

# The Bridge



**Worton and Marston  
Parish Magazine**

**January  
2024**

**Price 50p**



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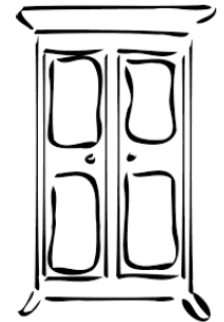
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# THE BRIDGE

Editor: Catherine Malli-Dawson [editorofthebridge@gmail.com](mailto:editorofthebridge@gmail.com)

## NEW EDITOR(S) OF THE BRIDGE

Hello everyone, Happy New Year and welcome to your January Bridge magazine, which now has new editorial staff. Lionel and Catherine Dawson in Plough Lane, Marston took over from Giles Collins after **13 years and 155 magazines**. Giles is taking a well earned retirement from Bridge life. Please join us in offering a huge thank you to Giles for all his past work and contributions.

So who are we, you ask? We were newcomers to Marston in November 2022, arriving from Phoenix, AZ, USA, Lionel is originally from Derbyshire and Catherine from Washington State and we previously lived in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey and then Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire. In 2007, we moved to Arizona, but after 15 years decided to move back to good old Blighty.

Lionel is now retired and enjoying a much deserved break from too many responsibilities. Catherine is an author and freelance project manager. You may occasionally see us walking our two English Bulldogs, although, not far, because they have very short legs.

When we discovered Devizes and ultimately Marston, during a house hunting trip in August 2022, we fell in love with the area, and haven't looked back. We love the community and, being new to the area, we felt this opportunity would help us get more integrated into village life while making a vital contribution.

We look forward to serving as Editor of The Bridge.

Catherine and Lionel Dawson

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## FAMILY OF CHURCHES

### COUNTDOWN TO A PARTY!!

We hope that all those who have moved into Worton or Marston during 2023, have received a Welcome Card and have given their names to Heather or Jean. Your free tickets will be delivered early January. Other villagers will be able to buy tickets from us from early January too. Make sure to keep the night free.

**FRIDAY JANUARY 26<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Another event organised by the Family of Churches was Beer and Carols at the Rose and Crown on Monday December 4<sup>th</sup>. The rain had set in for the night, so Jackie and John kindly heated up the Skittle Alley for us and we had an excellent sing-song of favourite carols, accompanied by John Lane on keyboard, John Starling on violin and all brought together by Rev Gary Gotham, in his inimitable fashion with the odd festive joke, and thought-provoking readings.

A great evening!

We also had a cosy and moving evening of carols and readings by candlelight in Marston Chapel on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The little church was almost full of singers of all ages, and we were treated to mince pies and hot drinks at the end.

To register as a Newcomer or to request tickets to buy for the Welcome Party, call the either of the numbers below.

JEAN 722069 or HEATHER 725785

**NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:** Having moved to Marston a little over a year ago, I was pleasantly surprised by the amazingly warm welcome my husband, Lionel, and I received at the Newcomers Party. I would encourage you to come along, enjoy the incredible food, meet your new neighbours, and join in the community. You never know where it may lead...like becoming editor of The Bridge magazine.





## Worton and Marston Welcome Party

for all

## Newcomers and Villagers

### Worton and Marston Village Hall

### Friday 26 January 2024 at 7.30 pm

**Buffet Supper Included \*\*\* Licensed Wine Bar \*\*\***

**Admission:**

**Adult £5      Family £10**

**Newcomers free**

Tickets available from  
Heather Walker 725785 or Jean Lane 722069

**If any newcomer to the villages has not received a free ticket  
please phone one of the above numbers**

**SERVICE CALENDAR**

**JANUARY 2024**

<b>Sun Jan 7th</b>	EPIPHANY 9.30am.  6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
<b>Sun Jan 14th</b>	EPIPHANY 2 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Morning Praise
<b>Sun Jan 21st</b>	EPIPHANY 3 9.30am  6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
<b>Sun Jan 28th</b>	EPIPHANY 4 9.30am	CHRIST CHURCH Family Service

**FEBRUARY 2024**

<b>Sun Feb 4th</b>	2ND BEFORE LENT 9.30am  6.00pm	CHRIST CHURCH Holy Communion <i>MARSTON CHAPEL</i> <i>Rev'd Gary Gotham</i>
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There were no weddings, funerals or baptisms at Christ Church during November.

Visit the church website: [www.christchurchworton.org.uk](http://www.christchurchworton.org.uk)

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**WELLSPRINGS BENEFICE SERVICES**

**JANUARY 2024**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany)**

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

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany 2)**

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

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> (Epiphany 3)**

8am	Matins	Seend
9:30am	Matins	Poulshot
9:30am	Holy Communion	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Bulkington
11am	Morning Praise	Potterne

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany 4)**

9:30am	Family Service	Worton
11am	Matins	Potterne
11am	Holy Communion	Seend
4pm	Holy Communion	Poulshot
4pm	Evensong	Bulkington

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>**

7pm	Rev Gerry Lynch's Licensing Service	Potterne
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**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>**

5pm	Celtic Meditative Service	Poulshot
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**Every Tuesday, 9am Daily Prayer service at Poulshot**

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

Tuesday Group meets each week at 10am in Potterne. Call 723289 for details.

Please visit our website [www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk](http://www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk) for more details of all our services, latest updates and to keep in touch.

**Ministry Team**

Rector: Vacant  
 Associate Priest: Rev Caroline O'Neill 01380 828302  
 Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie 07516 224057  
[sarahleckie.wba@gmail.com](mailto:sarahleckie.wba@gmail.com)

**Church Registers**

No baptisms, [weddings](#) or funerals this month.

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**FROM CHRIST CHURCH:**

December was a very busy month in and for Christ Church, starting with running the cake stall at the Village Hall Bazaar, which was a very good social community event, with the stalls sharing their proceeds with the Village Hall.

As part of Worton and Marston Family of Churches, we held the popular Beer and Carols at the Rose and Crown, more details in the Family of Churches news. The Toddlers enjoyed their regular Christmas visit, doing crafts, decorating the Christmas tree, and hearing the Christmas story. Many thanks again to Mandy and John Fielding, at Marsh Farm, for the gift of the Christmas tree.

Five Lanes school had three visits to church for their Nativity events and Carol Service. There was the Christmas Community café, Carol singing around the villages, the Christmas Eve Carol service and Christmas Day Family Communion service (*some of these events took place after the 'Bridge' deadline, so no detailed report*).

Looking forward, Revd. Gerry Lynch will be licensed as the new Rector of the Wellsprings Benefice at St Mary's church, Potterne, on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm.

If you wish to attend it would be helpful if you could respond to [sheilagover@hotmail.com](mailto:sheilagover@hotmail.com) to help with numbers for catering and parking.

We look forward to welcoming Gerry to the Benefice, and here in Worton and Marston to Christ Church and to our community.

As always, if you or anyone you know needs any pastoral support, please let one of us know and we will pass on any requests.

Heather and Jean, Churchwardens

**GUESS THE LENGTH OF THE SCARF  
CHRISTMAS HAMPER COMPETITION**

**THE RESULTS ARE IN!**

1<sup>st</sup> Helen Bodman

(Length 28m 57cm / 93ft 11ins)

2<sup>nd</sup> Martin Wiltshire

3<sup>rd</sup> Diane Baross

**Amount raised for charity:**

£70.00 for Village Hall

£72.60 for Alzheimer's Support

(Match funded to £145.20)

**TOTAL RAISED £215.20**

**Thank you to Jo Banks for securing the  
Match Funding.**

**Many thanks to Jackie and John at the  
Rose and Crown.**

**Thank you from all the ladies in Knit and Natt  
to everyone who had a guess!**

### WORTON & MARSTON LADIES GROUP

The 29<sup>th</sup> November meeting was a quiz night made up of 4 teams of 2 with me as quiz master (or should that be quiz mistress). Some were more competitive than others particularly when told there could be money prizes involved! (what I didn't say was that it was chocolate money!). Result? Very close! Sally and Chris ran out the winners and a fun time was had by all.

Due to Christmas, our December meeting was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> when we had our AGM. After business, we all enjoyed mince pies, stollen, and mulled wine. Well, actually the mulled wine was before, during and after business. Everyone went home happy. 😊

Val made one of her special Christmas cards for Lorna, who was in hospital at the time of this writing. Pat and I will be going to see her and will send everyone's love and best wishes.

The new year starts off with our meal on the 24<sup>th</sup> January. Further details to follow. February 28<sup>th</sup> we have Jenny from Move it or Lose it putting us through our paces!

We are always looking for new members if anyone is interested, please do come along to the Village Hall the last Wednesday of the month at 8pm, and see what we are about, you will be most welcome.

Finally, may I wish you all a Very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Pam Woods

### VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB

200 Club winner for December: Jenny Wright, Congratulations.  
Pam Woods, Administrator, Worton & Marston Village Hall  
01380 726679

### WORTON COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH DECEMBER 2023

(Speedwatch sessions are of 45 minutes duration)

Sessions: **SEVEN**

Total Vehicles Counted: **1,849**

Vehicles recorded for exceeding the 30mph speed limit: **60** of which **16** were reported to Wiltshire Police for excess speed.

Maximum Speed Recorded: **42mph** on Friday 15th December between 13.45 and 14.30.

Highest vehicle count **352** on Tuesday 12th December between 08.45 and 09.30

(The comparable figures for **December 2022** were: Sessions **11**, Vehicles **2,774** with **218** vehicles exceeding 30mph of which **40** were reported for excess speed. Maximum Speed Reported **44mph**)

Bob Mitchell

#### The overall figures for 2023 are:

Sessions	Total vehicle count	Vehicles 31-35 MPH	Vehicles reported
<b>106</b>	<b>37584</b>	<b>1378</b>	<b>295</b>

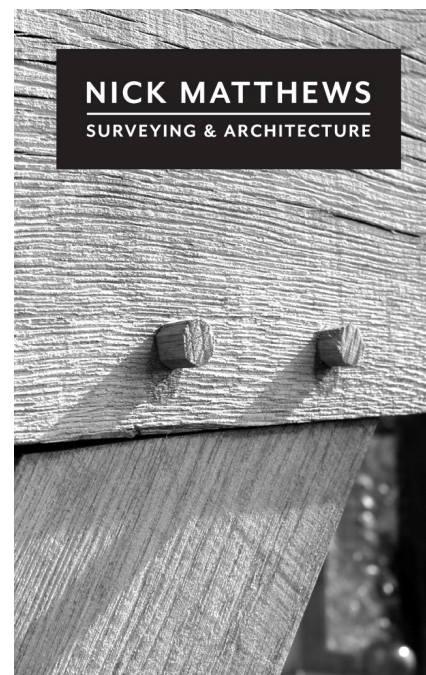




1<sup>st</sup> Lavington Guides meet term time on a Thursday 6.15-7.45pm in Market Lavington. Girls aged 10-14 years old from Worton, Potterne, Market Lavington and surrounding villages come together for fun, engaging activities. We explore a variety of activities and themes including crafts, arts, camping skills and loads of other things that you will absolutely love. Come and join our small, welcoming guide pack, meet new friends and enjoy trying new things together.

'I wasn't really sure what guides was or what they did. I went for a taster session and loved it. Everyone was so friendly and really made me feel welcome. I've been a guide for nearly 2 years now and I love it, we do loads of different, fun stuff' - A Guide

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## Rose and Crown Worton

01380 724202

### Lunch time opening Evening opening

Monday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Tuesday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Wednesday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Thursday	Closed	6pm -11pm
Friday	Closed	6pm -11.30pm
Saturday	12.00 - 2.30	6pm -11.30pm
Sunday	12.00 - 2.30	7pm-10pm

Rolls and sandwiches available.

We have a pool table, darts and skittles.

We have a quiz on the last Sunday of every month.



## JANUARY BOOK SWAP

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January**  
**10.00am - 12 noon**  
 11 Mill Road, Worton  
 (hosted by Elizabeth Murry)



**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February**  
**10.00am - 12 noon**  
 Brookfield House, Back Lane, Worton  
 (hosted by Kim Cannon)



## CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX COLLECTION

Tony Brewer has kindly agreed to take over the role of House Box Coordinator from me with immediate effect. So should there be anyone considering taking a House Collection Box, please would you contact him.

He will be pleased to hear from you.

Tony Brewer  
tel. 722265

Kind regards,  
Tony Walker

## Does anyone have a knowledge of the village in wartime?

My mother and I were evacuated from east London to the village in 1939/40 and I am led to believe we stayed with a Mrs Anstey. My mother died some years ago aged 98 never having told me any more other than that Mrs Anstey was a wonderful woman who looked after us well. My only memory is a steep narrow staircase with Mrs Anstey at the top and a toy red fire engine that I played with in the garden. Even the date, 1939/40 is as a result of working around what else I know.

I have left it a little late in life to start on this research but you never know? I'm fascinated to think what this might turn up.

If you can help with my research in anyway, I would be very grateful if you could get in contact using the email address below.

I now live in East Sussex.

Kind regards,  
Gary Woodhouse  
[gwoodhouse0@icloud.com](mailto:gwoodhouse0@icloud.com)



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## FIVE LANES WI

Several members spent a delightful evening hosted by Helen Bodman in her festive, twinkly Garden Room. We had a try at a couple of Christmas Crafts, instructed and helped by Sarah Devine, Queen of Craft. We enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies and ended the evening with a hot drink.

What a great way to finish our meetings for the year!

We discussed our New Year meal out which will be on **WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10<sup>th</sup>**. A final decision on venue, time and menu choices will be sent out by Sarah via e mail and/or App, but keep the night free!

If you think our WI sounds like a lot of fun and you'd like to find out more give me a call.

Jean Lane 722069

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## Does your lawn need strimming or mowing?



My name is Joe Bodman and I am 16 years old and live on the edge of Worton.

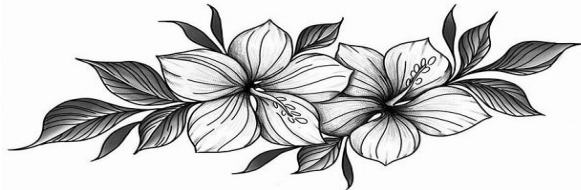
I am keen to earn some money over the summer and wondered if anyone needed help with strimming or mowing. I can be contacted on 07885579240 or

[bodmanjoe9@gmail.com](mailto:bodmanjoe9@gmail.com)

I have my own strimmer but would need to use your mower.

I charge £12 per hour.

Many thanks.



## Devizes & District Foodbank

Collection box for donations in Christ Church



With the cost of living rising and more families than ever asking for support from our local foodbank, we have set up a donation box at the back of Christ Church. The Devizes & District Foodbank is very grateful for any non-perishable items that you are able to donate. Perhaps you could consider popping in with one small item each week to put in the box, such as a tin of tomatoes, a sachet of instant mash or a bottle of shampoo. All donations are much appreciated.

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## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

### First a personal message:

Veronica and Jeff would like to thank everyone who came along to our farewell tea and all those who contributed to our wonderful thank you present. We were very moved that so many of you made the effort and by your generosity. Since moving we have both been struck down by a bug which has rather taken the shine off our new adventure but as soon as we are hale and hearty again we look forward to working on our 'project house'. In the meantime, we wish you all a very Happy New Year!!

### Christmas Bazaar

The Christmas Bazaar was very successful with everyone who came having an enjoyable time. In addition, we managed to raise nearly £500 between us which will go towards the ongoing costs of running the Hall.

### Open Space Event


The Village Hall will be open on the afternoon of Saturday January 13th 2.30pm - 4.30pm for tea/coffee/cake as a warm space event. There will be some games available for people to have a go at if you wish or you can just come and have a chat. Hosting this event will be Howard and Marion Rutter.

Veronica Franklin  
Chair of Trustees  
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**MESSAGE FROM OUR WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR**

**January 2024**

**Looking forward to 2024**

I hope that you and your family enjoyed a fabulous Christmas and New Year and you may have made some resolutions? You can be assured that I have several things on my Wiltshire Councillor to do list for the year ahead.

Parish Councillors and Residents tell me that speeding and road safety are the biggest issues in our villages. There has been some progress, but there is much more to do. As you may be aware, there are three key interventions: Enforcement, Speed Indicator Devices and Speed Limit Assessments/Reductions and I'm pleased that Parish Councils across the area are working with the Local Highways & Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG) on these issues.

Seend's Community Speedwatch Team is now fully trained and is regularly out on the A361, and Worton's Speedwatch Team is also very visible on the High Street – thank you to everyone who volunteers. Other villages with concerns about speeding may wish to take a look at the information on [Community Speedwatch \(wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](http://wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk). I'm also pleased that Philip Wilkinson, Police & Crime Commissioner has listened to my feedback regarding Wiltshire Police prioritising speeding enforcement in rural areas. More information is at [Road Safety \(wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](http://Road Safety (wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk))

Sadly, accidents are occurring too frequently – especially at Black Dog and Bell Hill/Bollands Hill in Seend, and I will be redoubling my efforts, along with Worton and Seend Parish Councils to deliver improvements. On Black Dog, funding is in place - Wiltshire Council has commissioned a re-design of the junction and is currently in negotiations with the landowners. You can be assured that I will continue to push for these improvements to be finalised as soon as possible. Whistley Road in Potterne and the B3098 through

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Erlestoke are also on my list and I will be working with Potterne and Erlestoke Parish Councils to push for solutions.

The Devizes Area Board on Monday 26 February will be a special meeting focusing on “Highways Matters” with presentations from the Cabinet Member for Highways and Senior Officers and I am sure that there will be a lively discussion. Everyone is welcome to attend (6:30pm-8:30pm – I will confirm the location nearer the time).

Finally, as the year draws to a close it remains for me to thank the Parish Councillors for everything they do to help make our villages such welcoming and vibrant communities – it is a pleasure to work with you all.

With my best wishes for 2024.

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



The village hall now owns this 9m x 3m party gazebo  
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## FLOWER OF THE MONTH



*Dianthus caryophyllus*

The cultivation of the carnation dates back to ancient times where they were first named by a Greek philosopher, Theophrastus. He considered them to be the 'flower of the Gods'. They were often used as garlands, art, and décor, most likely due to their delicate spicy scent.

The Elizabethans were known to use them to spice their wine and ale as carnations were more affordable and readily available than cloves.

Each variation in colour has a unique meaning, although most are connected with love and remembrance. For example:

Light Red: Admiration

White: Pure love

Dark Red: Deep love

Pink: Mother's love

This is likely why they are so popular in flower arrangements for both Valentine's and Mother's Day celebrations.

(Source: *almanac.com*)

## WORTON PARISH COUNCIL

For once, a fairly succinct piece from me; hoping you've all had a great Christmas and are already enjoying 2024.

I know that many residents are very concerned about the future of the Mill Race and its adjoining footpath. Views were strongly expressed at the Parish Council meeting. Although the responsibilities and power of the Parish Council are limited in this respect, please be assured that, as representatives of the Community, we will do our best to get the best results we can for the Community as a whole. This part of our village is of both historical and environmental importance and needs to be well looked after for all our sakes. Recent developments have shown just how sudden and unpredictable changes can be, further illustrating just how challenging this issue is.

We are also continuing to liaise with the Devizes Highways and Footpath group in an effort to tie down realistic plans to further improve traffic issues and pedestrian safety.

From Worton's perspective, the major event due in 2024 will be the addition of a significant number of houses and, in due course, new members to welcome to the Community. I haven't, at the time of writing, had any updates with regard to the latest anticipated schedule, but will ensure that you are kept in the picture when there is any news.

This got me thinking.

When Sarah and I moved into the village in the 1990's, we were soon happy and welcomed. The school (and the pub!) became important hubs for us and our children who soon found many new friends. Some were "incomers", others had generational links to the village. Those links are still there even though they no longer live in Worton, and, indeed, the same is true for Sarah and I. We are so pleased that our children will always regard Worton as a happy place and their true home.

So where am I leading to with this? Well, sometimes it takes time to feel part of a community like ours, Fortunately, there are always those  
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amongst us who are the “doers” - they volunteer, make things happen and keep the village ticking. When Sarah and I moved here we weren't sure how we would fit in, given time, we each found our niche, and are confident that our attempts to join in, support, and perhaps lead, have been accepted and generally appreciated.

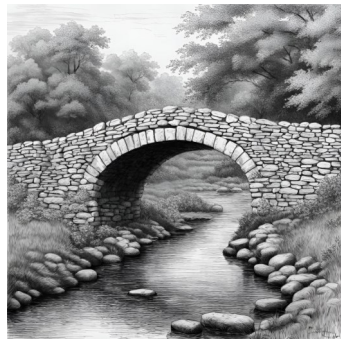
You will probably be aware that Veronica and Jeff have both recently moved to pastures new. They both did a great deal to enhance village life and will be missed. Maybe it’s a good time to take the plunge and offer your ideas and some time to help to keep our village as vibrant and positive as it currently is? It’s often said that “It’s always the same people ” when referring to what I might call the “movers and shakers” in a village like ours. Actually, there are far more of these resilient souls than might be imagined, but please don’t be put off. We need you!

In particular, from a Parish Council perspective, I'm going to once again seek support for the Jubilee footpath project. This could be fairly minimal in terms of time commitment, but it's really important to get non Parish Council involvement as this has the potential to be transformative, as will be the interest we hope to spark from Newland Homes.

Oh, and I almost forgot, we are still one Parish Councillor light!

Please contact Jules (clerk@worton.org.uk) if you can help us.

Happy New year from your Councillors!



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Happy New Year to all our families existing and new. We hope you have had a great Christmas break.

We have lots planned for January and we are looking forward to seeing you all when we return on  
**Wednesday 10th January 2024!**

## WORTON AND MARSTON GARDEN CLUB

Well, Happy New Gardening Year to you all.

There may not be much to do outside if it's cold and wet so it'll give you time to do a bit of research as our first club meeting is the annual Quiz on **January 15th. 7.30 for 8 pm start** in the village hall. The quiz is related to gardens and gardening with some general knowledge too. Teams of up to 6 people and you can just come along and join in with other people. Visitors and non-members welcome. Bring your own drinks and we will supply nibbles.

This is a big year for the Garden Club and village with Worton and Marston Open Gardens occurring on the Weekend of the 8th and 9th of June as well as the 50th Anniversary special Village show at the end of August.

Once again I am appealing to those of you who would consider opening your garden on one or both of those days to get in touch. Also, if you could offer a couple of hours to volunteer for one of the rotas that would be wonderful. It is for charity and also village funds/groups.

### February Meeting

We have an interesting talk lined up from Joe Bradshaw – Managing Director and Rob Frith – Principal Ecologist of Keystone Environmental Ltd who will give a brief overview of Ecological Consultancy and the role they play in maintaining protected species and their associated habitats. Rob is also a very keen gardener and has managed his sizeable plot and allotment in the interest of Biodiversity.

February 19th 730pm.  
In the Village Hall

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**Upcoming events**

**NGS Gardens Open in January**

Our garden year will be starting soon at Lyn Miles' snow drop garden at Westcroft in Boscombe. It may be a small garden but Lyn has over 400 named varieties and some for sale.

Also, the Botanic Nursery, Atworth is opening for the NGS in 2024. January 27th is the first date and will be a walk around the garden to see some superb winter shrubs and plants not always well known. Click or type the link below in your web browser and key in The Botanic Nursery.

<https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/22098/westcroft>

Best wishes,

Alison Parker [aelparker@aol.com](mailto:aelparker@aol.com)

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 at [contact.wellsprings@gmail.co.uk](mailto:contact.wellsprings@gmail.co.uk)

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Mrs Jean Lane 01380 722069 [joje@talktalk.net](mailto:joje@talktalk.net)

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

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

**Garden Club:**

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Sally Brooks 07957 917851 [svwood90@hotmail.com](mailto:svwood90@hotmail.com)

**Village Show** - Bill Francis 01380 739986  
[dfrancis162@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto:wandmlink@gmail.com) for further information

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**Rose and Crown:** John & Jackie 01380 724202

**School (Five Lanes):** [admin@fivelanes.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fivelanes.wilts.sch.uk)

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Devizis Tennis Club: Barry Devine 07809 221341  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings.

**Toddlers' Group:** Linda Rose [wortontoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:wortontoddlers@gmail.com)  
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**Village Hall (Worton and Marston):** Veronica Franklin  
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Chair: Barry Devine [barry@worton.org.uk](mailto:barry@worton.org.uk) [bazandsaz@gmail.com](mailto:bazandsaz@gmail.com)  
Other Parish Councillors: Richard Slack Dicky Parsons  
Patricia Goodenough Malcolm Powell Chris Collins  
Robert Goss Nick Stokes Clerk: Jules Slack

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

**Worton United Charities:** Trustee Chair Bill Francis  
[dfrancis162@btinternet.com](mailto:dfrancis162@btinternet.com)

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



**Extracts from The Bridge (December 1993),)**

kindly provided by Tony Walker

*The Bridge*

**Let's Praise....**

Let's praise the man who goes to light  
The church stove on an icy night.  
Let's praise the hard-worked he or she  
The Treasurer of the PCC.  
Let's praise the cleaner of the aisles,  
The nave and candlesticks and tiles.  
Let's praise the organist who tries  
To make the choir increase in size,  
Or if that simply cannot be,  
Just to improve its quality.  
Let's praise the ringers in the tower  
Who come to ring in cold and shower.  
But most of all let's praise the few  
Who are seen in their accustomed pew  
Throughout the year, whate'er the weather,  
That they may worship God together,  
These, like a fire of glowing coals,  
Strike warmth into each other's souls,  
And though they be but two or three  
They keep the church for you and me.  
John Betjeman.

Although many of Betjeman's words do not apply to Christ Church (especially the numbers in the last two lines!), they emphasise that being a member of a church is all about being valued and playing a part in the worshipping community. It is not all about money!

St Paul wrote in his letter to the Ephesians:

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the the body of Christ.... (4.11-12)

Remember that whatever you do for your church, however small, it is valued, even if it apparently goes unnoticed. As 1993 draws to a close I would like to say 'Thank you' to all who are working for Christ in Worton and Marston.

Good wishes and God's blessings to you all for 1994.

Paul Wilkinson - Vicar

January 1994



Extracts from The Bridge (December 1993),  
kindly provided by Tony Walker

*The Bridge*

**NEW YEAR**

Once again the old years gone  
And another one begins,  
Time to make those resolutions  
And dispose of all past sins.  
What will you decide to do,  
Have you any regrets  
Of what you should have done  
Or have there been upsets?  
The New Year gives us all a chance  
To try to do our best,  
Turn over a new leaf they say  
And carry on with zest.  
Soon it will be Spring, and so  
The start of all rebirth  
Providing that we get no snow  
Things planted in the earth  
will soon start to stir and grow  
And make their presence felt  
So we should stir ourselves  
Begin, maybe, to melt  
The icicles around our hearts  
And bend a little too  
Vow to help the needy ones  
Worse off than me or you.  
So as the old year ends  
And the New Year begins  
Say cheerio and welcome  
To a whole year of good things.

*I.Hale*

—oOXOo—

**Apology:**  
Sorry for the delay to Decembers  
magazine - sometimes it simply isn't  
possible to fit everything in and meet all  
of the deadlines.

*Ed.*

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**VILLAGE DIARY**

**Regular Meetings**

**In the Village Hall**

- **Garden Club**  
3rd Monday 8.00pm (not Aug/Dec)
- **Pilates classes**  
Thursdays 7pm-8pm & 8pm-9pm
- **Ladies Group**  
Last Wednesday 8pm (not Aug/Dec)
- **Women's Institute**  
10th Wednesday TBD
- **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 Parish Council Meeting**  
Last Tuesday (every odd month)

**Various Venues**  
Announced Monthly

- **Book Swap**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 10.00 - Noon

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January

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**Forthcoming Events**

- 13<sup>th</sup> Book Swap
- 10<sup>th</sup> WI
- 15<sup>th</sup> Garden Club

**Kerbside Collections  
in December**

**Black box, and plastic  
and card recycling:**  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> &  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Household waste:**  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>

**Garden waste:**  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup>



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**Deadline for items for the next Bridge is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
**Catherine Malli-Dawson, Editor at Carpe Diem, Plough Lane,  
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