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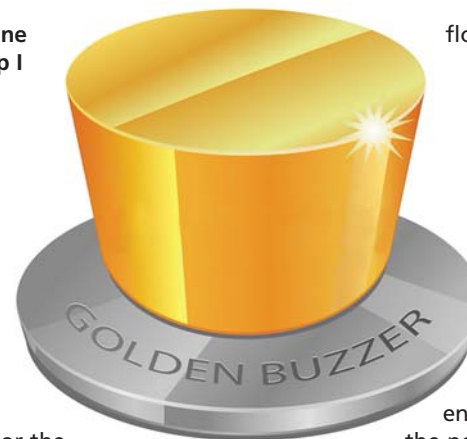
FIRST THOUGHTS

Golden Buzzer

I have a confession. Late one night when I couldn't sleep I watched something on YouTube and was hooked. Belatedly I realise I discovered the Golden Buzzer.

It transpires that on both Britain and America's Got Talent (which I have never really watched until now) each Judge can, for one time only, send an act through to the next round without consultation with or the consent of the other Judges. They can choose once each series to press the golden buzzer (which triggers music, ticker tape and general pandemonium) when they believe an act is so good it deserves to just 'stuff the process and let's celebrate.'

I confess I have now watched every single golden buzzer moment. I find them magnetic. For example, watching a lad from Anglesey, who looks out of place on the big stage and who would appear more at home in the local pub, absolutely nail Nessun Dorma and seeing the crowd go wild, with hugs everywhere and tears



flowing, is emotional, uplifting and doesn't fail to bring a smile to my face.

At the first Christmas, God stepped into our world in the person of Jesus Christ. He didn't remain far away. He didn't stick with a list of rules and achievements in order to get to him but took a giant leap towards me and towards you. He came and lifted-up the downcast, encouraged the weak, blessed the poor and held the broken. He

came and said "You have worth. I believe in you. Not because you have it all together. Not because you have great talent or gift. But because I made you and I love you".

Christmas was and is God pressing a golden buzzer for all mankind.

I believe everyone deserves to be celebrated. Everyone needs their moment when someone believes in them and cheers them on. However your 2019 has gone, I pray you know a God who celebrates you and loves you.

Happy Christmas! Matt Ford

Cover: Six boys from Costa Rican shanty towns visited Highworth recently, courtesy of Educación Plus (see pages 4 & 9)

LINKmagazine

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Editor: Sarah Gardiner
editor@highworthlink13@gmail.com

Production: Stables Studio

Advertising: Tony Brewster
advertising@highworthlink.co.uk

Distribution
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Villages: Keith Ratcliffe (861122)

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Highworth Link,
c/o Lighthouse Bookshop,
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Contributions:

May be published in the magazine and/or the web. Make clear any limitations you have about what, how and when we may publish your contribution.

E-mail is preferred; otherwise deliver to The Lighthouse Bookshop.

Make sure you are writing for a general audience, not just your own organisation. News stories should not

exceed 150 words. If it's too long we will ask you to cut it. Articles may be longer but get in touch first to save the annoyance of a rejection. Photographs and advertising artwork should be clear, with good contrast. JPEG electronic format is preferred but we can scan from good quality prints. Make sure any people in photos agree that the photo can be published in the magazine and web. Get parent's consent in the case of minors.

We reserve the right to edit contributions and to not publish any contribution or advertisement that is either unsuitable for our format or is inconsistent with our editorial policy.

Deadlines:

1st of the month before publication - news, articles, advertising, what's on and letters.





Expanding Horizons

Educación Plus, (Registered charity, No 1048617), was started in 1994 by then members of Highworth Community Church. Its purpose is to demonstrate the love of God to underprivileged children and their families in the shanty towns of Costa Rica, Central America.

Expanding Horizons is the expedition we organised to celebrate our 25th anniversary. Rather than take people to see the conditions in which the families live, we decided to bring the youngsters to the UK to share the privileges we know here.

Six boys, chosen from our football academies, came from communities where many live in small tin shacks with dirt floors and no windows, sewers or legal electricity supply. The environment is often frightening, with daily drug trafficking, assaults and murders literally on their doorsteps. They are considered to be of the 'lowest class' simply because of where they live.

Yet these lads would have been a credit to any community. It would be difficult to imagine a more cooperative, polite and friendly group of thirteen-year-olds! After a week of sight-seeing in London they spent a week in Highworth and greatly appreciated all the generous hospitality they received. How they enjoyed every aspect of their visit!

There were three football matches against local teams: Wichelstowe Academy, Stratton Tigers and Warneford School. We're grateful to everybody



who worked hard to make these so successful. The boys also enjoyed a tour of the County Ground and watched Swindon Town's match against Newport (shame about the result!).

But it wasn't all football. They also enjoyed other 'typically English' things like a full English breakfast in the Saracen's Head and a Sunday Roast lunch at the Freke Arms as well as canoeing at the Cotswold Water Park and ice skating (something they had never even seen in the tropics!) at the Link Centre.

At Gorse Hill Baptist Church on the Saturday and Sunday we celebrated God's provision, guidance and protection over the last 25 years. During the trip we continued to experience these: it was funded by additional donations totally apart from regular Educación Plus funds, the itinerary took on a shape of its own and we enjoyed two unforgettable weeks without accident or mishap of any kind. Thank you to everyone who was involved in any way.

The group have all settled back well in their schools since their return to Costa Rica and will surely echo the words of Psalm 9:1 as they recount their experiences to their families and friends:

*I will give thanks to you, Lord,
with all my
heart; I will tell
of all your
wonderful
deeds.*

Keith Holder



Remembrance Sunday 2019

Despite the heavy rain that had flooded parts of the country the day before, Remembrance Sunday was bright and dry.

The parade had a new start point this year at Priory Green Car Park. From there it made its way up to St Michael's Church which was, once again, packed to bursting.

1st Highworth Vorda Cubs gave a moving presentation on the tragic story of the Brown Family, this year marking the centenary of the deaths of James and Primrose Brown of Eastrop Grange who died of broken hearts following the death of their four sons during World War II; a poignant reminder that just because the War had ended, the pain and suffering it caused did not.

The congregation then joined a waiting crowd of hundreds more outside at the cenotaph for the two-minute silence and laying of the wreaths before the parade marched back down the High Street.

The Remembrance window competition returned this year and congratulations must go to Highworth Flowers who were awarded the trophy by Highworth & District Royal British Legion members. Their stunning design featured a greenery decorated aeroplane flying between barbed wire on a poppy field and a cross of giant poppies.



RBL Branch Chairman Gerry Evans awarding the trophy to Justine of Highworth Flowers for the Remembrance window



The South Transept Window of St Michael's Church commemorating the Brown Brothers

The Tragic Brown Brothers

Captain Eric Brown, 5th Wiltshire Regiment, died of wounds in Mesopotamia aged 27 on 1st April 1917.

Lieutenant Douglas Brown, 3rd Royal Scots, died of wounds aged 25 on 13th September 1917 in France.

Captain Kenneth Brown, 4th Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, died aged 22 of wounds in a prisoner of war camp on 12th April 1918.

Major Gerald Brown, 1st Wiltshire Regiment, was killed in action in Belgium aged 31 on 14th April 1918.

5,4,3,2,1... Eastrop are go!

With World Space Week falling in October, Eastrop Infant School celebrated the 50th anniversary of humankind's first steps on the moon, inspiring future generations of Space Explorers, engineers and astronomers.

From Monday 7th October, the entire week was dedicated to scientific discovery. It got off to an exciting start when Swindon Astronomers Mr and Mrs Wilkie from Swindon Star gazers wowed the children during assembly with their facts and photographs of the night sky above Swindon. The assembly included being shown how telescopes work, facts about the first moon landing and even showed real-life samples of moon rock! The children shared excitedly what they already knew about the moon and had their own questions answered by our experts.

Whilst the children were filled with curiosity and wonder, each class had a fun-packed day with their teachers engaging in moon activities. From Nursery to Year 2 everyone took part and had a wonderful week of lessons, which included taking a trip to the moon in a cardboard box during story time, printing aliens using the Numicon pieces and paint, making moon models from papier-mâché and creating textured moon paintings by adding flour to paint, designing and making space rovers using junk modelling techniques and writing posters using facts they had remembered about the moon.

Possibly the most exciting part of Space Week for the children (and teachers) was the visit from a real Space Rocket Nova 2, due to be launched into outer space in 2020. All were in awe of this incredible sight with "oohs" and "ahhs" echoing around the playground.

Year 1 teacher at Eastrop Infant School Becky Vardy said, "What an amazing opportunity for the children to see beyond our world and look for the stars".

Find out more about the exciting activities taking place at Eastrop Infant School by visiting <https://www.eastropinfantschool.org.uk/>

Ellie Ayres, Science Leader and Year 2 Teacher



Zoom! Zoom! Zoom! We are flying to the Moon



Eastrop Nursery have been having lots of fun flying to the moon. Linked to the story 'Whatever Next!' we made jam sandwiches, packed a picnic and went off to the moon for an adventure in our 'rocket' but got back in time for bath time. We learnt the counting song 'zoom, zoom, zoom!', created pictures using stampers and practised our cutting skills by cutting out the moon all by ourselves.

Lucy Mitchell, Nursery Teacher

Highworth Pre-School selected to run Early Words Together National Literacy Project

National
Literacy
Trust

Highworth Pre-School was one of 10 pre-school/nurseries in Swindon to join the Early Words Together at Three - National Literacy Trust, Swindon.

The aim of the project is to help improve communication, language and literacy practice in early years and work with families through simple, playful activities. This is all to help young children get the best possible start in life and be ready for school.

The workshops will be run by our Supervisor Rachel Uzzell and Session Co-ordinator Alison Pritchard-Boxall, as they have completed the training with the National Literacy Trust. It's an exciting opportunity to work with parents and children at Highworth Pre-School.

A pilot of this programme was run in five schools in Swindon in 2018-19 and was shown to have a positive impact on parents' home learning behaviours and children's interest and engagement in books and songs.

- 92% of parents say they understand more than before how important it is for them to talk to their child
- 92% of parents say they are more confident than before in sharing books and stories with their child, and
- 83% of parents say they sing more rhymes with their child

We look forward to our workshops starting in January 2020 and working in partnership our families at Highworth Pre-School.

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Southfields Growth Mindset Assembly

Mike Mullen, three times UK BMX Champion, visited Southfield Junior School on Tuesday 8th October.

The day consisted of two workshops for Year 6 pupils, a whole school assembly and demonstration. The children were encouraged to try new things and not to say "I can't do it!" but to have a growth mindset. The children were taking their hands off their handlebar bikes and by the end of the session Mike had non-riders riding over the jumps with a little bit of help.

It was amazing to watch these children go over jumps, do the cancan and some even lifted their feet onto the handlebars. The children were



buzzing and wanted to keep trying new tricks.

The assembly was one of the best we had seen, Mike kept a whole school enthralled telling us about his struggles and challenges which eventually lead to his triumphs.

After the assembly, the whole school were treated to 15 minutes of watching him in action on the playground. The children and adults were gasping and clapping in absolute

amazement, especially when he jumped over five teachers who were laying on the ground!

Growth Mindset is for everyone and it certainly inspired us here at Southfield Junior School

Ruth Law, Southfield Junior School

Warneford's football tournament against Costa Rican team




In October, Warneford hosted a special football tournament against a group of boys from shanty towns around Costa Rica who had been brought over by local charity Educación Plus.

They played in a round-robin tournament against three Year 8 teams with all the matches competitive but played in an excellent spirit. The Costa Rican side impressively won the group stage but were eventually beaten 1-0 in the final against the 'Warneford Blue' team.

The whole event was fantastic with all the boys having a brilliant time. Thank you to all the staff who came to support, the boys really appreciated it!

Above is a picture of the boys; please take the opportunity to congratulate them if you get the chance, they did the school proud.

Dave Gibbons, Assistant Head of Physical Education, Warneford



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Highworth is accredited as Dementia Friendly

On 23rd October the town of Highworth was accredited as 'Working to become Dementia Friendly 2019-2020', an accolade which was first granted to Swindon in 2017 by the Alzheimer's Society. Now the Highworth Community is being formally acknowledged following huge efforts within the town to make it a better place for people with dementia to live.

The town's activities have included regular local Dementia Friends Information Sessions, fundraising events and a campaign to make businesses throughout the town more Dementia Friendly, backed by Mayor Julia Bishop. Much of this work has been led by two active Dementia Champions within the town, Elaine Graham and Kevin O'Donoghue in partnership with Susan Lambert, Dementia Friendly Coordinator. We now have over 500 Dementia Friends in Highworth and the surrounding areas.

To celebrate this achievement, over 20 supporters and members of the community all came together to enjoy a tea party in the community rooms, with refreshments and a delicious cake generously donated by our local Highworth Cooperative and T T Linnet.

The event started off with a formal presentation of the Dementia Friendly certificate, which was made to Mayor Julia Bishop and involved members of the community, by Councillor Holland, Deputy Cabinet Leader of Swindon Borough Council. Mayor Bishop has been an ongoing supporter

and raised funds of over £7,600 for Alzheimer's Society in her 2018/19 term of office.



Chris Suter, from Highworth Historical Society, brought along some photograph albums showing various aspects of our town's interesting past and then challenged everyone to a quiz on our local history.

The event closed with an uplifting session from Peter and Denise Arnel who thoroughly entertained everyone with a harmonious medley of vintage songs and some very inspiring and humorous recitals of Pam Ayres poetry, all of which was very well received.

The initiative to make Highworth a Dementia Friendly community has had a huge amount of local support. It was wonderful that many supporters were able to attend; the Alzheimers Society, Highworth Community Church, Highworth Dental Surgery, Westrop School, the Lions, Highworth Artists Society and local community navigators.

Apologies and good wishes were sent by many other supporters who were unable to be there on the day, such as Andy Steele, Head of Warneford school.

Stephanie Hayler, the Manager of Bupa Dental Care, Highworth said "All our staff here at the Practice are proud to be Dementia Friends and this has really helped us to focus and understand the needs of our patients who are living with dementia and to see what other changes we can make as well. I'd urge



Denise and Peter Arnel entertained to great effect

any businesses to commit to becoming dementia friendly; we've seen even small changes making a big difference to our patients".

Highworth will now continue to build on the excellent work that has been started to make us supportive and inclusive of all those in our community who are living with Dementia. We will be announcing further awareness sessions in the Link and posters around Highworth.

We also have exciting plans to start a monthly Memory Café, but this will rely on volunteer support as well as funding. There are several successful cafes in Swindon but none local to our town. A Memory Café will provide a warm welcome and comfortable environment for people with dementia and their companions to meet with others in a relaxed social setting. It will be a place to meet and talk to other people experiencing the same challenges and joys and

to share experiences and obtain information and guidance.

If you would like to find out more, or think that you might be able to offer help or support, please email Kevin at kevin_dfc@btinternet.com.



The 'Working to become Dementia Friendly' status is a step on the journey rather than a destination however. If your business would like to join us on the journey, please contact Susan Lambert at susan.lambert@swindon.gov.uk for more information.

Thank you all for your continued help in supporting this hugely important initiative.

Kevin O'Donoghue



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REPORTS

Air Cadets Remembrance Camp – 'Lest we forget'

During the Centenary of Remembrance Day last year, ten air cadets and three staff members were privileged to lay wreaths and pay their respects to the Fallen at the great Thiepval Memorial on the Somme, which commemorates the 74,000 dead of WWI who have no known grave.

The wreath-laying at Thiepval marked the most solemn moment in a week of discovering the sites and events of the Battle of the Somme. This is the 12th year in which the air cadets have been involved.

During the week, the cadets were able to visit many of the battlefield sites of the Somme, such as Wellington Quarries, Auchonvillers, Lochnagar mine crater, Beaumont-Hamel and Vimy Ridge. Our final day was spent visiting the great Tyne Cot cemetery where 11,000 of the fallen lie. We also visited the Essex Farm Cemetery at Boezinge where Col John McCrae wrote the beautifully

tragic poem 'In Flanders Fields'. Finally, we visited Ypres where we took part in the 8pm Last Post Ceremony and the cadets were again privileged to lay a wreath.

This week made a great impression on the minds of all who attended by accentuating the futility and cruelty of WWI; the great acts of bravery carried out by men, women and children, of all ranks; the beauty and reverence in which their memory is held and finally, as a lesson to all of us that, as Churchill said "Jaw Jaw is better than War War!".

"The highlight of the trip was laying a wreath on the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day at Thiepval," said Cpl Nile Austin. "I've never had such an amazing experience and it was only made possible by the Air Cadets who give us amazing opportunities like this."

Padre Bernard Rumbold

Lord Lieutenant's Cadet

Each year two deserving cadets from each of the three cadet forces are given the title of Lord Lieutenant's Cadet. These cadets support the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire on official events and engagements, including Royal visits and ceremonial duties. Lord Lieutenant's Cadets are selected for their outstanding service and dedication to their cadet force.

This year one of 878's very own cadets was chosen for the rôle. Cadet Sergeant Molly Ashby has been a member of the Royal Air Force Air Cadets for nearly four years, joining when she was just 14. She was officially appointed as Lord Lieutenant's Cadet for Wiltshire on Monday 14th October during Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant's Awards evening.



*Sgt Ashby with Sarah Rose Troughton,
Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire*

Sgt Ashby said "I feel so happy, honoured and shocked about getting chosen for this. I'm so excited for what's to come. My favourite thing about cadets is meeting lots of people and hearing all they have accomplished. I love all the community work we do as I feel proud to be doing something like that and proud that I have a chance to do something that most young people won't."

*Sgt Anna Talbert
and Sgt Molly Ashby*

To find out what other activities cadets get up to, visit <http://rafac.highworth.org.uk> or call on a Monday and Wednesday between 7pm and 9.30pm.

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From the Lion's Den

We are already into November and by the time you read this it will be December and Santa will have all those presents ready for delivery.

Halloween and Bonfire Night may be gone for another year, but I hope everyone enjoyed those festivities and kept safe from fireworks. Now it's time to say hello to Santa and give him an idea of what you would like for Christmas.



Santa will be visiting Highworth on **Tuesday 17th, Thursday 19th, Friday 20th and Saturday 21st December.**

On Tuesday he will set out down the High Street at 5.30pm and travel down Cherry Orchard to Orange Close where he will pause for 15 minutes for children to come and see him. He will then go down Queens Avenue and Vorda and stop again at the corner of Turnpike Road. He will then go up Turnpike Road and Cherry Orchard before flying home.

On Thursday he will set out down St Michaels Avenue at 5.30pm pausing at Home Farm, Barra Close, Stroma Way and Arran Avenue.

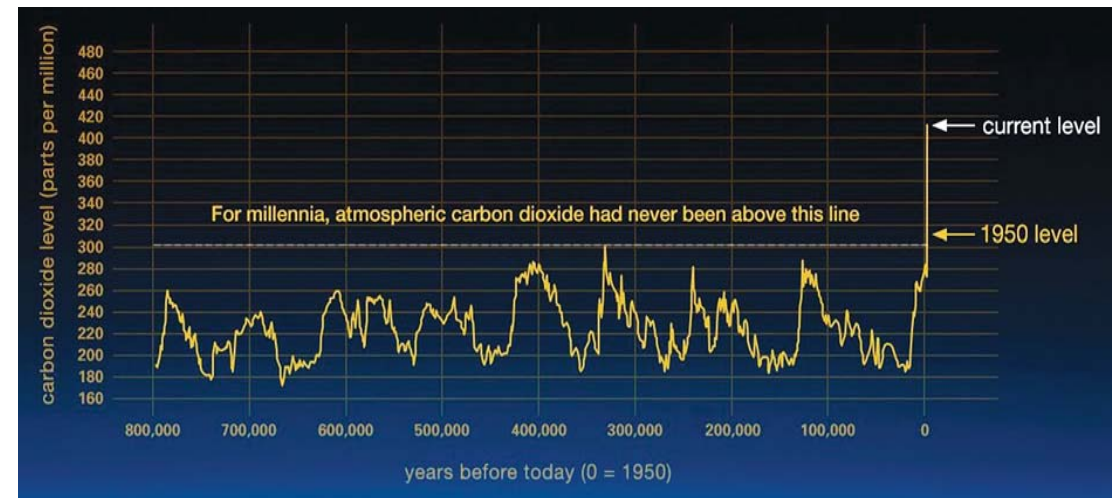
Santa will also be in the Market Square on **Friday 20th December** from 2.30pm and outside the Co-op on **Saturday 21st** from 10.30am.

Rosemary Lion

Donations made in November:

Friends of Angela's Orphanage	£250
Visit Highworth	£250
Military Advocacy Service	£300
Cherished Memories for terminally ill children	£100

Climate Change: What can I do?



Adrian Young (editor of Ripples Community Magazine for Fairford, Lechlade and surrounding villages, and former editor of Highworth Link) invites Link readers to help identify practical things we can do to minimise climate change. You can read Ripples at www.ripplesmag.co.uk.

Climate scientists have agonised for decades about the NATA Climate Change chart and most now agree this abrupt increase of CO₂ in our atmosphere drives climate change. It explains why the planet is getting hotter and the weather is so variable. The consequences for plants, animals and humans are looking dire.

David Attenborough says: "It's time we humans came to our senses". Clearly, governments, businesses and individuals need to act, but I

sense many, like me, are puzzled about what they can do.

I invite Highworth Link readers to join me in a working group to identify practical things individuals can do.

Interested?

Please REGISTER here <http://eepurl.com/b0Rftf>, mentioning relevant knowledge and expertise. I will then get in touch with my initial ideas for the working group. I'm sure we can achieve so much more together. We'll publish our conclusions in Link as well as Ripples.

Adrian Young,
editor of Ripples Community Magazine

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Royal Aeronautical Society, Wednesday 4th December

Our talk on Wednesday 4th December is entitled 'The Challenges and Complexity of organising RIAT'. The speaker is Mr Tim Prince CEO (Ret'd). RIAT Sqn Ldr Jack Currie inspired a small team of volunteers to stage an air show at North Weald Aerodrome in 1971 in support of the RAFA, which they called the 'Air Tattoo'. Now in its 48th year and known as the 'Royal International Air Tattoo', Tim Prince has been a part of the RIAT's story since 1971 and will share some of the background to this important annual gathering of the world's military aviators.

Then on **Wednesday 8th January** our talk is entitled 'H Bombs and Hula Skirts' by Wg. Cdr (Ret'd) Paul Shepherd. Paul will look at the strategically important and often controversial history of developing UK's offensive nuclear weapons programmes, including coverage of the tests that were conducted on and around Christmas Island in the late 1950s.

Lectures start at 7.30pm at Shrivenham Defence Academy. Before attending, you must register via email at das@aerosociety.com or by phone 07740 136609. Membership is open to all and costs £20 per person for the lecture season. Young persons aged 16-18 are entitled to attend branch lectures free of charge. They must be accompanied by an adult who will also be entitled to attend free of charge.

Highworth & District Floral Art Society, Thursday 5th December

Our Christmas Open Evening will be held at Warneford School on Thursday 5th December when we welcome Coral Gardiner with her demonstration entitled 'Country Christmas'. Coral is a popular National Demonstrator and you will be sure to have an interesting and fun evening. Tickets for this event are £10 and include seasonal refreshments. We will also have a well-stocked sales table with Christmas decoration ideas. For further details and ticket reservations: hilltc@yahoo.co.uk / 01793 766478.

We do not meet in the month of January so our next club evening will be on **Thursday 6th February** when our Pam Lewis will enlighten us with her demonstration entitled 'The World Awaits the Sound of Spring'. Visitors £5. "

Upper Thames & Ridgeway National Trust Association Talk, Thursday 16th January

On Thursday 16th January our talk will be 'Clarkson Rose: 50 years of Seaside Entertainment'. The Speaker is Brian Freeland who will capture the high-tide of seaside entertainment in his evocation of Clarkson Rose and his partner Olive who delighted audiences with their show, 'Twinkle', for almost 50 years, three of these in Torquay during WWII when the pier at Eastbourne had to be closed.

Lechlade Memorial Hall, Oak St, GL7 3AY at 2.30pm. £3 members, £4 visitors including Tea/Coffee and Biscuits. Details: jandbozzy@gmail.com

Highworth Gardening Club, Monday 20th January

On Monday 20th January our talk is entitled 'The Evolution of the Walled Kitchen Garden'. Our speaker Will Scott purchased his own C19th walled garden in 1995 and has painstakingly brought it back to life.

Join us at 7.30pm in St Michael's Hall. For more info call Norman T: 01793 762805.

Highworth Historical Society, Monday 27th January

On Monday 27th January we welcome back Judy and Chris Rouse. Their talk this time is entitled, 'Ticket to Ride'. The Perils and Pleasures of Early Victorian Train Travel.' Ordinary people could now travel for work and pleasure, but it also brought many dangers.

As usual we meet at the United Reformed Church in the High Street. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start. Free coffee or tea available. Visitors £3 at the door. For more information on this talk, or the Society in general, T: 01793 764811.

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Dear Editor,

Highworth needs more trees! Our town has some magnificent mature trees, but looking to the future, where are their replacements?

I've been a professional gardener for over 30 years and am willing to head up a tree-planting initiative in Highworth. I'm due to meet with a Highworth Town Councillor and an Officer from the Great Western Community Forest to do a 'walkabout' looking at various sites and to discuss their suitability. Did you know that free trees are available from the Woodland Trust, for community groups, if planted on publicly accessible land?

So I urge everyone to get planting this winter, either in your own gardens or take a look around your neighbourhood and imagine how it could be enhanced by more trees. Then do get in touch with 'Trees Please!' I'm offering free help with planting/advice to anyone who needs it. So together let's make Highworth an even better place to live!

Cathy Turbinskyj,
E: treesplease2019@outlook.com

Dear Editor,

Every month when I read the Link I am surprised and amazed at the extent of support given by our local Lion's Club to 'worthy causes'. I always do a quick tally and in September it was a staggering £4,542. Often when things happen again and again they become everyday and get taken for granted, so we need to remind ourselves that this figure alone represents a lot of hard work and commitment – never mind all the other months.

Highworth and District Lions have been incredible supporters for all our work in Nepal over the last ten years from the 'Girl's Only Toilets' in Shree Golma Devi Secondary School, to Freedom Kit Bags for many poor village women, to the latest - 'Winter Warmth Appeal' for the children in our children's home, and much more besides.

We are immensely grateful that we are based and living in Highworth with such kind and giving people.

Dr Rosa Matheson, founder of
Friends of Angel's Orphanage

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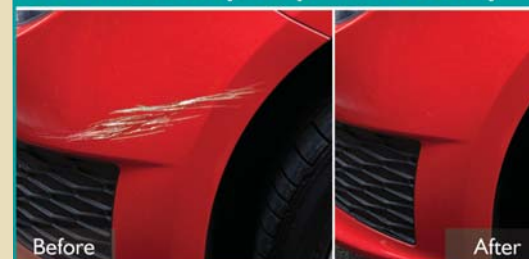
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Rowing the Thames for the NSPCC

Many thanks for all the donations to our fundraising efforts from the Row of the Thames which we completed over the August Bank Holiday weekend. In total we raised over £10,000 for the NSPCC and were very grateful for a cheque of £400 from the Lions. Here is an account of our three-day challenge from Lechlade to Teddington.

As planned we set off at 7.30am on Saturday from Lechlade Marina to row the 124 miles to Teddington. We were

aiming to arrive around 5pm on the Monday but by 10.30am we were already more than an hour behind schedule simply due to the complete lack of maintenance by the Environment Agency. The river Thames at this point is barely wide enough for a narrow boat and certainly not conducive to our boat, a four row 1 cox with riggers and 9ft long oars. We were repeatedly stuck in the reeds and fortunate the river was far quieter here than anywhere else. We were due to overnight at Abingdon Rowing Club, the boat that is not us, at 6pm but eventually arrived at 9pm in the gathering dusk. Our pre-ordered meal at the Beefeater getting colder and colder. Day 1, as you can tell, was going slower (and hotter and hotter) than expected so we started at 7.30am on Day 2.

Day 2 dawned a beautiful day and we were ever hopeful of sticking to the schedule as the river got wider. Sadly it was not to be, as the river got busier and even hotter. Our plan allowed for 10 mins for each lock, achievable when the river is quiet but not on a warm sunny BH Sunday in August when the whole world seems to own a boat of some description. We got hotter and hotter and further and further behind as a result



Our boat leaving Lechlade Marina at 7.30am on Saturday 24th August

and by 9pm we were sitting in the middle of the river outside Hurley Lock in the pitch black. Fortunately, our back up team with the aid of torches found us. Peter and Michael back-tracked to the village to seek assistance and came across a wonderful chap called Paddy Burrowes, who was enjoying a dinner party with friends in his wonderful garden not far from us. They all instantly left the table and assisted us by providing a safe haven for the boat overnight. However, this was just over two miles short of Marlow Rowing Club where we should have been and our booking for 8.30pm at Zizzi's was now out the window and they closed on us. We did find the Marlow Bar and Grill most welcoming in serving us excellent meals and just a few pints.

Day 3 saw us swapping our teams around lock by lock, to overcome the extreme heat exhaustion and relieve the pain in parts of one's anatomy that you sit on. The heat was tremendous. It was at least 35°C on the water and there were huge queues of up to 20 boats at the locks. Our back up team were amazing. They travelled each day to most locks with refreshments and food, ringing other members of their families to

replenish their stocks.

By 2.30pm we were on the point of giving in. The sheer heat and river traffic was making our challenge impossible. We started to look for a lock with road access so the Land Rover and trailer could get to the water but at that point the bananas and Mars bars kicked in and the boys, seeing only a few more miles to go, picked themselves up and with me in the cox's seat completed the final five miles from Molesey Lock in just 40 mins with the final half mile at 12mph. We arrived at 8.20pm after a 13-hour day with our entire crew completely exhausted but with an Adrenalin rush so strong that on landing the four boys dived into the river. Thankfully they forgot to throw the cox in. Boys being boys they decided then to give everyone a wet hug. What an emotional time we have had.

All in all it has been a fantastic achievement with so many obstacles on the way to overcome. Every member of the crew has said how much they have gained from the extraordinary experience and are in awe of each other.

This challenge was completed to raise funds for a Child Protection Centre in Swindon which provides services to local children and their families helping them to recover from the impact of abuse. It helped over 800 children and adults last year and has a long waiting list. It is self-funded via fundraising. If you would like to know more then please type this link into your browser: <https://youtu.be/xFGZrJCQepU>. Or you can still donate at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sbccthamerow2019.

Alan Fletcher, Swindon Business Cares for Children

St Michael's Flower Guild

The Flower Ladies of St Michael's are already planning their Christmas arrangements.

Most of the year we are self-funding including Harvest and Easter. At Christmas the flowers are much more expensive, especially red ones so if you would like to celebrate the joy of Christmas with flowers for special family, friends or remembering loved ones, we would welcome donations. We also have a board in the church on which you can pin cards, greetings and personal messages.

If you ever have any time to spare and love flowers we always need arrangers to help throughout the year. We would warmly welcome you.

Please contact Julia Bishop on 01793 762807 or E: alanandjuliab@outlook.com. I would also be happy to call on you.

Test your sporting knowledge and raise money for Parkinsons

How good are you at predicting sporting winners? This is your opportunity to predict the winners of around 20 events in 2020 and also raise money for Parkinsons. 2019 saw us run this competition for the first time and we are now very keen to have more people taking part. If you would like more information or an entry form please email spforparkinsons1819@btinternet.com

The closing date for entries is midnight on **Thursday 2nd January 2020.**

Swindon Guide Dogs

Swindon Guide Dogs would like to say a big "Thank You" to everyone who supported our charity during 2019. We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alan Fletcher

British Heart Foundation

On behalf of the British Heart Foundation I would like to thank everyone who attended our Richard Digance evening at Highworth Community Centre on Saturday 28th September. Richard gave a tremendous performance and had us laughing in the aisles with both new material and some of his old favourites. We raised £801.10 for which we are extremely grateful.

Joan Webb

Prospect Hospice

Let me take this chance to send my good wishes to all for a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Many thanks to everyone in the community who has supported my chosen charity Prospect Hospice. We have raised a lot of money to support their work again this year.

Mayor of Highworth Cllr Julia Bishop

Sport Compiled by Jason Daniels

If you have a sport story email jcdsport12@gmail.com



If only for a day: The 1914 Christmas Truce

Relatively early on in the First World War (month 5 of what would turn out to be 51) hostilities had entered a bit of a lull as leaders on both sides reconsidered their respective strategies.

On Christmas Eve 1914 German soldiers decorated their trenches with Christmas Trees, lit candles and were heard singing 'Stille Nacht' (Silent Night); the British responded with carols of their own. Reports suggest there were German shouts of "You no shoot we no shoot" and tentatively heads on both sides came above the parapet. Bravely soldiers and officers ventured into 'No-Man's Land' to shake hands, mingle and exchange food and souvenirs.

One British Captain wrote that he smoked a cigar with the best shot in the German army whilst his machine gunner, a barber back in Britain trimmed the hair of a German soldier kneeling on the frozen ground. A 19 year-old Private in the 6th Battalion Cheshire Regiment spoke about a ball appearing from somewhere, he couldn't rightfully say from where but it wasn't from 'our' side. Coats were used as goal posts, one fellow went in goal and a general kick-about followed. The boots they wore were a menace and the leather ball sodden but for a moment in time



Photo credit: These Football Times Magazine

humanity had prevailed. Soldiers had fought under the belief their respective enemies were monsters and of course found out they weren't.

News of this very unofficial cease-fire was not well received by senior officers and orders came through that it should be stopped. A Lieutenant from the Saxon 133rd Regiment wrote that "A little later we drifted back to our trenches and the fraternization ended. The game finished with a score of three goals to Fritz and only two for Tommy". Whilst some cease-fires happened in following years, it was not to the same extent and never had the resonance of 1914. What though remains from one of the most violent events in our history is the enduring image of humanity encapsulated in a friendly football match.

Maybe that's why they call it the beautiful game.

Jason Daniels

Wrag Barn Golf Club

I was delighted for Wrag Barn's Junior Team of Kyle Campbell, Ollie Jeans, Seb James, James White, Oliver Webb and Luka Drinkwater as they progressed to the National Final of the Junior Team Golf competition with a convincing nine shot win in the rain-affected National Semi-Final (Midlands) held at Studley Wood.

A week later at the final, held at Mannings Heath in West Sussex, the competition was hot, with many single-figure golfers on display. Impressively, Wrag Barn's Junior Team handed in a scorecard of 390 shots to finish a credible 4th position, unfortunately behind Thirsk (384 shots), Winndlesham Golf Club (378 shots) and eventual winners Bramshaw Golf Club (368 shots).

Well-played to the team and to Kyle and his squad in this very successful year that saw them get to the National Final and win three Wiltshire Junior trophies to proudly call themselves County Champions, County Knock-Out Champions and Stableford Cup Victors.



The Squad's Dream Team

This brings to an end my journey with the Wrag Barn Junior and Cadet Section. It has been an amazing 12 years full of tremendous memories, great friendships and many laughs. The section and team has had many successes over the years, the greatest being the personal and golfing development of its members but not forgetting beating the Men's Section for ten years on the bounce. I wish the section all the very best for the future.

Richard Ward

Highworth Town Football Club



An Autumn Hosting of Neighbouring Supermarine FC
Photo: @Two Men In Search of The Beautiful Game

On the march towards our festive fixtures the HTFC's first team ended a six-game winless run at Cinderford Town with a great 2-1 league win having played them three times in eight days courtesy of two FA Trophy matches.

November gave the Worthians plenty of opportunities to add to their points tally thanks to seven scheduled fixtures with December offering two away and two home fixtures.

The last game of the year will be held on Boxing Day at the Save-On-Tyres Stadium when the town host Larkhall Athletic at 1.30pm rather than the previously published 3pm. please do come along to enjoy our facilities and give the team a cheer. With the reserves getting maximum points from their first five games in the UHLSport Hellenic 2 West league there's plenty of action to shout about and the club welcomes your support both at home and away.

For more information please take a look at our website www.highworthtownfc.com

Derek Lloyd

Highworth Town Walking Football Club

We are now a step closure to the Thames Valley League Championship title in the wake of the latest round of games at Bisham Abbey. Four wins and a draw saw us pull out a seven point lead over Watford Hornets, helped immensely by a superb 1-0 win over the Hornets in our final game of the day; Steve York's screamer sealing all



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three points. This helped us extend our unbeaten run at Bisham to 35 games during which we have scored 41 and conceded just one single goal. Nine points from our final five of games will see us crowned Champions, easier said than done I fear!

December sees the second Christmas Cup to be held at the Supermarine Swindome and, following the success of last years' 12-team tournament, we had a high demand for places so have now expanded the day to 18 teams this year. Some of the South of England's best walking football teams will converge as HTWFC attempt to retain the title won last year. Kick-off

is at 10.30am with the final around 3pm.

If you have ever wondered what top-drawer walking football is like, this is your chance to come and see. Tea, coffee and the cakes courtesy of the legendary HTWFC Wags will be available with all profits going to Prostate Cancer.

For more information email me at highworthwfc@gmail.com, call on 07748 366979 or pop into the Halo Highworth Rec at 11.15am on a Thursday morning for a friendly kick-about.

Kevin Turner

Highworth Running Club

Normally the club's fancy-dressed themed, obstacle-strewn five-mile fun run shares its time of the year with Fireworks Displays and fund raising Movember crusades but not this year. For its eleventh birthday the increasingly popular event finds itself keeping company with Christingle Services and taking the kids to see Santa which means there's still time for you to take part!

Starting at 11am from Warneford School on **Sunday 8th December** runners, joggers and plodders will don their costumes and embrace the rural ravages only Eastrop Farm and Wickstead Equestrian Centre can offer. If you fancy a morning away from Christmas preparations to get some exercise and fresh(ish) air then we'd love to see you and your costume, particularly as there's a prize for the best outfit.

More details of the Wickstead Wander can be found on our website www.highworthrunningclub.co.uk.

Jason Daniels



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Swindon Croquet Club

Blustery conditions didn't deter Morris Minor Owners Club members when they were guests recently at the Swindon Croquet Club. Coaches Di Trott, Neil Morrison, Garry Douel, Wendy White and John Airey were on hand to show 26 Morris Minor Club members the rudiments of the game and to join them in some competitive golf croquet matches.

Despite the adverse conditions, everyone had lots

of fun and then retreated into the cosy clubhouse for home-made cakes, which were kindly provided by our guests and hot drinks, which were provided by the Croquet Club.

Anyone interested in croquet and can find out more by looking us up at www.swindoncroquetclub.org.uk or T: John Airey on 01793 873026. We play at Moredon's Playing Fields in Cheney Manor and are Highworth's closest croquet club.

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HEALTH

Christmas is Coming (and only the goose should be getting fat!)

The temptations of Christmas are everywhere. The supermarket shelves are packed with tantalising temptations that you can't live without: chocolates, snacks and nibbles and bottles of spirits at reduced prices. Then there are the meals out, gatherings with family and friends and changes to exercise routines. Your willpower is going to be tested to its limit, you are going to have cravings and you are going to eat at irregular times of the day so here is reminder of a few strategies that will help.

PLAN YOUR MEALS:

The best way to ensure you don't eat fats and sugars to excess is simply to avoid buying them in the first place. Think what you are going to eat and when? Plan proper meals and write them down. Generate a shopping list. Allow for some snacking but consider healthier snacks. If you have them in the cupboard or fridge, you will be more inclined to reach for them.

DON'T GO SHOPPING WHEN YOU ARE HUNGRY:

You are more likely to make rational decisions if you are not hungry when you shop. One of the things that triggers a craving is a drop in blood sugars so if you haven't eaten then your sugars may be awry. Add to this the imagery and tantalising words and smells that brands use which will stimulate the brain to release dopamine (a feel good chemical). Without doubt you will 'have to have it' and you will put something in your basket that you could have avoided.

CONSIDER YOUR CHOICES: Before you put anything that is not on your list into your trolley, ask yourself: "do I actually need it?" Reconsider your choice, it might be enough to make you change your mind!

CHECK INGREDIENTS FOR ANY HIDDEN FATS

AND SUGARS: Make an informed choice. Christmas is a food producer's dream, so take a second to think about the ingredients in the products you are buying and if you are in any doubt look at the labelling. Remember, the ingredients are listed in order of predominance, with the ingredient used in the greatest amount first.

EAT MINDFULLY: Listen to your physical hunger cues and eat slowly, engage your senses by noticing colours, smells, sounds, textures, and flavours and eat only until you are full. Distinguish between true hunger and non-hunger triggers for eating.

DRINK MORE WATER: Understand the number of units and the number of calories that your preferred tipple contains; the numbers might shock you. Try alternating a glass of water with an alcoholic beverage and don't feel

pressurised into having another drink. A couple of consecutive days alcohol-free will give your liver a chance to recover.

REIN IN THE STRESS: Planning ahead and slowing down will help to control stress levels. Stress can lead us to grab for the refined sugars and processed foods because stress stimulates the production of dopamine (see above).

If you would like to sign up for a detailed analysis of your diet and behaviours please email me or give me a call.

Theresa, Tel: 07840 739545,
 E: theresa.moynihan@outlook.com,
 W: www.theresamoynihan.com

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- **Callers need to be near a branch:**
It doesn't matter where you are in the UK, calls to 116 123 will be picked up by a trained volunteer from one of our 201 branches at any time of the day or night every single day of the year.
- **Samaritans talk as much as callers:**
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- **Contact has to be by phone:**
Samaritans also provides emotional support by email and text. Text 07725 909090 or emails should be sent to jo@samaritans.org.

- **Samaritans are anonymous:**
We are available to provide face-to-face support from our branch at 6 Curtis Street in Swindon. Opening hours are on our website (www.samaritans.org/branches/swindon)
- **We offer advice:**
However we are contacted, we provide emotional support to anyone and never advice, regardless of the circumstances. We offer emotional support without any pressure. We do not judge people and whatever we are told is confidential.
- **Samaritans are not needed in today's world:**
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If anyone needs someone to talk to, we listen. We won't judge or make decisions; our opinions or advice are not important for the call. We focus on thoughts and feelings and may ask questions to explore those feelings further.



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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/westroprnursery/>

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The Twelve Days of Christmas, Friday 20th December

The Silhouette Theatre Company returns again this year with a new Christmas production.

Inspired by the 1970's television Christmas Specials of Morecambe and Wise, The Two Ronnies and The Generation Game, our stars Mal and Al take us back through history to celebrate the Christmas stories that have shaped our world and given us the Christmas time we love to this day. How did The Three Wise Men get so lost? Why is Oliver Cromwell so grumpy? Who is late for their Christmas dinner and why have the guns stopped on the Battlefield?

The Twelve Days of Christmas is a fun-filled, nostalgic show for all the family looking back to days gone by but at the same time giving hope for the years to come. It has songs, sketches, puppets and audience participation.

Silhouette Theatre Co. tickets are on sale in The Lighthouse, adults £4, children £1.50. The performance will be held on Friday 20th

December at 4pm in St Michael's Church. It is suitable for children aged 8 years and over.

Christmas Tree Sale, Saturday 7th, 14th & 21st December

Just to let you know Rotarian Terry Williams from Swindon North Rotary Club will be selling Christmas trees on the podium again this year.

He will be there from 9am-12.30pm on the following Saturdays in December; 7th, 14th and 21st. There will be a selection of Norway Spruce and Normand Fir trees to choose from. If you would like to choose your own tree from those growing at his field



as pictured or you would like to order a tree and collect it at the podium just contact him on 762669 or by email terry.williams1@btinternet.com to make suitable arrangements.

Proceeds of this year's sales will be shared between the international charity ShelterBox and local charities supported by Swindon North Rotary Club.

Visit Highworth

Visit Highworth Limited will be holding its first Shareholders General Meeting in the Council Community Room at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4th December. Please note: shareholders only to attend.



On Saturday 7th December a children's Christmas card-making workshop is taking place in the Information, Craft Centre and Museum on the High Street. These will be 45 minute sessions for ages 5 and upwards for a small fee of £3 towards materials; parents to remain. Please pop in and book your time slot.

Please remember that we can advertise your community events, A5 poster is preferred. If you would like to advertise your business on our website please ask for details.

Dementia Friendly Highworth, Wednesday 18th December

Help make Highworth Dementia Friendly by learning about how dementia affects a person, and about the small things we can all do to help the 170 people living with dementia in our town.

We are running an awareness session on Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm at the Community Room in Gilbert Lane, just off the High Street. For more information contact Kevin at kevin_dfc@btinternet.com.

Scout Christmas Post

Stamps for this year's Scout Christmas Post are currently on sale in The Lighthouse Bookshop, where the post box is also situated.

The stamps are still 30p each. The final date for

posting is Wednesday 11th December at 4pm and cards will be delivered the following weekend. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year and we look forward to your support. Also, delivery will not be threatened by industrial action.

Finally, could you please note that we do not deliver to LECHLADE and FARINGDON.

We would also like to say thanks to our brilliant leader team and committee for giving around 150 children some fantastic experiences in the past year, and thank you to anybody who has supported us in any way or just shown an interest in what we do.

Christian Aid Big Sing, Saturday 21st December

There will be Christmas Carols and Coffee in St Michael's Church on Saturday 21st December between 9am-1pm.

Please drop in for a good sing and a cup of coffee. This is on a donation basis and donations will be going towards Christian Aid. We look forward to seeing you at our Christian Aid Big Sing.

Highworth Community Cinema presents 'Edie', (Cert 12A) Friday 24th January

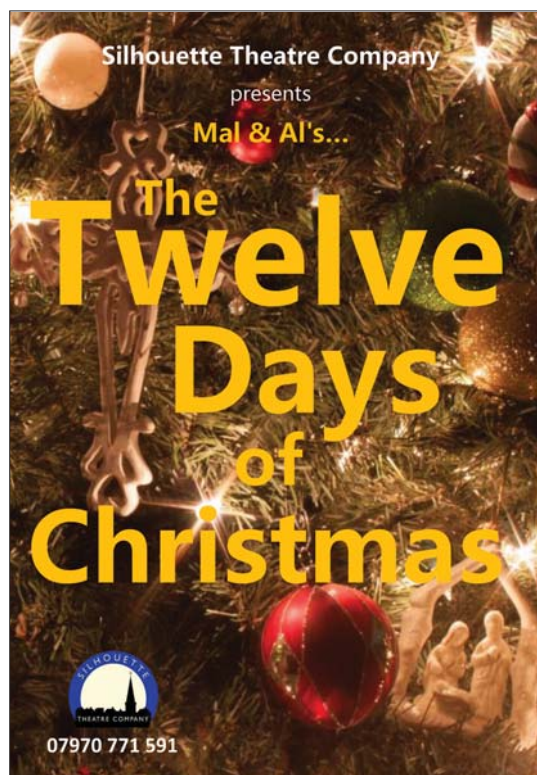


After her controlling husband dies, an elderly woman embarks on a trip to fulfil her long time dream of climbing a mountain in the Scottish Highlands. 83-year-old Edie

embarks on an adventure climbing the imposing Mount Suilven in Scotland.

Doors open 7.15pm for tea/coffee and a biscuit, film starts 7.45pm in St Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, Highworth. Admission £5 on the door.

Enquiries: 01793 763907 or E: info@highworthfilms.org.uk. Further details on our website: www.highworthfilms.org.uk



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Celebrate CHRISTMAS

in Highworth

Sunday 22 December, 5pm

Carols on the Podium
with Highworth Churches Together

Free event for all the family

❄ hot chocolate and mulled wine ❄ christmas choir ❄ seasonal drama ❄

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Highworth Churches Together

Sunday 22nd December:

5pm Carol Service on the Podium

St Michael and All Angels

Sunday 8th December:

4pm Christingle

Sunday 15th December:

5pm Civic Carol Service

Christmas Eve: 4pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion Service

Christmas Day: 8am Holy Communion

in the Church Room

10.15am Christmas Day Communion

at St Michael's Hall

Highworth Community Church

Sunday 8th December:

4pm Christmas Nativity and Mince Pies

at Warneford School

Christmas Day:

10.30am Christmas Day service

at Highworth Community Centre

Highworth Methodist Church

Sunday 1st December:

10.30am Café church and gift service in aid of CAP

Sunday 15th December:

3pm Christmas Messy Church

Sunday 22nd December:

10.30am Nativity service 6pm Carol service

(Note our carol service is after the 5pm Churches Together carol service on the podium)

Christmas Day:

10am Family Christmas celebration

St Mary's Catholic Church

Christmas Eve: 5pm Mass

7pm Mass 12am Midnight Mass

Christmas Day: 8.30am Christmas Day Mass

10.30am Christmas Day Mass

URC

Sunday 15th December: 6pm Carol Service

Christmas Day: 10am Morning Praise

Round and About

St John the Baptist, Hannington

Sunday 15th December: 4pm Carol Service

Christmas Day: 10am Communion Service

Sunday 5th January: 11am Plough Sunday

St John the Baptist, Inglesham

Saturday 21st December: 4pm Carol Service

St James' Church, Sevenhampton

Thursday 19th December: 7pm Carol Service

Christmas Day:

8.45am Christmas Day Holy Communion

St Leonard's Church, Stanton Fitzwarren

Sunday 1st December: 6pm Advent service

(with mulled wine and mince pies)

Sunday 8th December:

11am Family Christingle service.

The story of Mary and Elizabeth.

2pm help decorate the Christmas tree in church

Christmas Eve:

4pm Crib Service for children and families

7pm Carols by Candlelight with traditional carols and lessons.

Christmas Day:

10am Team service at St Margaret's Stratton



EVENTS



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FUTURE EVENTS:

Swindon Male Voice Choir Concert 2020

Please keep the date of **Saturday 14th March 2020** for a concert in St Michael's Church by The Swindon Male Voice Choir.

Scarecrow Trail 2020

Christmas is almost here but the end of October is when we start to think about the Scarecrow Trail for next year. As yet we have not finally decided on a theme so if you have any suggestions please let us know. We have discussed doing the first theme again which was book titles. As the Mayday theme is VE Day perhaps books of the last 75 years would work.

The trail will, as usual, be running over the Easter School Holiday, starting on **Saturday 4th April**, finishing on **Sunday 19th April**.

Our contact details remain the same
highworthscarecrows@talktalk.net, 01793 764614.
Miriam and Jane.

Scout Quiz 2020

Next year's quiz will be on **Friday 17th April** so get it in your calendar now.

**Open Afternoons at Highworth
Pre-School just drop in!!**
Wednesday from 1pm - 3pm on the
following dates:
Final session for 2019 - A little festive fun
on 11th December

15th and 29th January 2020

Drop in and play session.
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10.30am - 4.30pm 22nd December 2019

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www.homeinstead.co.uk/swindon

Arts Section *Compiled by Iain Barnwell*

Contact: HighworthLinkArts@gmail.com



Christmas with Highworth Silver Band

Our programme is as follows:

- **Saturday 7th December:**
7pm at Stanton Country Park Great Barn
- **Saturday 21st December:**
10.30am at Highworth Co-op
- **Tuesday 24th December:**
10.30am at Highworth Co-op

In the New Year, Highworth Silver Band will continue with rehearsals on Thursday evenings at 7.30-9.30pm and Training Band sessions Saturday mornings 10.30-11.30am in the Band Hall, Lechlade Road, led by Mark Cooper, Musical Director.

New and former players will be made welcome and we are a mixed ability, non-contesting brass band. If you would just like to have a chat first, the hall is open from 7pm on Thursdays, where you can come along and meet us.

Visit our Facebook page, www.highworthsilverband.org or call 07525 704914 for further information.

Mark Cooper, Musical Director



Jazz at the Highworth Hotel

For those who don't know, tucked away in the conservatory of the Highworth Hotel there seems to be something of a music revolution. Since July the hotel has hosted a monthly jazz night where local jazz musicians are booked to come and play.

Although still in its infancy, thanks to word of mouth and a growing promotional campaign, the evenings are proving to be very popular and normally end up being 'standing room only'.

Fuelled by the imbalance of having good quality jazz musicians on the doorstep but a shortage of quality places to play, the evenings have tapped into the old saying that musicians are never



'Shades of Silver' who perform on Monday 9th December

happier than when they are playing.

The evenings take place every second Monday of the month at 8pm and it's a very laid-back affair. December's act is Highworth-based quartet 'Shades of Silver' who will be bringing their mix of lesser known Blue Note tunes and

jazz classics to the appreciative and knowledgeable audience.

The club takes a break during January to allow people to recover from the seasonal excesses but will be back in February to start again.

Darren Arthurs, Double Bass

A massive 'Thank you' from HADS!

Thanks go again to all who helped in making HADS latest show 'Weddings can be Murder' the phenomenal success that it was. To cast, crew and family members who helped out, to the Community Centre for housing us, to The Lighthouse Bookshop for tickets sales and, of course, to everyone who bought tickets (and gave us raving reviews!). Both nights were a sell-out and everyone involved in the production had a fantastic time.

For those of you who missed out on tickets, you'll be pleased to hear that we have already begun planning our next show! We've decided to do another Murder Mystery and, bursting with energy and inspiration from our latest show, we're not wasting any time. Auditions will be held at Highworth Community Centre, 8-9pm on **Monday 25th November** and **Monday 2nd December**. If you've missed the audition dates,

do contact us anyway, as we will find a way to include you. Whether you'd like a large rôle, a non-speaking one, or if you prefer to hide in the side-lines, we've got something for everyone. For those who'd like more confidence before treading the boards, we're hoping to provide members with an opportunity to attend an acting skills workshop in the New Year.

Rehearsals for this show will take place on Monday evenings at The Community Centre (7.30-9.30pm) and will begin in January. We hope to see you at auditions but in the meantime, to join us at HADS, or for further information, you can email us at: hads@highworth.co.uk, find us on Facebook at: [Highworth Amateur Dramatics Society - Hads](https://www.facebook.com/HighworthAmateurDramaticsSociety), or tweet us on Twitter at: [@HadsHighworth](https://twitter.com/HadsHighworth)

Elanor Keeble, HADS Secretary

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Highworth Artists' Society is Celebrating 50 years!



Donegal landscape by Anne Lynch



Highworth by Alfreda Mackenzie

Three Highworth Artists organised an open exhibition in February 1969 in the Wild Oats Café (now Rafus Restaurant). The response was so good that it was decided to form a society and the inaugural meeting was held in March of that year. The Society's aims were (and still are) to foster interest in the visual arts and to encourage amateur and professional artists in the area to meet and enjoy congenial company, to work together in workshops and to have the opportunity to exhibit work.

The venue of exhibitions changed in the interim but some of our members tell us that they took part in exhibitions at the Saracens Head before the Society moved to a permanent home in the Community Room at the Council Offices. The recent exhibition, opened by our MP, Justin Tomlinson again attracted over 500 visitors. The most popular picture on display was adjudged to be Anne Lynch's acrylic painting of Donegal. On the Preview Evening the Bill Bartrop Trophy was shared by Hilary Sinclair and Bernadette Neale. We now have a membership around 60 members

including associate members. The Highworth picture shown here is by Alfreda Mackenzie, one of our founder members and now an Honorary Member. Fittingly this picture hangs in the Highworth Town Council Chamber. A pen and ink drawing by Alfreda also can also be found on the panelled walls in the Saracens Head!

Workshops for members are held on Tuesdays from 10am to 4pm and we have two exhibitions a year. Professional artists are regularly invited to give demonstrations and trips are organised during the year to events and exhibitions of artistic interest. Visitors are welcomed on our trips. We are having a social Christmas lunch in early December followed by a demonstration by the well-known artist Paul Weaver.

If you would like to know more about our group, please see our website or contact our Secretary Pam Hague on 01793 703376. Visit www.highworthartistsociety.com or www.saa.co.uk

Ian Miller, HAS Publicity

Christmas with Highworth Choral Society

Highworth Choral Society's Christmas concert will be held in the afternoon again as it proved really successful last year.

It will be held in the beautiful St. Michael's Church at 2.30pm on **Saturday 14th December** and will feature Vivaldi's joyous Magnificat as well as carols for both choir and audience. Mince pies and soft drinks will be provided at the end of the concert. Tickets priced £10 (under 12s free) will be available from the Lighthouse Bookshop in the High Street or E: hcssecretary2019@gmail.com

Christine Dunster, HCS Secretary

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Book Review: Nanook the Bipolarbear by James Osborn

Nanook the Bipolarbear is a book about a polar bear with Bipolar Affective Disorder. Each page in a snapshot into real life experiences of living with Bipolar based on my life and the lives of others I know who are also dealing with mental unwellness. The main message of the book is to bring comfort to those who are going through struggles with their mental health and to make those who aren't going through it more aware of the struggles that are going on around them.

Where did the inspiration for the book come from?

The main inspiration is from my personal experience of being diagnosed with Bipolar. I struggled to find ways to understand it. I drew the first one about 5 years ago in my last year of university but I had to take a break because I was taking on the emotions of the bear which made my own difficulties worse. I redirected the bear because a friend of mine from Shrivensham Methodist Church called Phil gave me a card with a joke about a Bipolarbear on it and I took it as a sign that it was time to bring Nanook out of hibernation. I also realised that most books about mental health were either textbooks, long biographies or full of sugar-coated sentiments that, at the end of the day, don't help. Nanook The Bipolarbear is none of those things.

How long did it take to write?

I actually only took a couple of months to create the book. I had already drawn the bulk of the illustrations for my Instagram account before I spoke to my publisher in the pub one evening. I go to a lot of poetry events and so I know a lot of the poetry community in Swindon and the South West. I was at an event and spoke to my friend who is a publisher about how they run their publishing company and the suggestion

that I should make a book about Nanook came up. After that it took me a couple of months to collate everything together. During that time I was also exhibiting my work in Baristocats on Commercial Road in Swindon as part of their Frames of Mind series which showcases local art, poetry and music.

How did you get it published?

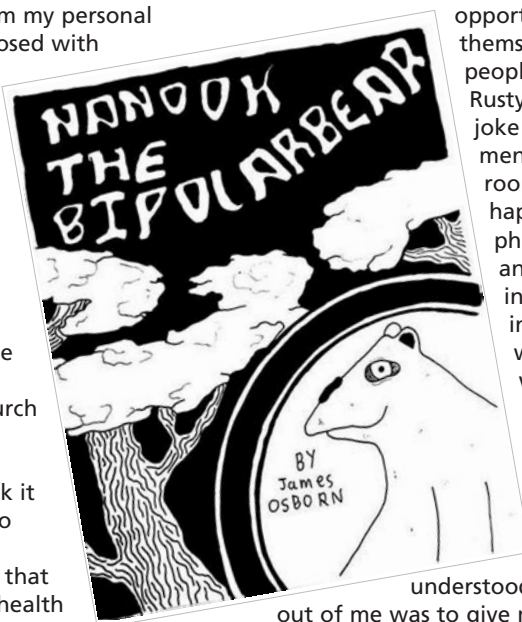
I walked into the pub and had a conversation. There are many myths in the creative world that you can't do one thing without doing 50 others but I've found that the only way for great opportunities to present themselves to you is to talk to people. Me and my friend The Rusty Goat have a running joke where we say "just two mentally ill guys walking into rooms making things happen" and that is our philosophy. We just turn up and have conversations with interesting people and so interesting ideas come and we end up doing things we never dreamed would be possible.

Did you illustrate it yourself?

The book is all my work. My publishers understood the way to get the best out of me was to give me the framework and let me flow with it. The publisher had some great ideas about how the book should be laid out and I just created in the space they provided.

How does it feel to be a published author?

It's mind-blowing really. I was bullied mainly by teachers at school because I'm dyslexic and my brain doesn't seem to work academically; whatever that means. When Black Eyes Publishing sent me the proof it was really emotional. It's a massive privilege to have a book published because not everyone gets to do this. It's even more of an honour that people are buying it!



What's on in Highworth Library in December

Rhymetime for under 3s: every Tuesday 10.30am

Storytime for under 5s: every Thursday 10.30am

Job Club: every Tuesday 10-11am

Highworth Credit Union: every Tuesday 10am-12noon and Saturday 10-11am

Monthly Genealogy Group: Tuesday 10th December, 10am-12noon

Reading Groups: monthly adult reading groups meet on Tuesday morning and afternoon, and Friday evenings. Please ask at the Library desk for details.

CAP: free debt counselling. Drop-in sessions. Every other Tuesday. Please ask at Library desk for details.

Lego Club: Fridays 4.30-5.30pm. For children aged 6 years and older. Ask at the Library desk for dates and to book a space.

Community Policing Surgery: PCSO Gemma Lishman arranges regular surgeries in the Library for residents to discuss any concerns or issues with her. Please ask at Library desk for dates.

Staffed hours at the Library

Highworth Library will be staffed at the following times:

Monday	10am-4pm
Tuesday	10am-6pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	9am-4pm
Friday	12noon-6pm
Saturday	10am-1pm
Sunday	CLOSED

Extended Access to the Library during unstaffed hours 8am-8pm is available.

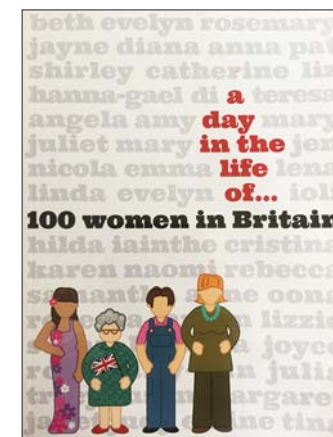
Please ask a member of staff for more details.
Highworth Library 01793 463500

AMENDMENT

Since the September issue went to print it has come to the Link's attention that the book 'A Day in the Life of 100 Women in Britain' is still available to buy **NEW** for £9.99.

By purchasing these new copies, you will be supporting new projects such as a 'Knitting Empowerment and Income Project' for girls in a Refuge Centre. These girls, who are as young as 12 years, have been raped, made pregnant and then put out of their homes and villages. Their babies have also been taken away. It is a sad story but they are cared for at the Refuge Centre and this new project will help to help brighten their lives and give them some skills for the future.

So if you are looking for a unique Christmas present or just a lovely read, then please do contact me Rosa Matheson, T: 01793 764979, E: fo-ao@hotmail.com.



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CHURCHES

From the Registers

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Stanley Saunders

We remember those who love and miss

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Praying for the roads in the town:

01-Dec-19 Vicarage Lane and Vorda Road

08-Dec-19 Wessex Way and Westhill Close

15-Dec-19 Westrop and The Willows

22-Dec-19 Windrush and Wrde Hill

05-Jan-20 The Archers and Arran Way

12-Jan-20 Barra Close and Beech Grove

19-Jan-20 Biddell Springs and Blandford Alley

26-Jan-20 Blandford Mews and Botany

Highworth Churches Together

Members of the Churches in Highworth meet together regularly to pray for the people of Highworth and for the things that are going on in the town. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 3rd December** at URC. Everyone is welcome to join the group who meet for an hour at 8pm.

Regular Events at St Michael's Church:

Tuesday morning Chat: in St Michael's Church Room on the first Tuesday in the month. this is an

opportunity to relax over coffee, tea, play Scrabble, bring knitting/sewing or just chat! Please come and bring anyone who you know would enjoy this time. Minibus transport is available. The next date is on **Tuesday 3rd December** from 10.45am-12.45pm.

Saturdays at St Michael's: Family Drop-in at St Michael's is usually on the first Saturday of each month. Drop in any time from 10am until 12pm. There will be tea, coffee, bacon sandwiches, newspapers, craft, children's toys. Come and meet up with others while the children are occupied. Our next date is **Saturday 7th December**.

Midweek Church: Midweek Church at St Michael's continues on the third Wednesday of each month. It is a spoken Communion service in the Church followed by a simple lunch. If you don't have time to stay for lunch you are still welcome to join us for the service. The next one will be on **Wednesday 18th December** at 11am.

Friday Morning Blessing at St Michael's: Friday Blessings are held in the Church at 9.15am.

Regular events at Highworth Methodist Church:

Jam Club: Babies and toddler group every Friday (term time) from 9.30-11.15am

Café Rendevous: charity coffee mornings and table tennis every Saturday from 10.30-12noon

Sunday Club: For 3-13 year olds every Sunday from 10.30-11.30am

Bridge Club: Every Tuesday from 2-4pm

Board Games Night: 2nd Friday of each month from 7-8pm

Messy Family Fun: The next Messy Family Fun will take place on **Sunday 15th December**. Join us for games and messy crafts. All welcome.



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CHURCHES



With thanks to all those who have sponsored the floodlighting of St Michael's Church



- Nov 26 Joy Ackling. 5 years since we saw your beautiful smile and heard your voice. Miss and love you so much. Ian, Sue and family, Gary, Bev and family, Kim, Jeff, Conor, Kerry and Andrew xxxx
- Nov 29 Remembering Keith Lester a loving Husband and Dad on his 82nd birthday. Always in our hearts. Miss you. Love Jackie and Natasha xx
- Dec 15 Ten years have passed and still the tears have not stopped. Remembering our dear son Michael Page. Love Mum and Dad
- Dec 17 Happy birthday Tom. Still missed so much. Love always from Phyll and families xxxx
- Dec 17/25 Tom, Happy Christmas and wedding anniversary. Still loved and missed so much. Phyll xxxx
- Dec 19 God Bless Jonathan. With all my love, Mum
- Dec 24/25 Remembering with love Phil, Gordon and Steve. From Jackie Hind and family
- Dec 25 Lorraine Strange – Merry Christmas. Love and miss you loads. Always in our thoughts. Gordon, Adrian, Helen, Vicky, Steve and All
- Dec 25 Joyce and Geoff Wright – Thinking of you this special time of year and always. Sadly missed. Love Pete, Denny, Geoff and Brenda
- Dec 31 Gordon, loved and missed, forever in our hearts. Sue, Liz, Hannah and Alex
- Jan 19 Pam Winning. Two years since you passed away. Missed every day. Love, Bruce

To sponsor the floodlighting, please collect a form from the Church or from the Lighthouse Bookshop, or fill in the electronic form at www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk If your dedication misses the copy deadline it will always appear in a later edition.

Please send all church lighting requests to St Michael's church office, Vicarage Lane.

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HIGHWORTH CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER MEETINGS



The Church in Highworth, United in Prayer through 2020

All meetings are 8pm-9pm. Meetings held monthly on the first Tuesday of the month, led by the host church, as below:

January 2020	No meeting
February 4th 2020	HCC @The Bridge Upper Room
March 3rd 2020	Methodist Church
April 7th 2020	United Reformed Church
May 5th 2020	St Michael's Church Room
June 2nd 2020	HCC @The Bridge Upper Room
July 7th 2020	Methodist Church
August 4th 2020	United Reformed Church
September 1st 2020	St Michael's Church Room
October 6th 2020	HCC @The Bridge Upper Room
November 3rd 2020	Methodist Church
December 1st 2020	United Reformed Church
January 2021	No meeting

Contact: Diana Merriman 01793 763209

Venues: Methodist Church, HCC @The Bridge Upper Room,
United Reformed Church, St Michael's Church Room

Hosts: URC – Robert & Bryan
St Michael's – Geoff & Wendy Ratcliffe
HCC – Adrian & Brenda Hill
HMC – Diana & HMC Team

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JEWELLERS



Goldfinger reopens



At the end of October, The Goldfinger reopened with Sheldon inns taking over the tenancy from Greene King.

The new manager, Sharon Johnson, was born and bred in Highworth to a family with a long history of running pubs

and pulled her first pint in the Goldfinger when it was still shiny and new. She has been the proprietor of the Check Inn in Wroughton for the past three years, but when the Goldfinger suddenly fell vacant

she jumped at the opportunity to return to Highworth.

Sharon is being joined on this new venture by her two sons, making the new Goldfinger a true family affair. "I used to come to this pub when it first opened," Sharon said. "It was owned by my parent's friends. I remember it being a really great place for families and I want to make sure that this tradition continues whilst I am in charge.

"I don't plan on making many changes. We have a new menu which will stay fairly small, but I am trying to source local ingredients. Our eggs come from Crushties, our fruit and veg from Highworth Market and our meat from Andrews Butchers. We have introduced new pool and darts teams and we are hoping to offer a bit of live music now and then. We are also really looking forward to taking part in the May Day Pub race and becoming part of the Highworth community again".

Treadmill or Tread water – You choose how you move at Halo Highworth Recreation Centre

At Halo we are way more than just a gym. You can work out or wind down in the gym, in the pool or by taking part in a group exercise class (you have over 25 classes a week to choose from at Highworth Recreation Centre).

"Don't worry if it has been some time since you last took part in exercise" said Martin Suter, Manager at Halo Highworth. "We understand that life and everyday commitments get in the way when it comes to fitness, or maybe an accident, illness or medical condition has been the barrier to you taking part. Our staff are here to help you get more physically active one step at a time. No judgement, no rush; everything taken at your pace."

It's people before profit with Halo. We won't pocket profits, our local community will. Martin

went on to say "We are very proud that Halo is a social enterprise and charity. That means all our profit is reinvested locally to help more local people get active. Your money will help us to deliver activities across the county for people who can find exercise challenging, such as people with dementia or autism. THANK YOU."

Want a piece of the action? The NEW Active Highworth Halo membership is the best value for money if you want to use the facilities at Highworth Recreation Centre. At only £29.95 per month, there is no sign-up fee or contract.

Speak to reception or call the Halo Contact Team on 01432 842075 and start saving today.

A message from the Business Editor

I have taken the difficult decision to step down from my role as Editor of the Business Section of the Link Magazine as I am expecting a baby and want to focus on my family outside of work. I have loved working on the magazine over the past four years, getting to know local businesses

and working with the other brilliant members of the team. Thanks for all of your support. If any of you would like to take on this rôle, then please contact Sarah Gardiner, editor@highworthlink.co.uk

Alice Douglas

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FINANCES

Churches offer to give your finances a new year makeover

Highworth Churches Together are once again running the popular CAP Money Course which teaches a simple cash-based system for people to build a household budget in a matter of weeks.

Kathryn Ford said: "Many of us will have used credit cards or dipped into the overdraft once again to pay for our 2019 Christmas festivities. Our message is: please don't struggle on. Make a resolution to do it differently next year. Now really is the best time to put things in order and we can help to get your head in gear and take the practical steps to sort things out for good. When you know what you have in your account and you know where it's going and can plan for any big expenses like car repairs, you'll have a much more peaceful 2020."

A small team from Highworth Churches Together gained training from UK charity Christians Against Poverty to put on the course which nationally sees more than 10,000 people gain money management skills each year.

One person who went on the course said: "I heard about the CAP Money Course from a friend. I wanted to pay off my credit card and stay out of my overdraft. It changed my life! I never thought it could be so easy, but the CAP Money system is so simple."

"Around three quarters of the people who turn to Christians Against Poverty for debt help across the UK say they had problem debt," Kathryn added. "This is partly because they didn't have

CAP Money Course

A free, short course that makes managing your money simple.



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any tuition in budgeting and money management. We would rather people in our area have the skills to avoid serious debt problems and the best thing about the CAP Money system is that it's flexible, so as your income or outgoings change it can help you stay on top."

The sessions will run at various times through the year at The Bridge Centre in Highworth. For information or to book a place call Kathryn on 07885 579876 or email using kathrynford@capuk.org. For more about the course see www.capuk.org

Christians Against Poverty is determined to reduce hardship in the UK, through the local Church. It does this through 576 poverty fighting services, including 306 Debt Centres, 163 Job Clubs, 71 Release Groups and 36 Life Skills courses, helping people develop basic financial and practical skills. All the services are given freely regardless of age, gender, faith or background.



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From our MP

A General Election has been called for Thursday December 12th. This will be my 5th General Election campaign as a candidate and, as this will be my last article before the General Election, I thought I would set out what happens behind the scenes.

Firstly, I stop being the MP. During an election campaign, I am no longer the MP, so the constituency office has to close, we can't use Parliamentary stationery and envelopes and my Parliamentary email is turned off. I presume these rules exist to not give MPs an undue advantage during the election campaign. If I am re-elected, everything is instantly turned back on, if I lose, my team of staff and I step aside (with a few weeks to wrap up any outstanding casework) and the new MP and their team take over instantly.

On to the election campaign. All candidates will be pounding the streets (I'd expect to pass one million steps!), writing and delivering leaflets and knocking on doors. With 45,000 houses and 80,000+ electors per constituency it is no easy task! I often get told "no-one has knocked on my door" but please don't take it personally. All the candidates will do their best to get around as many doors as possible, but we are all limited by the numbers of volunteers and supporters who are able to give up time to help us. Does it make a difference? No-one really knows. Most people will probably vote along party lines, based on the national campaigns, but I do enjoy getting out to meet and talk to people.

There are always ups and downs during election campaigns, but the nerves don't really kick in until the polls have closed. Candidates then have the agonising wait as the ballot boxes are raced to the Oasis for the count to begin. Normally, candidates don't head to the count until there are some early signs of how it might be going, with our respective teams of helpers closely monitoring the votes being sorted and counted. Swindon's election team are fantastic, working into the early hours and in recent elections they have been one of the first to declare a result, something I know they are very proud of.

Whilst politics and politicians frustrate, disappoint and anger many, please do engage. Much is achieved in Parliament cross-party, things do change and we as elected representatives can make a difference. It is incredibly rewarding when you can help people with their own casework, often at a time of real urgency.

I have been incredibly proud to represent our local community. May I wish all the candidates the best of luck, it is now for us all to earn the chance to represent our fantastic town.

Justin Tomlinson, North Swindon Conservative MP

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Extracts from the minutes of a meeting of Highworth Town Council on 15th October 2019

47. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME a. P Webster - Councillors agreed that this Council is to lobby SBC to object to Planning Applications which have appeared on the Planning Portal and are contrary to the Highworth Neighbourhood Plan(HNP), which was adopted by SBC as part of its Local Plan. b. A Livall - brought to the attention of the Council her concerns that the Bio-diversity surveys undertaken by Developers are not being conducted at the correct time of the year with regard to seasonal bat activity. c. C Turbinskyj - offered to lead a Tree planting initiative 'Trees Please' and asked the Council how best to proceed. Councillors agreed to put tree planting on the next E&L Agenda. d. M Collett - asked Councillors about the progress of the new lease for the Lower Rec. This Council is awaiting the final draft from SBC, before a 'mirror' lease can be negotiated for the HTJFC.

53. REPORTS BY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS a. Cllr M Penny:- has received lots of feedback from residents concerned about the number of trees due to be felled on the proposed Redlands development site. •Shrivenham Road residents are concerned about the traffic and HGV's using Shrivenham Road and the speed at which they travel. She is to request another speedcheck.

• Stonefield Drive residents are complaining that the gutters are not being swept. It was discovered that all the aspirations for the cleaning machine at the beginning of taking on pavement sweeping in 2015 are not achievable. We do the very best we can with the resources at our disposal and have to prioritise. We have a statutory duty to clear certain areas on a daily basis and this is achieved, other areas are done on a reactive basis e.g. reports of broken glass.

55. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS: a. Cllr Gardiner suggested that HTC might wish to consider taking on the lease of the golf course land should it become available. Councillors were informed that following Cllr M Penny's suggestion, the land is listed as an Asset of Community Value, and that a letter has been written to SBC expressing an interest. b. Cllr Penny has been contacted by a Redlands resident requesting that the speed limit be reduced to 30mph once the proposed new roundabout is installed.

The complete minutes from the Highworth Town Council meetings can be viewed online at www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk/full-councilmisc/

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Alan John Bishop, Sandstone, 37 Fitzgerald Avenue SN6 7JJ
01793 762807 Mob: 07773 045270

Gerry Evans, 1 St Michaels Avenue, SN6 7JZ
01793 764236 gerry.e.54@btinternet.com

Nick Gardiner, 12 Coffin Close, Westrop SN6 7HA
01793 226337 Mob: 07833 290985 nick@gardiner.net

Julie Murphy, Rosedene, Inglesham SN6 7RA
Mob: 07803 602568 mjsmurfy@aol.com

Paul Newton-Smith, 41 The Dormers SN6 7NZ
01793 764575 Mob: 07939 467907
paulnewtonsmithhtc@gmail.com

Graeme Olley, 97 Eastrop SN6 7PP
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Maureen Penny, Squires Court SN6 7FH
07787 977884 mpenny@swindon.gov.uk

Keith Smith, Flat, 35 High Street SN6 7AQ
07836 382827 keithsmith35@tiscali.co.uk

Kenneth Saunders, 343 Windrush SN6 7EF
Mob: 07576 740274 cllr.kennethsaunders@gmail.com

Pauline Margaret Webster, 6 Oak Drive SN6 7BP
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Maureen Penny, Squires Court SN6 7FH
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Steve Weisinger, 8 Barra Close SN6 7HX
01793 764668 sweisinger@swindon.gov.uk



If you have a story please email editorathighworthlink13@gmail.com

BOURTON

Friday 13th December: Christmas Concert at St James' Church – Christmas Music, Flute Choir, Soloists and mulled wine. The Concert is free to attend, but there will be a retiring collection to raise funds for the church renovation project.

The 50/50 club for 2020

The Bourton Village Hall 2020 50/50 club subscriptions are now open for new subscribers. For £12 for the year you can help us to raise money to go towards the upkeep of your Village Hall and have the chance of winning one of three cash prizes every month. Forms will be delivered door-to-door in the village or can be sent via email by request from bourtonflyer@gmail.com

Services at St James' Church

Saturday 7th December:
Family Service

Sunday 15th December:
Family Communion

Tuesday 24th December:
6pm Christmas Eve Service

Saturday 6th January: Family Service

All Services start at 10am, except where stated above.

All Services include an activity table and refreshments afterwards. All welcome.

COLESHILL



David Williams final service

On Sunday 29th September the Badbury Group of Churches celebrated the Benefice Communion for the First Feast of St Michael and Harvest Festival at Eaton Hastings Church.

This was the Reverend David Williams final

service before his retirement. Bishop Colin Fletcher of Dorchester came to preach.

Following the packed service, all the members gathered for refreshments by the River Thames near the church in glorious sunshine.

Reverend David will be returning to his house in Dorking Surrey and will be seeking permission to officiate as a priest in the Diocese of Guildford and the neighbouring Diocese of Southwark, where he served as a curate before he came to Oxfordshire.

Reverend David will be missed by his parishioners, by the four churches who knew him and thank him for his contribution during his eleven years as parish priest.

Festive Table Centre Flower Workshop, Sunday 8th December, 10.30am-12noon

During the morning create a floral table centre with a central candle and seasonal flowers, berries and foliage. Perfect for your Christmas table. All materials included plus hot drinks on arrival. £30 per adult, booking essential. Please phone 0344 249 1895

Christmas Door Wreath Making Workshop in Coleshill, Sunday 8th December, 1.30-4pm

Make a traditional door wreath starting with a moss base and adding evergreen foliage and natural decorations. All materials included and refreshments provided by the Carpenters Canteen. £47.50 per adult, booking essential. Please phone 03442 491895

FAIRFORD

Christmas Concert, Saturday 7th December

Fairford & District Choral Society's Christmas concert will take place in St Mary's Church, Fairford on Saturday 7th December at 7.30pm. The choir will sing Poulenc's Gloria, Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols and an assortment of advent and Christmas carols. The conductor will be Jessi Pywell and the concert will be accompanied on the organ by Sam Bayliss and Evie Perfect Cello; the soloists will be Jack Bowtell (baritone) and Lucy Mellors (soprano). Tickets will be on sale in November from Fairford Opticians.

FARINGDON

Faringdon & District U3A, Thursday 12th December in the United Reformed Church (due to the general election).

At 2.30pm Sally-Ann Spence, a lecturer at the Oxford Natural History Museum, will talk about 'Dung Beetles'. Sally is an informed and engaging science educator who has spent many years enthusing people about the wonders of invertebrates. She is the founder of Minibeast Mayhem, a specialist teaching company, and she takes great delight in delivering lively material on this often misunderstood and underrated section of Biology. Refreshments available after the talk. All members are welcome to attend but visitors are required to pay £1.50.

Our New Year Celebration 'January Japes' will be on **Thursday 9th January** with a talk afterwards entitled 'My Walk to Freedom' by Al Sylvester. For info call 01367 615385.

Faringdon Regent Cinema



Faringdon Regent Cinema is pleased to announce it will be showing the following films in December:

Wednesday 4th December: Sometimes Always Never (12A)

Alan is a stylish tailor with moves as sharp as his suits. He has spent years searching tirelessly for his

missing son Michael who stormed out over a game of Scrabble. With a body to identify and his family torn apart, Alan must repair the relationship with his youngest son Peter and solve the mystery of an online player who he thinks could be Michael, so he can finally move on and reunite his family. Film duration: 1 hour 31 mins (no interval). Free tea/coffee and a biscuit.

Matinee Club: Doors open 12.30pm, film starts 1pm. Tickets in advance £4 / £5 on door. Membership: Just £24 for 12 films (inc half price pre-booked Blockbuster evening cinema tickets)



Friday 13th December: Late Night (15)

Legendary talk-show host Katherine Newbury is a pioneer in her

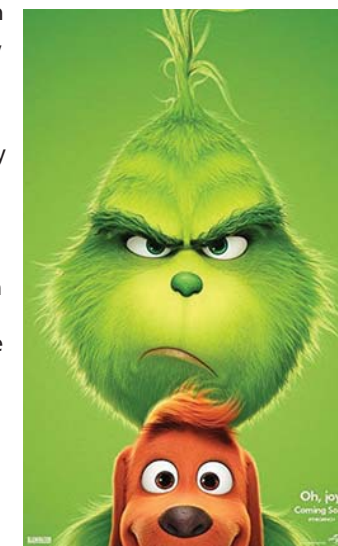
field. The only woman ever to have a long-running programme on late night, she keeps her writers' room on a short leash; and all male. But when her ratings plummet and she is accused of being a "woman who hates women," Katherine puts gender equality on her to-do list and impulsively hires Molly Patel, a chemical plant efficiency expert from suburban Pennsylvania, as the first and only female on her writing staff.

Film duration: 1 hr 42 min plus 15 min interval

Blockbuster: Doors open 7.00pm, film starts 7.30pm Tickets in advance £3 U18s, £4 Adult, £10 Family/ On door £4 U18s, £5 Adult, £11 Family

Friday 20th December: The Grinch (U)

A grumpy Grinch plots to ruin Christmas for the village of Whoville. Film duration: 1 hour 25 mins (plus 15 min interval)





VILLAGES



Kids Cinema: Doors open 1.30pm, film starts 2pm. Tickets in advance £3 U18s, £4 Adult, £10 Family/ on door £4 U18s, £5 Adult, £11 Family

For more info or to join the mailing list, please visit: www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk/regent-cinema-2. Tickets can be bought in advance from Faringdon Information Centre, 5 Market Square, Faringdon SN7 7HL

INGLESHAM

Carol Service

Inglesham Carol Service will be held in St John the Baptist Church on **Saturday 21st December** at 4pm. Donations will aid the repair of the roof. Please search Inglesham Church on JustGiving.

LECHLADE

All on a Winter's Night, Friday 6th December

Lechlade Riverfolk Club are delighted to welcome three fine musicians to The New Memorial Hall. Johnny Coppin, Paul Burgess and Dik Cadbury are all highly regarded in the world of acoustic music.

'All on a Winter's Night' is a show comprising seasonal music, poems and stories. The blend of songs and words is guaranteed to lift your spirits, bring a tear to your eye and move you to join in the singing.

This is a show for all the family. Doors open 7pm. Concert at 7.30pm. There is a bar. Tickets £15 each from Highworth Lighthouse Bookshop; Lechlade Post Office; Jay Mathews T: 01367 860869; Derrick Beer T: 01793 762070 and online



from www.wegotickets.co.uk.

The 50th Lechlade Christmas Concert, Saturday 14th December

Join us for our 50th Christmas Concert at 7.30pm on Saturday 14th December in St Lawrence Church. Featuring Rachel Bath (Director of Music), John Wright (Organ), Lechlade Christmas Choir and Soloists: Rebecca Grant-Jones (soprano), Victoria Jess (alto), Ralph Barnes (tenor) and John Qualtrough (bass). The programme will feature G F Handel 'Messiah' Part One including the 'Hallelujah Chorus' and Carols for all. Tickets £12.50 (includes one glass of mulled wine) on sale at Lechlade Post Office, Mike Keegan 01367 253398, E: mikebtk@hotmail.com and Committee Members. More information: www.stlawrencelechlade.org.uk.

In support of St Lawrence Church Restoration and Maintenance Appeal - Registered Charity No. 1133947.

Lechlade Gardening Club

Please note that the date of our AGM has been changed to December and will take place at every December meeting from now on. This will be followed by our Christmas social evening (members only) which will feature wine and a fun quiz.

We will return on **Wednesday 15th January** when Oak and Furrow Wildlife Rescue Centre near Cricklade will come and talk to us with a reference to their work with hedgehogs.

Our usual meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the New Memorial Hall where there is ample parking. Membership is £5 per person per annum, after which it is £2 to attend each meeting or £3 for visitors, who are always most welcome. For info contact T: 01367 253309 or 252286 or any member of the committee.

SHRIVENHAM

Christmas Bingo, Wednesday 11th December

Shrivenham Cricket Club will be hosting a Christmas bingo on Wednesday 11th December in Shrivenham Memorial Hall. Doors open 7pm for a 7.30 pm start. Sherry and mince pies and tea will be served at the interval. We have good prizes and a raffle. It will be a good time for all.

STANTON FITZWARREN

Services at St Leonard's Church

In October Vicky Fleming, the Stratton Team Priest in charge for the last seven years, moved to take up her new responsibilities in the Lichfield diocese and we hope for her replacement next year. In the meantime the Area Dean and the Church Wardens will continue to run things.

Sunday 15th December: 10am Team Service at St Leonard, Stanton. We welcome the people in the other congregations to join us

Sunday 22nd December: 11am Holy Communion

Sunday 29th December: 10am Team Service at St Margaret's, Stratton.

Sunday 5th January: 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 12th January: 11am Family Service for all

Sunday 19th January: 10am Team Service at the Methodist church in Stratton

Sunday 26th January: 11am Holy Communion

(Note: Christmas services are on page 33)

The church building is open every Wednesday in school term time 10am-4pm. You are welcome for private reflection or to explore a beautiful historic building. Visits at other times can be arranged, see the website. Every week you are invited to leave contributions of non-perishable food in the plastic box just inside the building on a Wednesday. This will be taken to the Swindon food bank to help others.

For updates please check our website: www.stantonchurch.info

Every Cloud Arts & Crafts

Christmas at Stanton Park has arrived. Come and browse our Christmas gift shop and relax with a hot fruit cup and mince pie or slice of homemade cake. We are open three times a week until **Sunday 22nd December**, Thursdays 10am-12noon; Saturday 10am-1pm and Sundays 10am-2pm. We are selling wonderful and unique cards, decorations and gifts, handmade by local artists. You can expect a warm welcome.

Merry Christmas!

Christmas Opening Hours:
Close of business 23/12/19 at 4.30pm
Opening again 02/01/20 at 8.00am

If you think you have a gas leak or can smell gas, leave the house and phone the National Gas Emergencies number immediately on 0800 111 999.



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VILLAGES



Every Cloud at Stanton Park Children's Christmas Crafting

Saturday 7th December
2.00—4.00pm
Stanton Farmhouse

Design and make your own unique Christmas Wreath to take home.
Choose from a range of different materials including fabric, wool, wire,
felt and wood. Add some sparkle and plenty of your own style.

Suitable for 8-12 years
£10 per child, refreshments & materials included
Call 07796 530560 or book online via our Facebook page

On **Saturday 7th December** between 2-4pm children age 8-12 years can attend a Christmas crafting workshop to design and create a unique Christmas wreath to take home. They can choose from a range of different materials including fabric, wool, wire, felt and wood, then add some sparkle and plenty of their own style. Booking essential. £10 per child, refreshments included.

Karen's popular Acrylic Pour sessions will continue throughout the winter session on Saturday mornings 10.30am-12.30pm. Create your own work of art or give someone an Every Cloud gift voucher so they can come along and enjoy a session themselves. £25.

Bookings can be made by calling 07796 530560 or online on our Facebook Page.

Every Cloud tearoom and shop re-opens in the new year on **Sunday 5th January** from 10am-2pm and every Sunday thereafter. Pop in to warm up with a hot drink and a toasted tea cake! There will also be a tempting January sale in the shop.

Happy Christmas!

SWINDON

Swindon Social Enterprise Network



Swindon Social Enterprise Network (SSEN) will hold its sixth networking event on **Wednesday 4th December**, 4.30-6pm, in The Platform Projects' new offices: Block D, The Dorcan Complex, Faraday Road, SN3 5HQ.

Two guest speakers will be presenting: Craig Duff from Nanogreen Cleaning and Steve Carr from The Richmond Fellowship. Craig will be premiering a film, made in collaboration with Create Studios, which showcases their intention to offer employment opportunities to those



Swindon Community Fair

furthest from the workplace who are struggling to find a way into work. Steve Carr will be presenting on his work "supporting people back into competitive employment".

The event is free to attend and will commence with an opportunity to mingle with other attendees over tea/coffee/juice and biscuits. At 5pm a formal welcome, introduction to the event and an update about the SSEN's work will be

delivered by a member of the steering group before our two speakers take the stage. There will be time after for more networking and Craig, Steve and members of the steering group will be available to answer any questions.

Places can be booked here:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/swindon-social-enterprise-network-sixth-networking-event-tickets-79332829629>

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e-mail: daveheadandson@gmail.com

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WHAT'S ON



Deadline for contribution is 1st day of each month except July and December.

To have your group entered in 'What's On Weekly' please use the diary at the library, email: advertising@highworthlink.co.uk or contact us via our website at www.highworthlink.co.uk

MARKETS AND EVENTS

Lechlade Country Market Thur 8.30-11am, Church Cottage on The Square, Lechlade - 01793 740620

Highworth Coffee Morning for Prospect Hospice Thur 10.30-11.30am at United Reformed Church

Coffee Morning Every Sat 10am-12noon in St Michael's Church Room - serving Fairtrade Coffee and Tea - raising funds for specific charities. There is also, on the 1st Sat of the month, a Family Drop-In serving bacon rolls as well as the usual coffee and tea with fun and games and a get together for families. All are very welcome - info Church Office 762702

Lunch Together meets fortnightly on the first Wednesday every month at the Methodist Church and the third Wednesday at the Community Centre, Northview. Transport available. Please phone to book a place. Mary Swaffield 861173

Cats Protection Christmas Bazaar Sat 14th Dec - 9am to 1pm in Highworth Council Rooms. LOTS ON SALE!

Highworth Market Sat 9am-2pm

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Toddler Trampolining Mon 10am at The Rec - Call 762602 to book a space

Breastmates Mon 9.30-11.30am at the Methodist Church info 762341

878 (Highworth) Squadron ATC Mon 7.30-9.30pm - We parade at The Squadron in Newburgh Place - all aged 13-17 are welcome - info oc.878@aircadets.org

Rhyme Time for under 3s Tue 10.30am - Highworth Library 463500

Nursery Rhymes Wed 11am-11.30am at The Bridge (for under 5's accompanied by a parent/carer) - for more info contact Jon Hares 07701 303760

Tots'n'Toddlers Wed (In term time) 9-11am - South Marston Village Hall - Rachel Case 832719

Storytime and Rhymetime Pre-school sing-a-long Wed 11.30-12noon. Info. Lechlade Library - 01367 252631

Junior Trampolining Wed 3.30pm at The Rec - Call 762602 to book a space

878 (Highworth) Squadron ATC Wed 7.30-9.30pm - We parade at The Squadron in Newburgh Place - all aged from 12-17 are welcome - info oc.878@aircadets.org

Little Treasures Toddler Group Thur (term time) 9.45-11.15am Room 12, Highworth Community Centre,

The Dormers. Follow on Little Treasures Facebook page or contact Lesley 07881 208528 or The Bridge 01793 765060

Storytime for under 5s Thur 10.30am - Highworth Library 463500

Shake Rattle & Roll Tue 9.30-11am (Term time only) - Fun singing and play group for pre-schoolers. In room 1 at the Highworth Community Centre - info 07779 505077 or follow on Facebook Carole Farmer's Groups for Families with Young Children

Monday Fun Time 9.30-11am (term time only) Play group for children under 5. In the main hall, Highworth Community Centre - info 07779 505077 or follow on Facebook Carole Farmer's Groups for Families with Young Children

Toddler Splash Thur 11.15am at The Rec - Call 762602 to book a space

Tiny Tots Football Thur 1pm at The Rec - contact STFC. Tel. 07919 112982 to book a space

Highworth and Blunsdon Mothers' Union - Fourth Thursday of month (not Dec and Aug), 10am - St Michael's Church Room - Madeleine 766088

Jam Club Fri 9.30-11.15am Baby & Toddler Group - Methodist Church - info 763359

Family Drop-in First Sat of Month 9.30am-11.30am at St Michael's Church - bacon sandwiches - newspapers and coffee - games and craft for children - info. Church Office 762702

Messy Family Fun 4th Sun 3.30-5.30pm at Highworth Methodist Church

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Buscot Park Archers Buscot Park Archery Range -info www.buscotparkarchers.org.uk

Highworth Town Junior Football club Sat mornings at the Lower Rec Fields - Ages 4+ - call Mark 763160 www.highworthtownjuniorsfc.co.uk

Pilates Mon 1.30-2.30pm or 2.30-3.30pm. Highworth Community Centre - admission £5 - info Lisa 07814 264562

Physiotherapy-led exercise for the over-60s every Tuesday 11.15am-12.15pm, Shrivenham Memorial Hall, contact Emma 07789 595754 for more information. All exercises sitting and standing

Table Tennis Saturday 10.30-12noon at The Methodist Church. Refreshments. All welcome.

Zumba Gold Tue 1-1.45pm (Slower paced low impact) -

Highworth Community Ctr - info. Lorna 07582 612778

Highworth Amateur Swimming Club Tue 7-8pm & Thur 6-8.30pm membership@highworthasc.co.uk

Fitsteps Tue 7.30pm - Great fun, great way to exercise, dance yourself fit! First session FREE. Come and try it out at Lechlade Pavilion - Experience not necessary - info Sharon Wilson 07769 229084

Shrivenham Bowls Club Tue throughout the winter months, eyes down at 7.45pm for cash bingo in the clubhouse - info Roy Dixon 01793 782005

Highworth & Swindon Walking Club - Wed & Sun - for full programme visit our website <http://highworthandswindonwalkingclub.btck.co.uk/> or contact the Communication Officer, Mary Hewitt on 01793 780039

Fitsteps Wed 10am - Great fun, great way to exercise, dance yourself fit! First session FREE. Come and try it out at Lechlade Pavilion - Experience not necessary - info Sharon Wilson 07769 229084

Walking Football 50+ Thur 11am-12noon at The Rec - £2 a session - just turn up

Walking Football 50+ Mon 12.30am at The Rec £2 a session - just turn up

Walking Netball 50+ Thur 9.30-10.30am at the Rec. £2 per session. Although aimed at the 50+, ladies of all ages are welcome. It's a fun and gentle way to get some exercise and make new friends. No previous netball experience is necessary. Info. elainelloyd40@gmail.com

Highworth Running Club Wed 6pm (Beginners) and 7pm, meet outside Vorda Playgroup, Brewery Street

Scottish Country Dancing Club Thur (term time) 7.30pm - Lechlade New Memorial Hall (from September 13th) - Margaret Godfrey 01367 252581

Pilates Classes Thur 6pm - Lechlade Methodist Hall - Stott Instructor - 07773 080125

Gymnastics (4+) & Trampolining (8+) Fri 3.30pm at The Rec - call 762602 to book a space

Leisure Badminton Thurs 8-9.30pm at Highworth Warneford School. £5. All levels, all ages. Focus on fitness and fun. Just turn up or for more details call Graham Seeley on 07769 703702

Highworth DA Badminton Club Tues & Fri 8-10pm - at Warneford School Sports Hall - Social & League Badminton - first visit is free of charge - info racketbag72@gmail.com

Highworth Tennis Courts Fri 9.30-11am - Adult 'Drills & Skills' - pay as you go - improve your basic and team play with an LTA coach! - members/non members - <http://www.htc.org.uk/Coaching.html>

Junior Golf Fri 9.30am-12.30pm - Blunsdon House Hotel - Marc 07876 684645

Tea Dance Fri 1.30-3.30pm - Highworth Recreation Centre - No partner required - from £3.15 - Swindon Card Concession 1 - 762602

Highworth Tennis Courts Fri 7-9pm - Club Social Session - Members/non-members - three free visits before we talk membership - 07834 088038

Highworth Tennis Courts Sat 10am-12pm, Junior Coaching - info 07834 088038 <http://www.htc.org.uk/Coaching.html>

THE ARTS

Highworth Amateur Dramatics Society Mon 7.30-9.30pm (Rehearsals) - at Highworth Community Centre - info. hadshighworth@gmail.com

Highworth Choral Society Mon 7.30-9.30pm - rehearsals - Methodist Church - Tel: Brenda - 725928

Methodist Church Craft Group Third Tuesday of month, 10am-2pm - at Highworth Methodist Hall - Trisha 763453 or Val 07932 437416

TATT (Tunes at The Trout) Second Tuesday of Month, 8pm at The Trout Inn Lechlade. Fun Folk Music - Come and join in or listen - Free Admission - info Ian Andrews pesthouse@btinternet.com

The Regent Cinema - (Matinee Club) First Wednesday of month. Doors open 12noon - The Corn Exchange Faringdon - for details call information centre 01367 242191 www.visitfaringdon.info/cinema email tic@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk

Community Choir Faringdon Wed (In term time) 7-8.30pm - Ferndale School Hall Bromsgrove - £2.50 per session. Wide range of music led by Louise Woodgate - info genewebb@rocketmail.com or 01367 242222

White Horse Folk Club First and Third Wednesday of month, 8pm at St Michael's Church Room Highworth - Info Derrick 01793 762070 or Geoff 01793 706753

Community Voices Second and fourth Wednesday of month 7-8pm at Lechlade Baptist Church £2 - Why not come and join us? Contact Moira Cima on 01285 821935

Highworth Songsters Thur 10.30am-12.30pm - at Methodist Church - enquiries to Eira 762786 or Marjorie 762536

Kingsdown Woodcarvers Thur 7-9pm at Kingsdown School - from beginners to very clever people - tools and advice available - info Wayne 533720 or Nikki King 07525 245219

Highworth Silver Band Thur 7.30-9.30pm - Rehearsals at the Band Hall, Lechlade Road - Mark 07526 704914 email Highworth.SB@gmail.com www.http://highworthsilverband.org

Highworth Amateur Dramatic Society Thur 8.15-10pm - (Rehearsals) - at Highworth Community Centre - info Shaun Smith 764337 shaunsmith1984@hotmail.com



WHAT'S ON

Highworth Floral Art Society First Thursday of month except Jan and Aug, 7.30pm - Barbara 762697 or Michelle 827545

The Regent Cinema - Last Friday of month. Doors open 7pm - The Corn Exchange, Faringdon - for details call information centre 01367 242191
www.visitfaringdon.info/cinema email tic@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk

River Folk Acoustic Second and last Friday of month, 8pm - £2 at the Trout Inn - jaymathews124@mac.com or 01367 860869

Shades of Silver - Jazz 8.30pm. 1 Westrop (The Highworth) every 2nd Monday of month - Free entry

SOCIAL GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Highworth Ukulele Club - We meet in the afternoon on every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. If you can play or want to play, come and join us. For more details email highworthukuleleclub@gmail.com or contact 01793 764522

Oxfordshire Grandparents Support Group Second Tue of month, for grandparents estranged from their grandchildren. Meetings over coffee and cake are held in Faringdon - 10.30-12.30pm. Contact Diana Dunk 01367 244636 or visit oxfordshiregsg@gmail.com

The Rotary Club of Swindon North Mon (other than the 5th Monday in each month) 6.15pm - Blunsdon House Hotel - call Terry on 762669 or Alan on 762914 or www.rotaryswindonnorth.org.uk

Fitness Classes all week starting at 9am at The Rec - for full weekly programme call 762602 or www.highworthrec.co.uk

Slimming World Highworth Thurs start times 5.30pm and 7.30pm at Highworth Recreation Centre SN6 7DD - Louise Preece 07717 681939. Fri 9.30am at Highworth Community Centre - contact Jo 07815 838944

FL - Exercise classes Wed 9.45-11.15am in St Michael's Church Hall - Classes graded to suit all abilities but particularly for the more mature lady looking to improve her fitness and make new friends - for more info contact Kathy Kirk 01993 882350 or Kathy.kirk@live.com

Highworth Historical Society Last Monday of Month except December and June - August incl, 7.30pm - United Reformed Church - Guests welcome £3. Contact Christine on 764811 or visit www.highworthhistoricalsociety.co.uk

The Royal British Legion First Monday of Month, 7.30pm - The King and Queen

Highworth & District Lions Second Monday of Month, 7.30pm - Blunsdon House Hotel - Rosemary 0845 8339831

Highworth Gardening Club Third Monday of Month, 7.30pm - St Michael's Hall - for full programme call Norman Jeffery 762805

Lechlade History Society 3rd Monday of month, 7.15 for 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Guests welcome £4. Contact Alan Garnell 01367 253087 or visit www.lechladehistory.co.uk

Highworth United Charities - meet usually on Second Tuesday of Month to consider applications for funding

Highworth and District Probud Club Alternate Tuesday mornings, at The Cold Harbour - Blunsdon - new members welcome - info Clive 01793 721595

Family History Group Second Tuesday of Month, 10am - Highworth Library 463500

Highworth Methodist Church Bridge Club Tuesday, 2-4pm. All are welcome. Call 764350 for info

Highworth Camera Club Second Tuesday of Month, 7.30pm - Highworth Community Centre - Info. Facebook Highworth Camera Club www.highworthcameraclub.com

Shrivenham & District Gardening Club First Tuesday of Month, 7.30pm - The Vic Day Hall - Shrivenham Memorial Hall - visitors welcome - 01793 782162

Highworth Wine & Beer Circle Third Tuesday of month, 8pm - at Highworth Council Room - for more info contact D. Holden 766093

Highworth Expert Patient Programme Second Thursdays - 10.30am, meet at The Bridge, Sheep Street - email: rjmorris49@gmail.com

Highworth Afternoon Women's Institute First Wednesday of month, 2.15pm. From April we will meet at The Highworth Council Offices. For full programme call Gill Pagan 762056

Bingo Wed 8pm at 'The Goldfinger'

Defence Academy & Swindon Branch Royal Aeronautical Society First Wednesday of month, at 7pm. Information on 07740 136609 or raeswindon@gmail.com

Highworth Community Partnership Group First Wednesday of month, 7pm - call Sandra Rendall on 762197 for venue

Highworth Evening Women's Institute Second Wednesday of month, 7.30pm at Warneford School. Contact Mary Swaffield on 861173

Highworth Job Club Tuesday 10-11am - Highworth Library 463500

Swindon Carers Centre (Highworth) Group Second Thursday of month, 10.30am-12noon at Westrop Surgery

Shrivenham Women's Institute Third Thursday of Month, 7pm for 8pm start - Memorial Hall Shrivenham - Mary Hewitt 780039

Tea & Cake Afternoon for Prospect Hospice - second Wed of month - 2-4pm in St Michael's Church Room

Western Front Association 1914-18 First Sunday of Month Sept-May, 2pm Highworth venue - Contact Paul 01367 253100

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NHS	Non-Emergency	111
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Electricity	Emergency	105
Water	Emergency	0800 3169 800
Lost Property	County Dry Cleaners	01793 766006

BUSES		DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS		SCHOOLS	
Stagecoach Swindon	01793 521415	Highworth Surgery	01793 762218	Eastrop Infants	01793 763772
Thamesdown Transport	01793 428400	Elm Tree Surgery, (Shrivenham)	01793 782207	Southfield Junior	01793 762210
Dial-a-Ride	01793 616050	Great Western Hospital	01793 604020	Westrop Primary	01793 762897
Community Transport	01793 617828			Highworth Warneford	01793 762426
Traveline	0871 200 2233				
COLLEGES		LIBRARY		TAXIS	
Cirencester College	01285 640994	Highworth Library	01793 463500	V Cars	01793 701701
New College	0808 172 4445				
Swindon College	01793 491591	RECREATION		TRAINS	
		Highworth Rec	01793 762602	National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
LAW & ORDER		PHARMACIES		Great Western Railways	03457 000125
Crimestoppers	0800 555111	Highworth Pharmacy	01793 762220	Disabled and assisted travel	08001 971329
Victim Supportline	0808 16 89 111	Home Farm Pharmacy	01793 861392		
Action Fraud	0300 123 2030	Jones Graham Pharmacy (Shrivenham)	01793 783336	OTHER SERVICES	
COUNCILS		PRESCHOOLS		Citizens Advice Bureau	08444 994114
Highworth Town Council	01793 762377	Highworth Pre-school	01793 766646	Trading Standards (business)	0207 830 6000
Swindon Boro. Council	01793 463000	Vorda Pre-School	01793 763668	Trading Standards (consumers)	03454 04 05 06
Streetsmart	01793 445501	Westgate Nursery		Alcohol and Drug Service	01793 695405
FIRE SAFETY		School & Crèche	01793 861268	Pest Control	08000 988652
Home fire safety check	0800 389 7849			Samaritans	01793 537373
				Women's Refuge	01793 610610

PRAYER PLACE

The churches of Highworth believe that prayer works both on a national and individual level. If you would like us to pray for something or for you please complete this form and drop it into The Bridge, 8 Sheep Street, Highworth or the church or church office of your choice. Photocopies are acceptable.

I would like to be known as: _____

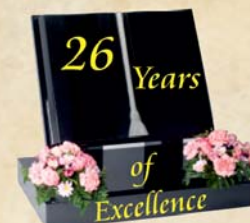
I would like you to pray for: _____

(Optional) Name _____

Address _____

I would like someone to call on me ☐ (Tick if applicable)

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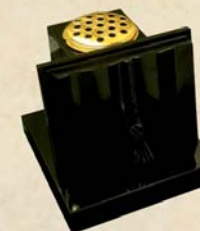
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