

Corsham Spotlight

Journal of the Corsham Civic Society

July 2013
Volume 10 Issue 2

Contents

Editorial	1
Review	2
Corsham's early suffragettes	3
Chalk drawings	3
Planning matters	4
Corsham in words	4-7
Springfield Community Campus update	8
Corsham Station update	9
Nathaniel Fido 1838-1919	10
Arctic Convoy veterans	11
Vacancies	11
2013 programme	12

Contributions to Spotlight are welcome.
Please contact Jane Browning (Editor) on 01249 716013 or at jmb.fernvilla@gmail.com

www.Corsham-Civic-Society.co.uk

1963-2013

Editorial

These past few months have seen a hive of activity in the shop in the Martingate Centre, next to the greengrocers, which Bill Hall has allowed us free use of to put together all that needs to be done for the celebrations in the town for the centenary of the pilgrimage of the suffragists from Land's End to London on July 14th/15th. The photograph below shows the suffragists on the London Road at the top of Church Lane, Box. Andrea Garrihy has been constructing life-size models of suffragists, ably helped by Anna Mackie. The shop has basically been our HQ, where people have been able to drop in and offer help, advice, and to seek advice. By the time this issue is printed the celebrations will have come and gone, and I make no excuse for a few articles on the suffrage movement in this issue. Exhibitions will be held in the Library and the Pictor Room of Arnold House during July and August.

It was disappointing that we had to cancel *Corsham in Music*. Unfortunately, it was due to circumstances beyond our control and we are hoping that we can still put the performance on in the autumn.

Following discussion at the AGM a poll was conducted regarding the market in the High Street. Very few replies were received, so it has been decided to take no further



Suffragists at the top of Church Lane, Box

Patron
Lord Methuen

Officers:

President

Mrs. Anne Lock.
Tel: 01225 810357

Chairman

Mr. Michael Rumsey,
Tel: 01249 715741

Hon Sec

Vacant

Treasurer

Mr. Roger Truelove,
Tel: 01249 712709

Membership Secretary

Mrs. Jean Beech,
Tel: 01249 713833

Social Organiser

Mrs. Joan Maciver,
Tel: 01225 812225

Programme Organiser

Dr. Negley Harte,
Tel: 01249 713529

Plans Chairman

Margaret Smith
Tel: 01249 715459

Review

At our March meeting Melissa Barnet, Curator of Chippenham Museum, told us that 66% of people are collectors, it being one of the major hobbies in the western world. She stressed that hoarders were not collectors.

Melissa then listed ten reasons for collecting. Firstly, knowledge and learning, which covers museums, asking where does it come from, why, and who did it belong to. Then there is personal pleasure, such as match boxes (curnyxaphilists) and ties (grabatologists). Men tend to use the loft for storage whilst women displayed their collections around the home. Relaxation and stress reduction in the form of car boot sales and collecting clubs were another reason, as is competitive challenge eg to have to acquire the last one in the set. Social interaction and then recognition eg the biggest and the best were the next categories. Altruism has played a huge part - many museum collections started this way eg the Andrew Lloyd Webber and Getty Museums. Control, the need to control, possess and bring to order a small part of the world eg insects; nostalgia eg old toasters or, more recently, oral history; and finally, wealth accumulation such as coin collecting, complete the reasons behind collecting.

Each district is covered by a museum. Chippenham museum, which covers the Corsham area, was founded in 1963 and serves the whole community. Objects in the collection range from the Neolithic period to the current day. Items are catalogued, but not everything is on display. They have oil paintings, local postcards (over 7000), Tanner paintings and Melissa is keen to promote Alfred the Great, who a hunting lodge at Chippenham.

At our April meeting Dr Christopher Kent gave an enlightening talk on the extraordinary figure of George Gay 1771-1833, a local stonemason, composer, poet and organ builder, an "obscure county self-taught musician". His family were dissenters who worshipped at Monks Chapel. His father Thomas, a quarryman, was crushed by a falling slab of stone aged 66. George was determined to better himself and in 1827 published a volume of sacred music.

After three years work, he completed the organ at Monks Park chapel.

In 1833 he revised and corrected a Collection of Tunes adapted for use by the Wesleyan Methodists by Thomas Hawkes of Williton, Somerset. The preface contains reference to the "double G clef", devised by George, it is said to stop women squawking. George contributed a large number of tunes in the Collection, including "Corsham" and Williton". Other tunes he wrote were named after local places, such as "Neston", "Patterdown", Westrop", and "Pickwick".

As a stonemason he played an important part in the building, in 1809, of a bridge over the River Avon, known for its rounded arches.

On 26th July 1833 he committed suicide. He is buried at Monks Chapel with his second wife, Jane. His music continued to be played after his death.

Jane Browning

The Early Days of Universal Suffrage in Corsham

The demand for women to have equal political rights with men started in 1866 when a group of women organised a petition. This led to a proposed amendment to the Reform Act that would give women the same political rights as men, put forward by two Members of PARliament, Henry Fawcett and John Stuart Mill who supported universal suffrage. The amendment was defeated by 196 votes to 73. There was support by the men of Britain's provincial towns, from clergymen, town councillors and small businessmen, and they were often nonconformist Liberal Party supporters. Corsham Councillor N. Fido was a supporter—see page 10.

Just three people from Wiltshire signed the 1866 petition. A Miss Cunningham from Devizes and Miss Lanham and Miss Turner from Claremont House, Corsham. Neither of the Corsham ladies, however, appear to be involved in the suffrage story in later years.

Little is known of Miss Lanham and Miss Turner. Elizabeth Crawford, in her book *The Women's Suffrage Movement in Britain and Ireland, A Regional Survey*, say together they ran a ladies' boarding seminary, Claremont House, Corsham. The 1861 census is the document which provides most information about them. They were living in Pickwick Road; the actual address is not given, though the entry is the next but one to that for Pickwick Villa. Miss Lanham, is the head of the household, aged 32, governess, born in Bath. But her name is shown as "L. Lanham F.(or S) Turner. This is somewhat confusing. There was a family of Lanhams in Corsham; Charles Lanham, the stationmaster, was born in Bath about 1826. I have yet to find Miss Lanham's history and would be intrigued if anyone can shed any light on her. Miss (Laura Julia) Turner, was a governess aged 29 and her relationship to the head of household was Partner. This in itself is unusual terminology for this time. Her place of birth was also Bath and further research shows she was the daughter of a butcher in Southgate Street. She married in 1873 and by 1891 was a widowed music teacher, boarding in Streatham.

Jane Browning

Chalk drawings

The Corsham Summer Festival on 16th June invited street artists to chalk on the street. As this had been a ploy by the suffragettes to advertise their meetings Andrea Garrihy and Anna Mackie chalked the peacock logo designed by Andrea for the centenary re-enactment on 15th July. Mo Elliott's drawing depicted the Suffragist's walk from Land's End to London. They were declared joint winners. It was a great advert for the cause drawing many visitors, fielding their questions and generally putting Corsham on the map regarding the suffrage cause.



Andrea and Anna on their knees

Photo: John Garrihy



Mo in action

Photo: John Garrihy

Planning matters

I attended the public examination of the Chippenham and Corsham Community Areas of the Wiltshire Core Strategy in Trowbridge on 24th -26th June. The examiner's remit was to consider whether the strategy was "sound". The plan allows for strategic allocation of land for housing and employment for Chippenham, two of the sites being in the Corsham Community Area (Patterdown and Showell). At the meeting a developer put forward an alternative site, again in Corsham (Hunter's Moon). In the Corsham area, Wiltshire Council are relying on surplus MOD brownfield sites to come forward to meet the requirements locally. We await the examiner's report with interest.

By happenstance two developers are consulting the public on the proposed development of land between Guyers Lane and Academy Drive, and between Skynet Drive and Fiveways. Both are greenfield sites. Pickwick residents are garnering themselves to fight against these proposals.

Jane Browning

Corsham in Words

As part of our Golden Jubilee Celebrations, and following our AGM in May, members were treated to a programme of readings compiled by Negley Harte, which reflected our town from before Domesday to the present.

The two earliest references to Corsham are found in 1001 and then in the early 12th century which identified the town as a Royal Manor of Ethelred, King of Wessex (987 – 1017).

The Domesday Book of 1086 records Corsham with its surrounding villages and hamlets and we then had a glimpse of the history of the town through the Crown Pleas of Medieval times, an eyewitness account of John Leland, and the 17th century John Aubrey.

The founding of the Almshouses in 1668, the building of Corsham Court, and the later arrival of the Methuen family, painted a more familiar picture and with the advent of quarrying and the coming of the railways we hastened toward Victorian times. We were reminded of the musical Spackman family, and the echoes of their lives told in the Herbert Spackman Diaries.

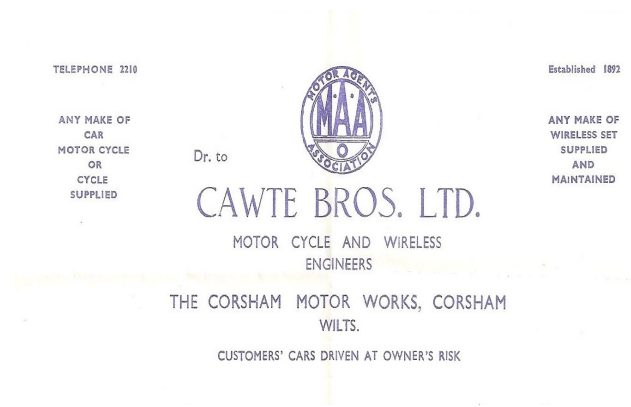
Into the 20th Century, the Suffrage Pilgrimage of 1913 and two World Wars also had their place in the record.

We intended to end on a lighter note with poetry from local sources – 'Corsham in the 1930s and 40s' by Bert Bradfield; 'Four Decades Ago' by Anthony Hall; and 'Altus High Up & Deep Down in Corsham' by Canon Mervyn Drewett. Unfortunately time overtook us and the poetry readings had to be postponed until another time.

Perhaps they will appear in Spotlight ?

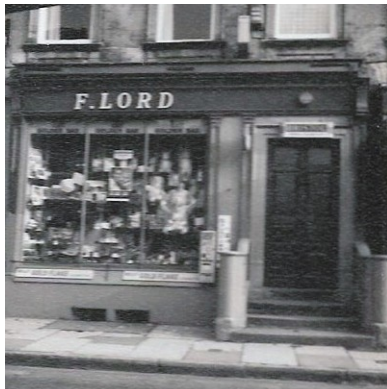
Pat Whalley

I have included the programme for Corsham in Words on pages 6 and 7 as I thought those who did not attend the AGM may be sufficiently interested to look up the sayings themselves. Bert Bradfield's poem is on the following page. Ed.



CORSHAM IN THE 1930s & 40s

It's so long ago, I'm sure I'll miss a few
 When I was a boy the Corsham shops I knew.
 Each side of narrow High Street, shops galore,
 The variety of choice, one couldn't ask for more.
 Butchers: Beszants, Loves and Tommy Ives
 For Sunday roast, sausages and pies.
 Bakers: Woods, Daymond's and favourite Johnson's
 fresh bread, fancy cakes and Chelsea buns.
 The paper shop Barnett's for the latest news,
 Writing pads, envelopes, comics for the blues.
 James and Honeychurch, ironmongers, household needs
 And for the ardent gardener, tools and seeds.
 Smiths and Macmillan's for gents and ladies wear
 Neates and Uncles: new shoes and old to repair.
 Fruit, fish and veg: Hazels and Marshes too,
 International, Spackmans: groceries for you.
 Pavey's for sherbert dips, gobstoppers, chocolate to enjoy.
 Lords, cigarettes, tobacco and your children's toy.
 Wilkins Corn Stores, pet foods for cats and dogs
 Hancock's: coal merchant for all your coal and logs.
 James the wool shop, buttons and cotton thread.
 Co-op for chairs and tables, and a comfy bed.
 Barbers: Mr Wootten, Mr Cooper, neaten unruly hair.
 Cawtes, Bowerbanks: garages. Mend your car there.
 Mr Hobbs mends your bicycle or a new one to get.
 Mr Dyke, jeweller for watches rings, a bracelet.
 Yet now Corsham – No atmosphere, so out of touch
 Can we have the old one back? Thank you very much.



Bert Bradfield. 2010

Printed with kind permission of
 Bert Bradfield



CORSHAM IN WORDS

1. **The Two Earliest Written References**
The first time the name 'Coseham' was written down was in 1001. *Place-Names of Wilts* (1939) Negley Harte
2. William of Malmesbury, writing in the early 12th century, is quoted as saying that Corsham was a royal manor and that it was the country palace of Ethelred, King of Wessex, 978-1017.
3. **Corsham in 1086**
Domesday Book: Wiltshire (Phillimore ed., 1979) Anne Lock
4. **Medieval Life in Corsham**
Two cases in *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre, 1268* (Wiltshire Record Soc., vol.65 (2012)) Jane Browning
5. **The First Eyewitness Account, 1542**
J. Chandler ed., *John Leland's Itinerary* (1993) Michael Rumsey
6. **The North Wiltshire Character**
John Aubrey, *The Natural History of Wiltshire* (1847), but written between 1656 and 1691. Sally Fletcher
7. **The Almshouse's Regulations, 1668**
Ernest Hird, *The Lady Margaret Hungerford Almshouse and Free School, Corsham, Wilts 1668-1968* (1997). Jane Browning
8. **The Building of Corsham Court**
John Britton, *An Historical Account of Corsham House* (1806) Negley Harte
9. **Two Visitors to Corsham Court in 1816 and 1835**
Dr. Spiker, Librarian to the King of Prussia, in 1816, quoted in Lord Methuen, *An Historical Account of Corsham Court* (1971) Jane Browning
10. G.F. Waagen, Director of the Royal Gallery at Berlin, in 1835, *ibid.* Jane Browning
11. **Tom Moore and the Methuens, 1819-30**
W.S. Dowden ed., *The Journal of Thomas Moore* (6 vols., 1983-91) Wyndham Thomas
12. **The Great Western Railway and Box Tunnel, 1841**
E.T. MacDermot, *History of the Great Western Railway* (1927) Michael Rumsey

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| 13. | Two Railway Accidents
one in 1838 | Jane Browning |
| 14. | another in 1841, both from Andrew Swift, <i>The Ringing Grooves of Change</i> (2006) | Jane Browning |
| 15. | Corsham Quarrying
A poem, late 19 th cent., source unknown(!) | Pat Whalley |
| 16. | Railway and Ice Skating
<i>Wiltshire Times</i> , 13 Dec. 1879, cited in <i>A Corsham Boyhood</i> | Michael Rumsey |
| 17. | Ice Skating Accident
Herbert Spackman's diary for 2 nd December 1879, in <i>A Corsham Boyhood, 1877-91</i> , ed. Faith Sharp and Heather Tanner (1981) | Sally Fletcher |
| 18. | A Musical Town
From Ernest Hird, <i>Corsham and the Spackmans: A Musical Town, a Musical Family</i> (2001), quoting various newspaper reports | Kathy Thomas |
| 19. | Late Victorian Times
Post and church: <i>Kelly's Directory: Wiltshire</i> (1889) | Negley Harte |
| 20. | Suffrage Pilgrimage, 1913
Ernest Hird, <i>A Life Revealed: From the Diaries of Herbert Spackman</i> (2008) | Jane Browning |
| 21. | The Flood of 1935
Colin G. Maggs, <i>The GWR Swindon to Bath Line</i> (2003) | Michael Rumsey |
| 22. | A Post-war Incident
James Lees-Milne, famous diarist and Trustee of the Corsham Estate, encounters two rough sailor boys: <i>Caves of Ice</i> (1983), 17 March 1946, 5 April 1946, 22 May 1946. | Negley Harte |
| 23. | Recent Times: A Trio of Poems
'Corsham in the 1930s and 1940s' by Bert Bradfield, from Ron Smith ed., <i>Parish Poems</i> (St. Barts, 2009) | Pat Whalley |
| 24. | 'Four Decades Ago' by Anthony Hall, from <i>ibid.</i> | Michael Rumsey |
| 25. | 'ALTUS – High Up and Deep Down in Corsham' by Canon Mervyn Drewett (1997), from Anne Lock ed., <i>Corsham</i> (1997, 2006, 2011) | Anne Lock |

Update on Springfield Community Campus

Midas, the main contractor for the community campus, has set up its site office and signs on the Springfield site and actually started work. During July and August this will be happening *inside* the Leisure Centre and some activities are being affected by the refurbishment work on the sports hall, the squash courts and the movement room. Below is a picture of the 'turf cutting' event on a chilly April day.



Midas' Bristol office issued a press release in April about the award of the £10 million contract by Wiltshire Council. This said: "*Midas Construction has a long track record of campus style and community related projects and can draw on extensive experience of being considerate contractors to ensure that we are good neighbours throughout the construction phase*". It also stated it is working towards completing the work by the end of 2014, but we'll just have to wait and see how realistic this new completion date turns out to be. You can find out more about the company, which operates from several offices across the South West, on www.midasgroup.co.uk. Midas will from time to time issue a Newsletter to keep neighbours and visitors in touch with the progress on the site. The point of contact for concerns or queries in connection with the construction is the site-based Senior Project Manager - Graeme Young. He can be contacted on 07816 649 003, or c/o Midas Construction Ltd, Site Office, Beechfield Rd, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9DN. For Issue One you can go to: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/47728031/Other/Midas%20Campus%20Newsletter.pdf>

Before April you will probably have noticed that there was an extended period after the initial phase of 'enabling works' had ended when there was no visible evidence of progress on the site. Behind the scenes a lot of detailed work and negotiation was going on to finalise the construction contract and bridge the gap between the agreed budget for the project and the actual cost of the 'work packages' as identified during the tendering process. Apparently this is a normal part of the

process of delivering a major new development, but in this case it did take longer than expected. Many found the low level of public communication to be frustrating, although the Chairman of the Shadow Community Operations Board (COB) has provided regular updates at Area Board meetings and in the Town Council newsletters. There is now a dedicated section of a new website <http://corsham.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk/springfield-campus/>. This offers the opportunity for anyone interested to comment or ask a question or volunteer to get involved.

Much of the work of the community representatives on the COB was also on hold until recently, but the Board is now gearing itself up to set up working groups to look at key aspects of how the new campus will be run. As the concept of a community campus providing council services alongside the community space is new, Wiltshire Council has asked the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) to carry out research to help them develop ways to make the 'campus programme' work. They will focus particularly on the Corsham Community Area as the Springfield campus is set to be the first of eighteen projects across the county. Over the past few weeks the RSA have been interviewing a variety of interested parties in Corsham and further afield. They describe their areas of interest as 'community capacity building and understanding local assets, designing the governance model, culture change and learning dissemination'. What that all means will hopefully become clearer later— their first feedback session covering their preliminary findings is due in late July in Trowbridge, and at some stage there should be some local consultation events nearer home.

Sally Fletcher



Corsham Station Campaign Update

Fortunately for me, Ruth Hopkinson, the new Chairman of Corsham Town Council, was unable to attend the Mayor-Making Ceremony in Bath a few weeks ago. I offered to attend in her place and enjoyed a most memorable and happy day. Greeted at the Guildhall by the soon-to-be Ex-Mayor, Cllr. Andy Furse, and later when speaking with Cllr. Neil Butters, Chairman of Banes Council, I was delighted that both, without any prompting from me, spoke of their continued support for the reopening of Corsham and the importance to them of this scheme.

It was, therefore, excellent to be able to report to them that Wiltshire Council had included the reopening of three stations, Corsham being one of them, within their list of top ten schemes - out of a possible seventy - to go forward for consideration for funding by the Swindon & Wiltshire Local Economic Partnership. Of course, Swindon Borough Council (whom I understand have three votes to Wiltshire's two) will have their own priorities, but hopefully our reopening will be seen by them to have benefits in diminishing congestion around Swindon.

We continue to live in hope of the scheme emerging from amongst that list on sustainability grounds. Its success depends on the proposed Bristol/Bath rail service continuing out to Chippenham/Swindon and not being terminated at Bathampton. A preliminary view of the viability of the scheme, undertaken by consultants to the West of England Partnership, was positive.

Anne Lock

Nathaniel Fido 1838 - 1919

Newspaper articles at the time of the Suffragist Pilgrimage and the speech made by the suffragist Miss Frances Sterling outside Corsham Town Hall mention Dr. Crisp giving a vote of thanks at the end of the proceedings, seconded by Mr. N. Fido who thought the best solution of the women's franchise problem was adult suffrage. The Wiltshire Times called him "that good old Radical Mr. N. Fido".

So, who was Mr. N. Fido?



Nathaniel Fido

He was Nathaniel Fido, a quarryman, son of John Fido. John was born in Croydon, Surrey, but at the time of his marriage to Susan (Susannah) Norris he was living in Moor Green. Susan was from Pound Pill. In the 1851 census, the first Nathaniel appears in, his father is shown as a stone quarry labourer. It is interesting that all of John and Susan's children were born in Corshamside except George, who was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1850. Perhaps the family had to move there in order for John to get work in the quarry industry. In the 1861 census, aged 16, Nathaniel was a quarry labourer, living with his parents at Goblins Pit, Neston. Nathaniel married Sarah Jane, later just known as Jane, Hancock on April 23rd 1868 at St Bartholomew's church.

By 1881 Nathaniel, a stone miner at this stage, and Jane were living in Rose Cottage, Hastings Road with three children. By the 1901 census he was still a quarryman, but was shown as an employer.

Nathaniel was very much involved in town life. One of the first Corsham parish councillors voted in at the initial Parish Council meeting on 4th December 1894, he was an active member of the lighting committee from the beginning. On 12th June 1895, after comparing the price per lamp paid by other areas including

Melksham, Wootton Bassett, Bruton and Marlborough, the directors of the Gas Company agreed to a reduction from £2.3.0 to £2 per lamp per annum.

Nathaniel and Councillor John Bull were the originators of the suggestion that there should be a public memorial to C.T. Mayo who had died the previous year. This was agreed at a Special Parish Meeting in June 1896.

Nathaniel was also a member of the Footpaths committee and was a very active participant. In 1912 he was given a vote of thanks for superintending the work for the repair of the footpath from Monks to Whitley. At the council meeting on 18th August 1913 Nathaniel said repairs were needed to Velley Footpath. The rest of the sub-committee agreed. He also reported damage by an engine to the footpath between Alexander Terrace and Priory Street. At this time he was also on the Town Hall committee.

I could see no mention in the Council minutes regarding the suffragists.

It appears Nathaniel was a councillor right up until his death. He died in October 1919 aged 74 and is buried in Corsham churchyard. His wife died in 1924 aged 77. His son Jesse John carried on the tradition as a councillor for Corsham.

Jane Browning

Arctic Convoy veterans



Mervyn Salter with Fred Andrews outside the Town Hall.
Photo: Peter Smith

I was pleased to represent the Civic Society at the Armed Forces Day celebrations on 29th June. After the military contingent marched through the town, an address was given by Councillor Pearson. He mentioned the two Corsham residents, Mervyn Salter and Fred Andrews, who had recently received their Arctic Convoy medals. The crowd erupted into spontaneous applause. From where the guests stood I could see one of the Petty Officers (PO) smiling and it looked as though he was dying to join in the applause, but as he was on parade, obviously could not.

On speaking with the PO at the reception afterwards, he told me that he and the other three representatives of the Royal Navy in the parade, a Leading Hand, another PO and one Chief Petty Officer, were joining in the applause by clapping behind their backs.

Jane Browning

VACANCIES

Margaret Smith has kindly agreed to become the chairman of the planning Group but we still have two positions which need filling. Here is a brief overview of the tasks associated with our vacant posts.

Secretary of the planning group: This group meets every three weeks, usually on a Monday at 2pm, to coincide with the discussions of the planning applications by the Town Council. They meet in the back room at the Town Hall where the plans are displayed to review and comment on them. The meetings last approximately an hour. The secretary collects the list of planning applications from the council office, collates the comments of the group and ensures they are passed to the council in time for their meeting on the following Wednesday.

Secretary of the executive committee: Meetings are held every 2 months. The secretary will be responsible for issuing the agenda, taking the minutes and issuing them to members of the executive committee.

Please do speak to one of the committee (see Page 2) if you are interested in joining us. It is not arduous and we do enjoy ourselves.

We would also welcome more members to sit in and comment on the planning applications. No special qualifications are required, just common sense and a sense of pride in Corsham.

2013 (JUBILEE YEAR) PROGRAMME

Jan 18th	7.30 pm	Annual Dinner at Rudloe Hall Hotel
Feb 22nd	7.30 pm	“The Secret State: how Corsham would have Governed in the Country in World War III”
Mar 23rd	7.30 pm	“To Have and To Hold - History of Collecting and Collectors, with special emphasis on Chippenham and Corsham” Talk by Melissa Barnett, Curator of the Chippenham Museum.
Apr 26th	7.30 pm	“George Gay (1771-1833), Corsham Quarryman, Composer of Chapel Music and Organ Builder” Talk by Dr. Christopher Kent, formerly Head of Musicology at the University of Reading, a great expert on organ and organ music.
May 10th	7 00 for 7.15 pm	AGM at the Town Hall : followed by “Corsham in Words”
Jun 22nd	tba	“Corsham in Music” CANCELLED.
Jul 19th	6.00 pm	Visit to the Victorian School at Sevington and Leigh Delamere church. Meet at Sevington at 6pm.
Sep 27th	7.30 pm	“The History of Stone Quarrying” Talk by David Pollard, the owner of the last working quarry in Corsham. He has spent many years studying the history of stone quarrying in the area.
Oct 25th	7.30 pm	“A S.E.X.Y. Talk - Submarine Engineering Across the Years Talk by Rear Adm. Thomas CB (Retd), a former naval officer of distinction now Chairman of the Rail Safety and Standards Board. He lives in Box.
Nov 29th	7.30 pm	“Some more Wiltshire Churches” Talk by Michael Rumsey, Chairman of the Corsham Civic Society and a retired primary school head-teacher.

All meetings to be held at the Pound Arts Centre, 01249 701628, unless otherwise stated.
Guests are very welcome. Members £2, Non-members £5, includes free tea or coffee or £1 off a glass of wine.

Corsham Civic Society

Corsham Civic Society was founded in 1963 to represent the people of Corsham in all aspects of conservation, preservation and the promotion of this delightful Wiltshire town. The Society is a registered Charity, a member of ASHTAV (Association of Small Historic Towns & Villages of the UK).

It is our aim to promote high standards of planning and architecture, to create a wider awareness amongst the local population of environmental issues, the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area, and to secure the preservation, protection and improvement of features of public amenity and/or historical interest, both in Corsham and in the surrounding countryside.

**Corsham Civic Society
Arnold House
31 High Street
CORSHAM
Wiltshire SN13 0EZ
Registered Charity No: 275321**