

Corton Denham News



AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2019

ISSUE 235

The Editor's Desk

Editing the magazine is a pleasure, but it comes with its challenges.

One of those challenges is privacy. Not everyone is happy to be featured either in the copy or in pictures and it's tough keeping track.

And that's just for a limited publication run to a limited audience.

I've been thinking about how we might share some of the content from the magazine on the village website and I keep coming back to the privacy issues and how we make sure we respect the wishes of our readers and contributors and obey the new privacy regulations.

I'm still trying to work it out and if anyone has any ideas or suggestions, I'd love to hear them. Your privacy is really important to me and I want to get it right.

50/50 Club results

The 50/50 club draw took place on the 6 July 2019 at the Village Brunch.

Gina Burdass £100.00

Richard Goldsmith £50.00

Tessa Rose £50.00

Ben Woolley £20.00

James Shenton £20.00

Sam Hooper £20.00

Martina Legge £10.00

John Griffin £10.00

Deadlines for the submission of articles for future issues are as follows:

October/November - 23 September 2019

December/January - 21 November 2019

February/March - 23 January 2020

These are the final submission dates. It would help the editorial team if you could provide your articles before the final submission dates.

Sudoku Corner

This month's teaser and the last edition's solution.

Fill in the grid with the numbers 1 to 9 so that each row and each 3x3 block contains all the numbers 1 to 9.

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

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

Parish Letter

from Stephen Rymer

A community of communities

How many communities do you belong to? I found my way into a new one last weekend; just one more to add to extended Family, neighbourhood, Church, allotment association, community garden, etc..

Some are particularly special and life giving. While on holiday in France in June we met up with Rosemary's pen-friend with whom she made an exchange in 1962. Solange and her husband drove 250 miles across France to meet up with us, and we spent one evening piecing together the times we had met, 1970 in England – 1982 in France – 1984 England , 1996, France - 2005 in France. It's an amazing relationship, in which their children and ours also had exchange holidays. Yet throughout those 47 years, communication has always been limited by our lack of French and their lack of English, but it hasn't mattered. Family culture and values and an openness to each other's lives has been enough. We even survived a short family holiday together, four adults and seven children in a two bed flat in the Alps!

I think my new community will be like that. I took my vintage, 1952 Land Rover and a Lister D stationary engine to Somerset Steam and Country Show at Langport last weekend and found myself in the company of eight other Land Rovers, thirty steam engines, forty stationary engines and a hundred tractors – plus 200 tightly packed caravans and tents to house owners and families. When my engine sprang a leak, a new-found friend quickly provided the right size spanner and enough experience to cure the

problem. It's a strange community in which people meet at different shows across Somerset, Dorset and Devon on summer weekends, year after year. I met two people exhibiting equipment that their late parents had shown in previous years and it was clear from the conversation that it was part of their grieving process to honour their parents' involvement in the community.

Such communities are especially vital to our society at this present time; communities marked by the values of mutual respect and tolerance; a willingness to be open to each other and to share resources; to accept difference and negotiate compromise. Those are the values of the Creator God, and his Son who exhorts us to "love your neighbour as yourself". When that happens, the Spirit of God brings fresh life to our world.

Corton Denham's new removal service!

from Helene Leakey



The G.O.B

from Jeremy Lee

In bee terms it has been a mixed year. The very warm spell we encountered in late February confused things somewhat and one of my colonies raced off at a rate of knots and subsequently wanted to swarm in early April. I was luckily ahead of the game and managed to split the hive to slow them down. Swarming is the way in which bees can increase the numbers of colonies in good years. Although the queen is rightly treated like a deity, she is not the boss but merely a baby machine and can lay up to 1000 eggs a day when conditions in the hive are right. The big day to day decisions are taken as a female collective and is all dependent on the strength of the pheromone she emits throughout the hive. When the number of worker bees increases, this is diluted and it is thought that this triggers the swarming instinct. The scout bees will then spend a few days finding a suitable new nesting site and the worker bees will start to build queen cells, which are basically larger. The difference between a queen and a worker bee is purely nurture and starts from an ordinary fertilised egg. This egg is placed into the larger cell by the workers and fed copious amounts of hormone rich Royal Jelly until it is sealed up to pupate. Once the queen cell is sealed it's time for the Mum to 'get the hell out of Dodge' as if she stays behind her new daughter will seek her out and kill her.

Whilst all this is going on her highness has been put on a diet by her subjects to slim her down in readiness to fly away with the swarm. When everything is right, she will be herded out of the hive with around half the population consisting of the older bees for pastures new. A swarm leaving the hive is a sight to behold and the noise

is incredible, akin to the roar of a jet engine. The new queen will emerge a few days later from her cocoon, orientate herself before seeking out and destroying any regal siblings that may also have been produced at the same time of her own inception.

Beekeepers can use the swarming process to their advantage. You can slow a hive down by removing the queen with a number of worker bees into a new box and let the original hive raise their own queen as soon as the queen's absence is felt. Or in my case this year you can try and improve the genetics which is where the G.O.B. comes in, aka the grumpy old bitch!! One of my colonies was particularly feisty this year and could almost be described as violent. The attitude of the colony comes directly from the queen and by changing the genetics you can alter the temperament of the hive. The final straw was when I was happily feeding the chickens one day and a full attack squadron was dispatched to see me out of the area. The G.O.B. had to go. So I duly removed her with some of her cohorts to a separate hive and placed a frame of eggs from a nice and gentle colony into the old hive. Everything was going smoothly until we had a break-in, a long story involving an unclosed garden gate, a wilful wire haired Daschund, a sheep's preference for hostas and lupins over boring old grass and two upturned hives! I managed to right the upturned hives but not before the G.O.B.s faithful cohorts had given me a 'proper kicking'. When things had calmed down a few days later the G.O.B. had a massive attitude change. The hive is flourishing piling on honey every day and I have been forced to rename her the MMML - mild mannered, mature lady. I would like to think it was the threat of her being replaced but I doubt it.

Corton Denham celebrate the new arrival 8 July 2019

from Julia Bunker

This event, of nine months gestation, was eagerly awaited in Corton Denham. The nursery was newly painted and ready for its precious occupant. What would it look like? Would it be perfectly formed – all attributes fully functional? Well, on the balmy evening of Monday July 8th, 40 or so village residents gathered outside the Old Post Office to welcome the new arrival. And we celebrated with bubbly and canapés.

Yes, the long planned Corton Denham Community Defibrillator was finally installed in the restored telephone kiosk and we welcomed the installation of this potentially life-saving facility at the “heart” of the village.

Acknowledgements and thanks were given to the following:-

Martin Lewis – electrical installation;
Trimite Ltd – paint
Waitrose – funding donation;
Gordon and Jeanette – hospitality and supplying the fizz

And particularly the Goggs family for allowing us to use the kiosk and for hosting the celebration

And also, all the many generous donors in Corton Denham without whom this project would not have been possible

If you have any queries about the accessing or use of the defibrillator, please contact any of your committee of Julia Bunker, Stephen Sparrow, Robin Odgers or Charles Sime.



Gardening Society

from Stephen Sparrow

The last visit of the year was to Stavordale Priory Gardens on June 17th. Colin MacGregor had arranged this through Michael Le Poer Trench. We were fortunate to be able to see this garden as it will no longer be open to members of the public.

We were welcomed to the gardens by Michael who gave us a brief history of the Priory and the gardens.

Michael and his partner Cameron Mackintosh have spent the last twenty years restoring the gardens to their former glory and have created a number of different areas with some inspired planting and landscaping. One of the most inspiring features is the elegant geometrical topiary hedges of box and laurel but other fine features are the Birch Walk with the beautiful white trunks of Himalayan birch and the well laid out walled vegetable garden.

I think every one of our 23 members on the visit had a memorable afternoon.

Thank you Colin.

Farming News

from Brian Green

By the time you read this we will have started harvesting. The growing conditions have been favourable for most crops and we are hoping for a good harvest. The one exception is our oilseed rape which has been ravaged by flea beetle and I think the yield will be down by 25%. However, the rape yields the world over are poor and the price is rising. The problem is that flea beetle are becoming resistant to the one pesticide that we use and if we soon don't get an effective chemical, I can see rape becoming too risky to grow.

We have sold 70% of our lambs so far. Prices have been down by 15% on last year and I think that it will get a lot worse. Luckily after a good lambing and good weather our number are 10% up.

I have just heard the result of the Conservative leadership election and it seems that we have got rid of the 4th form school mistress and put the naughtiest boy in the class in charge. I wonder if Smiler Gove will keep his job! I've got mixed feelings about Smiler - he's been seen in bad company recently, 'Chris Packham' for one, and has apparently been showing sympathy to vegans. I think on balance that it's time for a change.

I was reading about beef production in Brazil. Apparently, the Brazilians clear vast tracts of rainforest. The land is then grassed down and stocked with beef suckler cows. The calves are weaned at 8 months and put into large feedlots and fattened on maize and soya. I suspect they are given a hormone injection to speed up the process. It's a very efficient and cheap way of producing beef. For some years we've been negotiating a free trade deal with Brazil. This will include importing a large tonnage of beef into Europe. The extra tonnage of beef will lead to even more destruction of the rainforest. If Smiler Gove keeps his job as Environmental Secretary, I wonder if he will support the deal bearing in mind that he's a keen believer of global warming.

A warm welcome

A very warm welcome to the Duffy family. Damian, Alice and their four daughters Lily, Lois, Freya and Ellie. They have moved into The Ridings, Middle Ridge Lane.

Advertisement

Are you new to Yoga and want to build strength and confidence?

Do you struggle with group classes or class times?

Would you like a class designed just for you?

Would you like to deepen your practice?

I became a qualified Yoga Teacher in 2009 in South Africa where I lived and worked in Victoria Falls, Zambia, running Yoga Retreats and Wellness Weekends. My love of different styles of yoga and keen interest in energy healing has led to a flowing fusion of Yoga and Qigong that are both Dynamic and Restorative and can include Mantra, Pranayama and Relaxation.

A 121 is designed specifically for you and we will set your goals together. I will design classes according to your needs. My classes are a moving meditation that open the senses and enable you to tune in to your unique body so you can begin to understand what it has to teach you.

So, Just Breathe and appreciate the moment.....

121 Classes now offered at West Down Farm Corton Denham or in the comfort of your own home.

Classes are designed just for you, set your own goals and practice at your own pace.

A 1hour class is £50 3 x 1hour classes for £120

Add 1hour Reiki to complete the experience for £30 (this price is offered as an add-on only)

Group Class also available Wednesday 9:30am - 10:30am



Just Breathe Yoga and Qigong
121 and Group Classes in Corton Denham

justbyoga@outlook.com

Mob: 07983 100445

www.justbreatheyogauk

Advertisement

The Rusty Pig Company

Free range Tamworth pork, from our farm in Sandford Orcas.

Ask us to supply you with our amazing bacon, sausages, joints, gammons and lots more. **Buy Local**, delivered to your door!

Our Tamworth Hog Roast

Moist and succulent and beautifully tender. Nothing like our Tamworth taste and crackling! From a small informal gathering and celebration through to a huge outdoor event and wedding.

James & Charlotte

Tel. 07724885353, 07802443905
info@therustypigcompany.co.uk

www.therustypigcompany.co.uk



Queen Camel Tuesday Group

from Marion Chapman

On a wet Tuesday in June, members boarded the bus to visit Milestones, a museum that would awaken our childhood memories. Milestones is in Basingstoke, and it is full of Victorian Streets and shops for visitors to wander around. We kept saying 'remember this', and 'we had one of those' as we saw old transistor radios, slabs of soap for the weekly wash, mangles that most of us used to help Mum out with on wash day...usually a Monday! There were the old modes of transport, penny farthings, a steam train and a tram. Each turn of the road brought old memories flooding back. Remember ripping up newspapers into squares for the outside privy? And the old Penny Arcades? The toy shop was disappointing as it had Buzz Lightyear on display, which ruined its authenticity for me. But the sweet shop, and the grocery store made up for that. The pub was an attraction and some members were discovered downing pints and sandwiches for lunch, whilst listening to the resident pianist. For most of us it was an enjoyable trip; some felt we could have covered the museum in less time.

Our July meeting was a musical event called 'Romance through the decades', Our speaker and musician was David Andrews. He started his talk in 1890, where symbols revealed the amorous feelings of young lovers. The way one held one's fan would tell a suitor if he was wasting his time or not. And an angel on a postcard meant you were thinking of your beloved. Valentines spoke of love and have continued throughout the years. However the language of love gradually changed as of course did fashion. In 1910-20, war came and 'Darling' and 'Sweetheart' became 'Doll', or 'Baby' or

'Honey'. Or even on a postcard, O U R A Q T. Songs reflected the times of austerity such as 'I cant give you anything but love, Baby'. Women discarded their corsets and became 'Flappers' and of course by the 1940's women were working outside of the home in munition factories, and farms etc to the songs of Vera Lynn. Utility clothes came in and a black line sufficed for stockings. The 1950's saw Teddy Boys and Rock'n'Roll, a far cry from the early music of Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire. The music revolution has continued with Heavy Metal, and Rap amongst other less romantic genres. David accompanied many of the old time songs with his guitar, and members joined in.

Our next meeting is on August 6th when we are lunching at West Camel at the Walnut Tree.

For further information about our Tuesday group, please contact Maureen McDermott 01458 224503 Or Marion Chapman 01963 220741.

Snake in the grass

from Simon de Trey-White



Photographed on the 8th June under stinging nettles just next to the small graveyard next to us.

Visitors to the garden part 1

from Robin Odgers

Following the fascinating account in the March CD news of the early morning encounter with an otter in Castle Cary, I thought it might be of interest to recount some of our experiences here with a selection of “visitors”.

Otters: when we came here nearly twenty years ago, the little lake had a good number of big fish in it, both Koi and Grass carp, some three feet in length. Over a number of years, they have been all taken, by what we know to be an otter. We would find piles of scales and the remains of a fish head, often with the upper lip/nose crushed because an otter tends to grab big fish by the nose to pull them out of the water. We would find the characteristic paw prints in which the toe pads are set in a pretty evenly spaced arc, compared to other mammals where the “thumb” is set slightly back. We would also find the droppings or “spraints”. Apparently, otters, of which there were none in Somerset in 1980, travel huge distances overnight. During the snow of March 2018, we again had a serious visitation in which our small ornamental pond was completely plundered of about 16 well grown koi carp. We found the anti-heron net ripped apart and fish strewn all over the drive. I then saw the otter gambolling about in the lake! Lovely to see but damaging to the fish stocks.

Cormorants: We occasionally have a visit from a cormorant which simply hoovers up fish until its body is all but completely submerged by the additional weight and when disturbed it has great difficulty taking off from the water! Cormorants are now commoner than ever before and have become a major problem for commercial inland fisheries.

Badgers: I think we are having slightly less badger visits. We used to find the lawns completely ploughed up over night as they dug for leatherjackets-crane fly larvae, and chafer grubs. They still do so but more damaging is where they dig up bumble bee nests, eating the larvae and food stores, destroying the bumble bees.

Part 2 to follow

Village Hall Notes

from David Morgan

July has been a busy month. Our Hallmark Standard inspection took place on 1st July and was passed with flying colours thanks to lots of hard work put in by our Treasurer, Jenny Jackson.

Various members of the Committee and others all helped participate in a Hall deep clean, carrying out various maintenance jobs, cleaning out all the cupboards, and tackling those high flying spiders and their webs.

In between, we had our traditional Village Brunch which was, as ever, well attended with 62 brunches being served in under 3 hours raising some £360 for Hall funds. Thanks to all the hard working cooks and waiting staff.

Future events to note in your diaries are Scruffs Dog Show now being held on Sunday afternoon, 1st September and a Silent Auction on Friday evening, 15th November. Please start thinking of any services, items, or ideas you might be able to donate.

The next Village Hall meeting will be held at 7 pm on Monday 29th July in the Village Hall to which all are welcome.

A Dog's View from the Sofa

from Rudi



Life in Corton Denham can be nothing short of idyllic but there are times when I just yearn for a bit of adventure.

The oldest boy rang, wanting me to stay with him in London for the weekend. Result! He would come down in his open topped car on the Friday afternoon to collect me and we would swan back, roof down. I could barely contain my excitement, but the OG was less than impressed; 'Don't leave him tied up outside Sainsbury's', 'make sure he has enough to drink', 'he needs a walk before breakfast', 'whatever you do don't let him off', etc. Goodness, how she fusses!

Friday afternoon came and I was ready with my bag all packed when the phone rang, ominously. The automatic roof on the car was jammed half way, so he'd have to take the train. Could we meet at Sherborne station and we would go straight back up? Owing to the vagaries of the timetable there was only one minute between the down train and the up, so the boy ran across the bridge, grabbed my bag and bundled me into the up train – all rather James Bond and quite exciting. At least I got a seat.

The boy shares a less than salubrious flat in Putney which hasn't seen a lick of paint in 30 years. 'What do you expect for £600 a month?' I didn't fancy their sofa one bit and spent a restless night roaming the flat, getting locked in one of the spare bedrooms. I held off barking until 5am and before the boy knew what was happening I was howling for my pre-breakfast walk.

We idled the morning away, waiting for the nice man from the AA to come and fix the car.

The boy had a surprise in store. He wanted to take me to the Gay Pride March! Yikes! This could be one adventure too many. It turns out being gay is not a prerequisite so I could breathe again. On the contrary, I have never been fussed over so much. I was the centre of attention all afternoon and met lots of wonderful people of every persuasion. The OG only found out about this little escapade when photos of me turned up on an Instagram account, a system which she has yet to master.

Another restless night. Could I be collected earlier than scheduled as the boy had had enough? I slept like a log all the way home dreaming of the peace and quiet of village life and how much I take it for granted.



Church Calendar

Sunday, 4th August 2019 – 7th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

9.30 am Village Service at Corton Denham
9.30 am All Age Service at Queen Camel
4.00 pm Sunday @ Four at West Camel
6.30 pm Holy Communion at Weston Bampfylde

Sunday, 11th August 2019 – 8th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

9.30 am Holy Communion at Queen Camel
9.30 pm All Age Service at West Camel
6.30 pm Evening Service at Sutton Montis
6.30 pm BCP Evening Prayer at Weston Bampfylde

Wednesday, 14th August 2019

7.00 pm Sacred Space at Weston Bampfylde

Sunday, 18th August 2019 – 9th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

9.30 am CW Holy Communion at Corton Denham
9.30 am BCP Matins at Sparkford
11.00 am BCP Holy Communion at West Camel
11.15 am Informal Service at Sutton Montis

Sunday, 25th August 2019 – 10th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

10.00 am Together at 10 at Queen Camel

This service, weather permitting, will be held in the churchyard, all animals are welcome to be blessed. Do bring a chair or a blanket to sit on.

Sunday, 1st September 2019 - 11th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

9.30 am CW Holy Communion at Sparkford
9.30 am BCP Holy Communion at Sutton Montis
9.30 am All Age Service at Queen Camel
4.00 pm Sunday @ Four at West Camel

Sunday, 8th September 2019 – 12th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

9.30 am Milkshake Church at Sparkford Village Hall
9.30 am All Age Service at West Camel
6.30 pm BCP Evening Prayer at Corton Denham
6.30 pm Holy Communion at Weston Bampfylde

Wednesday, 11th September 2019

7.00 pm Sacred Space at Sutton Montis

Sunday, 15th September 2019 – 13th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion at Queen Camel
9.30 am BCP Holy Communion at Corton Denham
9.30 am Harvest Festival at Sparkford
11.15 am Informal Worship at Sutton Montis

Sunday, 22nd September 2019 – 13th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

10.00 am Together at 10

The Cam Vale Benefice Service at Queen Camel

Sunday, 29th September 2019 – 15th Sunday of Trinity (Green)

9.30 am CW Morning Prayer at Corton Denham
9.30 am BCP Holy Communion at Sparkford
11.00 am Harvest Festival at Weston Bampfylde
6.00 pm United Service at West Camel



Cam Vale Benefice,
service of blessing for pets and animals.

Sunday August 25th

At 10.00a.m.

St Barnabas Church Queen Camel

All creatures great and small + their owners warmly welcome

The service will be outside or inside if wet

Please bring something to sit on.

Refreshments for all after the service.



Clergy Details

Associate Priest: The Revd Preb. Rose Hoskins
01935 440026 revroseanne@gmail.com (days off: Sats)
Benefice Administrator: Rosemary Rymer
01963 441595 admincamvale@gmail.com

VILLAGE WEBSITE: WWW.CORTONDENHAM.ORG.UK

Articles, news and anything of interest are welcome
and should be emailed 3rd week prior to publication date to
ed.cdnews@hotmail.com
Editor: Lisa Adam Tel:01963 220495