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Change?

The other day I took a book off my shelf that I hadn't looked at for years and when I opened it something fell out. It was a postcard that my son had sent me back in 2004 when he was only six and had been to visit a museum with his dad. It instantly opened up all sorts of memories.

His spelling was quite creative and the picture on the postcard was of a dragon; something he was obsessed with for most of his childhood (at one time he was convinced they were real, and he had the book *Dragonology* to prove it!)

Things seem to change so quickly, children grow up so fast, our own interests and passions move on and throughout our lives there are many things we have to put down and leave behind. The experience of lockdown has brought this into focus for all of us. And it's not always easy.

For many people, this autumn will be a time of adapting to something new or perhaps saying goodbye to something old. But for all of us, whoever we are, things change all the time. Life

moves on and nothing stays the same. We are changed by the things that we do and by the things that happen to us.

Jesus promised his followers that he would always be with them. After Jesus's death on the cross he was raised to a new kind of life and before he left his friends for the last time he made this promise. He knew that things would be difficult for them, that they would have to come to terms with life without him that they would face all sorts of challenges and threats. Sometimes they would feel overwhelmed with all that was going on and would perhaps look back to their time with Jesus nostalgically.

Jesus is still with us today through his Spirit and his love for us does not change or fade. Whatever changes we are encountering at this moment, he invites us to turn to him. He loves us, he does not change and he will not let us down.

Revd Rachael Wilson

Cover: Warneford students return to school

LINK magazine

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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.

Email 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

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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.



Citizen of the Month for October:

Rosemary Jackson, 1935-2020

Rosemary did a lot for Highworth and fully deserves to be recognised as our Citizen of the Month for October.

She was born on the 22nd September 1935 in Hebburn, Newcastle. She was the eldest of eight siblings and had four children: Margaret, Norma, Ronny and James.

Rosemary met her husband Keith Jackson in Henley Upon Thames in 1977 when romance began to bloom between the two. The pair finally moved to Houston, USA in 1981 and married five years later.

Rosemary had a variety of jobs over her life. Whilst in Houston she ran a Marriot Hotel. When the couple returned to the UK in the early '90s she was employed as a cook at Windsor Fire Station. When the devastating fire at Windsor Castle happened in 1992, it was Rosemary who kept the 225 firefighters drawn from all over the south and south east, fed with sandwiches and copious cups of tea. She worked 72 hours without a break and was presented with a medal for her services from the Queen.

Rosemary was an active member of Slough Lions (whose local club in Windsor didn't accept females at the time) and through mutual friends she was introduced to Frieda Cox who was keen to transfer her into the Highworth Lions when the couple moved to Queen's Avenue in November 2004.

Rosemary returned to college at the age of 70 to retrain as an Environmental Health officer. Her favourite story to tell was of the time she and a work colleague visited Tidworth and caused a security breach. Rosemary left her work bag on the pavement by the car and drove away. It was only after stopping for a cup of tea that the pair realised the bag was missing. They returned to Tidworth to find a scene from a movie. The road back to the bag had armed soldiers turning away

cars. When they explained the situation, they were allowed through to collect the bag which was in a cordoned-off area about to be detonated with a controlled explosion. They managed to get the workbag back but not before a severe telling off from the army officer in charge.



Rosemary received the Melvin Jones Fellowship for her numerous projects in Highworth, an honour awarded by the Lions to recognise an individual's dedication to humanitarian service. She trained numerous residents to use the defibrillators around the town. She organised the Easter Egg raffle every year which raised thousands for the Lions. She helped launch the Memory Café and supported at the Highworth Lunch Club. She was

instrumental in setting up a ladies Highworth Town football team, organised a bag sale at the Great Western Hospital every year and was always Santa's helper at Christmas time.

Rosemary will be greatly missed by Keith and her four children, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren, as well as by her numerous friends around the town and elsewhere in the world.

Some personal recollections:

"It always felt like we were meant to be together. She was the loveliest woman in the world. She never got upset and I never saw her argue. She always thought more about doing things for others than about herself. She was a real fighter, she never complained. Nothing was ever too much trouble, no matter how much pain she was in or how ill she was. If something had to be done then she got on and did it. It is going to be very hard to carry on without her."

Keith Jackson

"Rosemary joined the Highworth and District Lions Club in June 2005, but before that she had been an active Member of Slough Lions Club for many years. During her time with the Highworth and District Lions Club she was President from 2009 to 2011 as well as holding a District Cabinet Office of Zone Chairperson for the year 2009/10.

"Rosemary quickly became involved in the Community and the Lions Club with her friendly and welcoming outlook and her desire to help others. She was a well-known figure and had many friends and acquaintances in the Town. As well as being actively involved with various Lions Club activities and projects, she was also the Club Publicity Officer and for several years wrote the 'Lion's Den' in the LINK Magazine and wrote many articles for the Swindon Advertiser. In addition to all this and despite the fact that her health was failing, she still found time to become involved with the local Neighbourhood Watch and was a keen supporter and fund raiser for the Brighter Futures fund at the Great Western Hospital.

"Rosemary will be remembered for her friendly and outgoing personality and her dogged attitude to getting things done despite her health problems. She was a very good friend to Highworth and to Lions Clubs International and will be sorely missed."

Rodney Davis, Highworth & District Lions

"We met Rosemary Jackson through lunching together, where we shared a meal and entertainment with several ladies and gentlemen who wanted company. Rosemary quickly became the lady we went to if we needed raffle prizes, bring and buy sales and funding for our venture. Through her association with the Lions, she made it possible for free use of the mini bus plus driver, rental of the Community centre and Methodist Church rooms which was fundamental for us to thrive. She always joined us for the meals and with her easy smile, was loved by everyone. She will be very sadly missed by all of us, volunteers and guests alike."

Veronica Wilson, WI Lunch Club

"I first met Rosemary about 10 years ago after she came to Highworth and joined the Lions. We soon became good friends with a lot in common.

"Rosemary had led an active and interesting life and had travelled extensively. She used to talk about her early life growing up in the North of England during World War II and witnessing the air raids.

"I will miss Rosemary for her friendship and support as well as her chats on the phone for advice about various issues. Rosemary fought hard through her illness and was well cared for by Keith and her family."

Mair Huband

"The first time I was to speak to Rosemary was on a telephone. A friend of mine was talking to her at a Lions firework party and she said she was going to live in Highworth and hoped to join their Lions club. As soon as she moved we had a lovely chat. She was always so friendly and ready to do everything for the club and very soon, many others too. Her friendliness and caring leaves us all missing her but we will never forget her."

Frieda Cox

"When I first became the editor of the Highworth Link I was told in no uncertain terms by the rest of the team that if Rosemary needed anything she was to have it. There would be no deadline cutoff for her Lions report. Once I met Rosemary it soon became apparent why. She was a rare being. Warm, funny and far younger in heart and mind than her 80-odd years.

"We would meet every so often for a natter over a cup of tea and she was kind enough to attend my children's schools' Grandparents Tea Party when their own grandparents could not so that they were able to enjoy the cakes (and miss a lesson or two). She is one of those people who soon creeps into your heart and although her passing upset me greatly, I know that her kindness will always form a part of me. I feel honoured to have known and loved her, if only for a short period."

Sarah Gardiner

Southfield Junior School's Shop Local Campaign goes LIVE on Radio

After reading the recent article on our school community project in the Swindon Advertiser, BBC Radio Wiltshire contacted us to ask if we would like to be interviewed live on the radio on their 'Making a Difference' slot. Not once but twice.



and asked fantastic questions. The children's answers were amazing and it was very clear that this was not just an ICT project they understood the importance of what they had created and the impact that it was having, not just for now but for the future of our town.

On Wednesday 29th July, very early in the morning, BBC Radio's Wiltshire Kelly Morgan set up her satellite dish outside Highworth Flowers. It was here that three of our children, Justine from Highworth Flowers, Mayor Richard Williams and myself were interviewed LIVE about the projects the children had been taking part in at school and through home learning and the impact it was having in our community. Richard talked about the importance of keeping our shops and Saturday market open and said if people stopped shopping locally businesses would close and Highworth would eventually become a ghost town.

Lily: "On Wednesday morning I was on BBC Radio Wiltshire. I was nervous and excited at the same time. When I was LIVE talking it was a once in a lifetime experience. It's great supporting local businesses."

There were lots of nerves flying around but Kelly put us all at ease

Edward: "I was nervous at the start because I thought I would mess something up but I managed to say what I wanted to say and it was actually quite fun."

Henry: "I didn't feel confident doing it at first. I felt nervous like I do for our school assemblies but once I had done it I really enjoyed it and I'm glad I did it."



I was nervous too, but very proud to be part of the broadcast and celebrating the work that Southfield children had undertaken which was, and still is, making a difference in our wonderful community. Go on, Shop Local!

The posters are still being displayed around the shops and market and several of the videos created by the children have been posted online at Visit Highworth and Highworth Town Council.

Mrs Law, ICT Teacher

GCSE Exam Success at Warneford

Despite all of the uncertainty surrounding this year's examinations, when it came to GCSE results day it was all smiles for students at Highworth Warneford School at the end of August.

Although there were lots of individual success stories, there were some outstanding results posted including:

Holly Simpkins: 9 Grade '9' and 1 Grade '8'

Sophie Nash: 7 Grade '9' and 3 Grade '8'

Tess Armstrong: 7 Grade '9', 2 Grade '8' and 1 Grade '7'

Aidan Tucker: 5 Grade '9', 1 Grade '8', 2 Grade '7', 1 Grade '6' and 1 Grade '5'

Will Bentley: 1 Grade '9', 5 Grade '8', 3 Grade '7' and 1 Grade '6'

Jack Carrigan: 5 Grade '8', 3 Grade '7' and 2 Grade '6'

Headteacher Andy Steele said, "We are delighted that the hard work and effort that the students have shown in studying for these exams was



Photo: Andy Steele

properly recognised. In these challenging times, it was important that the work of students and staff was fairly rewarded. This year's cohort were able and hard-working and many of the individual achievements have been tremendous. Well done to the Class of 2020. We wish them all of the best for the future as they move on to the next stage of their education."

Welcome Back!



After many months of only seeing a limited number of students, Highworth Warneford School was delighted to welcome back a full cohort of youngsters at the start of a new academic year.

Headteacher Andy Steele said, "Preparations have been going on for some time and there have been plenty of changes to make sure that risks are being managed properly. With one-way systems in place and new marquees to separate out student 'bubbles', things aren't completely the same but the experience in the classroom will be fantastic as always.

Schools are nothing without the students and we have really missed them and are looking forward to working with them again. The youngsters did really well with their home learning during lockdown but that is no substitute for the real thing."

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Swindon & District Samaritans: always there

Without a doubt, these are strange times as the coronavirus changes the way we live and yet Swindon & District Samaritans remains steadfast in continuing to be there for anyone who is struggling to cope.

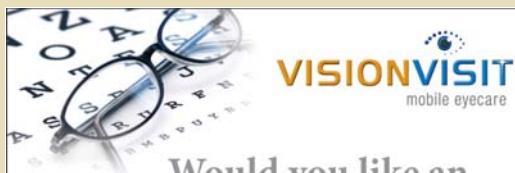
Despite some of our listening volunteers isolating and shielding, your local branch has remained open throughout the pandemic to provide a confidential listening service by phone and email. Many of our wonderful volunteers took on extra shifts during the most difficult times so we could continue to provide much needed emotional support. Even now, every six seconds Samaritans answer a call for help.

Front line health, care, emergency and key workers have put their physical and mental health under pressure as they form the front line against coronavirus. To help the helpers, Samaritans have partnered with Shout, Mind, Hospice UK and The Royal Foundation to offer round-the-clock, one-to-one emotional support to those on the front line to help ensure they get the right support with their mental health, now and in the future.

Like so many, our branch has needed to adapt given the constraints of the pandemic. We are now able to recruit and train all of our listening volunteers online using video conferencing. We always welcome new volunteers and hold regular information events where you can find out more and have the opportunity to speak to some of our volunteers. If you'd like to find out more, please contact us: samsrecruitment@btconnect.com

We are just welcoming the first of our volunteers who have been virtually trained into the branch as they look to start the next phase of their volunteering by providing emotional support on the phone and by email. Even as we learn how our lives are changing and respond to these different challenges, it is great to greet new volunteers who will now be there to support and listen to others at a time which has never been more important.

Anyone can contact Samaritans for free any time from any phone on 116 123, even a mobile without credit, or email jo@samaritans.org.



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- You received more than £2,500 in other income such as tips or commission
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Highworth Historical Society

As our meetings are not going ahead at the time of writing here is a little taste of Highworth in the past:

The A361 to Swindon

Many of you will have crawled up the hill to Highworth behind a slow-moving vehicle. It could have been worse!

In 1792 the Lechlade to Swindon road was turnpiked. Pike houses were built to collect the fees from passing traffic. The one on the Swindon side of Highworth still stands, although much altered. This was known as The Bury Turnpike as it was built on the Bury Ground (part of the late golf course).

The hill always proved a problem to coaches. In January 1831 it was agreed that the Turnpike Company would pay £230 for unemployed men to lower the hill. "So that the rise shall not exceed two inches in the yard." This would help the parish with the funds being raised in aid of the unemployed. The work was done with picks and shovels. The earth thrown up can still be seen on the right as a raised embankment.

The original cottages on the left in the dip were known as the Bury Cottages and had been built by a John Phipps of Highworth. He had bought the land from a John Chamberlain. "5 acres, 1 rod and 5 perches taken out of a field called The Red Land." Later the cottages were known as Redlands (not to be confused with Redlands Close).

At John Phipps' death, the properties that he owned in the town were sold by auction. This took place at the Saracen's Head in 1864. As well as the Redlands cottages there were:-

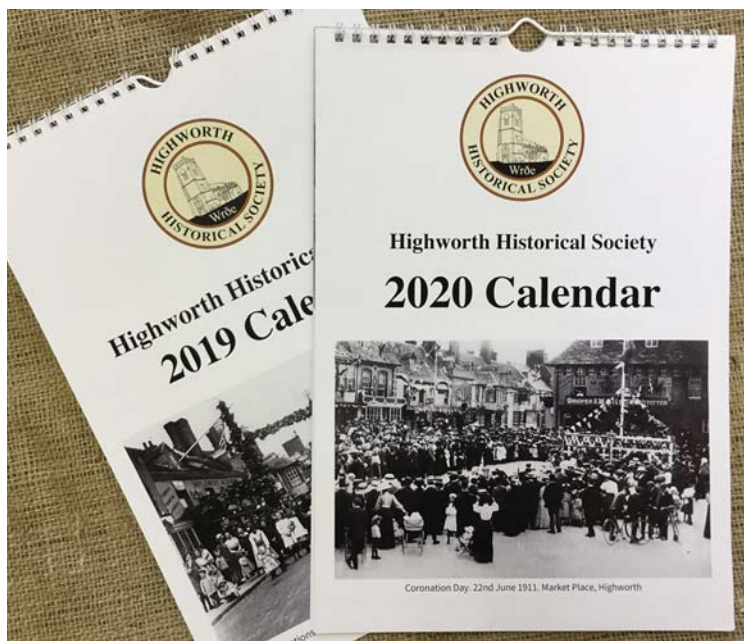
- A house in the Market Place
- Two cottages in Cricklade Road
- Four houses in Westrop Terrace
- All of Bailey's Piece (a house and 18 cottages)
- A property in the Kempsford Road
- 10 Cottages on the south side of the Faringdon Road

Arkells bought seven of the Redland properties for £785. The reserve price had been £3 each. Our house at number 16 became a beer house, The Rampant Cat.

I have built up a lot of information about the Redlands properties and residents. More is always welcome.

*Christine Suter, Chairwoman of the society,
E: Chrissuter16@googlemail.com*

2021 Highworth Calendar now on sale



The Highworth Historical Society are producing their popular calendar for 2021, which will be on sale by the end of September.

They can be purchased from Visit Highworth and The Lighthouse Bookshop, both in the High Street, at a cost of £6.

From the Lions Den

The COVID-19 pandemic has meant that, because most of our members and volunteers come in the vulnerable category, we have had to curtail our Service activities in the community. However, we have been able to maintain our donations to various charities and good causes so far and we are looking at ways to re-open the Lion's Charity Shop in a way that our staff and customers are protected.

This brings me to 'The Elephant in the Room,' i.e. Members, The Shop, the Minibus operation, the various activities we put on for the elderly and the youth and many other service and fundraising projects we carry out during the year all require members to put them into practice.

We have lost three members this year and several others are no longer in a situation where they can provide a meaningful input into the Lions Club's activities, so we need more public-spirited people to join us and carry the Highworth and District Lions Club forward into the future.

If you would like to become involved, either as a Member of the existing Club, or would like to form the local Branch Club comprising of a group of perhaps younger like-minded people who would operate independently under the Lion's banner, please contact me on 0345 833 9831. We also hope to hold a 'Meet the Lions' event in the New Year.

Grants made during August:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| • Wiltshire Air Ambulance | £1,000 |
| • Naomi House Children's Hospice | £500 |
| • Visit Highworth Ltd. | £250 |
| • Brighter Futures GWH | £100 |

At the end of each month I put a list of Grants made during that month on the door of the Charity Shop in Newburgh Place for all to read.

Lion Rodney Davis

Trees for Charity

Swindon North Rotarian Terry Williams will be selling Christmas Trees on the Podium from 9am to 12 noon on 5th 12th and 19th December 2020.

All proceeds from sales will go to local charities. More details in next month's edition.

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BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL - Friday Mornings

'The Bunk' or 'The Snailwaytrain'

This was Highworth's train to Swindon. Calling at Hannington, near the Freke Arms, Stanton Fitzwarren and Stratton.

After initial difficulties with the build the project was taken over by the GWR and the line opened in 1883.

In 1890 a works train left Highworth at 5.20am and returned at 5.45pm. Men no longer needed to walk to work at the Railway Works in Swindon.

The portion of line between Hannington and Highworth contained the steepest railway gradient in Wiltshire. A stretch of track just over half a mile long rose 1 in 44. In steam days the procedure was to open the regulator fully for full power and just blast your way up the incline. Once at Highworth care had to be taken that the train did not return to Swindon by itself!

There was no turntable at the station so the return journey was made with the coal bunker at the front.

Station Masters

A Mr North was the first but he only stayed for about a year.

Mr Robert Perrett came next and stayed until 1904. He lived in one of the cottages in the small lane from Swindon Road to Shrivenham Road just below the garage. From 1888 to 1903 James Bishop, the Hannington station master, lived in Highworth on Swindon Street.

Mr H. D. Mant arrived in 1904. He lived first in Westrop Terrace, then in the Station Master's House, built in 1911. He played a large part in the life of the town often acting as Master of Ceremonies at dances.

When he retired, the town lost their Station Master and came under Stratton. In WWII, with much increased trade on the line, Mr Samuel Toy moved from Leading Porter to Station Master. In 1939 he was living at 24 Park Avenue.



Highworth Station staff

Freight on the line

Around 20 tons of coal came in every week for the Gas Company as well as supplies for the town's coal merchants. Bales of coco-mat fibre arrived for the Vorda Works. Bartrops sent tractors and parts (in WWI they were sending out 24 tons of horseshoes a week for the army). Large quantities of milk were carried from the local farms.

The last passenger train was on 28th February 1953. On 3rd August 1962 the final works train left. Exploding detonators marked the traditional way to see out the life of a branch.

The next Monday the workers had to pay 2/6d a day to travel by bus. The trains had carried them free of charge.

Memories of a trip on the line

This piece was sent to me by a lady who used to live in Eastrop.

"On Saturdays there was a shopping train to Swindon at 1pm which returned at 6pm. I think that it cost 1/- return; railway workers and their families travelled free. Mothers could take babies in their prams in the guard's van.

"When the train stopped at the level crossing on the Blunsdon Road, the guard opened the gate and closed the road off. The driver would take the train across to the other side and then wait for the guard to open the road. Whilst this was happening, children would jump down and pick flowers and climb back on the train at the other side.

"It was a lovely ride and a treat.

"One evening my father was late coming home from work because there was a cow on the railway line and it had derailed the train."

Highworth Historical Society have a variety of books on sale in the Lighthouse and Visit Highworth.

A History of Disease in Highworth

SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus which causes COVID-19, is not the first deadly disease to reach Highworth.

There was a bad outbreak of Bubonic Plague in the town in 1646 which killed 81 residents. It was probably brought here by the Parliamentarians who were occupying Highworth who took it from the Royalists the year before. Bubonic Plague is caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis* and is spread to humans via a flea bite. Once the bacteria enter the human body, they travel through the lymphatic system releasing toxins that causing flu-like symptoms such as fever, headaches and vomiting over the first 1-7 days. Once the bacteria reach and infect the lymph nodes they cause these nodes to swell and occasionally break open, potentially infecting others. Death occurred on day ten. The number of deaths in Highworth had already been high for several years before the plague, suggesting that Highworth had poor sanitation at this time.

Smallpox was another disease that ravaged the land in the C18th. Like SARS-CoV-2, smallpox is caused by a virus, is highly infectious and is transmitted by close contact with infected individuals or via contaminated objects. Sufferers first experience fever and vomiting, followed by a skin rash and the formation of sores in the mouth. Over a number of days this skin rash

worsens and is replaced by fluid-filled bumps which scab over leaving scars and, in a third of all cases, blindness. Highworth had a bad outbreak in 1790 that killed 88 people.

Most inoculations in the C18th were very dangerous as doctors took pus from a person with a milder case of smallpox and transferred it to another by scratching it into the skin. The patient would then also contract smallpox, but hopefully in a more survivable form. But from 1774 a new type of inoculation was being used in the local area by Benjamin Jetsy from Yetminster who used pus from cows suffering from cowpox instead. Which method Highworth used is unknown but in 1790 the entire town was inoculated with costs being covered by the Poor Rate, a special tax on property that the parish used to pay for the workhouse, to remove the unemployed poor to their own parishes and for other forms of poor relief. Around this time, Highworth also built two isolation houses: the Smallpox house (believed to lie somewhere between Botany Farm and Swindon Road) where smallpox victims were sent to be isolated from the community, and an Enoculating House where newly inoculated people stayed until they were no longer contagious.

Let's hope it is a long time before deadly contagious disease reaches our town again.



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Domestic Abuse

Many of you may have watched the Victoria Derbyshire Panorama documentary 'Living with my Abuser' on the BBC.

Domestic Abuse has become even more prevalent since the COVID-19 pandemic: women being forced into isolation with their perpetrator, suffering from coercive control, physical and sexual abuse. The horrific statistics across England are that one in three women will suffer from Domestic Abuse in their lifetime and two women are killed every week by either their current or former partner.

At Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service, we help over 7,000 women every year. We have a

refuge in Swindon with 22 self-contained flats, housing women and children up to the age of 18 years old. We have a Community Service where we are supporting 70 or more women at any one time.

Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service now run the Helpline for Wiltshire for all the out of hours service Mon – Friday, 9pm – 9am and all weekends. We are there to help 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Emma Rawlings, Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service,
emma.rawlings@swindonwomensaid.org
 M: 07434 508991, T: 01793 864984

It's up to all of us to control the spread of coronavirus

Residents of Swindon and Highworth are being urged to play their part in minimising the spread of COVID-19 to help keep themselves and the community safe.

Swindon Borough Council has been working alongside partner agencies to encourage residents to keep following Government advice to control the spread of the virus. In particular, this includes continuing to wash hands, wearing face coverings in enclosed spaces and social distancing from people not in their household.

People are also being asked to stay at home if they have symptoms of coronavirus, no matter how mild. The symptoms to look out for are: a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss of, or change to, people's sense of smell or taste.

Crucially, anyone who has symptoms must book a test immediately. You can book a test, either at a local testing centre or by ordering a home testing kit, by calling 119 or visiting the NHS website.

The Council's 'Swindon: It's up to all of us' campaign was launched in August and aims to engage the community and encourage everyone to play their part in keeping Swindon and the surrounding areas safe. So far, this work has included leaflet drops, engagement with local businesses and community groups, and social media campaigns.

Regular updates are given on Swindon Borough Council's Facebook and Twitter pages, so head there to find out the latest information and advice. Together, we can control the spread of COVID-19.




Many victims of domestic abuse may not be physically hurt.

Abuse comes in many forms including:

- Sexual
- Emotional
- Financial
- Psychological

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**If you think you are the victim of domestic abuse,
or you think someone you know is, please call.**

Here at Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service we offer help with:

- Community Services
- LGBT
- Refuge Accommodation
- Healthy Relationship workshops
- Recovery programmes
- Children and Young People Services
- Help and support for male and female victims 16 years plus

 [Facebook.com/SWADomesticAbuse/](https://www.facebook.com/SWADomesticAbuse/) |  [@SwindonWA](https://twitter.com/SwindonWA) | www.swadomesticabuse.org



Swindon Women's Aid Inc. is a registered charity, Charity No 1175148 PO Box 3816, Swindon, SN5 1BQ
General Enquiries: 01793 864 984

Sport *Compiled by Jason Daniels*

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



An Autumn With Sport Again

After the forced hiatus, balls at an elite level are once again being kicked, bowled, driven, served, caught and potted and locally we've thankfully been able to follow.



With, of course, the new restrictions firmly dictating how, we at least can return to the sports we love with autumn feeling like it used to, even if the summer didn't! Given the unpredictability of the COVID-19 situation the competitive calendar for some sports has been wiped clean for the rest of this year to avoid any more disappointment, but the training, practice sessions and more important social interactions have resumed.

Lockdown may already have become a memory rather than a reality we were forced to live through; even with the threat of a sequel forever casting its ugly shadow over us we'll embrace this reunion and focus once again on enjoying the physical and mental benefits our sports provide us.

Jason Daniels

Highworth Bowls Club

The green continues to be used to provide rollup and competitions for its members and despite the social distancing restrictions imposed, it provides the opportunity to bowl whilst adhering to the social distancing rules. We continue to look for new members and if there is anyone interested in joining, either as a social member or as a bowler, please contact me (the club's membership secretary) via email, or for further information take a look at our website. Don't forget, if you are planning an event, meeting or party, our facilities could be the perfect choice. Highworth Bowls Clubs is situated on the Swindon Road (opposite the Shell Petrol Station) in Highworth and is available for hire. It has a large room with table and chairs, a well-stocked bar together with Ladies & Gents toilet facilities and ample parking for 20 cars. Please note that the bar service currently only accepts card payments. We have social distancing and hygiene processes in place at the club and we adhere to all Government Guidelines as well as our own Sporting Body, Bowls England so please be aware that situations may change at short notice depending on guidelines and policies. For further details on hiring the venue please do get in touch with the club secretary via email.



Kevin Brown

E: hbcmembershipsecretary@gmail.com

E: secretary@highworthbowlsclub.org

W: www.highworthbowlsclub.org

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Wrag Barn Golf Club

The Ladies Championships were held last month during one of the few days when there wasn't an almighty storm! There were 19 Ladies in the 36 hole competition and some amazing results. Katie Walls, who plays off of a handicap of four, beat the rest of the field by 14 shots and completed two rounds in 148



Ladies Champion Katie Walls (left)

shots which is two under par. An amazing result and she deserves to be Wrag Barn's Ladies Champion. Our Ladies Captain Christine Eaton was delighted to present Katie with her trophy.

Verity Manners
W: www.wragbarn.com

Highworth Town Walking Football Club



The Wiltshire FA's New Facility in Devizes

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email:
info@topofthetrees.co.uk

www.topofthetrees.co.uk



are not yet able to play indoors at The Rec, we have been holding these popular Thursday morning sessions on the 3G pitch at Grange Leisure in Stratton. We remain fully supportive and committed to The Rec and will be keen to return when safe to do so. In the meantime, we are looking forward to getting back to competitive football and are now involved in four leagues.

The Thames Valley League at Bisham Abbey will restart this month and we hope to build on our second place in the Premiership. Our Over 60s are currently top of Division 2 in their first season. The new Wiltshire FA League also kicks-off this month at the Wiltshire FA's new 'state-of-the-art' Headquarters in Devizes. Both Over 50s and Over 60s teams are strongly tipped to do well. We are also excited about the Swindon Town Midweek Walking Football League that kicked off at Foundation Park last month with two Over 50s and two Over 60s teams. Finally, we hope to return to the Gloucestershire FA Walking Football League sometime in the autumn although no dates for this have yet been

announced. If you are interested in playing at Highworth Rec on a Thursday morning or would like to try it out at Grange Leisure in Stratton on Sunday mornings, 11am to 12 noon please get in contact.

Kevin Turner

E: highworthwfc@gmail.com M: 07748 366979

Highworth Town Football Club

HTFC are backup and running with limited numbers of supporters allowed to attend matches. The season will be slightly compressed with the likelihood of more midweek fixtures and the issue of travelling to away games whilst adhering to current social distancing may cause challenges for players and supporters alike.

The club has operated well since re-opening and we thank everyone for their co-operation. Keep an eye on our Twitter and Facebook social media profiles as well as our website for all our news.

Derek Lloyd

W: www.highworthtownfc.com

Highworth Town Football Club's Southern League Fixtures for Season 2020/21

Sat	Oct 3	Frome Town	A	Emirates FA Cup 2Q
Wed	Oct 7	Slimbridge	H	
Sat	Oct 10	Melksham Town	A	
Wed	Oct 14	TBC		Emirates FA Cup 3Q
Sat	Oct 17	Winchester City	H	Buildbase FA Trophy 2Q
Sat	Oct 24	Winchester City	H	Emirates FA Cup 4Q
Tue	Oct 27	TBC		
Sat	Oct 31	Cinderford Town	H	Buildbase FA Trophy 3Q
Wed	Nov 4	Basingstoke Town	H	
Sat	Nov 7	AFC Totton	A	Emirates FA Cup 1
Sat	Nov 14	Moneyfields	A	Buildbase FA Trophy 1
Sat	Nov 21	Evesham United	H	
Sat	Nov 28	Barnstaple Town	A	Emirates FA Cup 2
Sat	Dec 5	Mangotsfield United	H	Buildbase FA Trophy 2
Sat	Dec 12	Bideford	H	
Sat	Dec 19	Thatcham Town	A	Buildbase FA Trophy 3
Sat	Dec 26	Larkhall Athletic	A	

Fixtures courtesy of the HTFC Facebook page and remain subject to change.

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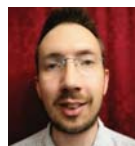


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Arts Section *Compiled by Iain Barnwell*

Contact: HighworthLinkArts@gmail.com



Photographic Display in the High Street

The current pandemic has meant that the Highworth Camera Club has been unable to meet. Our last meeting was in March. However, much has been going on via the internet with virtual meetings and competitions. This has resulted in a shortage of mounted pictures.

Some time ago the club approached the Highworth Physiotherapy Clinic in the High Street with a request that we display some of our images in their window. They were very happy to agree to this. We have therefore been displaying for some time now. The Club tries to change the pictures about once a month, with the clinic reclaiming the window with their own displays for May Day, the Produce & Craft Show and Christmas. All very imaginative displays and well worth viewing.



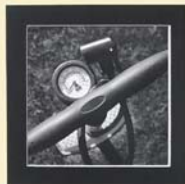
With the current shortage of material, we will be delving into the archive and showing work which has not been seen before.

Are you looking? I talk to many people in the town about the Camera Club but when I enquire if they have seen the pictures in the window, they say that they never bother to look in the windows in the High Street. They are missing out. There are several windows well worth a closer look, as well as

our own pictures.

Get looking! More pictures can be seen in the Visitor Centre further down the High Street in the former Lloyds Bank. Some are even for sale.

Highworth Snapper



Lechlade Art Society goes world-wide

The major event of the art society's calendar is the annual exhibition. It is a way of reaching the community and celebrating the fine work that is produced. The exhibition not only showcases the work of members, it is also an opportunity to buy and sell work.

This year the committee made the difficult decision, along with countless other groups, societies and organisations, to cancel this event but to try out something new. So they formed a virtual exhibition, cataloguing their works via the Lechlade Art Society website. This exhibition was available online for the whole of September, with potential customers able to contact the artists to purchase their favourite pieces.

If you missed it, here is a taste of what was on offer:

Catalogue number 92 Mr Exit

Rosemary Bray. This is what she said:

'I guess Boris's appeal to me as a subject was initially the vibrant energy that exudes from him; the sense of forceful drama and chaos. But in the process of painting him I found a fascinating 'multiplicity', a sense of mischief and femininity, not at all in the 'girlie' sense but a fleeting glimpse of real softness and deep caring. Obviously only a big canvas would do; he had to be 'larger than life!'



'Mr Exit' by Rosemary Bray

The choice of a shocking pink underpainting surprised me initially but it felt right; maybe something to do with that somewhat 'dizzy champagne playboy' that I imagine?

I had only just committed a rough sketch to the canvas when he was struck down with the COVID-19 virus and I found it impossible to continue. It felt entirely wrong to try to paint such vibrant, living energy when the whole country was holding its breath to see if he would survive!

Margaret Hing

(See more examples of Lechlade Art Society's work overleaf)



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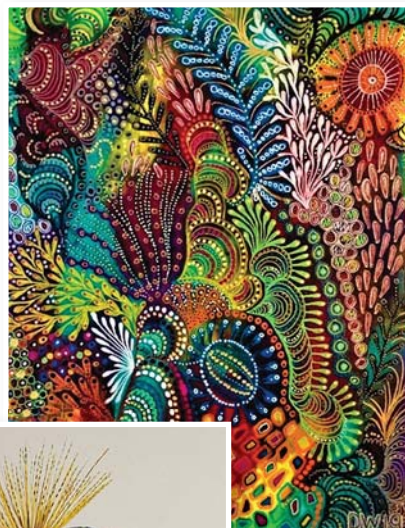
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Sue O'Connell, 'The Breaker'

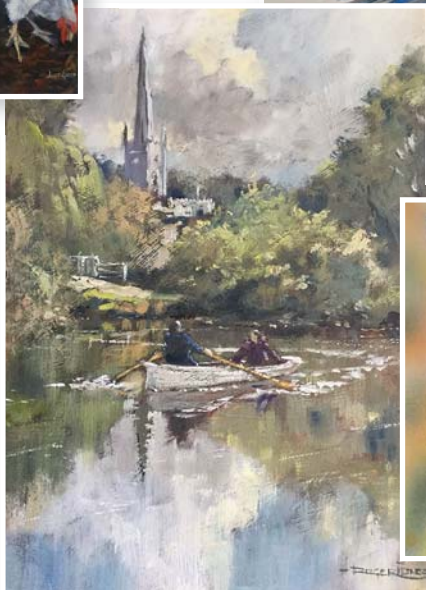
Debbie J Wyatt, 'Jungle'



Joan Lyons,
'Free range'



Kelsey Brown,
'Blue bird'



Roger Jones,
'Heading upstream'



John Sirrelle, 'Highland Cow'

See Lechlade Art Society's work online.

www.highworthlink.co.uk

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For four years we have been collecting unwanted adult bikes, no matter their condition, to fix up and distribute to asylum seekers at 'The Harbour Project' in Swindon.
www.harbourproject.org.uk

If you have a bicycle collecting dust, even if it is in a poor state, we will be happy to arrange to collect it from you at your convenience. If it cannot be repaired, we will use it for spare parts.

The men and women who have already received bicycles have been incredibly grateful, but there are many more we would like to help.

**Please ring Richard on
01367 850233
to arrange a collection. Thank you**



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HIGHWORTH & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS 2020

This year The Lions Club will again offer Christmas Vouchers to people in the Highworth Lions Club area. To receive a voucher you must be over 65. *(One voucher per household).*



CHRISTMAS VOUCHER APPLICATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return completed form to The Lions Charity Shop, Newburgh Place,
before **Wednesday 11th November**

David Kennedy Bishop – 1929-2020

Bridis and family wish to thank everyone who attended the service for the celebration of the life of David at Kingsdown Crematorium on the 24th February.

Many thanks to everyone for their kind support and for all the messages of sympathy. David will be missed by all, most especially for his smile and good sense of humour.

Mair Huband



The Highworth Link thanks...

We would like to thank our volunteer Mair Huband, for her many years of service to the magazine, delivering in Highworth. Although she will no longer be distributing magazines we do hope that Mair will still find time to contribute her articles.

Thank you Mair!


Car Boot Sale, Saturday 24th October

12.30-4.30pm on the Lower Rec car park to raise funds for Highworth Town Junior Football Club.

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Dear Highworth Link

I was delighted to read the letter which Hugh Williams sent to you.

The situation with regard to St Michael's church is of course quite clear. But what of Gilberts Lane?

If there was one renowned resident of Highworth who was deemed worthy of having a lane named after him, it should be Gilbert's Lane. But if there were several Gilberts among his family and friends then it must be Gilberts' Lane.

I should be delighted to join Hugh William's apostrophe protectors and certainly it should be open, not secret.

Yours sincerely, Margaret Tuckwell

Hello Highworth Residents, past and present

We want to put a 'call out' to those of you who have walked, and would like to continue to walk, a path that has recently been blocked by a landowner/developer.

The path in question is a short one but has been important to residents in the area for a long period.

We are sure the path will be, or will have been, familiar to many of you. It is the path opposite the entrance to Wrag Barn Golf Club on the Highworth to Shrivenham Road. For many recent years it has been a mixed surface single track 'road' leading to, and beyond, the dilapidated barns, which are now undergoing renovation.

The section of this path that is relevant to our request for help and information is the small section that leads from the road to the intersection with the public right of way that leads out of Highworth and past Warneford School. See map for detail, the path in question is in yellow highlighter.

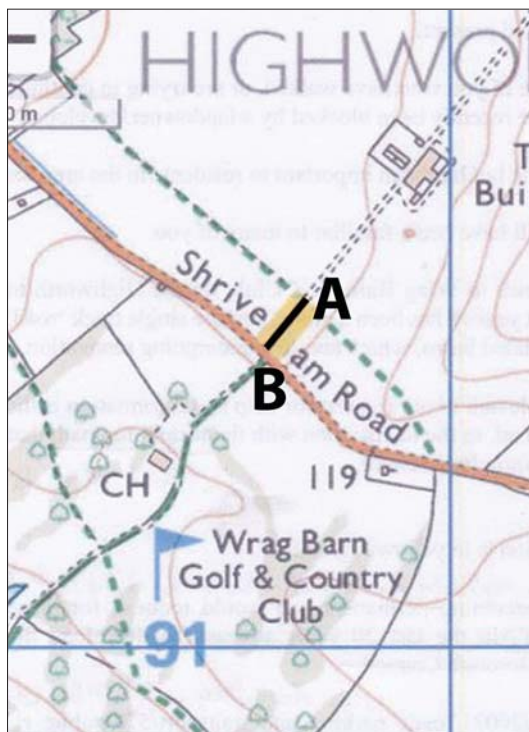
To get public access to the path restored, it will be necessary to provide evidence that it has been used by the general public "as of right" for a period of at least 20 years prior to it being blocked.

It is imperative that we get as many residents as possible who have used the path to help us by completing a User Evidence Form. Any relevant documentary evidence in the form of historic documents, maps or photographs would also be welcome.

The responses will form the basis for an 'APPLICATION FOR A MODIFICATION TO THE DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT', which is the legal record of public rights of way held by Swindon Borough Council as highway authority.

We will provide the necessary forms and will be happy to help in their completion. We have enlisted the help of the local group of The Ramblers, <https://www.wiltsswindonramblers.org.uk/index.php/ne-wiltshire>, who will submit the application on our behalf when it is ready.

*Lou Thompson and Hugh Reader,
highworthresidents@gmail.com*



Highworth Library Update

Highworth Library is currently open for Click, Call and Collect, reservations and returns only.

Books can be ordered online at <https://bit.ly/30IMJct> or by calling the library. You will need your library card and PIN. Staff can also pick out books for you if you don't know what to read or you can book a 15-minute browsing session. You will be called once your books are ready to collect and others can collect the books if you are shielding. Previous books can be returned during collection.

The Library has a one-in, one-out system and masks should be worn. Books will be issued for six weeks. There is no access to toilets.

Computers can now be booked for use, but there is no printing or scanning available at this time. Slots are limited to 45 minutes, starting on the hour. Call Highworth Library on 01793 463500 to book.

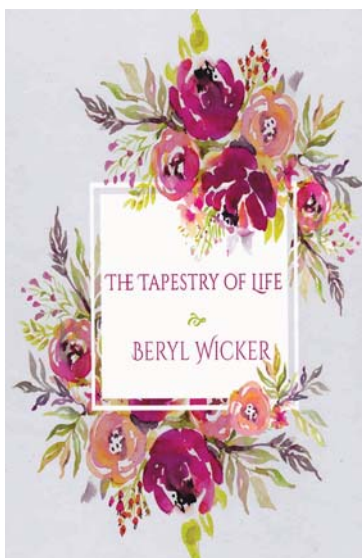
Our new opening times are: Monday 10am-2pm, Tuesday 1pm-5pm, Thursday 10am-2pm

'The Tapestry of Life' by Beryl Wicker

Published last year, this collection of 51 poems is an eclectic mix of childhood memories, observances of real-life people and explorations of the natural world. It is the perfect gift for those hard-to-buy-for occasions, with a short intro to put each poem in context and a scattering of personal photos. But most importantly, its poems have the power to hold the attention and move you to tears or make you laugh out loud.

Beryl has written poems ever since childhood. Her father would recite Shakespeare in the car and both her parents encouraged her love of the English language from a very early age. A few of Beryl's poems have been published before in various anthologies but it was Val who really made the book a possibility. Beryl's poems would sometimes be read out in Church and were widely admired by the Methodist congregation. Long-standing friend Val recognised that these poems deserved to be collected and typed up before they were lost and, once she had amassed enough poems, she found a publisher through a friend and helped Beryl make the book a reality.

"I have no idea where most of the poems come from," Beryl told me. "I will get up in the morning and they are just there, waiting to be written down. The last verse is always the



hardest and sometimes the poems end very differently to how I thought they would when I first started writing. Finding a suitable title also requires a great deal of time and thought. It took me ages to come up with the title of the book but once I had decided on it then I wrote the first poem as a means of introducing the rest."

Lockdown has given Beryl the opportunity to write enough poems for a second book, this time entitled 'The Patchwork of Life.' "I needed something to keep my brain going," Beryl said. "And writing poetry certainly helps to keep the mind young.

"I have had a number of lovely letters and cards from readers here and in far-away places like Australia, Hong Kong, North America and even the Outer Hebrides. The new book has a page showcasing some of these messages. I have also included more personal photos and hope that readers will enjoy my second book as much as the first."

'The Tapestry of Life' costs £12 and is available to buy right now from the Lighthouse Bookshop, Visit Highworth or from Beryl T: (01793) 764395. Her new book 'The Patchwork of Life' will be available to purchase from the same locations in early December. Beryl is also taking orders.

On the Country Footpath

by Beryl Wicker

It's quite a common thing to ask people how they are and then not to listen to what they say. But this poor man had no option as it was a very narrow path, where I met him.

Hello Bill, how are you?

You're looking very fit.

I'm not too well myself, you know,

I'm walking with a stick.

I've not seen you for some time, Bill,

I thought that you were dead.

Oh, don't mind me, I always say what comes into my head.

Do you still live at number 3 or is it number 4?

The one where weeds are growing through the path outside the door.

What's that you say? You've got a cold.

Well I've just had the flu.

I have it every year, you know;

It leaves me feeling blue.

What happened to you little dog?

The one that bit your wife.

Is she still in A & E fighting for her life?

Did your dog have rabies?

Has your wife gone mad?

Don't worry, Bill, they'll have a pill

To bring her out of that.

What's that you say, Bill?

You have to go?

Must you go so soon?

I hope that I have cheered you up

On this rainy afternoon.

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The Round The World



The event included a Kid's Trail where photos of various animals were attached to lamp posts around the town.



Lucy, Sophie and Claire Titcombe set themselves a target of 150 miles but ended up doing over 300 miles. Well done them.



Darcy and Lou



Walkers Gwen and Mike

At the end of August, Highworth was set the challenge to raise much needed funds for CAP. Thanks to all those who took the equivalent of London to Alice Springs, Australia.

22 people from Highworth Methodist Church, including David and travelled nearly 540 miles. A successful table-top sale of their collective total to £1000. Well done HMC.

The Sowden family had this to say; "We had such a varied experience through the middle of Reading without touching any main roads along the River Thames by the side of Hampton Court, down a wonderful ride.

"The less wonderful bits were the spectacular noise as a tyre rescue, and getting completely drenched in a thunderstorm. It was great for the drying out of our shoes and cycling clothes for.

So far we have raised over £7000. Our giving page is still open for CAP. Here is the address: <https://www.give.net/Highworth>

The Highworth CAP centre opened 6 years ago and since then they go debt free. In addition, over 30 people have worked on launching a CAP Job Club. We know that following the recession only increase, so we are very grateful to everyone who supports.



Jacky, Jemma and Rosie Storey cycled and ran, with Jemma completing a half marathon locally as part of the challenge.

d Challenge for CAP



The Sowden group



The Elwick family managed to cycle a whopping 1000 miles over the week

walk, run and cycle 25,000 miles in one week to raise
part, Highworth collectively travelled over 9500 miles, the

cy & Lou and Gwen & Mike donned their walking boots
outside the Church also raised £180, bringing the Church's

de up to London. Along the Kennet and Avon Canal,
roads, through Windsor Great Park and Richmond Park,
n the Embankment to the Houses of Parliament, it was a

e burst, but we were near Halfords who came to our
but our accommodation had the heating on which was
day two."

en if people want to donate to support the amazing work
[RoundTheWorld](#)

en we have helped 147 client families and have seen 50 of
d through our Life Skills course and this year we are
ent crisis the need for CAP's free debt advice service will
ported our 'Round the World' challenge.

Kathryn Ford



Various walkers and many other cyclists, in total over 180 people, ran, walked and cycled around the area here and even away on their holidays.



Rob Grist, Lois Wells & friends did a huge cycle from Burbage to Lechlade and back, racking up 304 miles.



Tom and Emma Sowden

Local Rotary club contributes to Africa region being declared wild polio-free

The Rotary Club of Swindon North has played a role in a significant global public health achievement, as the World Health Organization's (WHO) Africa region has officially been certified wild polio-free.

Polio is a debilitating disease, mainly affecting children, which can cause paralysis and even death. But decades of effort from Rotary clubs and volunteers around the world who have fundraised, campaigned and worked tirelessly for more than 30 years, has helped eradicate polio from Africa. The certification comes four years after Nigeria, the last polio-endemic country in Africa, recorded its final case of wild polio and now means that of the WHO's six regions, five of those, accounting for 90% of the world's population, are free from polio.

Globally, more than 2.5 billion children have been protected against the disease, which has reduced the number of cases by 99.9% from around 1,000 cases per day in 125 countries. The Rotary Club of Swindon North has played its part towards the End Polio Now campaign in the recent past by holding fundraising events, making donations and arranging awareness-raising activities such as purple crocus planting.

The Rotary Club of Swindon North's President, Kathy Hobson, said, "This is a terrific landmark in



the world's battle to eradicate polio. Although it has been many years since polio has been present in the UK and Ireland, we are proud to have contributed to the global efforts to eliminate the disease for good. We remain committed to making the final, challenging steps towards making a polio-free world a reality. If we don't finish the job, it is estimated that, within 10 years, as many as 200,000 children

annually all over the world could succumb to polio, including here in the UK. The virus can literally be a plane ride away so vaccination is so important."



Despite this significant milestone being reached, the job to fully rid the world of polio goes on as the virus continues to circulate in parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan. In order to sustain this progress, vaccination programmes must continue to protect every last child and strengthen routine immunisation to keep immunity levels high so the virus does not return to Africa or other parts of the world, including the UK. Rotary has

directly contributed more than US\$2 billion to ending polio since 1985.

To get involved in Rotary and make a difference in your community and around the world, visit www.rotaryswindonnorth.org.uk



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Bobby Baxter Believes

by Juli Frances Taylor

*Bobby Baxter and Coll are always together
Bobby Baxter and Coll are best friends forever
Coll stays next to Bobby wherever he goes
Coll has shiny black fur, and a shiny wet nose.*

*This is a story of friendship and care
About believing in someone and always being there.
This is a story of how well you can do
When somebody you love believes in you.*

*Jemima wears make up – though her Mum
tells her "No!"
It's because she feels like she's always on show,
She sees girls in the adverts and on the TV
And thinks "I can't be happy if I look like me"
When she tells Bobby it makes her upset
That she doesn't feel pretty, he sighs with regret
"Oh Jem you are lovely, and you sing like a star!
Coll and I love to listen when you play your guitar
If you could just see yourself
The way I see you
You would know you're amazing
I believe in you".*

*Samir tries to hide the spots on his face
But they just keep appearing all over the place.
He puts his head down and never looks up at all
He feels awkward and shy, being spotty and tall.*

*When he tells Bobby it would be his dream
Just to raise up his head and for once to be seen
Bobby says "Sam, you're so very clever and bright
Coll and I love to listen to the stories you write
If you could just see yourself
The way I see you
You would know you're amazing.
I believe in you".*

*Lola wears clothes that are baggy and long
Because her body is large, but to her just
feels wrong*

*She doesn't like it when friends post their
pictures online
Do you have to be thin to have a good time?
When she tells Bobby she doesn't fit in
Because Popstars and Actors are all so very slim
Bobby says "Lo, you really stand out in a crowd
Coll and I love to listen when you're reading
out loud.
If you could just see yourself
The way I see you
You would know you're amazing
I believe in you".*

*Prize giving at school at the end of the year
And for Music and Drama, the winners are clear
Jemima and Lola take both the Awards
And all Samir's stories get massive applause.
Bobby, with Coll, smiles, claps and feels proud
Then someone strokes Coll and it's told
"That's not allowed
Coll is working right now, he's Bobby's guide
Don't distract him, he needs to stay by Bob's side"
Coll stays with Bobby
They work together
Coll guides him
And they are best friends forever.*

*The kids are all laughing and having such fun
Jem and Lo both look beautiful,
Sam beams like the sun.
Bobby grins as he says "I told you all so
You're amazing! Fantastic! Stars of the show!
You know that I'm blind, so listen you guys
I judge with my heart and not with my eyes".*

*Coll sees for Bobby
So they're always together
A team made of two
Best friends forever.*



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*Don't
Forget*

Pray, Love, Remember...

Something different this year, Friday 30th October – Tuesday 3rd November

The beginning of November is traditionally a time in the Church calendar when we remember loved ones who have died and reflect on the wider community of saints; our 'friends on earth and friends above', as one hymn puts it.

In normal times at St Michael's Church we would hold a special All Saints service 'In Loving Memory'. This is a chance to come together, to grieve, remember, pray and light a candle to give thanks for those we have lost; but also to find strength in God's faithful love.

But this year, of course, we are not in normal times! Unable to congregate together, we have not even been able to hold normal funerals, let alone Sunday services or anything else.

...St Michael's is still open for prayer.

So, we have decided to do something different this year for All Saints, to help bereaved families. From **Friday 30th October to Tuesday 3rd**

November, there will be a dedicated prayer space in the Church so we can drop in on our

own at any time to remember a loved one. There will be resources for prayer, candles to light and a commemoration book to sign. This has been a hard time for everyone, and we are all affected in some way by loss and disappointments as well as perhaps losing a loved one without the usual opportunities to mourn. But God is faithful; He is near; He knows the depths of our hearts.



St Michael's Church offers a peaceful sanctuary for our community in the turmoil of life. We hope that many will take advantage of the prayer space and resources for All Saints. The live-streamed service on **Sunday 1st November** at 10.15am (via the church website) will also focus on God's ultimate purpose and hope for his people. May God comfort us all with his faithful love.

Rev Geoff Sowden & Rev Alison Williams

Operation Christmas Child (The Shoe Box Appeal)

The annual Shoe Box appeal for Operation Christmas Child is scheduled to still take place from Monday 9th November to Monday 16th November. It is hoped that the Methodist Church will be available as a collection centre (COVID-19 allowing). We expect that the Collection Centre will be open from 10am – 4pm each day, but these times will be confirmed closer to the time.



If you are thinking about packing a shoe box, or producing crafts to go in one, then Operation Christmas Child have produced a set of Quality Crafting resources and they are available from their website:

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ-quality-crafts/> If you don't have access to the website, but

would be interested, then please contact Peter on 01793 764385.

HTC Fireworks November 2020

Due to the current COVID-19 Crisis, Highworth Town Council will not be holding this year's Guy Fawkes celebration event in November. It is hoped that the situation in November next year (2021) will allow the Council to re-commence holding this event.

Visit Highworth to host Christmas Craft Fair

Visit Highworth celebrated its 1st year anniversary during September and we would like to thank our shareholders and funders for their support and our Artists for supplying us with their beautiful craft pieces. We are hoping to open the Museum later in September which is showcasing pottery and ceramics by local potters Katherine Pleydell-Bouverie, Peter Burgess and ceramist Christine Burgess.

Handmade masks are available for £3. We also have lots of new crafts with our Christmas stock being available from mid-October

We are organising a Christmas Craft fair to be held in St Michael's on the evening of **Friday 27th November** coinciding with the 'Christmas Lights Switch On', and again on **Saturday 28th November**. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Public Liability Insurance is mandatory and unfortunately unpackaged consumable products will not be permitted.

If you are interested in having a craft stall at both sessions, the cost is £30. For an application form and the Terms and Conditions please get in touch with Visit Highworth Centre via info@visithighworth.co.uk, enquiries contact Neil on 07500 948222.



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Special Quest and Journey Videos for Kids

Phoebe, John, Simon and Chris from the Upper Thames Methodist Circuit created a series of weekly videos over the summer holidays to engage youngsters in Christianity.

The 'Quest' series was aimed at primary-aged children with lots of Bible stories, crafts and a chance to win prizes by emailing in photos of their creations. The 'Journey' series was aimed at young people aged 11+ and featured stories of encounters with God and questions to get the brain ticking. The videos were filmed in a variety of locations in and around Highworth.



videos are still available to watch via the Upper Thames Circuit YouTube channel at <https://bit.ly/31WKWKV>

If you missed out this summer, don't worry as the

Jon Lewis, Highworth Methodist Church



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Highworth Churches Information

Hope for Highworth: Email your personal needs or concerns to churchispraying@gmail.com and the church will pray for you.

Saturday Prayers: At 12noon every Saturday until the end of the crisis we will all pray together for the town and the nation. Everyone who is a part of the Highworth Churches will do this wherever they are, many outside, and anyone is free to join in where they are as we consistently pray for hope, wisdom, healing and an end to the troubles.

Services in St Michael's Church:

Sunday 4th October: 9am Holy Communion Service

Sunday 4th October: 10.15am Harvest Festival Service (Streamed online service)

Wednesday 21st October: 11am Midweek Church Holy Communion Service

Friday 30th October – Tuesday 3rd November: All Saints 'In Loving Memory'

In accordance with current Government guidelines face coverings must be worn in Church. Hygiene and social distancing guidelines must be adhered to. Hand sanitizer is located in the South Porch for use on entering and exiting the Church.

Virtual Church services:

St Michael's Church Services:

The 10.15am Sunday Service can be watched live at www.twitch.tv/stmichaelshighworth or by clicking on the service link on the Church website at www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk. Service sheets, summaries, prayers and blessings can all be found on the Church website.

The 6pm Evening Prayer Service every Wednesday takes the form of the liturgical service from Common Worship with readings and will last

about 25 minutes.

Roman Catholic Church:

You can watch a daily Mass live from Clifton Cathedral at 9.30am using this link <https://www.churchservices.tv/cliftoncathedral/embed#tab-player>

Highworth Methodist Church:

Rev David is posting a new service every Sunday at 10.30am on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYZpw6oX_1ef-68tycPGT3Q? There are links in the info to songs fitting in with what is happening in the service with guidance as to where they fit in.

Midweek service on Zoom takes place on Tuesdays at 7.30pm. It lasts about 45 minutes and it is an opportunity to worship God and also have a little chat with your Church Friends. Please email hmbulletin@gmail.com or call Peter (764385) to get the log in details.

United Reform Church:

There is a full list of URC churches offering live and recorded services at <https://urc.org.uk/latest-news/3385-coronavirus-worshipping-digitally>

Highworth Community Church:

We are publishing daily encouragement on our HCC YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG1MXSAzh uV0aWk3tYEzyUw>

Our children's, youth and families work is still active through various media. Contact Jon to see what's happening: 07701 303760 or email jon@highworthchurch.co.uk

You can also access the Hope for Highworth YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpu76C97aCmAue_8hfqCXOg

Highworth Church contacts

St Michael's and All Angels Vicar: Rev Geoff Sowden T: 01793 765554

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church Priest: Fr Michael McAndrew T: 01793 535089

Highworth Methodist Church Minister: Rev Rachael Wilson T: 01793 764330

United Reformed Church Minister: Rev Robert Jordan T: 01793 513039

Community Church Leader: Matt Ford T: 07712 521046



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



- Oct 03 Cyril Jefferies – it's fourteen years since my dear husband has been gone.
I miss you every day. Love you, Joan xx
- Oct 05 Eric Ryder – missing a dearly loved Dad and Bamp on his 95th birthday.
Forever in our hearts. Love from Janice and Pas, Louisa and Chris, Pep and Amy xxxxxx

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.

The Churches of Highworth want to pray for you.

These are challenging times for us all, not only in regard to health, but also in relation to employment, finance, education, and many other areas.

Jesus cares, and we care too.

Whatever you are facing due to crisis, we believe in a God of kindness and miracles. We want to be praying specifically for you.

If you would like us to do this for you, simply email your first name and your prayer needs to:

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Now is not the time to feel discouraged

2020 has been a challenging year, with the news being dominated by coronavirus, recession, furlough and job cuts. This is why one Highworth successful businesswoman regularly appears on BBC Radio Wiltshire to help motivate and inspire us during what seems like an otherwise very bleak time.

Jackie Kerr is well known around town for her Recruitment Agency, which specialises in Engineering and Manufacturing recruitment. Jackie also gives up her free time to mentor and provide support through back-to-work seminars for those who need hope and motivation.

"I have a real passion for helping people back to work," Jackie said. "The secret is having a positive mindset. I don't help find people a job, I teach them, giving them the tools to find their own job. I help people overcome the obstacles they have placed in their own way. Staying at home in isolation is very damaging to our mental health. People need to get out and talk to others, to share their problems and worries and to build a positive and open attitude to finding work. I see my role as helping to nurture that positivity by building their confidence to talk and connect more with the people around you."

"People watch the news and think that there are no jobs, but it's not true. We are taking jobs on

daily helping many business owners and job seeking professionals. Jackie was recently on BBC news talking about the positive job market. As Bob Marley said, "When one door is closed, don't you know that many more are open?" My company has never been busier. Yes, jobs are being cut in Aerospace, Retail and Hospitality, but people from those industries have transferable skills that are needed in the five industries that are growing and actively recruiting.

These industries are:

- Engineering
- Manufacturing
- IT
- Healthcare
- Online Retail



"Honda may be due to close its factory doors early next year, but Amazon is building a site in West Swindon which will create thousands of new jobs. The need for PPE has created opportunities for certain companies to expand and there has never been a better time to start your own business, to fill the gaps being left by the loss of bigger businesses. I just want to say there is opportunity so it is important that people don't feel discouraged at this time. There are still plenty of jobs available; they just need to be brave enough to look outside their current industry to

Recruitment Team: Fraser and Jackie

find new opportunities.

Volunteering can also be a good option if you are between jobs or are on furlough as it will help to get you out of the house, will build your skill set and will look good on your CV. Plenty of charity shops currently need volunteers and don't be afraid to approach suitable employers direct or to apply for positions that are maybe not skilled as it can lead to bigger things."

Jackie regularly has a slot Monday mornings at 10.15am on BBC Radio Wiltshire which contains lots of advice and motivation for coping with furlough and finding work. She is also very pleased to announce that she will be helping at the regular CAP job club in the Bridge and is hoping to create a programme with local universities to help students transition from study to the workplace more easily. "I am very keen to hear from anyone who wants to get into the workplace but feels like they are getting nowhere," Jackie added.

"Jackie Kerr Recruitment has been running in

Highworth for 23 years," Jackie concluded. "It has grown massively during that time from a local agency to a national one, offering recruitment services to engineering and manufacturing SMEs, with whom she has made many friendships and opportunities all over the country, from Scotland to Poole. It is our hope that Fraser will open a new branch in Witney in the next year or two. Things have changed quite a bit over the past two decades. The internet has replaced newspaper ads but the fundamentals remain the same. It is always better to pick up the phone or, even better, get out and talk to people face-to-face. And you never know what opportunities will come your way, because you took the time to have a conversation."

If you're a job seeker looking for your next opportunity or just need some motivation, or a business owner wanting to chat through your next recruitment campaign, please call.

Jackie Kerr can be contacted on T: 01793 762026,
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Avoiding meat and dairy products

This is the 5th part of a series of articles about what individuals can do about climate change, comprising ideas from readers of Ripples Community Magazine for Fairford and Lechlade and Highworth Link Magazine. This article focuses on how eating meat and dairy products contributes to climate change.

Climate scientists have long argued that the West's current consumption of meat and dairy products is unsustainable. This is a worldwide challenge and although the NFU (www.nfuonline.com) have an aspiration to make British farms carbon neutral by 2040, it is recognised that it will not be reached and will require significant government subsidy. However, some UK farmers are doing good work by helping degraded land to regenerate and increasing biodiversity. It is important that local communities support such activities.

Why? Climate change is starting to affect more and more people globally and is fuelled by greenhouse gases. In some parts of the world, such as Libya and Bangladesh, it is becoming commonplace for temperatures to exceed 50°C for months at a time.

The UK Committee on Climate Change has warned the Government that if we maintain current carbon use, a global temperature rise of 3 – 4°C is likely over 80 years. This does not sound a lot but will bring Saharan type conditions to southern Europe making it increasingly difficult to farm.

How? Methane (CH₄) is the second largest contributor to global warming after carbon dioxide (CO₂). Some 60% comes from agriculture. Cows, sheep, goats and other ruminant animals break down food in their stomachs through fermentation, producing methane. Manure also produces methane. Intensively raised animals produce vast quantities of slurry. Some is used on the fields as fertiliser but if too much is used, it is leached out by the rain and can contaminate water courses, ground water and drinking water supplies or drain off through streams and rivers into the sea.

Manure, slurry and overuse of fertilisers also release nitrous oxide (N₂O), another very potent greenhouse gas that is much more resistant to breakdown within the atmospheric layers than CH₄. It also contributes to

ozone depletion. Ozone is critical for filtering out the more harmful UV rays from the sun before they reach the earth's surface.

The Met office says methane is 30 times more powerful than carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas and nitrous oxide is nearly 300 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

Only about 6% of land management in Europe is organic. The vast bulk of food production relies on high inputs of fertiliser, pesticides, antibiotics and intensive feeding of animals. This results in CH₄ and N₂O from the animals and their slurry and CO₂ released when ploughing land for feed crops for intensively reared animals.

Our World in Data (www.ourworldindata.org) shows that the livestock industries use more than 70% of the world's agricultural land yet produce only about 20% of food caloric supply and about 30% of food protein supply.

Many nations traditionally eat very little meat in comparison to the western diet, but research shows that increasing affluence increases meat consumption and if all nations ate a North American diet, we would need two planets to provide the land required.

What is a vegetarian?

The definition is loosely used but generally a vegetarian is a person who does not eat meat, fish or seafood.

Avoiding meat, fish and seafood is a major way to reduce your environmental impact on the planet. This is a good time to try a vegetarian diet as many people are working from home and have more time to cook and to experiment with recipes.

A vegetarian diet uses a whole range of different foodstuffs and the range of tastes far exceed the range of meats available. Plant foods also contain a much wider range of vitamins, minerals and fibre than meats. Many western diets are lacking in soluble fibre which is essential for a healthy digestive system.

Actions	Examples using meat
AVOID it (completely)	Adopt a wholly vegetarian diet
REDUCE it (do it less)	Have fewer meat meals
REPLACE it (find another way)	Switch to meat substitutes that are plant-based
OFFSET it (find a way to absorb the harmful gases emitted)	Not an option

How can we help?

AVOID

Go vegetarian (or even vegan). Not for everyone but you may want to try. Keep reducing your intake of animal produce (see above).

REDUCE

Cut down your consumption of animal flesh. If you eat a lot of animal products, perhaps start to reduce in small steps.

REPLACE

Substitute plant-based ingredients into meat and dairy recipes.

OFFSET

This is probably not really an option for meat and dairy consumption because, unlike CO₂ emissions, trees do not absorb methane and nitrous oxide.

Can't give up meat?

Every meat meal you replace will make a difference. If you do buy meat, buy good quality, local meat and ask questions about where and how it has been reared. Even if you reduce your meat and dairy consumption by just a quarter, you can reduce your carbon emissions significantly. You may find that your health will benefit and, as pulses are very cheap compared to meat, your pocket will too. Try not to just buy the processed 'meat' alternatives as that can be expensive and they have the same disadvantages as other processed foods.

By reducing your meat and dairy there will be less forest clearance for grazing and growing soya for animal feed, fewer air miles, less transportation

generally and less refrigeration and packaging. What have you got to lose by giving it a go?

Have a go at these

Learn about vegetarian diet at the Vegetarian Society (www.vegsoc.org), vegan diets at the Vegan Society (www.vegansociety.com) and search for 'vegetarian' and 'vegan' on the NHS (www.nhs.uk).

Have one meat-free day a week then steadily increase the number of days a week you don't eat meat or meat products until you are completely meat-free.

Try the tasty vegetarian recipes at BBC Good Food (www.bbcgoodfood.com), Waitrose (www.waitrose.com) and other major supermarkets.

Substitute some of the meat in your usual recipe with pulses, grains or vegetables or tofu. For example, puy lentils are a good addition to mince recipes.

Get 'meaty' flavour from soy sauce, dried mushrooms or marmite; meaty texture from aubergines, jackfruit or pulses; cheesy flavour from sumach or yeast flakes. Roasted cauliflower with sumach is delicious.

Try other milks such as rice, oat or coconut. The majority are fortified and contain the same calcium and vitamin levels as cows' milk.

Get your calcium from green, leafy vegetables, broccoli, spinach, nuts, seeds, (especially sesame), and bread.

Pressure cookers are far easier to use than many people think and can cook large amounts of soaked pulses in less than 25 minutes.

KEY POINTS:

Methane and nitrous oxide, gases produced by meat and dairy agriculture, are far more potent greenhouse gases than carbon dioxide.

The livestock industries use more than 70% of the world's agricultural land yet produce only about

20% of food caloric supply and about 30% of food protein supply.

We need less meat and dairy and more plant-based options in our food system if we're to reach our climate goals.

Thanks to Helen Holly for researching and writing this article.

Next edition: How the energy we consume in our homes affects climate change.

From our MP

Sadly, young people suffer the most during economic downturns. As such, my colleagues and I at the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), and across government, have been working flat out to ensure that young people are at the heart of our post-COVID-19 economic recovery.

As part of these efforts, we launched the Government's ambitious £2 billion Kickstart Scheme this week. The scheme encourages employers, of all sizes, to place 16-24 year olds on 6 month Kickstart placements in the private, public and voluntary sectors. Employers will receive funding for 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer minimum auto-enrolment pension contributions.

The goal of this scheme is to provide those young people who are claiming Universal Credit and are at risk of long-term unemployment with the opportunity to gather real-world experience and get a foot on the job ladder. They will gain experience and confidence, build skills and boost their career prospects significantly. I therefore encourage our local businesses to utilise this fantastic scheme.

The Kickstart scheme comes as part of the Government's wider £30 billion Plan for Jobs. This substantial package of support will help people find existing jobs, will create new jobs through investment in infrastructure and housing and protect jobs by revitalising those sectors which have been hardest hit.

As part of the Plan for Jobs, we are also offering employers cash bonuses to hire trainees and apprentices. The Government is offering employers a £1,000 incentive for each new Trainee they hire, £2,000 for each new apprentice they hire under the age of 25 and £1,500 for any apprentice aged over 25.

One of the challenges we face as a nation is ensuring that our young people have the relevant skills needed to fill future roles in high-value sectors. As such, we are providing £101 million to help 18- and 19-year olds to take high value courses at Levels 2 and 3, helping them

obtain the skills needed to find work in sectors such as engineering, construction and social care.

During this uncertain time, it is also important that people have access to qualified advice and guidance. We are therefore expanding the National Careers Service by providing over £30m to recruit more careers advisers. We are doubling the number of Work Coaches through Job Centre Plus to 27,000, expanding the Work & Health Programme to provide intensive support to people unemployed for at least three months and will also launch a new scheme to support the long-term unemployed.

From this month, we are also providing a guaranteed foundation of support for all 18-24 year olds on Universal Credit. The Youth Offer will include 13 weeks of intensive support including a referral to work-related training or an apprenticeship.

I am at the heart of these efforts to support young people during this difficult time. I will continue to work with colleagues to ensure that young people are front and centre in our post-COVID-19 economic recovery.

Finally, I would like to recommend the new findajob.dwp.gov.uk website. The website is growing in popularity with local businesses who are advertising vacancies so please do share the website with any family or friends who might be interested.

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Extracts of the Minutes of the Full Town Council, 18th August

7. CYCLE PATHS The Town Clerk is to circulate to all Councillors the report on cycle paths previously shared by Councillor (Mrs) M Penny. The Neighbourhood Plan already includes a Policy on cycle paths.

10. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES b. Highworth Community Partnership Group (HCPG). Cllr Gardiner reported that the Centre is still closed due to COVID-19 but preparation is underway to become COVID Secure and re-open to the public. No date has been set for the next Meeting.

11. MEMBERS BUSINESS

a. Cllr Penny: No date has been set to open the Council Offices but preparation is underway to enable this to happen as soon as practically possible.

b. Cllr Weisinger. Solicitors were instructed to look at the lease for the lower rec and it is the Town Clerk's belief they will be ready to sign next week.

c. Cllr Williams as the Mayor of Highworth, his chosen charity is SN6 Wheeled Skate Park and a 'Just Giving' page has been set up. He congratulated all Chairman and Deputies, asked that they work together and keep each other updated and to work hard to give Highworth the best possible service. He reminded Councillors that if there is a grievance with a decision made in a Council Meeting it is not to be aired in public but brought back to a Council Meeting. He informed Councillors that if anyone believes that he should not be serving as a Councillor, the correct procedure is to report the matter to the police.

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If you have a story please email editorathighworthlinkg13@gmail.com

BLUNSDON

Methodist Church for Sale

Blunsdon Methodist Church is up for sale. The Victorian Church, with a 1950s kitchen, toilet block and hall behind and a fair-sized garden at the back is on the market for £200,000 and is sited at the heart of Blunsdon village.



Virtual Village Quiz

The Village Quiz at 7.30pm on **Saturday 7th November** will be held live over Zoom. £2 per person. Please contact kasperczakalex@gmail.com for more information or to register your team name.

FILKINS

History Unearthed



A Second World War dog-tag belonging to a US soldier has turned up in a Filkins back garden. The tag belonged to James V Pieper from Illinois, a surgical technician in a medical unit. During the Second World War, Bradwell Grove Hospital near Filkins, now Bradwell Village, was built as a transit camp for troops and later used as a receiving base for casualties, mostly American. Pieper worked as a surgical technician, applying and removing casts and other orthopaedic mechanics. He was discharged in April 1946 with an illness contracted in the line of duty, possibly due to the plaster-dust used in the casts. Pieper died in 1992.

Julie Ann Godson

Julie is a local historian whose facebook page www.facebook.com/julieanngodson is full of interesting posts on Oxfordshire history.

HANNINGTON

Harvest Festival Service

There will be a Harvest Festival Service in St John the Baptist Church at 5pm on **Sunday 4th October**. We hope that you will join us, but please wear face masks and socially distance.

LECHLADE

Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities

Due to COVID-19 we have been unable to hold our AGM and because of current restrictions and social distancing requirements it is not possible to organise one in the traditional manner. We have therefore decided to organise a 'virtual AGM' using the Zoom video conferencing facility. We are planning to hold the AGM during the month of November and once we have finalised the date this will be published on the Lechlade Council Website.

The Community Friends' COVID-19 Support Fund, established to provide financial support to local organisations, charities, volunteer groups, families and individuals who have been impacted by COVID-19, remains open for applications. To date from 34 applications, grants of approximately £37,000 have been made providing financial support to 23 different charities, organisations, families and individuals within our area of benefit. Please refer to our

website for details of how to apply and the criteria we use to assess applications (www.friendsoffairford.org.uk).

It is with regret that the Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities' well-supported Christmas Bazaar will not be taking place this year. This will be a disappointment for all who help and support this great event. The current environment and social distancing requirements preclude us from fund raising in this traditional way. We thank you for your understanding. Our fund-raising activities have been restricted this year, but we will be reminding those who are members of our 100 Club to renew their subscriptions shortly. We really want to increase the number of members, so please look out for details of how to subscribe and thank you for your on-going support.

The Community Friends' Charity Shop in Lechlade has now reopened. Due to COVID-19 we are operating different opening hours and will also be taking donations by appointment only, as noted below. These changes will help us to operate in a COVID-19 safe environment and we thank you for your patience and understanding in working with us on this.

Opening hours:

Wednesdays to Fridays 10am - 3.45pm

Saturdays 9am - 1.30pm

We will be open on Mondays for taking in donations. This will be strictly by appointment only. To make an appointment please telephone the Manager during opening hours on 01367 252189. We will be closed on Tuesdays when we will be sorting and cleaning.

Information on what we do and how to subscribe to our 100 Club can be found on our website www.friendsoffairford.org.uk and the names of our existing team of trustees are listed on the Charity Commission's website.

FARINGDON

Faringdon & District U3a, Thursday 8th October

Our October talk will be on Zoom. The speaker will be Paul Colley showing his amazing images of underwater animals and much more. The talk will be photography-related with the emphasis on the marine environment and his conservation work which is full of interesting stories and pictures. Paul is a freelance wildlife photographer and



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winner of the British Wildlife Photography Awards. The Zoom talk will start at 2.30pm. Details of access to the Zoom talk can be found on the U3A website and will be available a week before the talk.

The website is <https://faringdondistrictu3a.com/>

Alison Thomson

VWHDC Councillors refuse planning permission for Steeds Farmland

Planning permission for 125 houses has been denied on the grounds of insufficient affordable housing and reduced s106 for infrastructure at Faringdon, Great Coxwell, and the Health Centre. Planners and developers say the site would not be viable if higher amounts need to be paid.

£470k is included in the legal agreement for changes to the Gt Coxwell junction (OCC are already holding £1.7m for this). It is likely that the developers will appeal and the site will be developed at some stage. Hear the debate at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaYxmAoTXaw> from the 18 minutes mark.

New businesses in Faringdon

- The Jewellers at 18 Market Place to become a wine bar, the rest residential accommodation.
- The former toy shop at 1 Cornmarket to become a Greek restaurant
- Planning permission has been sought for the former Budgens site to become shops and accommodation
- The Bargain Centre is to become an Estate Agent

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SHRIVENHAM

Shrivenham Golf Course

Our two girls thoroughly enjoyed representing Shrivenham at the Junior Oxfordshire championship on a glorious and hot sunny day at Badgemore Park near Henley. That day the glorious weather broke in the evening. Lillie, wearing the glove, played so well that she broke her handicap and reduced from 40 to 35. Amelia played in her buffer zone so her handicap didn't change. She scored a Nett 71 and would have reduced had the winning players not played so well. Following the career of these two girls is going to prove interesting as the years pass.

Amelia also played at Drayton park in the Summer meeting and stayed within her buffer zone. The conditions were difficult and were reflected in the scores. It was a credit to her that she played so well on an unknown course.



Back on home soil, competitions have been played at Shrivenham and in the men's section there were great scores in the Tom Barnes trophy where the Nett score for the winner was Tom Thorpe with a Nett 66 and Daniel Rolls came a worthy 2nd with a Nett 67. In the club Albert Taylor there were 36 players and Luke Kamber scored 40 stableford points to take 1st place from Tom Turner who was runner up with 39 points Neil Crawford and Paul Foster also scored well.

In the Ladies' section the Ladies August Stableford medal was won by Debbie and the August Sunday stroke play medal was won by Tracy.

On August bank holiday Monday a team, including one of our ladies, Sue Elbourn, a student member, Guy, and two other Elbourn family members, won first prize at the Harlequin

competition at which 16 teams competed.

On a sad note, Shrivenham has lost one of its great senior members. Brian Bird passed away towards the end of August. He was a great character and always supported the club in every way and will be remembered as always playing in the Rumming trophy. Our thoughts are with his remaining family.

Carole

STANTON FITZWARREN

St Leonard's Church

Our new vicar, Rev. Elveen Mead (who is also responsible for the Parish churches at South Marston and Lower Stratton) is keen to get to know as many of us as possible. She intends to come to our village for an informal walkabout every other week so if you see someone about wearing a dog collar it could be her. Her phone no. is 07446 163688.

Her email is rev.elveen@gmail.com if you would like to contact her directly (her day off is Friday).

We look forward to working with her in these strange and difficult times. Because of the circumstances, it is not possible to be sure of all service times and details in advance, but it is planned to hold these services in the church building with all the recommended precautions and social distancing:

Sunday 4th October: 9.30am Morning worship

Sunday 11th October: 11am Family Harvest.

This may have to be on Zoom so look out for details. Let us know if you have any ideas about how you, especially the children, could contribute.

Sunday 18th October: 9.30am Morning worship

Sunday 25th October: 9.30am Morning worship followed by the delayed APCM when church wardens and PCC members are elected.

Please go to www.stantonchurch.info to check for any changes as there will be something happening most weeks.

The church building can be used for private prayer or quiet contemplation by arrangement with Liz and Roger Hillman T: 01793 762935 to organise a time when it is safe for the building to be left open for you.

Every Cloud

October will be a busy month for Every Cloud Arts & Crafts at Stanton Country Park.

During the first three weeks, members and volunteers will be busy in the Barn implementing the recommendations of an Ecology Report to safeguard and enhance the presence of swallows and bats in new accommodation adjacent to the Barn in the Forgotten Kingdom. This work is being done under

licence and the supervision of the ecologist which, once completed, will permit us to start improving the barn as an all-weather, all year-round community resource focusing on the connection between The Arts, Nature and Health & Well-being. Both Every Cloud Arts & Crafts and the Ranger Service hope to be running workshops and activities for all ages, especially families, as well as making the Barn available to visiting school children and other groups. This will take time and money but we would like to thank the local Thomas Freke and Lady Norton Charity of Hannington for their financial support of the work in October to ensure the swallows and bats still thrive at Stanton and enrich the lives of us all.

From **Thursday 22nd October** until **Sunday 25th October** inclusive from 11am – 4pm, Every Cloud welcomes all art lovers to visit us in the Barn

where we will be hosting a new exhibition of Art and Crafts by its members and which will also spill out into the Farmhouse Sculpture Garden. Much of our new work has been created under lockdown. We will also be launching our online shop during the exhibition.

In addition, we will be displaying plans for the proposed improvements in the Barn and hoping people will take this opportunity to come and see for themselves and offer their feedback as part of a public consultation.

On **Saturday 31st October** a family Halloween workshop is taking place in the Barn with outside activities included too. There are two sessions, one morning and one afternoon, both of which need to be booked in advance. The sessions will be fun for families with small children and offered in a safe and secure way.

For more information contact us by email: info@everycloudartscrafts.com or our facebook page or text 07796 530 560.

*Every Cloud Arts & Crafts is a non-profit making 'makers' co-operative
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Need help in your Home or Garden?

Local family business offers high quality services

Professional house cleaning • General maintenance & repairs
Interior painting & decorating • Interior window cleaning

Gardening • Shed & fence painting • General repairs & DIY jobs

NO JOB TOO SMALL • FULLY INSURED

For a reliable and trustworthy service contact Richard

Phone: 01793 725091 or 07443 951066

Email: richard@insideoutservices.me.uk



Meet Jo Mitchell, your Community Funeral Director

Create a service as special
and unique as your loved one.

- For arranging a funeral for a loved one or creating a pre-paid funeral plan.
- We can meet you in the comfort of your own home, at a time that suits you.

To find out more or to contact Jo directly
please email: jo.mitchell2@midcounties.coop

Alternatively, please visit
your local Midcounties
Co-operative Funeralcare
branch today:

Highworth Funeralcare
(Incorporating A. E. Baker & Son)

Cardinal House, Brewery St, Highworth SN6 7AJ
T: 01793 764664
E: highworth.funeral@midcounties.coop



LOCAL CONTACTS

Police, Fire, Ambulance	Emergency	999
Police	Non-Emergency	101
NHS	Non-Emergency	111
COVID-19 Test Line	Non-Emergency	111
Gas	Emergency	0800 111999
Electricity	Emergency	105
Water	Emergency	0800 3169 800
Pest Control	Non-Emergency	07789 781151

BUSES

Stagecoach Swindon	01793 521415
Thamesdown Transport	01793 428400
Dial-a-Ride	01793 616050
Community Transport	01793 617828
Traveline	0871 200 2233

COLLEGES

Cirencester College	01285 640994
New College	0808 172 4445
Swindon College	01793 491591

LAW & ORDER

Crimestoppers	0800 555111
Victim Supportline	0808 16 89 111
Action Fraud	0300 123 2030

COUNCILS

Highworth Town Council	01793 762377
Swindon Boro. Council	01793 463000
Streetsmart	01793 445501

FIRE SAFETY

Home fire safety check	0800 389 7849
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DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS

Highworth Surgery	01793 762218
Elm Tree Surgery, (Shrivenham)	01793 782207
Great Western Hospital	01793 604020

LIBRARY

Highworth Library	01793 463500
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RECREATION

Highworth Rec	01793 762602
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PHARMACIES

Highworth Pharmacy	01793 762220
Home Farm Pharmacy	01793 861392
Jones Graham Pharmacy (Shrivenham)	01793 783336

PRESCHOOLS

Highworth Pre-school	01793 766646
Vorda Pre-School	01793 763668
Westgate Nursery	
School & Crèche	01793 861268

SCHOOLS

Eastrop Infants	01793 763772
Southfield Junior	01793 762210
Westrop Primary	01793 762897
Highworth Warneford	01793 762426

TAXIS

V Cars	01793 701701
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TRAINS

National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
Great Western Railways	03457 000125
Disabled and assisted travel	08001 971329

OTHER SERVICES

Citizens Advice Bureau	08444 994114
Trading Standards (business)	0207 830 6000
Trading Standards (consumers)	03454 04 05 06
Alcohol and Drug Service	01793 695405
Pest Control	08000 988652
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)



Jackie Kerr

RECRUITMENT

Jackie Kerr Recruitment is an independent recruitment agency based in Highworth, on the cusp of the Cotswolds. We have been established for over 23 years and specialise in Engineering and Manufacturing – permanent, temporary and contract recruitment.

At Jackie Kerr Recruitment, we take the time to truly understand your business, staffing requirements, business goals and company culture.

In a competitive, low skill shortage market, we pride ourselves on our ability to headhunt, recruit and select the perfect candidate for your organisation.

Our clients vary from SMEs all the way through to International companies, within the Engineering and Manufacturing sectors, including:

- *Aerospace*
- *Automotive*
- *Defence*
- *Energy*
- *Industrial*
- *Medical*
- *Rail*
- *Security*
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If you are looking to recruit, or talk through any business needs, please call us on:

01793 762 026

fraser@jackiekerrrecruitment.com

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