	----------------	----------

Every Tuesday, 9am Said Matins at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

(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

No baptisms, weddings or funerals this month.

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

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion has asked me to thank everyone in our villages who so kindly supported the 2024 November Poppy Appeal.

Collectively, you donated **£912.56**, which is terrific.

May I please add my special thanks to all our volunteers who so generously gave of their time to raise this magnificent amount.

Tom Holloway
Worton House

Christ Church -Ride and Stride update

At the service in Christ Church on 15th December, **Tony Brewer** was presented with the Individual Achievement award from the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust for the most churches visited on the recent Ride and Stride event. Well done Tony, a great achievement.

SERVICE CALENDAR

JANUARY

Sun Jan 5th	CHRISTMAS 2 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
Sun Jan 12th	BAPTISM OF CHRIST 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Morning Praise
Sun Jan 19th	EPIPHANY 2 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
Sun Jan 26th	EPIPHANY 3 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Family Service

FEBRUARY

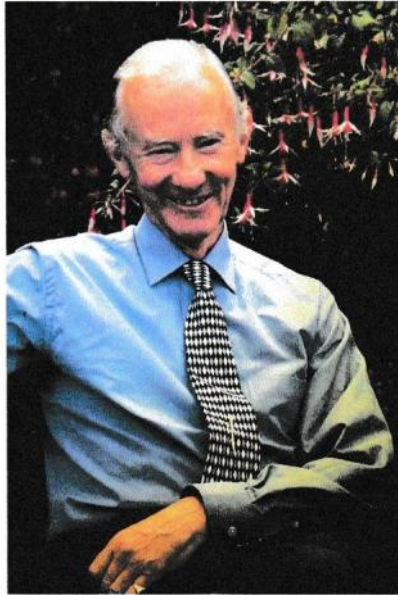
Sun Feb 2nd	CANDLEMAS 9.30am 6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
--------------------	-----------------------------------	--

There were no weddings, baptisms or funerals at Christ Church during November 2024

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



LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR MAURICE JOHNSTON
KCB CVO OBE



27TH OCTOBER 1929 - 10TH NOVEMBER 2024

I would like to thank all the many Worton and Marston friends who have written such loving messages and remembrances of Maurice.

I am truly grateful.

Belinda Johnston

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Pool Competition Results

During the dark nights of October, November & December, 16 eager hopefuls signed up to take part in the 2024 Worton & Marston Pool Competition. Following feedback from last years tournament, the format was revised to reduce the number of head to head games and the introduction of a knockout competition. Players were drawn into two pools of 8, with the top 4 in each group going into a knockout Cup competition, whilst the bottom 4 in each group went into a Plate knockout competition. The revised format seemed to work well, where players faced off in round robin matches, akin to a form of leisurely speed dating, where the search for romance was replaced by a desire to dismantle others hopes & dreams, whilst the knockout stages were do or die, one mistake and you're out - it's fair to say at least 14 of us made at least one "error of judgement" and ended up applauding the winners.

The competition was fierce and lived up to its billing as the premier pool competition in and around Worton & Marston, delivering untold levels of skill, strategy, and the odd lucky shot that left us all questioning the laws of physics.

The Cup competition was where legends were born and true champions were made, the winner walking away with bragging rights and the right to "lord it up" all over Worton & Marston as the 2024 Pool Champion

The Plate competition gave people that 2nd chance for a shot of glory, with the winner walking away with their head held high, along with the satisfaction of knowing they can still beat their mates at a game of pool in the local boozier.

Finals night was on Thursday 5th December at the Rose & Crown, where the finalists were cheered on by their fellow players, along with a few spectators and was followed by a presentation and social. A massive thank you to Jackie & John at the Rose & Crown, who not only put up with us for 9 weeks, but also laid on a wonderful buffet for finals night.

The finals were hotly contested, with all 4 finalists bringing their A game to the table. We were treated to a couple of epic showdowns, with cues being chalked, balls being racked, ego's being checked, along with the odd piece of pool skullduggery, sorcery and gamesmanship. Both finals were very close, but there has to be winners, so

Congratulations to the Cup winner and overall 2024 Worton & Marston pool champion - Andy Harper, who narrowly defeated Andy McCarron in the Cup Final

and

Congratulations to the Plate winner - Craig Hammond, who narrowly defeated Toby Harper in the Plate Final

Thank you to all players & supporters who made this years tournament the best yet. Until next year

Tony

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Hello all and welcome to 2025! I hope you all had a marvellous Christmas and New Year!

Well, by the time you read this, the kitchen rebuild will finally be complete!! Thanks to Giles and Sally for pitching in with us to clean up glasses and crockery and reduce our panic before the Bazaar!

We will now run a small 'Open Kitchen' event with wine, tea/coffee and nibbles for the grant funders and local community on January 15th at 6.30pm - 8.30pm (see more in the event list below).

We still need to complete the internal repainting of the main hall and will also refinish the lovely wooden floor by mid-2025.

Also, on the finishing list is some of the outside render and paint work, plus the installation of internet and Wi-Fi and a ceiling projector.

Watch out for the FaceBook social posts for updates.

EVENTS

December 2024

We were only able to run one event in December, the Christmas Bazaar. This was my first and was another great coming together of the community. It was well supported with a lot of people milling about the various stalls, buying crafts and gifts. It was all very Christmassy and lovely! Thanks to the usual people for helping to clear up after the session.

January 2025

Kitchen open day - 15th January at 6.30pm.

This will be an 'Open Kitchen' event, with tea/coffee and nibbles. As supporters, donors, or users of the hall, it'll be your chance to have a look at the kitchen.

We have also invited various representatives of groups and organisations that have helped us with funding.

We'll set out some nibbles, tea/coffee, and a glass of wine, so come on over and have a look. See if it's a space that you could use in the future, either for a private event or for a community event that you'd like to put on.

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

Murder on the Worton & Marston Express - 18th January at 7pm, until all the murders have been solved!

Please see the separate advert in the magazine. Catherine (Editor of The Bridge) is running this murder mystery event, which sounds rather intriguing, doesn't it? I have been furnished with a conductor's hat and a whistle, so let's see what happens :)

2025 Generally

Trustees wanted: Pauline Crisp will be stepping down as Treasurer in April, so we need a replacement. It's obviously a vital role to the running of the hall, so please reach out to Lionel on wmvhchair@yahoo.com if you are interested. We cannot legally function without a Treasurer.

Ideas and organisers wanted: We want to facilitate better use of the hall, and so are seeking organisers and involvement to help generate new use, either from private groups or general events.

As a Trustee Group, we organise and run some events ourselves, and would love to see it utilised for more in the community.

Lionel
on behalf of the Trustees



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



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Murder Mystery Night What to Expect

In mid-winter 1956, you join fellow passengers on the Worton Express. The passenger manifest includes a variety of rich, influential individuals from the upper echelons across Europe (and possibly some spies), as well as members of the train’s crew. Everyone is expecting a luxurious train ride replete with dinner and a drinks bar. What you might not expect is foul weather, a dastardly deed, or getting involved in an international incident. Unexpectedly, the train is snowed in and one of the passengers is murdered.

Fortunately, the famed detective Pardot is on board. The identity of the murderer should be discovered by the time the police arrive.

Some of your fellow passengers include:

- Stephen Goldring – A wealthy American businessman
- Ernesto Vespucci – An Italian gambler who loves food and drink
- Count Zoltan Navatov – A wealthy Hungarian nobleman
- Elrich von Unterbiten – A German physicist
- Princess Elisabetta Dagomir – A wealthy Russian princess

Last Stop Murder is a Murder Mystery Party where as guests you get to take on the roles of passengers and staff on the Worton Express and play as those characters throughout the course of the event. At some point during the evening, one of the guests will be “killed” by one of the other participants, and the remainder of the evening will be spent piecing together clues in an attempt to determine who the murderer is.

**Get your tickets
now before all
the best roles
are taken.**



Worton and Marston Link Scheme



Volunteer Drivers Needed!

The scheme relies on a team of drivers who use their own cars to help clients without their own means of transport. Drivers are paid a mileage allowance to cover the costs of fuel.

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Saturday 8th Feb
10:00am—12 noon
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WORTON & MARSTON LADIES GROUP

On the 20th November we met in the village hall for a 'BINGO' night, wine, prosecco and chocolates given as prizes, with everyone going home with something, a good evening had by all. And I found a talent I didn't know I had as a bingo caller.

We met again on the 4th December for our AGM. After business Mulled Wine and Mince Pies were the order of the day, along with a raffle and again everyone went home with a prize.

Next meeting is scheduled for 29th January which will be our lunchtime meal at the Raven, Poulshot.

Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy 2025.

Pam Woods
01380 726679

VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

£50 200 Club winner for
DECEMBER

JO BANKS

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

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 the winners' Charity of choice. **NOVEMBER QUIZ RAISED £60 FOR DOROTHY HOUSE HOSPICE CARE.**

Many thanks to Tony McQuaid for stepping in as Quiz Master, hopefully I will be back on duty soon.

Pam Woods (Quiz Mistress)



Are you 18 and over?

Are you looking for something new?

Come and join the Trefoil Guild!

We are a non-uniform organisation that acts as a branch of GirlGuiding – for friendship, fun, opportunities and new challenges.

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

FIVE LANES WI

We had a delightful evening making a Christmas decoration of a hoop on a stand, decorated in a variety of ways with tinsel, baubles, wooden trees, ribbons, etc. Some people had got sets of mini lights woven around their hoops, which made them even more lovely! There was an amazing variety of styles and a big thank you to Sarah for sourcing the idea and providing a back-up of materials to use. We enjoyed hot mulled wine and warm mince pies, making us, we think, the first group to use the new oven and hob. Thank you to the trustees for all their hard work in getting the kitchen extension built and beautifully kitted out. It was an excellent way to round off our year.

We are going out on January 8th for our annual meal, and Sarah will be in touch with members so you can book your place.

Back in the Village Hall for February 12th, which will be a QUIZ NIGHT!

Jean Lane 722069



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End of WW2 Event

80 years Not Forgotten!

Sept 6th – 7th 2025

**Exhibition in Worton and Marston
Village Hall**

**A chance to celebrate the anniversary of the end of
the war in Europe and the Pacific**

We want to make this a community event.

Was your family a member of the Armed forces, Land Army, Home Guard?
Were they evacuated or in a reserved occupation? Share your family stories.

Where were they when the peace treaties were signed?

We need your family stories, photographs or war time artefacts to help us
record this important event.

Prior to the event there will be free bunting workshops in the Village Hall
open to all. We will help you make the bunting. (If you have any cotton
material we can use please let us know). Help us festoon the village.

There will be interactive displays as well as family memorabilia.

All proceeds will go to charity.

Contact Chris Johnson 01380 720580 email cvs64@hotmail.com



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Poetry, Prose, & Possibilities

A Christmas Rhyme

Christmas rime,
as ice forms on the windows.
December time,
dark days and...
A Saviour?

The ice will melt, of course, but
hardened human hearts?
That takes longer.

More than the promise of Spring,
for, who knows when the Spring will come,
or The Saviour?

Death and taxes,
old age,
pain;
of these we can be sure.
These will come.

So, reassuringly,
we celebrate Christmas for,
who knows?

Just maybe, good things will come:
Springtime, new life, A Saviour.

Who knows?
We can but hope.

*6 December 2024
The Feast of St Nicholas
Peter Witcher*

Best Poetry.

This beautifully poised poem was written by the soldier Keith Douglas, in the summer of 1940, just before he went off to fight in the second world war. Relaxing with his girl on the river, he clearly knew the risk he was about to undertake and may never return from. Despite surviving the North African campaign as a Tank Commander, Keith did indeed lose his life in Normandy in 1944 at twenty-four, which only adds even more poignancy to this piece.

Paul Wilson

Canoe

Well, I am thinking this may be my last
summer, but cannot lose even a part
of pleasure in the old-fashioned art
of idleness. I cannot stand aghast

at whatever doom hovers in the background;
while grass and buildings and the somnolent river,
who know they are allowed to last forever,
exchange between them the whole subdued sound

of this hot time. What sudden fearful fate
can deter my shade wandering next year
from a return? Whistle and I will hear
and come again another evening when this boat

travels with you alone toward Iffley:
as you lie looking up for thunder again,
this cool touch does not betoken rain;
it is my spirit that kisses your mouth lightly.

Keith Douglas

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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.

Community First Wiltshire Community Oil Scheme

With this oil scheme, you pay an annual subscription (£24) to Community First and you order your oil through them when you need it. Community First order in bulk, once a month, from the supplier with the best price. Because the supplier is then delivering large quantities to the same village, they can offer the oil at a significant discount.

This month the price was

54p a litre (+5% VAT)

through **Community First**

(Market highest: 64ppl, market average: 62ppl, internet price*: 59ppl)
(+vat @5% on all prices.) *(+ delivery charge on internet price – currently £12)

If you are interested in joining the scheme, please contact: Marion
(asap if you want to get in a **December** order)

Office Telephone: 07843 854857 Email address is info@ofps.co.uk

If you phone, please leave a message and a number to return your call
if the line goes to voicemail.



working on behalf of



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

Get to know Your Community Policing Team



Wiltshire Police

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SCAN HERE

- Meet your local Community Policing Team (CPT) police officers and PCSOs
- Find out about crime stats in your area
- Learn about local policing meetings and events
- Read the CPT priorities
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www.wiltshire.police.uk



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Tuesday 5.30 & 7.00PM
Saturday 9.00AM & 10.30AM

MANDY 07786 375677

NURSTEED SCHOOL

Wednesday 5.30PM & 7.00PM

KIM 07921 805006

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MESSAGE FROM OUR WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Looking forward to 2025 – a busy year ahead.

As I write my January article for Parish Magazines in between last minute Christmas Shopping, present wrapping, festive social events and trying to finish my Wiltshire Council to-do list before the end of the year – I am thinking about the milestones and key issues for the year ahead.

As you may know the Government published the Devolution White Paper a few days ago - proposing far-reaching changes for local government across England & Wales. For Wiltshire, given that we became a Unitary Authority in 2009, the proposals are less dramatic than in Gloucestershire, for example, where the “two tier” system of Gloucestershire County Council and District Councils is still in place.

What has become clear though, is that the Government is keen to press ahead with Mayoral Combined Authorities (similar to Manchester and West Midlands) throughout the country, including in largely rural areas such as ours. It has been made clear that if strategic authorities are to maximise the funding opportunities available, devolution deals will require a mayor, and ministers will be able to impose mayors and geographies on local councils.

The Leaders of Wiltshire, Somerset and Dorset Council are keen to get on the front foot and have therefore proposed the “Heart of Wessex Mayoral Strategic Authority”. This would ensure clear, accountable leadership to drive economic growth, improve public services, and invest in vital infrastructure across the region – whilst the individual Councils would continue to be responsible for day-to-day services.

Wiltshire Council is now working closely with the Government to move the plans to the next stage and whilst there are many moving parts in this process, it is understood that 2025 elections will only be postponed in areas where local government reorganisation is being delivered.

The other items on my to-do list and in my diary for the New Year, include the planning applications for solar at Potterne Park Farm and One Tree Hill – I have of course, “called in” these applications to Planning Committee, so that they can be fully considered in Committee. Thank you to the Potterne Solar Action Group for all their work to stop the industrialisation of our historic and valued countryside. You can see the website at www.stoppotternesolar.com

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I am also looking forward to the remodelling and installation of traffic lights at Black Dog and Caen Hill (Poulshot Road / Marsh Lane) following my campaigns for improvements at these accident black spots and I will continue to work with Seend Parish Council to press for more improvements at Bell Crossroads – although I am pleased to say that the most recent works appear to have had a positive impact. Also, on my list is working with residents in Worton and Marston, Wiltshire Council, and the Environment Agency to find a long-term solution to the breaches of the Semington Brook.

And of course, I am always happy to take up local issues on your behalf with Wiltshire Council and other organisations. So please do get in touch if I can help.

With my best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2025.

Tamara Reay
Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West.
Tel: 07711 824864 Email: tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk

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WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

First, happy New Year to everybody.

So, what will 2025 bring?

Most significantly, an influx of new residents should be well underway as the new houses are completed, and we will all become adjusted to the new village fabric. Of course, it's important that our community retains its traditional heart, both in the form of its people and environment.

With this in mind, our planned entry in the Best Kept Village competition, ably fronted by Cllr Stokes, will provide a perfect medium by which this can be achieved. Nick has been sharing details of what will happen and when. I know he needs as much support as he can get - all are welcome.

It's been particularly pleasing to see the fruits of the work of all those who have invested so much dedication and energy into the maintenance and refurbishment of the Village Hall. I understand that there will be an opening "event" soon where the new facilities can be appreciated in person.

The Parish Council has provided significant financial support for the project, as we have for other village initiatives. In addition, the Parish Council approved planned traffic control improvements, which will hopefully take place later this year. Simultaneously, we carefully manage the relatively small amount of council tax revenue we receive. We keep any increases to the bare minimum.

I feel that most community members understandably are somewhat confused about the Parish Council's responsibilities. Suffice to say, any power is very limited, though the responsibilities that we do have can be significant. 2025 will provide the perfect opportunity for anyone interested in finding out more - and make a difference - by becoming a Parish Councillor. That is because 2025 marks the end of the current four-year cycle that a Parish Council serves before the current incumbents must stand down and seek re-election, which will happen in May. Although Parish Council elections operate in the same way as the rest of the elections that take place, they are usually different in that party political allegiance doesn't usually operate, although it is possible. Thus, Parish Councils can operate with a degree of unanimity whilst still promoting robust debate. I like to think that decisions made at Parish Council level are often of more practical importance to our

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everyday lives than those made at Westminster! (but then I would say that, wouldn't I?).

Please contact Jules (clerk@worton.org.uk) if you'd like to find out more.

Your Councillors



Marston Parish Council

A Common Land meeting will take place at **7pm on Tuesday 21st January 2025**, at Marston Chapel. Items to be discussed will include rights over the common land and a plan of action for maintenance. All graziers and parishioners are invited to attend.

The next Marston Parish Council meeting will take place at **7pm on Tuesday 11th February 2025**. Items for the agenda should be submitted to Steven Bennett by 5th February - clerk@marstonpc.co.uk. The agenda will be posted on the village notice boards 3 working days before the meeting.

In a bid to reduce costs and reduce the Parish Council's carbon footprint, the Parish Council will migrate to electronic communications over the coming months. All parishioners will receive a newsletter in the New Year, explaining how the electronic communication will work and how they can register their email address. Once up and running, this will enable meeting agendas, minutes, and relevant documents to be shared easily and quickly with village residents. For those that do not have access to email, we will continue to communicate through other means.

The Parish Council would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year - we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meetings.

Marston Parish Council

WORTON COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

(Speedwatch sessions are of 45 minutes duration)

Our sessions for December were cancelled due to the installation of traffic lights in the High Street.

Kind regards and Best Wishes for Christmas.


Bob

Worton Community Speedwatch Figures for 2024

Month	Sessions	Vehicles	Total 30MPH +	Vehicles reported	Max Speed
January	10	2938	124	19	42
February	8	2659	119	27	42
March	9	3460	125	27	45
April	8	2648	129	22	39
May	9	3395	112	16	45
June	10	4170	158	26	42
July	9	3937	169	35	40
August	7	2581	162	38	48
September	8	3612	145	20	40
October	8	3253	116	18	40
November	7	2666	84	14	40
December	0	0	0	0	0
Total	93	35319	1443	262	
Average Vehicles per Session:			380		

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Wiltshire Best Kept Village Competition (BKVC)

In February, entries will be invited for the BKVC. Categories are Large, Medium and Small villages. There are 15 prizes of up to £200. It's a great way of getting villagers together to keep our villages looking good and to build on our community spirit. Entry is simple and must be received by CPRE Wiltshire by 17 April. Can you help our parish council with this? Details are at <https://www.cprewiltshire.org.uk/category/awards/> or call 01380 722157 and leave a message if necessary.

Mike Manson
Project Officer



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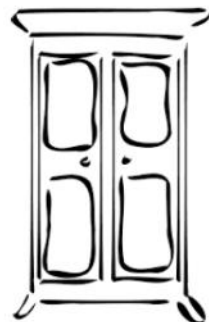
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Five Lanes CE VC Primary School



Christmas Events:

Christmas may seem a distant memory but at the time of writing (mid December), we are in full festive spirit here at the school.

- Pantomime: we travelled to Salisbury to watch Sleeping Beauty. The children (and adults) had a fantastic time.
- Christmas dinner: the whole school enjoyed eating together.
- Key stage 1 Nativity: our younger members of the school (reception, year 1 and year 2) performed The Twinkly Nativity at Christ Church. The costumes and singing were amazing.



Other events:

- Elder Class Hockey Festival: Our years 5 and 6 attended a hockey festival at Dauntsey's and smashed it. They represented the school well and as a bonus won all 5 of their games! The children had lots of fun and even class teacher Miss Marchant was seen jumping for joy.



- Modelling Club: Explosive scenes were witnessed in the playground as modelling club met science experiments.



Upcoming:

Next week we have our Christmas party and our Key Stage 2 pupils (years 3-6) will put on their performance of Straw and Order. Photos to follow in the next edition.

**Happy New Year from everyone at
Team Five Lanes**



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or email us:
WortonToddlers@gmail.com



We have not been able to meet because of ongoing refurbishment
in the hall.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone again very soon.

SMASH YOUR GOALS

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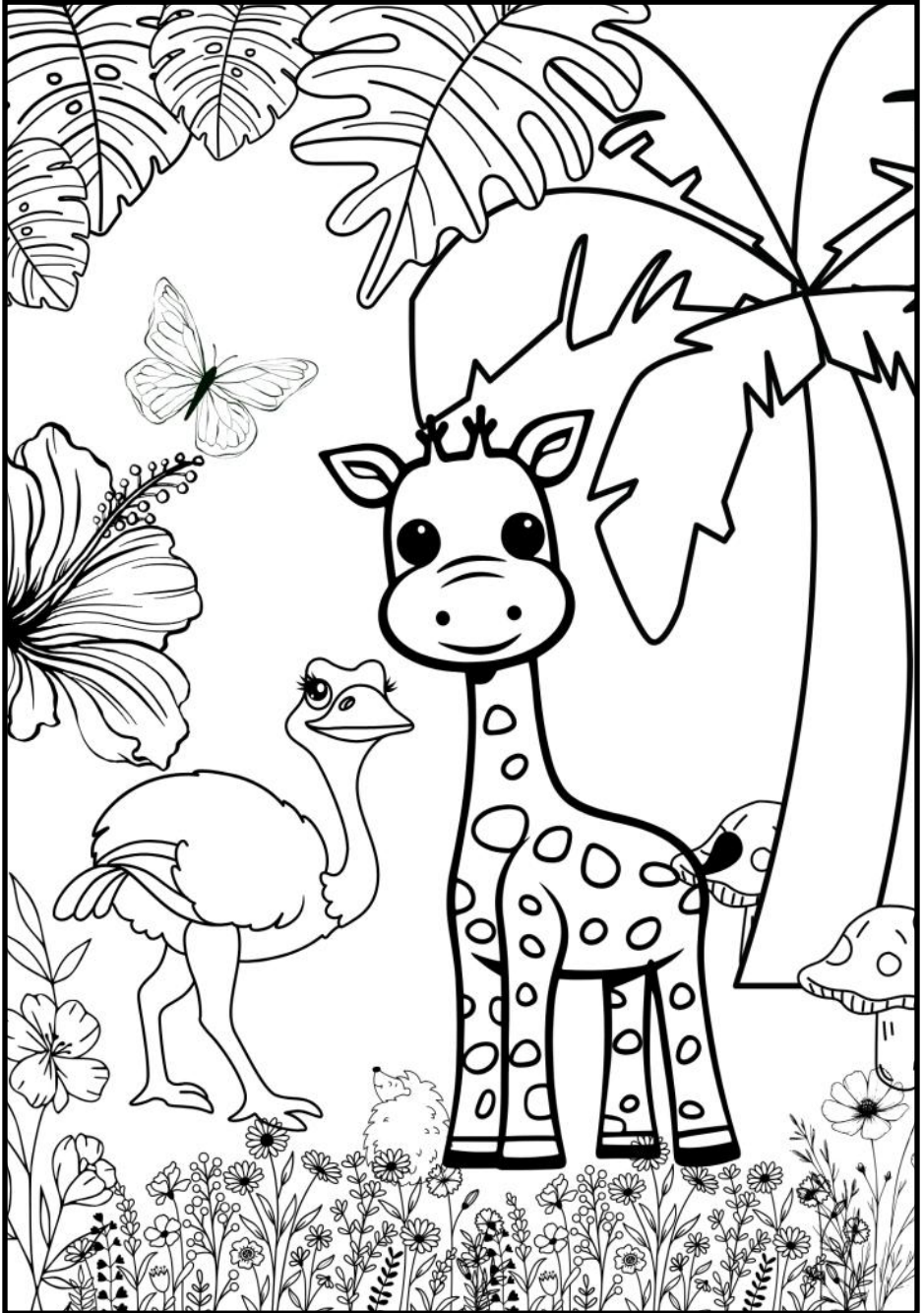
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CONTACT: Vicky 07966 247291



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

KIDS CORNER



FLOWER OF THE MONTH



Snowdrops
(*Galanthus*)

The cold wind may still blow,
the snow may still show,
peeping through green shoots will rise,
to raise a smile to our eyes.

The snowdrop is the earliest flower to bloom and herald the end of winter. They originated in the grassland regions of southern Europe and Asia Minor and are believed to have been brought back by monks and midwives for medicinal purposes.

The name *Galanthus*, is derived from the Greek words *gala* (milk) and *anthos* (flower) and were know to use them for their mind-altering effects. There is a Christian story about an angel that turned snowflakes into snowdrops and gave them to Adam and Eve as a sign of hope after their banishment from the Garden of Eden. This is likely why snowdrops still signify hope and beauty.

As they begin their spring show, be careful not to pluck one and bring it into your house as, according to superstition, this will herald ill-fortune and potentially the death of a loved one within the year. They are even believed to sour your milk and spoil your eggs. So, I think I'll keep mine in the garden and admire them through the window.

Regardless of the beliefs and history, these lovely small plants work well along walkways or elevated gardens planted in groups of three. It is best to plant the dry bulbs in the fall after the soil cools. Rich, well-drained soil is their preference.

(sources: almanac.com, creativecountryside.com)

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9	8	7	2	4	5	3	1	6
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1	8	2	9	5	6	3	4	7
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3	4	7	6	9	8	5	1	2

USEFUL VILLAGE CONTACTS - 2025

The Bridge:

Editor - Catherine Malli-Dawson editorofthebridge@gmail.com
07984 301 258

Distribution - Kim Cannon kescannon@hotmail.com
01380 727993

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

Church Wardens:

Mrs Heather Walker 01380 725785 heatherwalker66@gmail.com
Mrs Jean Lane 01380 722069 joje@talktalk.net

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

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

Garden Club:

Alison Parker 07786 985741 aelparker@aol.com
Sally Brooks 07957 917851 svwood90@hotmail.com

Village Show Bill Francis 01380 739986
dfrancis162@btinternet.com

Ladies Group: Pam Woods 01380 726679

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

Link Scheme: Lyn Vickers Transport Coordinator 07413 912828

Alun Newman (Chair)
wandmlink@gmail.com for further information

Marston Parish Council: Steven Bennett

clerk@marstonpc.co.uk

Newspaper Delivery: Richard Walker 07702 868863

Rose and Crown: John & Jackie 01380 724202

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

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SpeedWatch: Bob Mitchell speedwatch2024@gmail.com

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

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

Village Hall (Worton and Marston):

For the Chair: WMVHChair@yahoo.com 07385 162999

For Bookings: dpcrisp@uwclub.net 01380 720248

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: Barry Devine barry@worton.org.uk bazandsaz@gmail.com

Other Parish Councillors: Richard Slack Dicky Parsons

Patricia Goodenough Malcolm Powell Chris Collins

Robert Goss Nick Stokes Anthony Higgins Clerk: Jules Slack

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

Worton United Charities: Trustee Chair Bill Francis

dfrancis162@btinternet.com

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

January

Sparkling winter sunshine,
Faces all aglow,
Making resolutions,
And angels in the snow—
Steaming cups of cocoa,
A year that's fresh and new...
All of this is magic—
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Unknown





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MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

Clarendon Academy or Manvers House - Market Place Market Place - Clarendon Academy or Manvers House

Timing points All stops

	76	77
Trowbridge, o/s Manvers House	09:50	12:30 14:30
Paxcroft Mead Newhurst Park (E-bound)	09:55	12:35 14:35
Steeple Ashton Memorial (NW-bound)	10:03	12:43 14:43
Great Hinton Crossroads (N-bound)	10:07	12:47 14:47
Keevil Field Head (E-bound)	10:09	12:49 14:49
Bulkington War Memorial (E-bound)	10:14	12:54 14:54
Worton Village Hall (E-bound)	10:18	12:58 14:59
Worton Sandlease (E-bound)	10:20	13:00 15:01
Potterne Duck Street (N-bound)		15:05
Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	10:22	13:02
Marston The Green (NW-bound)	10:26	13:06
Devizes Fire Station (S-bound)		15:10
Devizes Market Place Costa (NW-bound)		15:15
Poulshot The Raven (N-bound)	10:33	13:13
Devizes Mayenne Place West (S-bound)	10:38	13:18
Devizes Market Place Bus Island (SE-bound)	10:42	13:22

Timing points All stops

	77	76
Devizes Market Place Bus Island (SE-bound)	09:45	
Devizes The Pelican (NW-bound)		12:05 14:10
Potterne Duck Street (S-bound)	09:50	
Devizes, o/s Business Centre		12:09 14:14
Devizes Mayenne Place (W-bound)		12:10 14:15
Poulshot The Raven (S-bound)		12:14 14:19s
Worton Sandlease (E-bound)		12:22 14:27s
Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	09:56	12:24 14:29s
Marston The Green (NW-bound)		12:28s 14:33s
Bulkington War Memorial (W-bound)	10:00	12:32 14:37s
Keevil Field Head (W-bound)	10:05	12:37 14:42s
Great Hinton Crossroads (S-bound)	10:08	12:40 14:45s
Steeple Ashton Memorial (NW-bound)	10:11	12:43 14:48s
Steeple Ashton St Mary's (NW-bound)	10:11	12:43 14:49s
Steeple Ashton Newleaze (NW-bound)	10:12	12:44 14:50
Paxcroft Mead Newhurst Park (W-bound)	10:18	12:50
Trowbridge, o/s Manvers House	10:24	12:56

SATURDAYS

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

Clarendon Academy or Manvers House - Market Place

Timing points All stops

	76	77
Trowbridge, o/s Manvers House	09:55	12:30 15:00
Paxcroft Mead Newhurst Park (E-bound)	10:00	12:35 15:05
Steeple Ashton Memorial (NW-bound)	10:08	12:43 15:13
Great Hinton Crossroads (N-bound)	10:12	12:47 15:17
Keevil Field Head (E-bound)	10:14	12:49 15:19
Bulkington War Memorial (E-bound)	10:19	12:54 15:24
Worton Village Hall (E-bound)		10:24 12:59 15:30
Worton Sandlease (E-bound)	09:28	10:26 13:01 15:32
Potterne Duck Street (N-bound)		15:36
Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	09:30	10:27 13:02
Marston The Green (NW-bound)	09:34	10:31 13:06
Devizes Market Place Costa (NW-bound)		15:41
Poulshot The Raven (N-bound)	09:41	10:38 13:13
Devizes Mayenne Place West (S-bound)		10:43 10:57 13:18
Devizes Market Place Bus Island (SE-bound)	09:51	10:48 11:03 13:23

Market Place - Clarendon Academy or Manvers House

Timing points All stops

	77	76
Devizes Market Place Bus Island (SE-bound)	09:50	
Devizes The Pelican (NW-bound)		10:50 12:25 14:30
Potterne Duck Street (S-bound)	09:55	
Devizes, o/s Business Centre		10:50 12:29 14:34
Devizes Mayenne Place (W-bound)		10:50 12:29 14:34
Poulshot The Raven (S-bound)		12:32 14:37
Worton Sandlease (E-bound)		12:40 14:45
Worton Village Hall (W-bound)	10:01	12:42 14:47
Marston The Green (NW-bound)		12:47s 14:52s
Bulkington War Memorial (W-bound)	10:05	12:50 14:55
Keevil Field Head (W-bound)	10:10	12:55 15:00
Great Hinton Crossroads (S-bound)	10:13	12:58 15:03
Steeple Ashton Memorial (NW-bound)	10:16	13:01 15:06
Paxcroft Mead Newhurst Park (W-bound)	10:23	13:08 15:13
Trowbridge, o/s Manvers House	10:29	13:14 15:19

NOTE: Not all stops are shown in the above schedules

(Source: <https://bustimes.org/services/76-trowbridge-steeple-ashton-worton-devizes>)

Historical Extracts from The Bridge (January 1995)

The Bridge

For our meeting on 30th November, Sarah Devine gave us a demonstration of cake icing. This started with filling the holes on the surface of the cake with marzipan, covering the cake with marzipan and then icing. Sarah explained that there was an ever increasing variety of techniques, often taken from needlework e.g. cross-stitch and applique. Sarah also demonstrated how flowers are made. Basically one needs lots of patience, a steady hand and good eye sight! The results were certainly stunning.

A.G.M. Business

Sheila Hale was re-elected (unopposed!) as Chairman. Prim and Gloria resigned as members and Barbara resigned subsequent to the meeting.. Lydia and Caroline were welcomed as new members.

A Committee meeting will be held on 11 January 1995 at Lorna's, 8.00 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATE:- Our 'Christmas' dinner has been booked for Wednesday 25th January 1995 at the Rose and Crown as usual, 7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.

Happy New Year to all! Sarah Fuller

School News

WORTON AND MARSTON SCHOOL

The school was filled with parents and their excited children on the last Friday of term when the children performed a musical version of the nativity. The children enjoyed the catchy modern songs and so sang with enthusiasm. Some of the children sang solo pieces or in small groups. Others played musical instruments. All of the children were involved in the performance.

The parents were able to use their voices to join in three traditional carols to the accompaniment of the school recorder players. Class One's poem a Christmas Alphabet warned of the dangers of over eating at Christmas. Class Two told the tale of 13 ghostly skeletons with narration and musical effects. Class Three told the audience the true story of Little Red Riding Hood (as revealed by Roald Dahl).

The parents and school association provided mince pies and punch. The children had lemonade to round off the evening.

LESLEY HALL
Headteacher

January 1995

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VILLAGE DIARY

**Regular Meetings
Around the Village**

Village Hall

- **Garden Club**
3rd Monday 7.30pm start (not Aug/Dec)
- **Fitness Group**
Fridays 5:3pm-6:30pm
- **Ladies Group**
Last Wednesday 7:30pm (not Aug/Dec)
- **Women's Institute**
2nd Wednesday Village Hall
- **Worton Toddler Group**
Wednesday 10.00 am - Noon
- **1st Worton & Marston Brownies**
Tuesdays 6pm-7.30pm
- **Potterne Rainbows**
Tuesdays 4.45pm-5.45pm
- **Worton Parish Council Meeting**
1st Monday (not Aug) or as shown on notice boards

In the Chapel at Marston

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

Mobile Library

Location: The School

1.10pm - 1.50pm

Next Date: Monday 27th Jan

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

Forthcoming Events

- 11th Book Swap
- 29th WI
- 20th Garden Club

**Kerbside Collections
in January**

Worton & Marston

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

Tuesdays 8th & 21st

Household waste:

Thursdays 4th, 16th, & 30th

Garden waste:

Fridays 17th & 31st

**Kerbside Collections
In January**

Close Lane, Marston

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

Tuesdays 2nd, 14th, & 28th

Household waste:

Thursday 10th & 23rd



**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 JANUARY 2025

Catherine Malli-Dawson, Editor

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