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A word from CAP (Christians Against Poverty)

For seven years, Highworth has been privileged to have a CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Debt Centre. During that period of time, nearly 170 families have been helped to address their debt situation. Over 50% of them are now debt free!

CAP nationally was started just over 25 years ago by a man called John Kirkby. He had become bankrupt and responded to God's call to set up a charity that would assist people in overcoming their debt issues.

The four churches in Highworth (St Michael's, the Methodist Church, the URC Church and Highworth Community Church) came together to set up the Highworth Debt Centre seven years ago.

Some people doubted that a town like Highworth had a debt problem. However, soon the first clients were coming on board. We have seen an increasing need of our services.

CAP services are freely available to anyone, regardless of their background. The programme assesses the size of the client's debt and negotiates with those organisations and businesses a repayment plan. For some clients, the way out is either bankruptcy or a Debt Relief Order.

CAP walks alongside our clients to the very end, whether it is through the legal journey or paying off their debts. The easy part is setting up debt plan. The hard part is persevering in paying off the debt. CAP is there to encourage, and where necessary, help the client in overcoming the obstacles that occur on the road to becoming debt free.

So, what motivates the CAP team? In the book of Micah the question is asked; *"What does the Lord require of you?"* The answer comes: *"to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God"*.

Jesus stated that his mission was *"to proclaim good news to the poor, to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim freedom to the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour"* (Luke 4 v 18). As churches, we seek through CAP to carry out this Jesus manifesto. Our motivation comes out of the love of Jesus for each individual.

CAP in Highworth offers a Job Club, Lifeskills courses and Money Management courses. All are free of charge.

Martin Lewis, the TV Money expert says: *"CAP is unsurpassed when it comes to the Debt Help they give people across the country. There is nothing better to start you on the path to having more money in your pocket."*

If you are in need of Debt Help, phone the free number: **0800 328 0006**. For other local information, please contact the Highworth CAP Team at The Bridge Centre, 8 Sheep St (Tel: **01793 765060**)

The aim of CAP Highworth is to give each client hope when in the midst of their deepest despair over their debt. Also to see their lives transformed! It is happening in Highworth. There is hope!

Phil Baker, Chair of the Highworth CAP Debt Centre

Cover: Highworth's Old Golf Course. Photo credit: Robert Slade

LINKmagazine

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Contributions:

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

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

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

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

Deadlines:

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

A note from the Action Group for Saving Highworth's Old Golf Course

Many people across Highworth have joined an action group whose message is a simple: "Keep our old golf course green!"

Members of the newly-formed 'Action Group for Saving Highworth's Old Golf Course' are concerned by Swindon Borough Council's plan to open up the beautiful green space, affectionately known as "the old golf course", to development.

You can read more about the emerging local plan on page 48 (Our Reps).

Here, those from Highworth and further afield who use the space regularly share why it's so special to them:

"It is magical. A great place to catch the sun or watch the stars. The increasing amount of wildlife is a joy to see."

"This is my healing place, my place of reflection, where the world's weight is lightened and perspective is always reached. I'm fully prepared to chain myself to the trees though if people can bring me food. I love seeing everyone's photos of how much they love it too. It's a special place"



Photo credit: Jo O'Leary

"The Community is built around this."

"I suffer with PTSD and when I have really bad MH days, sometimes I will sit and stop and enjoy for a time too. It helps me, but now losing this green open space would be an absolute disgrace. I can't imagine and don't want to imagine not being able to walk here."

"I don't live in Highworth but I do visit the golf course regularly, sometimes with friends, sometimes on my own with my dogs. Not only does it provide a great open space to help clear your head but it's a space where you may bump into other like-minded people and have a chat and try and put the world to rights. In a world where mindfulness

and mental health are key right now, it's a green space that needs to stay green."

"When we were considering whether to move to Highworth, one of our biggest concerns was where we would walk the dog. The Golf course was perfect; even when it was in use as a golf course. Now we have even started to talk about moving house. We haven't a dog at the moment but it is only a question of time. Pentylands is horribly wet all winter!"

"Walking through an estate of 350 houses to reach what could be our future smaller and quite boggy country park, will be an insult to the people of Highworth. Not everyone is fit and able to walk to the bottom, which in the winter is also very muddy. Many just sit on the benches at the top and admire the views, contemplate and think just how wonderful this place is."

"The community is built around this."

What can you do?

The group are encouraging as many people as possible to comment on the SBC Local Plan proposal for these houses before September 15th, at:

<https://tinyurl.com/SBC-consultation> or by email to: forwardplanning@swindon.gov.uk

or in writing to: Planning Policy, Swindon Borough Council, Wat Tyler House, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH. To count, you must include

your name and address.

Here are some of their arguments, but they urge you to include what's important to you in your own words:

- Benefit to mental and physical wellbeing
- Protecting wildlife – flora and fauna
- Protecting the environment
- Combatting climate change and soaking up pollution
- The Government's own policy to preserve publicly-accessible open spaces
- Plenty of suitable brownfield sites with pre-existing infrastructure

The more people that engage in the consultation, the more chance we have of saving our valuable open space.

For more information, join the Facebook group: ['Action Group for Saving Highworth's Old Golf Course'](#)





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What Are Benefits in Kind?

Benefits in Kind (BIKs) are paid by an employer on behalf of an employee and are not repaid. BIKs tend to commonly cover; private medical/dental cover, personal use of company cars/vans and fuel benefits etc.

At the end of each tax year (5th April), the employer must submit the value to HMRC of BIKs given to the employee and what they were. When the employee receives their P60, they should be given a form P11D listing the BIKs submitted to HMRC. If the employee completes an Income Tax Return, they will have to pay tax on the BIKs the following January. Otherwise, HMRC will collect extra tax by amending the employee's PAYE tax code.

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Mary 'Paddy' Tipping turns 100!

Tuesday 20th July marked a very special day in the calendar for Mary 'Paddy' Tipping and her family and friends as she reached the landmark age of 100.

Paddy celebrated her day in style with a garden party surrounded by family and friends and hosted by the Fitzwarren House care home where she now resides. "It was a lovely day and something that Nan had focussed her sights on achieving, especially in the last few months" said her granddaughter, Lorraine. To top the day off, she received a very special birthday card from Her Majesty the Queen.

Highworth has always been in Mary's blood. Born in 1921, she lived in the High Street with her older sister Betty and her parents Fred and Annie Croome who ran the local grocer's shop (now 'Two's Company' hairdressers).

She was a very independent woman for her time and, as a young woman, lived and worked in Oxford with her sister for a period. Then, in 1944, she married her first husband, Arthur Gerald Brereton Day with whom she had three sons, Tony, David and Ted who have all sadly died but who gave her ten much-loved grandchildren. She has always lived in and around Highworth and has spent 50+ years in Queens Avenue, initially with her first husband Gerald, until his untimely death in 1968, and latterly with her second husband Jack Tipping who sadly died in 2009. Recently, (in her late 90s) she made the move into Fitzwarren House and has been a lively member of their community ever since.

Paddy is under 5ft tall and very slight, but she



has always been a force to be reckoned with and is known to many in and around Highworth: once met, never forgotten! She has always been full of energy and has worked hard all her life. During her career, she was Secretary for the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers based in Swindon until she reached the then statutory retirement age of 60.

However, retirement was not for her and she went on to enjoy a number of part-time rôles including a period at Honda and also a number of years cleaning the local Highworth police station. She loved this job and only retired from it relatively recently and even then was very reluctant to do so!

She is renowned as a 'feisty' and determined person and has been a well-known Highworth character for many years, making daily trips to the Co-op and always sporting one of her many recognisable trademark hats. At the age of 70 she became 'Town Crier' for Highworth, a rôle which was very important to her as it was one previously held by her grandfather Jeremy Croome in the 1880s. She took great pride in being 'Town Crier' and became known to even more people in Highworth because of it. She might be small in stature but she definitely has a big voice!

When asked the secret to her long and productive life Paddy said: "Working for so long kept me active and the daily Guinness never did me any harm". She still enjoys her daily bottle of the "black stuff" and will hopefully continue to do so for many years to come.

Highworth Forget-Me-Not Café: relaunching our 'In-Person' Memory Café this September

Over the past eight months the Forget-Me-Not Café moved online to Zoom and has provided a meeting point for those living with dementia, their families, and others looking for a friendly group to socialise with remotely.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us over what has been a very difficult period for all of us. We'd also like to say a big thank you to Rachel Jannaway from Home Instead who came onboard during this time as their Community Engagement Officer. Rachel has brought us her joyful enthusiasm, engagement and smile, with fun and singing too. Rachel and her colleagues will be providing ongoing support with the Café sessions.

Thanks also to Highworth Lions for your kind donation this year again.

We now feel the time has finally come to meet up in person again and enjoy our café sessions together in the same room. We can't wait to be able to bring to you scrummy cakes and a cuppa!

We plan to have a variety of musical entertainment, quizzes and games, offering ongoing support and providing connections to health professionals and lots more!

We would like to thank hugely the Council for all of their support during our time at the Council Room, but for the rest of this year we will be meeting at the Highworth Community Centre in The Dormers (SN6 7PQ). Although it is less central, it is a bigger venue offering we believe a safer location, allowing for social distancing and with better ventilation. There is lots of parking available and we are looking into offering transport for local residents requiring it. There are disabled lifts and toilets available. A

big thank you to the Highworth Community Centre team for providing us with our new venue!

The Cafés will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, starting on **22nd September**, from 2pm to 4pm.

All the volunteers will be complying with any Covid regulations and taking precautions to make our customers feel comfortable. We understand that not everyone will be keen on meeting face-to-face this soon, so we will be maintaining a Zoom element of the meeting. If you want to join via Zoom please let us know.

Even more excitement! We have been fortunate enough to be selected by Zurich Community Trust to be part of their 'Summer Challenge' and their Staff Volunteer Team will be providing us with everything we need for a fun Bingo session at our September Café. This can be joined in from the hall, as well as remotely, with goody bags for all and prizes of vouchers and hampers for our lucky winners. We will be providing cards and dabbers, but feel free to bring your own

lucky dabber!

We want our Memory Café to be inclusive for anyone in Highworth wishing to attend, whether they are living with dementia or not. We are not planning on people needing to register, so please just turn up on the day or let us know if you think

you would need transport.

We are always on the look-out for more volunteers to help us run the Café so if you'd like to join our team, or your organisation would like to bring a new experience to our sessions, please do get in touch.

forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com

Or call Ruth on 07970 543423



Helping Highworth's Bees



Miriam in her protective outfit

Out of the blue, at the beginning of July, I was invited by Laura Soule, one of Highworth's newest beehive 'owners' at Northview to help check the bees. I have always been fascinated by bees, probably going back to childhood when I remember my mother telling me about how clever they were.

I had no idea what checking the bees entailed, but I arrived at Northview to find 'frame-making' in progress. A sheet of beeswax is secured to a frame to slot in the hive the bees then build on the frames, making honeycomb and cells for the Queen to lay eggs in, so the hive is constantly growing.

Once the frames were made we had to get our beekeeping kit on. Bees find their way in through any gaps so gloves, the netting and the hat (secured by a zip) are essential if you are not to be stung. We then made our way to the hives and started checking them. Our aim was firstly to check the hives were healthy, to put the new frames into one of the hives that Richard Williams had recently put a new swarm in and check that each hive had a queen. I was advised to stand behind the hives; the hives have a 'front door' for the bees to enter and leave by. Understandably, when they are busy minding their own business, working hard collecting pollen and nectar, returning to the hive, telling other bees where to find pollen and so on, they don't always take kindly to being disturbed so smoke is used to encourage them to go deep in the hive.



Queens are marked so they can easily be distinguished in a busy hive; they are larger than the other bees but can be hard to see. The fact that a queen cannot be seen doesn't matter too much if the hive is obviously healthy. Having checked all the hives, one or two frames had quite a lot of honey in the comb so these were taken out for the honey to be taken off.

How you can help Highworth's Bees

Bees collect nectar to make honey, the pollen is fed to the brood, and apparently prefer purple and yellow flowers. At the time of writing this there is lots of lavender, buddleia (which butterflies like too), yellow poppies, snapdragons, lilies and lots of 'weed' flowers. In my garden I have lots of yellow poppies which the bees liked, particularly in June and July and although there are still poppies out, they appear to prefer lavender at the moment. Early in the spring I also have lots of pulmonaria; fairly large oval leaves with spots and small pink or purple flowers. On a warm day in March the flower bed

under my window can literally be humming with all the bees.

I am in the process of potting-up both yellow poppies and some pulmonaria. Both are easy to grow and spread like crazy, in fact they are almost impossible to get rid of. Bees are vital to our existence so if you would like some of either of these plants to plant in your own garden or by a path or on a verge, please ask me and you can have them. I have also

collected poppy seeds and am having a go at growing some from seed; they seed themselves very well, me trying to help might not work!

I would like to thank Laura, Richard, Ken and Paul for letting me share the bees with them and for the jar of most delicious honey.

Miriam Weisinger, 07931 351285

Grab your popcorn...

Highworth Community Cinema is back!

Highworth Community Cinema will be re-opening on Friday 24th September.

For residents who don't know about us we are an independent voluntary organisation run by Highworth residents since 2006, which aims to bring world-class films to Highworth.

Two of our long-standing committee members have sadly had to resign in the past year and we are seeking new committee members to help with choosing the films and helping out on film nights. The level of commitment includes helping out on film nights for the seven films we show each season and meeting up once or twice; the majority of communication is via email. If you are interested please contact us.

The first film of the season will be 'Fisherman's Friends' which was due to be shown in April 2020.

The Independent says: Fisherman's Friends is an amiable and upbeat British comedy with a

flavour of Ealing Studios and The Full Monty about it. A cynical London music executive reluctantly heads to Cornwall on a colleague's stag weekend where he's pranked into trying to sign a group of shanty-singing fishermen. Ten fishermen are signed by Universal Records and achieve a top ten hit with their debut album.



Friday 24th September. Doors open 7.15pm, film starts at 7.45pm. (Cert 12A, 112mins)

There is no membership fee. Admission £5 on the door which includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

T: 01793 763907 E: info@highworthfilms.org.uk

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Community Speedwatch update

The Highworth Community Speedwatch team reported 1299 vehicles for speeding on the town's roads during July and ran 76.29 hours of sessions. In June, the team reported 802 vehicles for speeding on the roads of Highworth and ran 70.07 hours of sessions. Based on each session being done in pairs, the team volunteered 382 hours of their time over the last two months to help make Highworth a no speeding zone.

The team operates sites on Cricklade Road, Eastrop, Redlands, Roundhills Mead, Shrivenham Road and St Michael's Avenue. If you are

interested in joining the friendly team to help run sessions and make the town's roads safer for all road users, please email highworthcsw@gmail.com.

Team members must be over the age of 18, able to stand for the duration of a session and be able to read the licence plate of a passing vehicle. CSW is a scheme run by Wiltshire Police.

All volunteers are trained by Traffic Management Policing Officers and comply with a code of practice.



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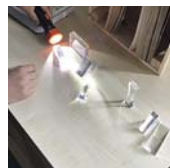
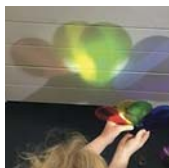
Science Week at Southfield Junior School

Southfield Junior School was full of enthusiastic and engaged children investigating, questioning and experimenting during their recent Science Week at the beginning of July this year.

Southfield's science leader, Mrs Jenn White, said: "It was brilliant to see all the fantastic science happening during Science Week. Children in all classes have certainly enjoyed their hands-on science work which is a great way to help them really remember their learning".

The whole school took part in a wide range of practical science investigations, experiments and activities throughout the week.

Year 3 were busy learning about Light and Shadows. Their carousel of activities included investigating coloured light, testing their shadow puppets, light refraction through prisms and creating shadow patterns.



Year 3

Year 4 looked at the different types of teeth, their various uses and why they need to look after their own teeth. They also recreated the human digestive system using a range of household objects to represent the stomach, saliva, small and large intestines, stomach acid and food and nutrients being absorbed into the body. The end of their classroom 'digestive system' even produced a 'poo'!



Year 4

Year 5 investigated forces that affect water and air resistance. They designed, made and tested a range of parachutes from different materials, they had to consider the shape, size and any stabilization required for their Lego figure to reach the ground safely. They also designed, constructed, tested and modified a range of boats to carry the Greeks across the Mediterranean Sea as quickly as possible. The final race across the 'sea' provided much discussion about the effects of water resistance on each design.



Year 5

Year 6 used kitchen ingredients to investigate and learn about the importance of the 'ingredients' that are in our blood. They blended the ingredients together to see what our blood looks like to the human eye.



Year 6

The Head of School, Mrs Cora Williams, said: "Mrs White and the teachers organised such a brilliant week full of scientific enquiry. The children were engaged and were asking many interesting questions. They experienced awe and wonder and were able to apply it to the real world. There were so many 'lightbulb' moments and not just in Year 3! The school was a buzz of excitement and learning. We are planning more weeks such as this next year."



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Litter picking at Warneford

2020 saw the exciting start of the House System in Highworth Warneford school. Part of this new system included the introduction of the five new committees. One of these committees is 'The Environmental Committee,' which has been created to make Warneford a greener school and is designed to help us reduce our carbon footprint.

Last month, selected students walked around the school and Highworth collecting litter to promote keeping our space and community clean. The Year 7s and Year 8s scoured the school field and playgrounds, which was especially helpful on the eve of Sports Day. Year 9 and Year 10 meanwhile, took a variety of carefully planned routes around Highworth, making a



positive impact on the town we're proud to represent. It has proved so popular with students that we will have to carry out a few more litter picks next year because we couldn't fit everybody in! This really reflects how passionate our student body is about trying to make a difference.

In the future, we hope to join the 'Eco Schools' scheme and will try to make litter picks a regular activity. Furthermore, we also hope to reduce our plastic intake in the canteen and offer more meat-free alternatives; it's an exciting time to be part of the school's student voice.

Pixie Davies, student

With thanks to a community grant from Westmill Solar Cooperative, who made this possible.

Pets' Corner



Name: Honey

Age: 12

Breed: Yorkie x Dachshund

About Honey:

Honey lives with her mum, Michelle, her partner and her son and daughter. She loves people, and likes to sneak any shoe or slipper in to her bed when left alone!

We're a pet-loving bunch here in Highworth, so we're introducing a new, regular 'Pets Corner'.

Share your furry, feathered or scaly friends with us: editor@highworthlink.co.uk



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Poetry Collaborations



Juli Frances Taylor

My name is Juli Frances Taylor and I live in Kempford. I write children's poems and last year started a project called Primary Colour Poetry which aims to write collective poems with primary school pupils, children's groups, and play schemes.

The idea is simple; the children choose a subject, which they discuss, then write a few words about it. Those thoughts are sent to me and I compile them into a unique poem for the school.

And the best bit? It's completely free!

So far, we have six schools and two Brownie groups in the Cotswolds and Oxfordshire within the project, and have written poems about bullying, mental health, belonging, rainbows and guinea pigs!

I have appeared several times on BBC Oxford to discuss the project but am keen to get more schools and groups to participate.

I am very much still looking for more collaborations! So far, we have six poems written, but my aim would be to reach enough to publish in a book, with all the profits going to local libraries and literacy projects.

Since May of this year, I have had several groups contact me, and BBC Gloucester has asked if I might appear on one of their Upload/ new talent shows in the coming weeks.

I have also had two poems published in the book 'Collecting Rainbows', about positivity during lockdown, which includes a contribution by Pam Ayres.

The local groups on there at the moment are

Kempsford Brownies, Kempford Rainbows, and The North Cotswolds Schools Federation (NCSF) of four local primary schools.

I am particularly proud of the NCSF's poem about bullying (their own choice of subject).

When I was assembling the words the children had written, based on their own experiences and thoughts, it moved me to tears. These little people said such heart-felt and extraordinary things that the poem basically wrote itself.

The complete opposite to that is the poem written with the Kempford Rainbows, a group of 4 to 6-year-olds, who wanted to write about, "guineapigs, colours, unicorns and hedgehogs please"!

The children choose a subject to discuss in class or group, then each writes a word, sentence, or a few lines on that subject. The teacher or group leader then sends those ideas to me either via text or post and I arrange them into a unique poem, adding a few words of my own to make it rhyme.

It is unique and bespoke, and best of all, entirely free!

I include the two poems, written by me in collaboration with the children, that I described above for you to get a feel of what the project produces.

For more information about Juli Frances Taylor and her poetry, please visit www.julifracestaylor.co.uk



'The Thoughts in My Head Today'

It feels good to be a Rainbow

It makes me proud inside

I want to be a Brownie

Then I want to be a Guide

I want to be the best I can

And help in every way

That's why I've stopped to listen

To my thoughts on Thinking Day

Today is for thinking

As well as for play

So these are the thoughts

In my head today...

Where do rainbows come from?

How are rainbows made?

What magic in the sky

Makes all those colours be displayed?

I know the sun has to shine

And rain fall from the sky

That way something beautiful

Comes from clouds when they cry

The colours in a rainbow

Show what's inside of me

Red, Orange, and Yellow

For love and positivity

Green for what I love on Earth

Blue for creatures in the ocean

And Indigo and Violet

For why it's good to show emotion

Guinea pigs and rabbits!

The pets we love so much

That become part of our family

And feel so soft and warm to touch

They love us and they trust us

They need us for everything

So we need to be responsible

Because of all the joy they bring

Why are Hedgehogs prickly

When they look so very sweet?

They have such pretty faces

And such teeny-tiny feet!

Why aren't Hedgehogs fluffy?

I think I know the reason why

They're prickly because they're frightened

And very, very shy

I'm thinking about Unicorns

And if they're really real

Because magical is something

You can't see, but you can feel

I KNOW Unicorns must be there

Because they're so special to me

You can't see love, can you?

But I know I love my family

Today is for thinking

As well as for play

So these are my thoughts

On World Thinking Day

by the 1st Kempsford Rainbows

(ages 4-6)

*(Written for Girl Guiding
World Thinking Day 2021)*

'Grow Up, Bullies!'

*There are horrible words
That you may have heard
Some you don't even understand fully
When someone calls you names
Again and again
That person is simply a bully*

*This poem will show
That even though
You might face a bully each day
If you're strong inside
Keep your spirit and pride
They can never take your smile away*

*Would YOU do the right thing
If you saw bullying?
Could you be courageous and brave?
Would you say "That's enough!"
"You think you're so tough
But grow up! That's no way to behave"*

*In Years One and Two
You're the smallest in school
So it feels bad if someone's unkind
You feel scared and alone
All on your own
Stress and worry build up in your mind*

*You think 'Why pick on me?'
'Why can't you see It's not nice
and makes me want to cry
You boss me around
Push me to the ground
You're not sorry and never say why'*

*Would YOU do the right thing
If you saw bullying?
Could you be courageous and brave?
Would you say "That's enough!"
"You think you're so tough
But grow up! That's no way to behave"*

*In Years Three and Four
You learn a lot more
You're older and start to get bigger
But bullies get bigger too
And say things that aren't true
Call you ugly, punch, kick, point and snigger*

*They leave you bruised
Frustrated, confused
They think they can be Judge and Jury
Their words sting your ears
You're tormented by fears
And puzzled by all of their fury*

*Would YOU do the right thing
If you saw bullying?
Could you be courageous and brave?
Would you say "That's enough!"
You think you're so tough
But grow up! That's no way to behave"*

*In Years Five and Six
You're growing up quick
But the bullies are still trying hard
They're learning new ways
To tear up your days
To leave your mind and your body all scarred*

They won't leave you alone
 On your tablet or phone
 They can hurt you wherever you go
 They make fun of your choices
 And use mocking voices
 You feel powerless and scared to say no

Would YOU do the right thing
 If you saw bullying?
 Could you be courageous and brave?
 Would you say "That's enough!"
 You think you're so tough
 But grow up! That's no way to behave"

Bullies love playing games
 And calling you names
 That hurt and are so full of spite
 They won't pick on the strong
 What they do is wrong
 But you don't need your fists to fight...

The first step is just
 TELL SOMEONE YOU TRUST
 Because bullies hate being found out
 If we all stick together
 We'll beat bullies forever
 And that's what growing up is about

So please do the right thing
 If you see bullying
 Please be courageous and brave
 And say "Stop! That's enough!"
 "You're a bully, not tough
 Just grow up and learn to behave"

by the North Cotswolds
 Schools Federation
 (ages 5-12)



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richardjames.uk

Return of rehearsals for Highworth Silver Band



Highworth Silver Band are rehearsing again! We have had several socially distanced, Covid-aware, outdoor rehearsals in one of our member's gardens in Coleshill.

This is a beautiful location and has contributed greatly to the positive feelings that our members have. Everyone agrees it is great to be back making music again after such a long break and are looking forward to being able to rehearse in the band hall again, provided appropriate

precautions can be taken. Everyone is motivated to get back making music and playing our part in community events again. At the time of writing, the learner band has not re-started but we have a plan to do this so watch this space!

We welcome enquiries, whether about possible performances, or from people interested in playing with us via our email address highworth.sb@gmail.com. We look forward to being able to resume the band's part in local activities such as Remembrance Sunday and Christmas.

Keith Waight, Highworth Silver Band Acting Communications Officer

Highworth Artists Society: looking forward

Highworth Artists Society are delighted that our workshops reopened on the 3rd Aug 2021.

There have been some changes to our routine but we can hopefully be optimistic and work towards holding our Autumn Exhibition on **9th-16th October** this year.

We have maintained contact during the long

lockdown by setting painting challenges with the latest one being 'A Colour Celebration'. The paintings from two of our members reflect the joy of restrictions being relaxed!"

Further details on the exhibitions will be published in the October issue.

Pam Hague, HAS Secretary



Rainbow Zebras by Christine Purdy.



Colour celebration by Gill Thomas.

Esther Baughn: 1838 to 1883

Joint keeper of 'The Rampant Cat'

When we bought our house in Redlands I was interested to discover it's history, and who had lived there over the years. This is how I 'met' Esther. She and her husband lived in the house in the mid 1800's when it was an Arkell's beer house called 'The Rampant Cat'.

Esther was one of the children of Henry and Catherine Hollick. The family lived in Westrop and Henry was a farm labourer. In January 1842, he had a brush with the law and was sentenced to six months hard labour for 'robbery from the person'. This seems to have been his only offence. Esther however had two appearances at the Police Court. In May 1854 she was charged, along with four other girls, with stealing swede greens from a field belonging to Edward Tovey of Stanton. They were all fined.

Just over a year later she was again in court. The case against her was brought by a Mrs Alexander of Cricklade Road. (It seems that Mr and Mrs Alexander had a mission to reform the youth of the town. They prosecuted regularly and, for their pains, had stones and snowballs thrown at their windows.) On a day in July Mrs Alexander went to St Michael's Church to play the organ and instruct children in singing. This was in order to strengthen the church choir. Esther Hollick and other girls were asked to leave, for reasons not given. After this they kicked and rattled the door of the church. Hollick, the ringleader, made disgusting and insulting remarks to Mrs Alexander. She was reprimanded by the court, fined 6/6d and her parents ordered to be surities for her future good behaviour.

In 1861 Esther married William Baughn, a thatcher, in the Congregational Church in the High Street. They set up home in one of the cottages behind Swindon Street on the east side. By November 1864 they had two children: Kate, aged three and a half and Frank, about eighteen months. The local paper had a report on an inquest held in Highworth on the death of Kate Baughn. She had been run over by a

horse and cart.

Thomas Prince, a cordwainer, was the main witness. He lived in Westrop Street, now The Green, and had seen the accident. Kate and her brother were standing in the middle of Swindon Street, looking towards the Lechlade Road. A cart loaded with coal was coming into the town from Swindon at walking pace. Both children were knocked down by the horse and the little girl was trodden on. She died in a few minutes but her brother was not hurt. The cart was in charge of a boy, William Harris, who had not been at the horse's head but following behind the cart.

The local jury found for accidental death but were of the opinion that the conduct of William Harris was highly censurable for not being in his proper place at the time of the accident. William then appeared at the Swindon Court charged with 'wilfully and feloniously killing Kate Baughn'. In March 1865 he was tried at the Assize in Salisbury. The jury here found no culpable negligence.

By 1867 William and Esther were down at Redlands running the Rampant Cat. William was still working as a thatcher as well as a beerhouse keeper. Esther is just given as a beerhouse keeper in the 1881 census. By this time they had four more children, one a cripple from birth. Also living with them was William's 84 year old aunt, also crippled. How they managed our winding stairs I don't know.

A beerhouse could open on weekdays only between 4 am and 10pm. Esther must have run it in the daytime when there would not have been much trade. There was no bar; the beer was drawn off into jugs.

Esther died at our house on March 16th 1883 aged 44. Dr Kennard of Highworth certified death as from Phthisis Pulmonalis (TB). William was present at the death.

*Christine Suter,
Highworth Historical Society.*



Highworth Historical Society meetings

We are hoping to start our meetings again in September.

The first one is on **Wednesday September 22nd** for our AGM, followed by a talk by Peter Williams entitled 'My Life as a Cold War Spy'.

At the moment we are meeting at St Michael's Hall on Lechlade Road and you will see that our meeting day has also changed. The doors will

open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. As usual the AGM only takes about 10 minutes.

Our membership fees will stay the same at £10 for the year's meetings. Visitors are always welcome for a charge of £3 a meeting.

Any queries please contact Chris Suter 764811 or chrissuter16@googlemail.com

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Highworth Leisure Badminton Club



Shuttlecock Socials

On May 21st the Highworth Leisure Badminton Club had its first session since March 2020 at The Grange Leisure & Community Centre in Stratton. The Grange sports hall has four courts, two of which we block book and, as a result of the article in May's Highworth Link, we enjoyed the company of four new players who liked their first free session and have since come back! After 10 minutes of some badminton-orientated warm-up routines and some simple exercises to practice serves and avoid injuries during play, everyone was keen to get on and play. I can happily report there were no injuries but probably a few aches and pains the next day!

We re-visited our risk assessment with COVID in mind and this was reviewed by The Grange as acceptable. The Grange has excellent social distancing and cleaning regimes to keep us all safe and we at the club practice safe COVID procedures and ask each person to carry out a self-assessment and provide a disclaimer. We have managed to keep the cost to £5 per person for the two hour slot every Thursday, between 8pm and 10pm, on a 'pay-as-you-go' basis and the time soon went playing doubles, in-between catch up chats and getting the latest local news.

As our name suggests, we don't play in a league,

play best of three or winning by two clear points, we play for the social interaction and exercise. We just play first to 21 points and try to make sure that everyone has good opportunity to play with and against each other. In recent years badminton has changed how players can score a point. In 2006, the rules were changed to a rally point system and this now allows both sides to score a point during a rally, regardless of who served. This speeds up each game. Sadly, we're missing our social drink after the games to regain the delicate calorie balance of exercise versus beer, but hopefully we can proceed with caution. If anyone is interested in coming along on a Thursday at The Grange, please do get in contact.

Paul Moore M: 07970 709929

E: paul@biddelsprings.co.uk

Highworth Town Junior Football Club

The Hawks and Hawkettes have enjoyed a very successful season despite it being interrupted on more than one occasion through Covid.

Honours, in no particular order, go to Shane Hewlett's U14 Girls who completed the Wiltshire FA Girls League and Cup double to compliment Dan Waldron's U13 Girls (pictured) who also completed the double; theirs in the Oxford Mail League and Cup. Joining the celebrations were Dean Hall's U9 Girls who valiantly reached the



The Under 13 Girls Celebrating Silverware

Oxford League Cup Finals. Both Neal Tustin's U13C Boys team and Dave Sugg's U17H Boys team finished Runners-Up in their respective Division 2 Leagues, the U13's gaining promotion to Division 1 for next season.

Lastly but in no way leastly, the U14H Boys team lead by Steve Corocan were crowned Division 2 Champions to top off a great season. Many congratulations to of course the players but to all involved, the girls certainly lead the way in bringing home plenty of silverware and extended thanks must go to the local community for all their continued support. We are now looking forward to next season, hopefully uninterrupted. If interested please do check us out on our website.

Paul Clarke (Vice Chairman)

W: www.highworthtownjuniorsfc.co.uk

Swindon & District Motorcycle Club

In July, the old Hannington Railway Station welcomed the return of two wheels, a little bit of sunshine and more balance than a warehouse full of kitchen scales.

The Swindon & District Motorcycle Club held their 'Wooster Trial' on a glorious Sunday morning where 60 riders tested their abilities over ten sections that asked them to ride over obstacles, ascend and descend steep banks, twist through and bend round deliberately challenging features and all whilst trying not to put their foot down!

To suit all abilities, riders are assigned a class and embark on their designated route around each section outlined by coloured flags. The premier class are asked to navigate the most difficult of routes within each section and it was Lee Hassell who ended the day with only a solitary penalty point and victory in the A Class.

In the supporting A/B Class, Alex Muirhead fared the best by dropping only eight penalty points alongside Martin Wilmore in the B Class who went the entire day without penalty ahead of Thomas Maslin in the C Class who ended his day with only five blushes. With 34 penalty points, Isobel Coopey led the charge for the Youth A Class, as did Joshua Bees for the Youth B Class (24 penalty points) with Aaron Watson on top in the Youth C Class with only a single penalty to his name. Youth Expert Reece Legg circulated and



Three generations of the Harris Family

only dropped 15 points but Steve Venn in the well-populated Over 60's Class edged his rivals by keeping a clean sheet and taking the day's spoils.

In a sport that really does cater for all it was lovely to see three generations of a family taking part and I'd encourage anyone interested to pop a long and see for themselves motorsport's best kept secret. All future fixtures are posted on the club's website including contact details for anyone interested in giving it a go.

Jason Daniels

W: www.sdmcc.org.uk

Highworth Town Walking Football Club

July proved a lucrative month for the club's Over 60's. Firstly the team travelled to Somerset's Keynsham for their annual Walking Football Tournament.

Three age groups on consecutive weeks started with the Over 60's and we were drawn in



Dave Mitchell with the spoils

the strongest group with the hosts Keynsham and fierce rivals Bracknell. A 2-1 win over Clevedon followed by an outstanding first half display against Bracknell saw us reach halftime 4-0 up, eventually winning 5-2. A simple 0-0 draw with Keynsham saw Highworth Reds into a semi-final versus Yeovil, which was easily won 3-0. Leading the final 1-0 going into the final minute the hosts equalised and a penalty shoot-out ensued. With the hosts missing their first and then yours truly hitting the bar, it was left to keeper Charlie Newton to save two and Ade Tucker to convert his penalty to secure the trophy (pictured).

Meanwhile, the Wiltshire FA Walking Football League concluded, having been spread over an extended season interrupted by lockdowns. Played over five matchdays at the Wiltshire FA's impressive new headquarters in Devizes, the Over 60's went into the final matchday with three games to play and a nine-point lead so the outcome was never in question. In the Over 50's league Highworth finished their campaign with four straight wins to finish third in their division.

If you are interested in playing on a Thursday morning 11am to 12pm, or Sunday mornings, 10am to 11am (Ladies), 11am to 12pm (Men/Mixed), please do get in touch below.

Kevin Turner. M: 07748 366979.
E: highworthwfc@gmail.com

Swindon Croquet Club

Swindon Croquet Club's teams have been acquitting themselves well in their league matches. At the time of writing, both golf croquet teams (high handicap and low handicap) remain unbeaten, including a handsome 13.5-6.5 victory for the low handicap team (pictured), away against Nailsea Croquet Club near Bristol.

Internal Club competitions have been closely contested and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The high handicap team versus low handicap team competition involved some fiercely contested singles and doubles games, the higher handicap players came out narrowly on top by utilising their 'free' shots effectively, winning the match overall by 13-12.

Regular social sessions take place every Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon with new



L - R (Back) Beverly Briggs, Clive Smith (Captain), Colin Bailey; (Front) Martin Briggs, Dave Booth

members always warmly welcomed. To arrange free trial sessions please drop us an email.

Beverly Briggs
E: Swindon.croquet@outlook.com
W: swindoncroquetclub.org.uk

Highworth Ladies Football Club

Last month pre-season friendlies were scheduled against Wantage, Cotswold Rangers, Tuffley and Calne with all eyes looking forward to a full season ahead this time, if we can!



The Ladies Lions Enjoying Pre-Season Training

As always the club are interested in attracting new players so please do get in touch if you'd like to join the Pride of Highworth Lions Ladies. Our exploits can be found on social media; Twitter (@LionsLadies) and Facebook (Highworth Ladies Lions FC) if you'd like to keep up with fixtures, gossip and football incites.

Steve Curtis
W: www.highworthtownfc.com

Wickstead Farm Equestrian Centre

It's a grandmother's prerogative of course to be proud but I have two very wonderful reasons in my granddaughters Madison Tapner (daughter of Australian eventer Paul) and Sophie Hobbs-Goddard.

Fourteen year old Madison has been asked to represent the South West for British Eventing's BE100 Under 18's Youth Championships at Bishop Burton as well as qualifying for the Pony Club Championships in the 110cm Show Jumping on Pony 'King' and 100cm Championships on Pony 'Mini'. A year younger, Sophie has also qualified for the Pony Club Championships and will be Show Jumping on Pony 'Womble' over 90cm fences.

The family are immensely proud of them both and they will have had busy summers competing so here's hoping for some good results to share.

Vicki Mace
W: www.wicksteadfarm.co.uk

Highworth DA Badminton Club

HDA Badminton Club is back!

Highworth DA Badminton Club is going to

restart after the Covid break. The club will restart for new members from **Tuesday 14th and Friday 17th September.**

Tuesdays and Fridays will continue to be our regular club/match nights for the forthcoming season. Club nights will be at Warneford School Sports Hall from **7.30pm to 9.30pm.**

Come along and try us out. The first session is free. For more information please drop me an email.

Simon French
E: racketbag72@gmail.com

Wrag Barn Golf Club

One of the highlights in the calendar at Wrag Barn is Junior week, when priority on the course and practice facilities is given to our Juniors for a packed programme of competitions and coaching sessions.

This year was no exception and the week started with a fun competition played with the Seniors. On the Tuesday the Ladies played with the Cadets and even though we had to come off the course briefly for a thunderstorm there were some good scores.

The weather was pretty sketchy but despite a few broken umbrellas the competitions continued all week and some personal best scores achieved.



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Our amazing Wrag Barn Juniors

It's always dangerous to pick out particular achievements, but Ruben Chauhan Drane won the Rody Cup, Toby Trophy and the Roberts Malham Trophy. Needless to say his handicap has come down considerably.

The Junior Championship, sponsored by Webbs Wood, was won by Ollie Webb who managed to card consecutive scores of 76 and 76 over 36 holes in tough weather conditions courtesy of the tail end of a named storm. The Thursday saw the return of a 'home grown' Junior who has turned professional and Matt Mumford gave a talk about the importance of your mental approach to the game and how to stay patient. He gave tips on how to introduce fun into practice by doing good drills and, responding to

questions, came up with a few facts, such as the most inspiring golfer he ever met, Darren Clarke; the number of times he's had a hole in one (6) and his best ever round at Wrag Barn was 61 which was not in a competition but he still holds the course record with 66. Finally, he gave credit to Rich Scarrott our Teaching Professional as both a player and a coach. Rich also started his golfing career as a Junior at Wrag Barn.

Junior Week is run by volunteers from the club and huge thanks to everyone who generously gave their time, especially to Alan Kavanagh and Brian Drane who led the way. For more information about Wrag Barn visit our website.

Verity Manners. W: www.wragbarn.com




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Bears for grieving children

A small group of Highworth knitters has been racing to deliver some of their creations.

When children go to funerals in lockdown, there are only a few people to give them cuddles.

Esme Buller, 87, said:

"I saw that Chippenham Co-op Funeralcare has been gifting knitted 'trauma bears' at funerals to comfort bereaved children who have lost close relatives, and they were appealing for more teddies. I had some unfinished teddies from a previous project and spoke to some friends who wanted to help in meeting the need. Working in isolation, we felt useful."

The group put a lot of love in to each teddy, each of which has a smiley face to bring cheer to the children.

Robbie Hill (in the photograph), Carol Friend, Jane Jones and Esme Buller sent a large box of



Photo: Mair Huband

teddies along with a special message, which was kindly delivered by Brian Butler to Chippenham Co-op Funeralcare.

They were told that "smiling teddies made by volunteer knitters in lockdown have been a huge success."

Mair Huband

Blood cancer awareness month appeal

Blood cancer charity DKMS is urging people from Highworth to come forward and register as potential blood stem cell donors during Blood Cancer Awareness Month in September.

Someone is diagnosed with blood cancer every 20 minutes in the UK and there are around 2,000 people searching for their lifesaver at any one time. For many of these people, a blood stem cell transplant offers their only hope of beating the disease.

For most people there is no single cure, a blood stem cell donation from a genetically similar person can offer the best treatment and could help give someone in need of a transplant a second chance of life.



They appeal to everybody aged 17-55, and in general good health, to take the first steps towards becoming a lifesaver and registering with DKMS. It really could make all the difference to a family going through the worst time of their life.

Check your eligibility as a donor with the QR code.

DKMS in Wiltshire

<https://www.dkms.org.uk>

DKMS 
WE DELETE BLOOD CANCER

An update (and a plea) from the Lion's Den

The Highworth and District Lions Club would like to thank you all for your understanding and support during the pandemic.

I write this at the end of July when we have just been released from most of the COVID-19 restrictions. I hope that you and yours are well and coping with life.

I joined the Highworth and District Lions Club 40 years ago and many of you will remember the sponsored walks, Father Christmas's Grotto at the Wyevale Garden Centre (now Dobbies) and many other events such as dances, stalls at fêtes, etc., which took place then. All in the pre-charity shop era.

In those days we were all younger, but now our numbers have declined and our average age has increased. We still serve the community in many ways such by supporting the elderly, providing a community minibus and donating money to good causes, etc., as indicated elsewhere in this magazine, but we need more members with new ideas and a commitment to take the Lion's ethic forward. This could be by either joining the existing Club or by starting a Branch Club, formed by a small, perhaps younger, group which would operate alongside but be independent of the existing Lions Club.

With more members we could do so much more.

We will be on the Podium in the Market Square, Highworth, on **Saturday, 11th September**, so come along and have an informal chat, and on **Thursday, 16th September** there will be a full

HIGHWORTH & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB



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If you have any large items these can be collected on Wednesdays or Saturday mornings by arrangement.

Call: 01793 766800
during shop hours

'Meet the Lions' event at the Council Offices, Gilbert's Lane, Highworth, SN6 7FB.

Call in to find out how you can help our community; all are welcome. There will be drinks and nibbles and even a raffle. What more could you want?

During July donations were made to:

Naomi House and Jack's Place Children's Hospice, Sutton Courtney – £250.00,

Julia's House Children's Hospice, Devizes – £250.00

(Both Hospices cater for children from our area)

Alzheimer's Society (sponsored bike ride) – £50.00,

We also made a commitment to sponsor a Football Kit for pupils at Westrop School. Cost to be obtained (although it will probably be paid by the time you read this.)

Before I finish, can I make a plea? Please do not meddle with the defibrillator units around the Town. Recently someone took a defibrillator out of its cabinet and put it back without properly closing it. Consequently, the special battery was completely drained and we had to replace it at a cost of £235.00. There is also evidence that others have been interfered with. These units are not toys; if they are out of action lives may be lost.

Rodney Davis,

Highworth and District Lions Club

W: www.highworthlions.org.uk

E: highworth@lions105sc.org

PULL OUT
& KEEP ME

Lions and 'U'

Time for a change, Time for a challenge, Time for 'U'

As we ease our way out of social hibernation that was lockdown, many of you will look on life anew, some with zest to get out there and others with a little more trepidation.

Many now work from home and have missed the social interaction of the workplace, while others have decided to start a new career path, or simply retire. Some may have just lost their 'mojo' for what they once did eighteen months ago, or have a desire to get out of the confines of the home.

The Lions are here to bring you back into the community; socially and physically for all you ladies and gentlemen, individuals, partners and friends. We want to give you back, or revitalise, a purpose for social engagement; give you back your 'Mojo' for being a useful part of things. The Lions have a long history of getting the best out of people by promoting and using your skills and talents that life, hobbies, sports, or careers have afforded you. In fact, just being 'useful' is qualification enough.

What is Project 'U' in 2022?

The Project U in 2022 is our target campaign to promote the Highworth Lions, to tell people who we are, what we stand for the value your participation can bring, not only for the local community but to 'U' personally.



In fact, we are looking for more than three Lions on a shirt, we want 22 of 'U'!

Highworth and District Lions have been in existence for many years, but we feel there is no better time to remind people of who we are, what we can do for 'U', as much as for the local community and explain the opportunities and benefits that being part of the team can have for 'U' and those around 'U'.

Gender, age, young or old, there is no barrier regarding coming on board, and the more and diverse of 'U' that join, the opportunities and benefits will increase.

We want to place 'U' in our number and enjoy being a really useful part of the community in the coming year and beyond.

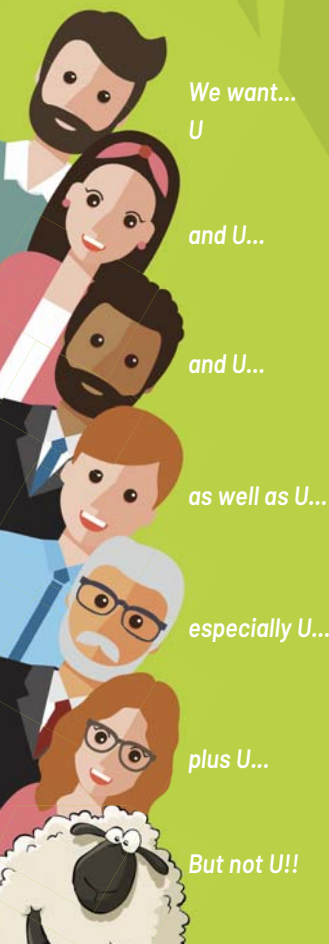
**Make friends
and
socialise**

**New
'hands-on'
experiences**

**Make a
difference**

#projectu

The most worthwhile thing 'U' can give you





Sponsoring kit for HTFC Ladies Lions and junior football teams

Lions are sponsoring some of Highworth's youth football teams.

All aboard the Lions minibus

This community asset is always in regular use for many social groups and is fully funded by the monies we raise.



How much have the Highworth Lions donated?

In recent years we have donated £19,800 as a group, and £13,500 of that went to local good causes.

Did you know that there are over 1.4 Million members in Lions Clubs?

As a social community of volunteers we step forward and get involved wherever and whenever we can.

What are the Lions about?

Lions clubs are places where individuals join together to give their valuable time and effort to improving their communities

Did you know that within any community 20% of people are great at getting things done?

Practical skill, local knowledge, common sense, specialist expertise, ability to put people together, make friends easily, have a sense of humour.



Walk this way

Highworth Firework Display

Helping run this amazing local event.



Outings for the elderly

Making our senior citizens feel a valued part of the community.



The Lions Shop

Recycles many diverse items and all monies made are donated within the community and beyond.



Defibrillator

The Lions have arranged, funded and look after 4 of the towns defibrillators.

Did you know that people derive pleasure from volunteering at different points in their lives?

People, like Lions, of all ages and from all types of communities share common values, such as a desire to help others.

Don't wait to be asked...
Get involved!

Lions Santa's Sleigh

Our annual seasonal fundraiser benefits many community projects... and great fun in the process!



community is **TIME**

www.highworthlions.org.uk



'U' and the Lions



Activities

No experience is required to get involved with the Lions. We can mentor you to be a fully active participant to be involved with, experience and enjoy the many community activities we provide or participate in. The more of U that join, the more opportunities and benefits 'U' can give to the community and beyond.

DO YOU HAVE SPECIFIC TALENTS?

Alongside all the other opportunities are 'U' able to bring something extra to the party.

Transport

Could you give some time to do some driving? If you are mechanically minded, then we have plenty of opportunities to keep 'U' occupied.

Social Activities

With all the hard work you all put in, we also need some 'Lion time' to socialise and have some fun ourselves. So, if you can put the 'U' into FUN then come on down.

Administration & Organisation

Have you the ability to herd cats and get your ducks in a line, then 'U' are well placed to get us sorted.

PR & Social Media

Do you have a handle on promoting activities on the many digital media platforms and have fresh ideas in promoting and expanding the Lions activities? Then we need to meet 'U'.

Retail

If you have worked in retail or allied trades and enjoy communicating with the public the Lions can always have a place for 'U' on the team.

Youth Activities

If 'U' can inspire and motivate the young to engage with doing something positive and fulfilling with their time, then come and see us.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Because we'd love to talk to 'U'

Saturday 11 September

from 9.00am on the Podium – Highworth Market Square SN6 7AQ

Thursday 16 September

from 7.30pm Highworth Council Rooms – 3 Gilberts Lane, SN6 7FB



#projectu



#projectu

T: 03458 339831 • E: highworth@lions105sc.org • www.highworthlions.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 285690

Shoe boxes for children

It is very strange to be writing about Christmas at the beginning of August, but yes, Operation Christmas Child (also known as the "Shoe Box Appeal") will soon be upon us. The National campaign is from Monday 15th November to Monday 22nd November.

The Highworth Collection centre will be based as usual at Highworth Methodist Church. The opening times will be published nearer the campaign.

For those who may be unfamiliar with Operation Christmas Child, shoe boxes are filled with a variety of gifts which are sent to needy children around the world. From the UK, last year, 250,000 shoeboxes were sent to 13 countries and globally about 10 million shoeboxes were sent to over 100 countries. From Highworth, we collected 1660 shoe boxes, which was really amazing because of the Covid



situation last year. We are so grateful to everyone who donated.

Shoe boxes are filled for either a boy or girl and for age groups: 2 to 4, 5 to 9 or 10 to 14. We suggest that each gift-filled box contains a 'WOW' item that the child will immediately love as soon as they open the box. Ideas include: stuffed animal, deflated football and pump, toy truck, doll (baby, Barbie, etc.) or musical instruments depending on the age group. A personal note or photo of you or your

family can also be included. Shoe box leaflets which give full details of the gifts that can be included are available from the drop off points.

<https://www.samaritanspursey.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Peter McAuley, 01793 764385

E: mcauley.peter@gmail.com



This year Christian Aid was, once again, unable to have house-to-house or street collections during our annual fundraising week. We did, however, deliver an envelope to nearly every home in Highworth with a request for donations to be sent to the Lighthouse Bookshop. This, together with church collections and collecting boxes, resulted in an amazing £2,278.25 being donated.

The twin threats of COVID-19 and the climate crisis were the focus of this year's Christian Aid Week, asking supporters to stand in solidarity with those at the very brunt of these global crises.

In Kenya, Christian Aid is helping people in rural communities where drought has become more frequent and intense, resulting in food shortages for millions of people as crops struggle to grow. In 2020, drought was followed by relentless rainfall and flooding in some parts of the country, causing further crop damage.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our appeal and to those who delivered envelopes or hosted collecting boxes.

Highworth Christian Aid Committee.



The pre-school offers a valuable community service, and we are very proud to be part of the village. We also have very close links to St. Mary Magdalene Church in South Marston.

Families can leave their children knowing they are in a happy, safe, loving environment surrounded by highly qualified friendly, caring staff.



The pre-school benefits from a spacious setting with an excellent outdoor area to enhance learning further.

We offer full and part time sessions for a maximum of 16 children, our hours are 8.45-3.15 Mon-Fri. Please contact us for further details regarding sessions time and cost. Funding is accepted for both 15 and 30 hours.



'part of South Marston CofE Primary School' Diocese of Bristol Academies Trust



Viewings are welcome

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www.southmarstonprimary.co.uk/pre_school/

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Seekers Light Trust, AGM

The Seekers Light Trust is the charity which runs the Lighthouse Bookshop in the High Street.

The Lighthouse bookshop is open each day selling Bibles, Christian books, cards, CDs, DVDs, gifts, etc. Please see our Facebook page for opening times.

The bookshop continues to be a focal point for the Highworth community, selling tickets for community events such as concerts, recitals and plays. The Christmas Scout Post Box is also situated here.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **Wednesday October 27th** at 7.30pm at the United Reform Church. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited



to come and find out a little bit more of the work of the Lighthouse Bookshop.

Peter McAuley



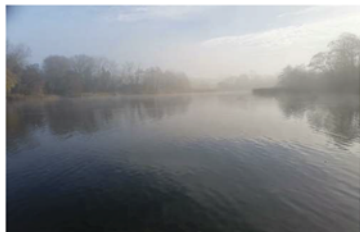
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Sunday 19 September



10 – 3 at Stanton Park

Donated Tools are refurbished to make up tool kits for African projects to help create and sustain livelihoods in rural areas. Tools not on the 'most wanted' list are sold to help fund the cost of shipping tool kits. To donate or enquire about a tool you may be looking for, please use the contact details below:

Swindon Group Tools For Self Reliance. Mob: 07796956974
E: derek.billingham@btinternet.com

Dear Editor,

A big thank you to Trish and Paul at McColls for keeping the paper deliveries going after the fire in the shop. I am sure all those who have papers delivered were extremely grateful to both of them for going the extra mile to keep the show on the road.

(Submitted anonymously but echoed by the Link team and I'm sure, many people in the wider community!)

Dear Editor,

Last year, two walkers with dogs were killed by cows in Yorkshire. This month, friends and I had a narrow escape whilst walking a public footpath in Wiltshire, not far from the Iron Age Hill Fort at Barbury Castle.

We think the walkers ahead of us (carrying a baby in arms!) had their dog on a lead and then let it off (as is advised) when the cows became menacing. As we approached, the herd were chasing their dog and heading at great speed right at our small party. One of us jumped over a barbed wire fence sustaining injuries to limbs and trousers, the rest managed to get over the stile into the next field but there were trapped, as it was clearly dangerous to attempt to traverse the public right of way.

Our story has a happy ending when it might have ended in disaster. We found an alternative route back to the car park where we met the couple with the baby. Thankfully, we had been able to help their dog find his way back to them and, though some of us were bruised and tearful and all were utterly exhausted by the trauma, we lived to see another day!

The warning in this story is for all walkers. Never assume cows are mild creatures who wouldn't say boo to a goose, but just want to chew their cud in peace. We remonstrated and shouted like Gudrun in Ursula did when chased by a herd in Women in Love. But to no avail. I have walked through fields of cows for years without any particular anxiety and indeed had done so, with my dog on a short lead, earlier that day. From now on I shall be much more careful. Better safe than sorry as the old adage asserts.

Sheila Pregnall

Hedgehog-friendly Highworth top tip for September

Leave out water in shallow bowls or saucers for our spiky little friends; it could be lifesaving during heatwaves!

Meaty cat or dog food or dry cat biscuits would also be very welcome. Britishhedgehogs.org.uk has information on creating a feeding station.

Photo credit: Janice Hewitt



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St Michael's Church

The Church is open daily for private prayer.

St Michael's recommends the continued wearing of face coverings in Church with social distancing continuing where possible. Hand sanitizer is located in the South Porch for use on entering and exiting the Church.

10.15am Sunday Service:

The 10.15am Sunday Service is being held in Church and streamed live.

1st, 3rd and 5th, Morning Worship

2nd and 4th, Holy Communion.

The live service can be found at
www.twitch.tv/stmichaelshighworth

Other Services:

1st Sunday of the month at 8.45am – Holy Communion Common Worship followed by breakfast at 9.30am.

2nd Sunday of the month at 3pm.
The 3 – Family Service

Highworth Civic Service

Saturday 25th September

at 12noon in St Michael's Churchyard

Prayers

Tuesday Prayers are held every Tuesday morning at 9.30am.

Friday Blessings are held every Friday morning at 9.15am.

A Quiet Space is held at 12.30pm for half an hour on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Warneford Chapel.

Midweek Church

Midweek Church at St Michael's continues on the third Wednesday of each month. It is a spoken Communion service in the Church followed by lunch with the next service being on **Wednesday 15th September** at 11am.

We remember those who love and miss:

Desmon Gibbons

Leslie Smith

John Hill

We welcome in Holy Baptism:

Leyland Dawson

Harley Devenney

We congratulate on their Marriage:

Robert Grist and Lois Wells

Praying for the roads in the town:

05-Sep-21 Priory Green and Quarry Crescent

12-Sep-21 Queen's Avenue and Redland Close

19-Sep-21 Redlands Court and The Retreat

26-Sep-21 Rivers Way and Roman Way

Highworth Covid and beyond

A Highworth Civic Service on **Saturday 25th September** at 12noon in St Michael's Churchyard.

- Dedication of our Covid memorial tree
- Sharing of our Covid stories
- Looking to a future life with Covid

Send your stories to:

admin@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

In need of some quiet reflection?

A Quiet Space

Join us for half an hour of silence, at lunchtime, once a month
Time to think listen pray

When: 2nd Wednesday of each month at 12.30.

Where: St Michael's Church, in the Warneford chapel.

St Michael's Church Highworth

Saturday Morning @ at St Michael's

Family drop-in is returning to St Michael's. For September it will be on the 2nd Saturday, **11th September** before returning to its usual slot of the 1st Saturday from **2nd October**. Drop in any time from 10am until 12pm. There will be tea, coffee, bacon sandwiches, newspapers, craft, children's toys. Come and meet up with others while the children are occupied.

Ride + Stride Wiltshire

The annual national sponsored event returns in 2021 and is organised locally by County Historic Churches Trusts. Wiltshire Ride + Stride (or its predecessor the Great Cycle Ride) has been going since 1984 and has raised over £1.5 million for the county's churches. 50% of the money raised goes to the participant's chosen church and the other half to the County Historic Churches Trust.

The event is taking place on **Saturday 11th September** between 10am and 6pm.

Participants may be cyclists, walkers, horse-riders or drivers of mobility scooters. They can be of any age, but under-13s must be accompanied by an adult.

All denominations are welcome. Visit as many churches as you like, planning your own route. Seek sponsorship from friends, relations and colleagues, so much per church visited or a lump sum.

Many churches throughout Wiltshire will be open and full details can be found on the Ride + Stride Wiltshire website

<https://www.wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk/ride-stride/>

St Michael's Youth Activities

As we came out of lockdown, we have been able to resume meeting with the young people in person with many different groups for the young people

here in St. Michael's Church.

We started off with Sunday School which meets during the 10.15am service. The children split by age into two groups and we talked about stories in the Bible, did craft and games and had fun.

On Sunday nights we also held a worship evening in church. Here we worshipped in different ways. Dancing, painting, praying, writing psalms and in many more ways we connected with God. Results of the worship evening can be seen in the prayer gazebo in church which was put up by the young people.

On Tuesday evenings in church we have been holding youth groups split into age groups.

From 5-6pm we ran a year 6 group where we talked about questions like: What is truth? Is there a God? Is he real? We also played a lot of games and had a good time.

Years 7-9 met from 6.30-7.45pm and discussed the Bible and played games, ate snacks and did fun stuff.

Years 10-13 met from 8-9.45pm and followed a similar pattern of Bible discussion, games, snacks and more fun and the topics were aimed at the higher age group.

The young people are passionate about the environment as well and are the driving force for St Michael's journey to become an eco-church. Parts of the churchyard have already been designated to a wilding area to help wildlife in our community. If you want to support the project you can buy cards made by the young people and the money will be used for the wilding project.

<https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/PictureskewPrints>

To join these groups, you don't have to be a Christian and everyone is welcome.

Philipp

Highworth Churches 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

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- 18/07/2021 Barbara Knight, thinking of you Mum on your birthday.
Sending big hugs from us all. Lots of love Lyn, Ruth, Patrick and all the kids xxxx
- 24/08/2021 Frank Dean: On what would have been his 91st birthday.
In our thoughts on this special day and every day. Love Jean, Beverley,
Sharon and families
- 27/08/2021 Barbara Knight, It's 11 years since you passed away, we miss you lots and talk
about you often. Lots of love, Lyn, Ruth, Patrick and all of your family xxxx
- 19/09/2021 Joyce Ryder: Remembering a special Mum and Nan. Forever in our hearts.
Janice and Pas, Louisa & Chris, Pep, Amy and Carina xxxxx

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

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

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highworthmethodistchurch@gmail.com
www.highworthmethodistchurch.org.uk

Rev. Rachael Wilson: 01793 764330

St Michael's Parish Church

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Rev. Geoff Sowden: 01793 765554

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Office: 8 Sheep Street, SN6 7AA

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Meets Sundays, 10:15am

admin@highworthchurch.co.uk
www.highworthcommunitychurch.org
Find us on YouTube 'HighworthCommunityChurch'

Matt Ford: 07712 521046

If you have a business story email: editor@highworthlink.co.uk

A new Osteopath in town

Those of you with aches and pains might be interested to hear about a new osteopath clinic that's recently open at Halo Leisure Centre. We spoke to Amy Bryant, the founder of 'Amy Kate Osteopathy', to find out more.

Hi Amy. Tell us about your new clinic. What are you offering?

I'm renting out the treatment room within the leisure centre and I have completely revamped it, bringing a personal touch to the room.

There is free parking and disabled parking. The clinic room is on the ground floor. There is also a ramp leading to the room with no need to climb any stairs so it's easily accessible to all.

I first do an initial consultation. I go through a full medical history to gain an understanding of the patient's health and condition, then do a medical examination to obtain a working diagnosis. Once we have established a possible cause to the patient's complaint, I can begin treatment.

The treatments would be specific and tailored to each patient, but could include soft tissue massage, mobilisation and/or manipulation of joints alongside a variety of different manual techniques. Lifestyle advice and exercise prescription may be discussed too to either assist with injury rehabilitation or maximise health and wellbeing.

Who can you help?

An osteopath is a musculoskeletal specialist so I often treat people with injuries of the muscles, ligaments, bones, etc. However, I can also help those with chronic pain conditions. My service can also be used by those who want to maximise their health and wellbeing through lifestyle advice and exercise prescription.

I see patients young and old, from the age of 16.

Great. What experience do you have?

I studied at Swansea for 4 years and recently received my M.Ost in Osteopathy. During this time I worked with a rugby team doing soft



tissue and sports massages, alongside work pitch side doing first aid for the team. This built my experience with acute and chronic sports-related injuries. During my 4th year I worked within two clinics for the University; one private and one with patients that were NHS referrals. I observed a variety of different medical conditions during this time, especially chronic pain-related conditions, which I aim to study further.

Why did you decide to get in to osteopathy?

One of our principles within osteopathy is to treat a patient holistically, considering each part of the patient's life that could be impacting their health. This is not to just help their pain, but to help prevent the pain from reoccurring. I love that this profession spends the time to get to know patients in such a depth. I get to know the patient's lifestyle, habits, physical and mental wellbeing, allowing me to maximise the patient's health and wellbeing from every angle. I personally see an osteopath and want to be able to help others in this same way.

Finally, do you have any opening offers?

From August to October I am offering 10% of the initial consultation with a verbal referral. Just tell me who told you about my service and you will receive the discount!

I do not charge for referral letters to the GP. Assisting someone with their health is part of the service.

You can find Amy's clinic at Halo Leisure Centre (SN6 7DD), Mondays and Fridays, 8am – 7pm.

amykateosteopathy@outlook.com, 07935 875476
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From our MP

Planning and development has been prominent in Highworth in recent months, with many residents understandably concerned at the seemingly large number of proposed developments / houses for the local area. The situation is complex, so I will do my best to explain.

Prior to 2010, the then Labour Government set out centrally imposed targets for Housing development. In Swindon's case, we had been told to deliver a staggering 36,000 extra houses in just 20 years; almost double what Swindon had delivered in the previous 20 years. This would have been unsustainable.

In 2010 we rightly scrapped these proposed targets and allowed Local Authorities to set their own Local Plans. In effect, the Local Authority can allocate land for development. On allocated land, applications are judged on planning rules, whilst any proposals on unallocated land can simply be thrown out and rejected for any reason the Local Authority wishes. This gives full control to the Local Authority.

Labour (now in opposition) not unreasonably felt giving so much power to the Local Authorities would reduce the number of houses being built, so protections were put in place. Once a Local Plan has been agreed (and in Swindon it had cross-party support) it had to be delivered, with a check at 3 years and 5 years. Basically, you had to deliver the houses promised – this prevented Local Authorities putting forward unrealistic plans.

Despite having cross-party support, Swindon's Local Plan quickly ran into trouble as it included significant house building in the Eastern Development Area (yet to start) and Wichlestone (long delays). So despite additional house building in the Northern Sector (Tadpole Farm and Abbey Farm, etc.) Swindon's Local Plan failed both the 3 year and 5 year tests, so the Local Plan 'falls'. This means all land is effectively 'allocated' so any (speculative) development can only be judged on strict planning rules.

Highworth has seen a lot of speculative development, for example along Shrivenham Road. With a Local Plan, I suspect none of these would have been allowed to proceed, but on strict planning rules Swindon Borough Council (SBC) weren't able to block them. There are many other proposed developments which will have been blocked on planning rules, often before they are publicly discussed / reach the Planning Committee. For example, new developments in

Blunsdon can't be brought forward as Highways England have now deemed the Cold Harbour junction to be at capacity – so future developers / developments would need to upgrade this junction or applications will be automatically blocked.

SBC is now consulting on a brand-new Local Plan, once passed unallocated land will once again be protected. This is vital and frankly should have been done much, much sooner. Works should have started when they failed the 3-year test.

It is the Local Plan consultation that has identified potential plans for the former golf course land which will be consulted on in the coming months. With no realistic chance that the golf course would re-open it was always likely SBC would seek to sell the land – this has caused understandable concern amongst residents. That said, SBC could have sought to sell the whole site to a developer. It seems SBC's proposals are for approx. 300 houses on 30% of the site, with the remaining site gifted to the local community (Highworth Town Council) for public open space, potential expansion of leisure / sports provision, etc. Residents will need to judge the proposals, but from my 21 years' experience of planning I know no developer would ever gift 70% of a site, so whilst SBC's proposals mean 300 more houses, it would protect the majority of the site for the community forever.

Whilst I am not part of the Planning process, I know both your Borough Councillors and Town Council are strong voices for the local community. I will continue to press SBC to get the Local Plan sorted. Whilst we all accept some development, it should be co-ordinated, sustainable and shaped by local residents – with full powers to reject any inappropriate development.

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Highworth Town Council New Neighbourhood Plan (NP2)

Highworth Town Council is obliged to revise its Neighbourhood Plan every three years. Unfortunately this revision has been delayed because of the Covid-19 pandemic. We now have to make up for lost time and press on with the revision.

To do this we need your help.

Between now and Christmas we shall be holding a series of meetings and workshops in order for residents and businesses to make a vital contribution towards the future of Highworth up to 2036.

You have already been asked to respond to Swindon Borough Council's Emerging Plan by the middle of this month. Now, Highworth Town Council is asking you to focus on your town and ensure that we include many of the improvements that you tell us about.

The first opportunity for your ideas will be on **Saturday 11th September** on the Podium (weather permitting), from 9.30am until the market closes, when we shall be happy to remind you about the purpose of the plan and listen to your views about our wonderful town.

After that session we will be holding a series of workshops incorporating your ideas. The dates and times will be widely published, both online, in the Link, in the library and on notices around the town.

Remember it is your plan for the future of Highworth, please help us by offering your ideas.

*Highworth Town Council
Neighbourhood Plan Committee*

Emerging Local Plan

Highworth Town Council would like to advise residents that Swindon Borough Council is holding an online Public Consultation for feedback on their Emerging Local Plan.

The Plan identifies land in Highworth where Swindon Borough Council believe 866 houses could potentially be built. This document will then go to the Inspector to review including comments received. The document is likely to be adopted by Swindon Borough Council later next year.

The locations and quantities are:

250 houses - Land east of Roundhills Mead

200 houses - Land at Shrivenham Road

41 houses - Redlands Park phase 2

25 houses - Land West of Lechlade Road (between Crane Furlong and Blackworth)

350 houses - Land at Highworth Old Golf Course

If you would like to know more, or comment on the document visit the following link on Swindon Borough Councils website. The closing date is the 16th September 2021.

<https://www.swindon.gov.uk/localplanreview>

Paper copies of the documents will also be available to view at SBC Reception, Wat Tyler House, Beckhampton Street and these libraries: Central Swindon, North Swindon, West Swindon, Highworth, and Parks.

Thank you.

Highworth Town Council



HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS

Council Offices, 3 Gilberts Lane, Highworth SN6 7FB

Tel. 01793 762377 / 763511

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Editor: Sarah Gardiner. If you have a story please email villageseditor@gmail.com

FAIRFORD

Unmanned Aircraft Flight Restrictions around RAF Fairford

RAF Fairford is experiencing an increasing number of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), or drones, flying within its Flight Restriction Zone.

UAS operators flying drones near any military airfield must ensure they are aware of the UK policy for their safe operation. When you fly a drone in the UK it is your legal responsibility to be aware of the rules that are in place to keep everyone safe. Due to their small size and manoeuvrability they are hard to spot and identify by pilots of larger, faster moving aircraft. This means they may not see it until they have already hit it, which could cause major damage and potentially loss of life. The Operations and Safety teams at RAF Fairford are committed to providing a safe operating environment and will provide the latest information as it becomes available.

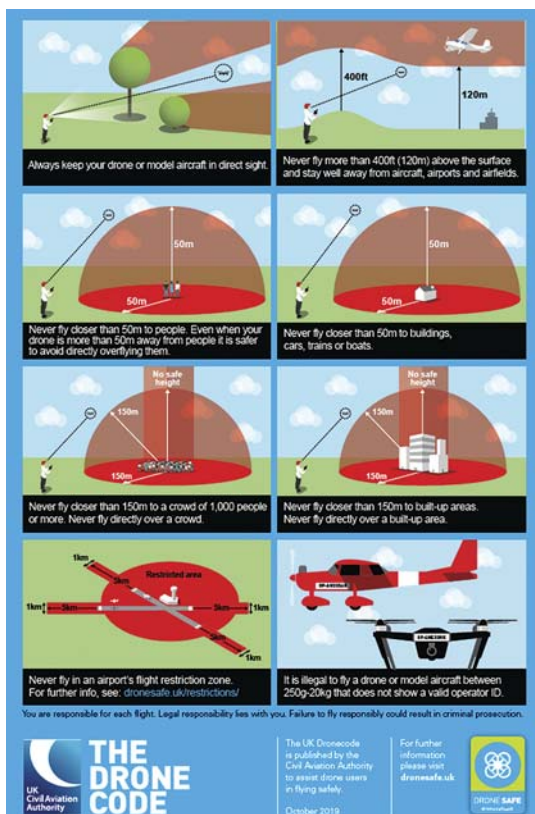
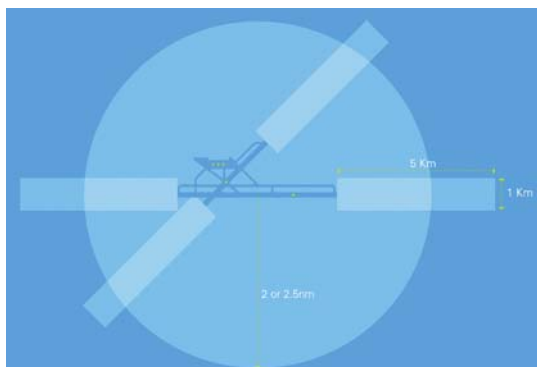
The Drone Code forms part of the Civil Aviation Authority's guidance to drone operators which can be found on the website

<https://dronesafe.uk/drone-code/>

The Drone Code refers to an airfield's Flight Restriction Zone and it is illegal to fly anywhere in this area without permission from the air traffic control unit at the aerodrome.

The permitted 'operating height' is limited to a maximum distance of 400 feet (120 metres) from the closest point of the earth's surface.

The Flight Restriction Zone also includes a 2.5



nautical mile radius 'cylinder' around the airfield, extending 2,000 ft above ground level; a rectangle extending 5km from the threshold of each runway away from the airfield and 500m either side, also to a height of 2,000 ft above ground level; and can be extended across unprotected areas by 1km beyond the airfield boundary. Further information is available on the drone safe website.

Operations within the Flight Restriction Zone may be permitted, but permission MUST be sought from the appropriate authority, which in this case is RAF Fairford Airfield Operations.

The base has a Drone Request Procedure and all enquiries should be sent to the Community Relations Adviser, Jenny Collyer, at jennifer.collyer.2.gb@us.af.mil / 01285 714965, or the Airfield Operations Chief at: 420abs.osa@us.af.mil / 01285 714820.

A minimum of 5 working days is required to process a drone request.

If you see any activity which you believe contravenes the Drone Code, or have any safety concerns, please contact the Ministry of Defence Police using the number 01285 714225.

Jennifer Collyer, RAF Fairford

New Bench for the Sensory Garden



The Walnut Tree playing field and park has received a new addition for its sensory garden. This stunning new bench was hand carved by Andy O'Neill and forms part of the 'ERDF Wild Towns Project'. This multiagency initiative is aiming to restore wildflowers at strategic locations throughout Fairford in the hope of increasing the falling insect population. Full details of the project can be found on the Fairford Town Council webpage.

LECHLADE

Lechlade Community Library

The Library is a focal point for the community as a whole, and our visitors to the area. It is able to open because of our great group of volunteers but, like all charities, we rely on more people coming forward.

It has been a difficult time during Covid, going from complete shut down to gradual opening on specific days, and we have managed recently to increase from three to four half days. With Covid restrictions gradually being lifted, we would like to offer a further half day but cannot currently do so because of volunteer numbers.

We are looking for volunteers prepared to give

three hours every fortnight on a regular basis and are looking probably at Thursday or Friday afternoon. We operate a computer system set up by Gloucestershire libraries and therefore a volunteer should have very basic computer skills. You will be trained by a more senior volunteer until you feel comfortable and will be taken through all the requirements for running a Community library. There will always be at least two volunteers on duty at any one time.

Please contact the library if you are interested and leave your contact details or, better still, call in and speak to one of our volunteers. You will be working with a great team and be giving back to the community. E: Info@lechladelibrary.co.uk, T: 01367 252631.

Tim Yeoman, Director

Lechlade Sunday Riders 100 mile challenge

We are the 'Sunday Riders' a small, aging, yet intrepid group of cyclists (and Lorna!). We are challenging ourselves to ride 100 miles and raise £1000 for the Lechlade Lions Charity and we need your help! Please donate whatever you can and ask your friends and family too. The Lions do great work for many local causes and like many charities have been badly affected by the pandemic.

You can see our money giving page at <https://bit.ly/3JAFt4>. Thank you



The Lechlade Sunday Riders

SHRIVENHAM

Shrivenham Golf Course

Another summer month packed full of golfing activities at the club and out in the County.

The men have played their championship for 2021 and the winners were Danny Rolls in the main men's championship with two good rounds of 62 and 70 combining on a total of 132 with

runner up Stewart Bentley with scores of 69 and 68 making a combined total of 137. In the Senior championship, played in stableford format, Colin Taylor emerged as winner on count back from Phil Hunt as they both scored 35 points. Phil continued his winning ways by scoring the best round a few days later in the July medal and achieving a net 63 which resulted in a cut in handicap.



Lara, winner of Oxfordshire Girls Summer Meeting

The ladies championship was held over two days with Tracy and Debbie playing, and gross and nett honours shared. Our lady members also took



Social Putting – golf and cake

part in county events and in Oxfordshire County Lady Captains matches and events. A combined team of Shrivenham and the Defence Academy played in the Summer meeting at North Oxford in the 3 Ball Alliance and at the Ponting Pheasants Trophy event where Graham Wiltshire and Carole Lee played. County matches at Burford resulted in a win for Oxfordshire, but at Kirtlington they were beaten.

The Oxfordshire Girls Summer Meeting was held at Shrivenham Park and the winner was Lara from Frilford with an excellent score of 42 points, most probably resulting in a reduction in her handicap.

Golfers have been so fortunate to return to a nearly normal pattern of golf. Care must still be taken to abide by Covid regulations.

Social putting which takes place on various Friday afternoons throughout the Summer months has welcomed some new ladies as well as those who have attended before. It is great to see them having fun and as the name suggests putting and chatting in small groups over a cuppa afterwards. Maybe you will recognize the Shrivenham ladies in the photo?

Carole Lee

Shrivenham Cricket Club

We have been fulfilling our fixtures in Division 6 of the Wiltshire Cricket League subject to the vagaries of the weather. Recently we lost at home to Christian Malford who posted 234 for 3. Up to 20 overs we were on a par but finally stuttered to 149 all out to lose by 85 runs. Away to Chippenham 4 we bowled them out for 95 in 23 overs and passed this target in the 37th over losing seven wickets on route to win by three wickets. Our last July fixture was at home to Avebury 2 who scored 198 for 9 and we were bowled out for 145 and so lost by 53 runs.

To date:

<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Tied</i>	<i>C/A</i>
14	4	7	0	3
<i>Batt Pts</i>	<i>Bowl Pts</i>	<i>Other pts</i>	<i>Total pts</i>	
40	55	11	170	

And have you been to the Recreation Ground to see the progress on the Sports Pavilion which will be ready for use next season?

Julian Stevens

SOUTH MARSTON

South Marston Gardening Club

On **Monday 6th September 2021**, Keith Ferguson will speak on 'Plants for Enthusiasts'.

Keith will discuss a wide range of more unusual and some well-known perennials, shrubs and climbers. Aberrant British natives like the peloric form of *Linaria vulgaris*, *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* var. *bracteata*, jack-in-the-green primroses and our native *Daphne laureola* together with other *Daphnes* will feature. As will the Chilean *Berberis valdiviana* and *Crinodendron hookerianum*, Asian *Berberis jamesiana* and *Clematis koreana*. Old cultivars are not forgotten with pinks and peonies and the talk would not be complete without specialities *Veratrum*, *Trillium* and *Galanthus*.

Keith trained as a professional botanist, worked in the USA for a period and then spent 29 years at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, retiring as Deputy Keeper of the Herbarium and Head of the Pollen Unit there. He and his wife moved to Gloucestershire in 1996 and since retirement have created a new garden at their home in Longhope. They are both keen gardeners and plantsmen and have been members of the Royal Horticultural Society for more than 45 years and the Hardy Plant Society some 40 years. Keith is widely travelled, especially in the USA. He has written regularly for *The Hardy Plant* over recent years and has had articles published in *The Plantsman*, *The Bulletin of the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon* and in *Plant Heritage*. He has given talks in Europe and the USA.

We meet at South Marston Village Hall, 7.30-9.30pm. Parking is available on Old Vicarage Lane, next to the school. Entry costs £3 on the door or join the Gardening Club for £12 (annual membership). A warm welcome awaits you along with a cup of tea or coffee and always a slice of cake as well as an optional raffle.

For more information, please contact Angela on: 07789 068340

Angela Newton

STANTON FITZWARREN

St Leonard's Parish Church Services

Sunday 5th September: 9.30am Morning Praise

Sunday 12th September: 11am Family service.

Noah's Ark-in the churchyard if weather allows. Please check the website or contact Liz Hillman on 01793 762935 for details.

Sunday 19th September: Team Service. No service at St Leonard. See website for details

Sunday 26th September: 9.30am Holy Communion

Our vicar Rev. Elveen Mead rev.elveen@gmail.com is keen to get to know as many of us as possible. She hopes to come to our village for an informal walkabout from time to time.

The church building can be used for private prayer or quiet contemplation by arrangement with Liz and Roger Hillman: phone 01793 762935 to organise for the building to be left open for you to visit safely.

Even in these now less difficult times it is still not possible to be sure of all service times and details in advance. Please go to www.stantonchurch.info for updates.



Every Cloud at Stanton Farmhouse

Photographic Competition, 18th & 19th

September: We want images of what Stanton Park means to you and/or what you love about it, at any season of the year. Please submit your image as a photographic print, size A5 or A4 with your name and contact details and whether you are entering in the children's section (under 16 yrs) or as an adult. One entry per person only please.

Your print can be handed in at the Farmhouse Tea-room or the Kiosk in the Courtyard during opening hours* or sent by post to 284, Marlborough Road, Swindon SN3 1NR, marking the envelope as Stanton Exhibition.

Closing date for entries is **Monday 6th**

September. The public will be invited to choose their favourite image and the winner will receive a prize (tbc). Further images will be chosen by Every Cloud to be reproduced (with consent) as a 2022 Calendar. Each selected photographer will receive a voucher. We look forward to seeing



your entries! Full details are also available at www.everycloudartscrafts.com and on our facebook page.

**Farmhouse tearoom is open Sundays 12-4pm;
the kiosk is open 11-3 Saturdays and Sundays.*

Tools sale, Sunday 19th September: Tools for Self Reliance is holding a Tool Sale in the Courtyard.

Tools may also be donated. These tools will be refurbished to make up tool kits for African projects to help create and sustain livelihoods in rural areas. The money raised from the tool sale will help fund the cost of shipping these tool kits. To donate or enquire about a tool you may be looking for, please use the contact details below: Swindon Group Tools For Self Reliance.

Mob: 07796 956974

E: derek.billingham@btinternet.com

The kiosk in the courtyard will also be open for refreshments both days.

Future Crafting Workshops: Following the success of our July workshops, we are also hoping to run more workshops in September. For those interested in trying their hand, in small, sociable groups with excellent tutors, we will be posting details on our website and Facebook page but also displaying posters in Stanton Park itself.

Anne Billingham



THE CARPENTERS ARMS

A WARM WELCOME GUARANTEED

We serve wholesome home-cooked food, from light bites to hearty meals. Why not accompany your meal with a traditional west-country ale or a glass of fine wine?

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We now offer takeaway food any time we are open and its our normal full menu & specials.

The weekly specials are on our Facebook page



Booking not necessary, (but we do recommend it on busy days such as weekend evenings or Sunday lunch).

Monday – Thursday: 10 am – 2:30 pm & 6-9 pm • **Friday & Saturday:** 10 am – 9pm • **Sundays:** 10 am – 5pm

South Marston, Swindon, SN3 4ST T: 01793 822997 • M: 07412 696263 • thecarpentersarms1@gmail.com
www.carpentersarmsswindon.co.uk

Wednesday 1st September, 7.30pm

White Horse Folk Club Highworth are pleased to welcome you to a new venue and an earlier start time of 7.30pm from September 1st. At St. Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, Highworth, SN6 7HQ. For more information contact Derrick on 01793 762070 or Geoff on 01793 706753.

Thursday 9th September, 2.30pm

Faringdon & District U3A Zoom meeting. The speaker will be Alison Rees who has spent 16 years in Zambia 'Living the African Dream'. Alison has worked on reservations and has had the opportunity to follow her wildlife photographic interests and conservation passion.

E: membershipsecretary@faringdonu3a.org.uk for details.

Saturday 11th September, 9.30am to market close

Highworth Town Council on podium to discuss Neighbourhood Plan – see page 48 for details .

Saturday 11th September, 10am-6pm

Ride & Stride Wiltshire – see page 40 for details.

Wednesday 22nd September

Highworth Historical Society AGM and talk on 'My Life as a Cold War Spy' – see page 21 for info.

Friday 24th September, 7.15pm

Highworth Community Cinema – see page 9 for info.

Saturday 25th September, 12noon

Highworth Civic Service – see page 39 for details.

Wednesday 27th October, 7.30pm

Seekers Light Trust AGM – see page 35 for details.

Saturday 13th November, 9.30am-12.30pm

Save the date for the Christmas bazaar at the Methodist Church. The usual stalls will be there and bacon butties, etc.



RELAUNCH September 21

HIGH WORTH FORGET-ME-NOT CAFE

Highworth Memory Cafe

- Cake and a Cuppa
- Fun & Friendship
- Musical Entertainment
- Games & Crafts
- Mutual Support
- Sharing & Caring

The cafe is a friendly, free and comfortable space and is aimed mainly at those in our community living with Dementia or needing similar support, alongside their companions. We want to create a fun afternoon enjoying a variety of entertainment & activities, bringing smiles & creating happy memories together.

There will also be the opportunity to speak with or be signposted to support workers, health practitioners or advisors and to get to know others with similar experiences

Please join us

NEW TIME: 2.00pm - 4.00pm
NEW DAY: Fourth Wednesday of every Month
NEW VENUE: Highworth Community Centre, The Dormers, SN6 7PQ

22nd September 24th November
27th October 22nd December

For further information please contact Ruth on 07970 543423 or email Kevin and the team on forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook

Home Instead, Dementia Friendly, Lions Club, Dental Care, Highworth Link



Highworth Methodist Church

Craft Fayre

Saturday, September 18th
10am until 1pm

Refreshments served

woodturning · pyrography · pottery
children & babies knitwear
paintings · handicrafts · cakes
greeting cards and more

Sundays, 9.15am & Mondays, 7.15pm

Clubbercise fun fitness classes with disco lights and glowsticks, suitable for all fitness levels.

Classes held at Highworth Community Centre; Sundays at 9.15am, Shrivenham Memorial Hall; Mondays at 7.15pm. For details see www.facebook.com/clubberciseaveen or contact Aveen on 07738 299717.

Thursdays, 8-10pm

Leisure Badminton at the Grange Leisure and Community Centre. £5. All levels, all ages.

Just turn up or call Graham Seeley on 07769 703702 or Paul Moore on 07970 709929 for info.

Planning an Event?

St Michael's is delighted to announce the newly decorated and refurbished St Michael's Church Room is now available for booking for fundraising coffee mornings and events. If you would like to book this venue for your fundraiser or event

please contact St Michael's Church Office on telephone 01793 762702 and at office@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Roves Farm Mini Farmer Weekends Every weekend in September

Help the farmer with all the jobs on the farm and earn your stars! Brush the pony, wash the tractor, walk the goat and feed the animals.

And during September pay just £1 per child/toddler! Pre-book your tickets online at www.rovesfarm.co.uk



Roves Farm Pumpkins & Halloween Fun Wednesday 20th – Sunday 31st October

Choose your own pumpkin and get creative. Carve your design and leave the mess with us! Pre-book your tickets online at www.rovesfarm.co.uk



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email: admin.swindon@homeinstead.co.uk
www.homeinstead.co.uk/swindon/contact-us

LOCAL CONTACTS

Police, Fire, Ambulance	Emergency	999
Police	Non-Emergency	101
NHS	Non-Emergency	111
COVID-19 Test Line	Non-Emergency	119
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

PRESCHOOL/NURSERY

Westrop Nursery	01793 762897
Westgate Nursery	
School & Crèche	01793 861268
South Marston Pre-school	01793 823379

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)

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