Corsham Spotlight

Magazine of the Corsham Civic Society
http://www.corshamcivicsociety.co.uk

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Contents

From the Vice Chair	1
Tribute to former Chair	2
Local Suffragettes	3
200 Years of Train Travel	4
Review	5
Rare Wiltshire Book	9
Digital Corsham History	10
Road, Parking & Planning	12
Corsham Tapestry	13

*Contributions to **Spotlight** are very welcome.*

Please submit articles to Pat Whalley at: patsay642@outlook.com



Corsham Wanderers

Those of you who are serious walkers, and would like to benefit from the enjoyment of experiencing stunning views and visiting pretty villages along the way, please contact: petesmith11ok@gmail.com for further information on how you might take part in our monthly walks.

David Bertwistle



Pictured: A group of very enthusiastic walkers. These photos are of the group at Bratton Camp and Westbury White Horse in March, and at West Woods near Lockeridge in April. Eighteen wanderers have booked to go on the annual walking holiday to the Isle of Purbeck in Dorset mid-September.

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From the Vice Chair

These will not be pearls of wisdom, but I shall do my best. In March, we were given a fascinating look at the life of John Fowler of Gastard and his steam engines by Michael Rumsey, our guru on all things steam. In April, we finally had our talk about the Batheaston Bypass. It was most interesting.

At our Annual General Meeting in May, our long-standing Chair, Michael Rumsey, stood down. No one stepped forward to assume the role, so you will have to put up with me for a bit longer. However, I have my eye on a couple of possible leaders. We had a mock-up of all the panels of the tapestry at the rear. The hard work of our gallant band of artists was appreciated by those present, both for the concept and for the images created by the artists.

Our visit to Rudloe Manor in June was a huge success, and twenty-two members were given a great visit. A week later, we had a look at the Architectural Follies of Wiltshire. I had never given much thought to them, but it was quite an eye-opener. That brings us up to date on our progress so far this year. I encourage you to read the much fuller reports on all our activities elsewhere.

Now please remember that on Saturday, 16th August, we will be holding our annual garden party in the grounds of the Lady Margaret Hungerford Almshouses. It commences at 3.00 pm and all members are welcome - we already have a willing band of members who have volunteered to produce the requisite number of scones and cakes, etc., so there is no need to turn up with a plateful. (Last year, we were actually overwhelmed by the generous number of eye-catching goodies we received.)

And finally, a Cri de Coeur. You will have noticed that most articles are produced by just a few authors. So come on, join in. You must have all had some interesting, dangerous, heart-warming, embarrassing or plain silly thing happen to you during your lifetime. We are not looking for the Ten Commandments nor War and Peace. Just half a page or more about someone or something that might interest or give some enjoyment to our membership. So, as the late Lord Norman Tebbit nearly said, 'Get on your bike – now'.

Edward Barrett

A Tribute to our Outgoing Chairman, Michael Rumsey

Michael joined the Society in 2008. He was quickly nominated for committee duties and became Treasurer. In 2009, following the death of our then Chairman, Les Davies, Michael stepped up and offered to stand and has been in the role, apart from a short period when John Maloney took over the post, for some 15 years.

He has been a stalwart of the Society during those years, keeping us on a steady course, one might almost say 'keeping us on the rails!' Not only has he taught us much about his life and knowledge of both Chippenham and Corsham, but he has also given us an insight into his first love - steam engines and the UK Railway system. Members will know that Michael loves his trains, and we have been known to gently tease him about his passion. Never deterred, he will always find a way to include it in the conversation, and we love you for it!

Michael has been a dedicated Chairman and committee member, promoting the work of the Society in so many ways. We owe him a great debt for his belief and promotion of the aims of the Society, and the continued work he will be doing as our Membership Secretary in the future. Thank you, Michael, for all your hard work and your friendship.

Pat Whalley

Box Blight: A Warning for those with a Box Hedge

We've all heard of Elm tree disease and Ash die back, now the Corsham area is being hit by the Box blight, which ruins a box hedge and leads to its instant removal.

If your box hedge has any discolouration, as shown in the photograph below, then you have box blight. If it's in a small area, it can be treated, and advice can be found on the internet or by visiting B&Q to find the correct spray.

On spotting it some weeks ago on my box hedge, I contacted an expert who deals with such matters, and the hedge has gone. I shall create a new rose bed in its pace in the late Autumn. I do hope this blight won't affect too many residents in the Corsham area.

Michael Rumsey



Box hedge blight in Corsham

Suffragettes in the Local Area

Some members might remember Corsham's celebration of the Suffragettes' 100th Anniversary, which took place in July 2013. A group of ladies were re-enacting a Suffragette march from Cornwall to London, which took place in 1913.

Our research showed that Corsham welcomed this group and gave them tea, and so we endeavoured to do the same. (See Spotlight November 2013, Page 9.) Now, another piece of information has come to light, of which many may be unaware.

In the spring 2025 edition, Issue 13 of the Batheaston Times (a go-to guide for village news and events), there is an article relating the story of the Eagle House Project and its connection to the Suffragettes.

In the early 1900s, Eagle House, Batheaston, was the home of Colonel and Mrs Blathwayt. They supported Emmeline Pankhurst and the WSP Union and its fight for women's suffrage.

Their daughter, Mary, spent eight years working for the cause, and in that time became friends with Annie Kenney, a stalwart of the suffragette movement. This friendship led to a deeper involvement with the activities of the women, so that ladies were invited to Eagle House to recover from exhausting spells in Holloway prison, where they had been force-fed when on hunger strike.

Whilst at Batheaston, they planted various trees and a floral ring of lilies, which became known as the Suffragette Field or Annie's Arboretum. Each tree was planted to commemorate each woman, including Emmeline and Christabel Pankhurst, Annie Kenney and many others. The Cowshed became known as the Suffragettes' Retreat. It was not until 1918 that the Women's Suffrage Bill was passed.

Mary Blathwayt died in 1962, and Annie's Arboretum was left in disarray. The field was sold, and Eagle Park was built by an enterprising developer.

Unfortunately, the trees were destroyed when the housing development was implemented, save an Austrian pine, planted in 1909 by Rose Yates. The tree now has a preservation order on it, as a memorial to those courageous women who worked so hard to bring women the vote.



Suffragettes in Corsham

The people of Batheaston have now found a new use for one of their redundant telephone boxes located in the vicinity of Eagle House – it has been transformed into a small museum telling the story of the Suffragettes who made their home at the house between 1909 and 1912. What an inspired use for a telephone box!

Pat Whalley

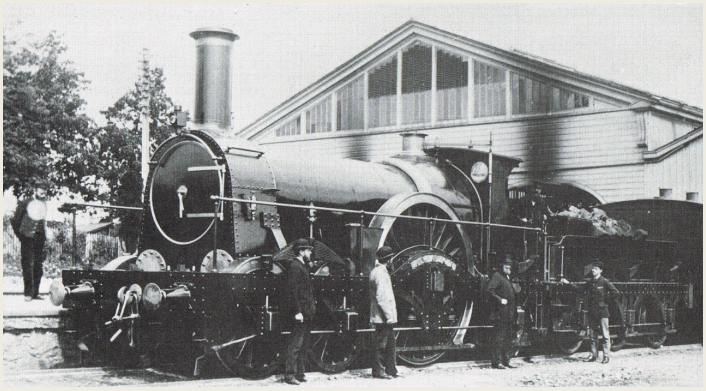
Source: With thanks to Catherine McCarthy and Peter Lewis of Batheaston Parish Council.

200 Years of Train Travel

2025 sees the 200th anniversary of train travel in the UK, with the first trains travelling between Stockton & Darlington hauled by engines designed and built by George Stephenson, who could be called the 'Father of Railways in the UK'. It took a further 16 years before the people of Corsham saw a steam train pass through.

On June 30th, 1841, the first train came through the Box tunnel and Corsham station on its way from Bristol Temple Meads to London. The second train to pass through was the Directors' train from London to Bristol with Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the GWR's engineer, and Daniel Gooch, the Locomotive Superintendent, on the footplate.

There was a slight difference in the rail gauge between the GWR and other railways. Brunel dictated that 7ft was a safe gauge to run trains on, while Stephenson designed and built many railways on a gauge of 4ft 8.5 inches, and this became known as 'Standard Gauge', while Brunel's was known as 'broad-gauge'. Sadly, Brunel's vision of 7ft wide tracks didn't last, and so on the 20th May 1892, the last broad-gauge trains ran on the GWR and the whole system was converted to standard gauge, which is still in use today. Daniel Gooch's engines could move many express trains and travelled at 80mph when conditions permitted it.





One of the most expensive structures on the GWR in the 1840s was the Box Tunnel. At 3,212 yards long, it was the longest tunnel in the world when it was finished and cost £500,000, which today would be £66.28 million. Brunel managed to build his railway to Bristol on several viaducts, plenty of embankments and cuttings, but between Corsham and Box stood Box Hill. The tunnel is straight and slopes downhill towards Box at an incline of 1 in 100. Five more tunnels were needed for the last 18 miles to Bristol.

Today, the present GWR runs fast trains through Corsham at 90mph on the 30-minute service to London and Bristol. For the first 90 miles from London, the new trains are powered by electricity, but the wires stop short of Corsham, and the diesel power takes over. The next time you travel by train, think of those pioneers of our travel system who introduced to the world!

Michael Rumsey

Review

The **March** meeting was led by our Chairman, Michael Rumsey, who gave us a very interesting overview of the life and achievements of one John Fowler. He was born in 1826 to a wealthy Quaker family who lived at Gastard House, that imposing building that you see at the top of Velley Hill, when passing on a trip either to or from Melksham. John had a strong interest in engineering and proved to have many inventive and extremely useful ideas.

He travelled widely, and as a result of the difficulties he observed in the world of agriculture, he patented improvements in machines for reaping, sowing seed, and depositing manure, as well as a drainage plough method of laying underground wires for electric telegraphs. His steam engines are renowned and are recognised worldwide.

Unfortunately, in 1864, he was thrown from a horse, resulting in his death in December of that year, aged 38 years. Nevertheless, he will be remembered as a pioneer for the forthcoming industrial revolution.



Example of Fowler steam ploughing engine

In **April**, we were pleased to welcome Peter Davenport, a member of Bath Archaeological Trust, who explained to us the vagaries of trying to introduce a new bypass into the approach to the city of Bath at Batheaston in the early 1990s.

As with many such radical proposals, those who opposed the project found many reasons why the bypass should not lie along this particular route. Protesters climbed trees and clambered onto heavy equipment, they blocked entrance ways and brought media attention to the area. But mostly it was a passive protest, with few angry encounters, which served to make their point without too much disruption.

Meanwhile, archaeologists were given limited access to parts of the site which had been identified as possible areas of historical interest. Investigations produced evidence of Iron Age and Roman artefacts. Postholes for round houses showed pre-Roman occupation, and as might be expected, Roman pottery shards and medieval items took the story through the ages. Two female skeletons were also discovered, and they lie in the Museum attached to the Roman Baths. With today's many advances in technology, they are to be re-examined in the future, to give more information about their lifestyle and origins. Another exciting advancement in our knowledge of our ancestors. The bypass finally opened in 1996.

May brought AGM time again, and we were pleased to formalise the election of our new President, Tom Brakspear, and to welcome two new members to the committee: Martin Cadwgan and David Bertwistle. At the same time, we had to accept the retirement of Michael Rumsey from the post of Chairman, due to ill health. Michael has served as Chairman for a total of 15 years, and we shall miss his direction and knowledge. However, he is still serving as Membership Secretary, so will still 'have his hand on the pulse!'

We were also very sad to learn of the departure of the Garcha family from the High Street newsagents known as Barnett Brothers. They have been a part of the fabric of the life of the town for some 24 years, and we shall miss them greatly. Fortunately, we will still have the expertise of Jujhar, our Spotlight Editor, who does an excellent job of producing our magazine three times a year. We wish the family well for the future.

There followed a very pleasant social hour with cheese and wine, and the opportunity for members to view the progress of the Tapestry project, which is being taken forward in leaps and bounds by an enthusiastic group of artists and sewing ladies. There were many positive and congratulatory comments received.

In **June**, earlier than advertised, we also had a very interesting visit to Rudloe Manor House, at the generous invitation of the owners, Jeremy and Sam Sanders. They are local to the area, having lived in Bath and Neston, so they had been aware of the building for many years.



Rudloe House, Corsham

When they took it on in 2021, it had been left abandoned for some 20 years. Nevertheless, they have the belief and the vision to see it restored and certainly have a mammoth task in front of them!

Jeremy gave us an introductory talk which reminded us of the early life of the building, and also the damage that was incurred when the MOD left in 1999. The weather was very kind to us (plenty warm enough!) so that the guided tour that took us through part of the house still under reconstruction, and the gardens was both instructive and delightful. Then we were invited to partake of tea and cakes, which completed a most enjoyable afternoon.

It was such a delight to see that the building was being restored and taking its place as one of Corsham's important historic buildings. Thank you so much to Jeremy and Sam.

In June, we also had a most interesting talk by Jonathan Holt on the subject of 'The Architectural Follies of Wiltshire.'

Well, what was I expecting? Er, perhaps rather a dry talk with very little apparent evidence or talk of follies round our way, except 'The Sham' in Church Street. Then, as a stream of members and guests poured into the room until every chair was filled, I realised that people were so interested in this mysterious subject that they had to attend! And here is Jonathan Holt, so laid back while giving us a mesmerising talk with a huge reservoir of knowledge and photos about his subject; these architectural follies, and no, it's not his job, which is something important in an unrelated field, it's his passion and hobby.

Jonathan answered a frequently asked question as to what exactly a 'Folly' is. Who decides? Historically, the answer is 'an ornament for a wealthy gentleman's garden or estate', 'a mirror of his mind', and not forgetting that wealthy ladies also commissioned follies. People have argued that follies are useless and that view, as in all art, must be subjective. A folly can also be a mistake, so are most follies planned or just appear for no apparent reason?

Jonathan reminds us that a folly can certainly be built for a purpose like 'The Sham' in Corsham. Local history records that the very tall Ethelred House, 6 Church Lane, Corsham, was occupied by the Estate Manager of Corsham Court because he did not want to be spied on by his boss, Lord Methuen.

Did he commission this job, possibly without consulting the Methuen family? Or was it the Methuen family who, not wanting to have to look at this imposing Ethelred House occupied by their upstart Estate Manager, ordered him to have 'The Sham' built! Who knows?

At this point, Jonathan mentioned that 'The Sham' was designed by John Nash and built in rough stone by Thomas Broadwood, which would explain the name 'Broadwood' throughout the town.



The Sham, Corsham

It's worth remembering that this was a wealthy period of the 18th century, and outdoor gatherings and banqueting, which would have inspired the gentry to decorate their gardens with grottoes and follies of all sizes and shapes.

The next subject was Stourhead's 'Alfred's Tower', 160ft (59m) high folly built in 1722 on the site where it's believed that King Alfred the Great rallied his troops before the Wiltshire battles, a site which Jonathan introduced as 'a monumental folly'. I wondered if this was a positive or negative conclusion until he went on to say it was the brainchild of one Henry Hoare, known as 'Henry the Magnificent' because of his generous financial backing of his exceptional follies. He owned Stourhead, his fortune made in banking. He worked with architect and designer Henry Flitcroft on a number of projects in Wiltshire, with Stourhead full of extravagant wonders.



Alfred's Tower, Stourhead

Jonathan reminded us that many follies would not exist today without people like Henry Hoare, who not only imagined and built these treasures but were also custodians, responsible for their upkeep.

Quite different is a modern folly, 'Pumpkin Tower' on Bythesea Road, Trowbridge. Another is the Folly Tearoom located in Holt, at 4 Hoppers Yard, Bull Street, and a fabulous folly at Belcombe Court, Bradford-on-Avon. We were shown other follies in Wiltshire, e.g. Wilton's 'Palladian Bridge', well known on our borders, and 'Brown's Folly', which is not in good condition and overseen by Jonthan's Folly Fellowship. He showed us more follies, especially in Wales. It was all enthralling stuff and a bit like the follies themselves, mostly under our radar until now. What a treat!

Jane Cox, Pat Whalley

Finding a Rare Wiltshire Book in Scotland

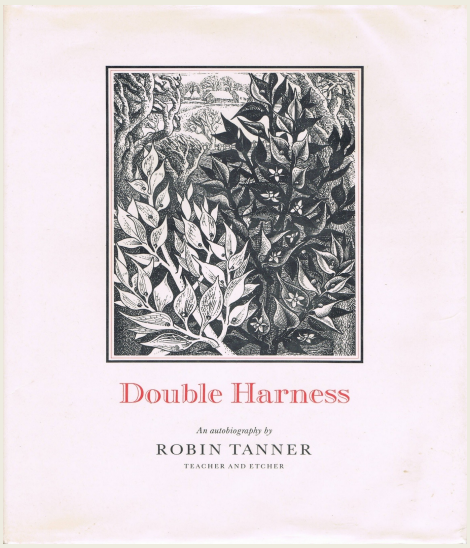
Hay-on-Wye, a town situated on the Welsh-English border, is known as the 'Secondhand book Capital of the World', but you probably didn't know that Wigton in Dumfries and Galloway is titled the 'Secondhand book Capital of Scotland'. Wigton has six secondhand bookshops, of which 'The Old Bank Bookshop' is one of the largest. Here, I found, while browsing the numerous shelves of books and section title 'South West England', a slightly faded green-covered hardback with a faded title in gold which said, 'Wiltshire Village' 'Tanner'. I opened the book, which was priced at £14, to the title page and the publication date, which said 1939. This was a 1st edition for just £14 and it was in very good condition.

During the bombing of Bristol in 1941/1942, the building holding all the bookplates for Robin & Heather Tanner's wonderful book was destroyed, and editions that appeared in the 1950s and 60s were reproduction print editions. I quickly paid my £14 to a slightly bemused shop owner who couldn't understand my excitement at finding this book.

Although I didn't have the pleasure of meeting Robin Tanner, I knew of the family through my two aunts, having gone to school with his sisters, and I taught his great nephews at Christchurch Primary School, Bradford on Avon. I also knew his elder brother, but it was his stepson, Dietrich Hanff, whom I knew best, as he was one of my Education Tutors at Newton Park Teacher Training College, now Bath Spa University. Mr Hanff was an excellent tutor, kind and helpful to all his students. One of his best friends at NPC was Ernest Hird, a long-serving member of the CCS who passed away earlier this year in his 90s.

Recently, I asked Corsham Bookshop if they could find me a copy of Mr Tanner's autobiography entitled 'Double Harness'. One day later, good news, a copy had been found for £7.99, and later I received it, so now I feel I shall know all about Robin & Heather Tanner and their stepson Dietrich Hanff. The illustrations shown here just record my collection of books about three of my local heroes.

Michael Rumsey





Photos attached:

1. 'Double Harness' by Robin Tanner, published by Impact books, 1987.
2. The framed etching 'Easter' printed and signed by Robin Tanner, one of my prized possessions.



3. Collection of books. From left to right they are:
'Woodland Plants' by Robin & Heather Tanner published by Robin Garton, 1981.
'Out of Nazi Germany' by Dietrich Hanff published by Impact books, 1995.
'Wiltshire Village' by Robin & Heather Tanner published by Collins, 1939.
'Robin Tanner – The Etchings' published by Robin Garton, 1988
Framed Christmas card designed and made by Mr Tanner sent to my cousins, Ernest & Gwen Townsend, who delivered their newspapers.
'A Country book of days' by Robin & Esther Tanner, published by The Old Stile Press, a limited edition of 250 copies, 1986.
A 1978 version of 'Wiltshire Village' published by Ronin Garton, 1978.
'Double Harness' by Robin Tanner, published by Impact books, 1987.
'An appreciation of the Life of Robin Tanner' by Ernest Hird.

Digital Corsham - The Mansion House – Robert Neale

There are many new families coming to live in Corsham, and some of them might like to know the history of some of the buildings that dominate our townscape.

In Pickwick Road, there is one known as 'Digital Corsham'. A building once identified as 'The Mansion House' but now adapted to suit the modern technological age. However, the story goes back some 300 years, at a time when the wool industry was paramount in Corsham.

It seems that the land on which the Mansion House is built originally belonged to another clothier of note in the town called William Arnold. His daughter, Sarah, married Robert Neale, another prestigious clothier. The building was completed in 1722, at a cost of £2,100.

Three successive generations of the family appear to have lived there, as evidenced by the graffiti scratched on the surround of the front door, recording their several heights at different ages. Since each produced a son named 'Robert', it is somewhat difficult to interpret who was who!

We do know that Robert 3rd of Corsham had a daughter, Grace Elizabeth, born circa. 1773 and was baptised at St George's, Hanover Square. In 1795, she was married to Admiral Sir Harry Burnard-Neale, first living at Shaw House, Melksham. She became Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Charlotte, wife of George III.

Lady Neale lived in Blackheath in great style until her death in 1855. There were no children or direct heirs, and so the money to be made from making cloth died out in Corsham, along with the Neale family.

So, what of the future of the house? At some time, it became 'The Classical and Commercial School', led by the principal, Charles H. Hulls. The Diary of Herbert Spackman records that he received a certificate from Mr Hulls for success in Elementary French in 1875.

Other eminent pupils who we have recorded before include Richard Bethel, who became Lord Westbury and Lord Chancellor, and Reginald Younghusband, a Captain in the 2nd Warwickshires who led his men in the Zulu War at Isandlwana, dying for the cause.

Later, it was let out as a gentleman's house to a lawyer who was related to the Neale family. Stephen Flavin records in 'Corsham Born and Bred' that between 1925 and 1938, the building was a home for elderly people, led by a Miss Haines.

In the late 1940s, it was in the hands of Wiltshire County Council as a Youth Centre, with the stables annexed and used for the Sunday school and as overflow classrooms for the junior school (now 'The Pound'). In the lates 40s and early 50s, Brownies and Guides lived there.

In 1969, a new purpose-built library was erected on the land at the side of the Mansion House, but this was relocated to the 'Campus' in 2014.

This was the opportunity then for a new development of the site, and in 2019, a modern square glazed extension was attached to the Mansion House. It offered another entrance to the older building as it was transformed into what we now know as Corsham Digital Mansion. This acts as a business hub for new digital start-ups, with space for meetings, etc.



Digital Corsham

What would Robert Neale make of this, I wonder? He was a businessman, so perhaps he would be in favour of these innovations. If only these buildings could talk, 300 years of various lives/activities in this one structure. It explains our past and shows us the way forward. Let us hope people will continue to collect and retain these stories for the future.

Pat Whalley

Road & Parking improvements by Wiltshire Council in 2024/2025

In 2024, the people in Box were delighted with their new road surface through the village from the traffic lights to the tunnel road bridge. They now had a new Pelican traffic light-controlled pedestrian crossing by the Primary School, plus an altered crossing and road junction by the Post Office, which was completed in the Summer. Included in the work was a new bus shelter and seat by the junction of Bulls Lane.

In Corsham, all the old parking machines have been replaced with new ones, where you now must enter your car registration number before obtaining your ticket for the two hours of free parking. The machines give clear instructions about how to obtain your ticket, though unfortunately, these instructions are proving difficult to read for most people. The lettering should be much darker so it can be seen easily. Perhaps improvements will occur one day.

That was last year's work by the WC. Now, this year has seen a brand-new road surface between the Almshouses and Dicketts Road. Working between 7 pm and midnight, the work was completed without too much disruption. All road users now breathe a sigh of relief as they drive or cycle along this stretch of road. Two other roads, which are also bus routes, now need attention: one is the whole of Priory Street, and the other is Moor Green, Neston. The surfaces on these two stretches of road are slightly horrendous!

Michael Rumsey







Left to right: Pound Pill; Bath Rd, Box; the new payment machine.

Planning

We are delighted to welcome David Bertwistle to our team, who has agreed to be our watchdog in all things Planning. He will look at all planning applications coming through from WC for the Corsham area and make observations to Wiltshire Council on behalf of the Civic Society, whether we consider it to be a retrograde step to the development of the town, or even something that the CCS considers to be of benefit!

We have recently added to the scores of comments from the people of Westwells and Neston regarding the proposal to extend the Spring Park Data Centre on land known to locals as 'the donkey field'. (Application No: P/2024/05527.) You may like to take a look at this online and make your own observations.

If you have concerns about any upcoming applications in your area which you consider might have a detrimental effect on the environment or are not in keeping with the local area, please draw our attention to the matter, and we will investigate. You can also go on to the Wiltshire County Council Planning Applications website and find any particular application and make a comment yourself on your concerns.

Pat Whalley

The Corsham Tapestry

The Tapestry is now properly underway. The eleven panels are now complete (bar a couple of minor items), and we have finally got going on the sewing. It took months to track down a print company which would print black and white images directly onto linen, and we sent off three panels' worth of images for this conversion.

The forty-four completed images, each roughly 38 millimetres square, came, four wide, on a great roll of linen measuring 150 centimetres wide and some 420 centimetres long. By the time you receive this, we will have held our fifth meeting of embroiderers and will hopefully have some twenty images being stitched by our highly talented team. Ali Warren, our lead embroiderer, is extremely pleased with the progress being made!

Edward Barrett

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CORSHAM CIVIC SOCIETY TALKS 2025/2026

All meetings are at the Pound Arts Centre (T: 01249 701628) at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. Members £2, Non-Members £5. Guests are very welcome. Please be aware that these events are subject to last minute changes beyond the control of the CCS.

16th Aug	**Garden Party**
26th Sep	Lorna Almonds-Windmill tells us of her father's involvement in the **Formation of the SAS**
24th Oct	Wendy Reynolds, **Recollections of Ascension Island & St Helena**
28th Nov	David Leonard, **The History of Chapel Plaister**
23rd Jan	Carole Britton, Author of **Past, Present, Presence, The Companion Guide to The Athelstan Pilgrim Way**, a walk inspired by Hilary Peters
27th Feb	**Annual Lunch**
27th Mar	Presentation by Corsham Town Council officers explaining the **Neighbourhood Plan Review for 2026**
24th Apr	**People & Places of Chippenham** (Chippenham Museums 25th Anniversary) with Melissa Barnett, Head of Museum & Heritage Services
15th May	**AGM** Town Hall, Corsham

Please note that the programme may be subject to changes.

For more information email: corshamcivicsociety@gmail.com or see the website: www.corshamcivicsociety.co.uk

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 and 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 historical interest, in Corsham and the surrounding countryside.

Corsham Civic Society, 91 Tellcroft Drive, Corsham, SN13 9JQ, Wiltshire. Registered Charity No: 275321