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HIGHWORTH'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE BROUGHT TO YOU WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE CHURCHES OF HIGHWORTH



October 2021

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Harvest Time

October is traditionally a month of Harvest Festivals. In churches across the country, people will be singing about ploughing the fields and all good gifts as well as donating tinned and dried food to food banks and CAP centres.

Harvest services are times to remember and thank God for all that we have and to share some of that with others.

Something Jesus preaches and tells stories about is caring for our neighbours. Over the last 18 months we have become better at caring for our immediate neighbours, many of whom have become friends, but Jesus also teaches that our neighbours aren't just the people we live close to, but anyone in need of help.

We have all heard, read or seen the news that our precious planet cannot keep up with our insatiable need for more things. On my news feed at the moment is the famine hitting Madagascar. Famine is unfortunately not a new thing, but this one is a little different because it is the first caused by climate change rather than war or negligence. At our harvest festivals we will not only be thanking God for what we have, but saying sorry for our greed that has led to so much poverty.

Jesus took notice of the world around him, commenting on lilies, figs, sparrows, lambs, wolves, seeds, harvest and more. He clearly valued the created world and used it to help him tell stories and show people how much they were loved by God. He said:

"Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" This simple statement from Jesus tells me that the birds are important and cared for by God, and I am loved even more. But not just me; also the person in Madagascar who is eating mud to try to stay alive.

We in this country have been relatively unaffected by climate change so far, while our neighbours in other parts of the world are feeling the direct fallout of our over-consumption. We have not been loving our neighbours and this needs to change. We can love our neighbours in other parts of the world by opting for a more local diet, buying less, buying better quality or shopping second-hand and lobbying government to push for greener policies and practices.

Many wonderful people are doing their bit to help. There are fantastic people collecting things not usually recycled by the local authority, the friends of Pentylands are managing the park with wildlife in mind, the people galvanised to help protect the 'Old Golf Course' for people and animals to flourish and wonderful Facebook groups to help encourage hedgehogs into our gardens. These are small steps in our local area but they can lead us to thinking and acting bigger. Our actions need not be big or grand or even noticed by others. Faithful actions and intentions are noticed, valued by God and will not be wasted.

Emily Swinerd, Assistant Curate, St Michael's Church

Cover: *Highworth allotments by Sam Daniels (see page 3)*

LINKmagazine

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Publishers: The Leadership of Highworth Churches Together

Editor: Amy Hegarty
E: editor@highworthlink.co.uk

Production: Stables Studio
T: 01793 764768
E: graphics@stables.co.uk

Advertising: Debbie Hodgson
T: 01793 764768
E: advertising@highworthlink.co.uk

Highworth Distribution:
Clive Hall T: 07801 365282
E: clive7045@btinternet.com
Peter Croton T: 01793 762025

Villages Distribution: Keith Ratcliffe
T: 01793 861122

Treasurer: Terry Williams

Highworth Link,
c/o Lighthouse Bookshop,
40 High Street, Highworth,
Swindon SN6 7AQ
Tel: 01793 764768

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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.

Grow your own – from the allotments

It's fair to say that this year was a challenge for our allotments. With such a cold start, many seeds found it hard to germinate. Then the lack of sun throughout summer, the travellers (allegedly) causing contaminated water butts, and loss of some crops, damage and theft. Then blight on many tomatoes too. I have certainly found it hard to keep enthusiasm going and keep on top of my very persistent weeds.

That said, when I walk around the allotments I see so many successes. Some plots put mine to absolute shame though I did have a couple of successes, in particular my potatoes and I actually grew some edible sized carrots! I've had my plot since March 2019 so I'm an amateur, or what my kids call a 'Newb'!

Jobs to do in September & October (From 'Allotment Month by Month' by Alan Buckingham)

Harvest – the rest of your beans, peppers, sweetcorn, globe artichokes, leeks, pumpkins and main crop potatoes, and sweet potatoes.

Pick – late plums, apples, pears, autumn raspberries.

Sow – the last of your oriental and salad leaves for this year. Sow broad beans for next year straight into the ground.

Plant – spring cabbages and Japanese onion sets to overwinter for next year. Also garlic, onions,



rhubarb and bare-root bushes such as currants and gooseberries.

Clear away – dead plant matter and, by the end of October, bean, pea and tomato supports. Add non-infected matter to your compost.

If you have an allotment, you will be aware of how rewarding it can be. Yes, it's hard work and a commitment, however, the physical and mental health positives are huge. It's great for children to be involved in too. Please contact the staff in the Highworth Council Offices with any queries.

If you grow your own in an allotment or in your garden, feel free to join our Facebook group for free advice and help: Highworth Rec Allotment group.

Happy gardening!

Sam Daniels

Speeding increases in August

In August, the Highworth Community Speedwatch team reported 1869 vehicles for speeding on the town's roads, an increase of 570 over July. They ran 86.46 hours over 80 sessions. The increase in sessions as well as more accurate targeting of speeding on certain roads explains the upswing in reported vehicles.

In all, team members gave up a total of 177 hours of their time to help make Highworth a no-speeding zone.


Overall, there has been a reduction of excessive speeding vehicles from 7.08% in July to 6.15% in August, which reflects the feedback we have had from residents. Although 5.72% of motorists are still speeding, they are being more cautious and are moderating their speeds.

In one session on Saturday 28th August, the team reported 125 vehicles for speeding on Cricklade Road. In analysis of the data from the session by Wiltshire police, it was found that out of the 125

vehicles recorded only 11 came from the SN6 area. It is also worth noting that 49 vehicles were from out of county. There were seven excessive speeders with four of those being out of county. The team believes this proves the majority of local drivers are sticking to the speed limits and would like to say thank you to everyone who sticks to the speed limits in our town, making it safer for all.

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.



Ask AMS

What expenses can I claim against my rental property?

This is a list of tax deductible expenses that you can claim against your rental property income.

Mortgage interest is claimable in full but there are special rules regarding tax relief

Management charges/commission to letting agencies

Property repairs – but not “improvements”

Renewals of fixtures on a like-for-like basis (modern equivalents are acceptable)

Replacing furniture/white goods/furnishings on a like-for-like basis


Maintenance expenses and costs for decorating – including gas safety certificates;

Advertising for a tenant and obtaining/drafting a tenancy contract;


Buildings/ contents insurance. Council tax, water rates, service charges etc. if the landlord incurs these;

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PCSOs in Highworth

What a pleasant surprise to see PCSOs Victoria Townsend and Jo Cross on our Market Square on Saturday 28th August and to learn more about what their jobs entail.

For example, I tried to imagine them, or maybe I was thinking about myself, racing up a motorway at 100mph using 'blues and twos' but it would appear that this sort of action is left for the 999 (emergency) calls, whereas they deal with the more sedate, yet equally as important, 101 (non-emergency) calls.

We had a great chat and it gave me a sense of well-being knowing that they are here, not only to help us on a daily basis but also to show that they are ready and willing to freely interact with the public at any time and, in our case, on a busy Saturday market morning.

As it happened, my grandson, Reggie, and his mum and dad were visiting for the weekend and Reggie was more than happy to be able to sit behind the wheel of a real police car (as long as he kept his finger off the siren button!). I think he now wants to become a



PCSOs Victoria Townsend and Jo Cross

police officer! He left the officers having been given some 'police' pictures to take home and colour in. He couldn't wait to show them off, together with the photographs, when he went back to school. If I'm honest, I have to say that I, also, was very excited to be sat in a police car. I hope that being with my grandson will, in the future, be the only reason I'm asked to sit in a police car!

This experience got me thinking about the other 'front line' services that we all take for granted. I mean, wouldn't it be great to have a representative, like the two PCSOs, gracing our market square on a busy Saturday morning on a regular basis. We have the paramedics, the ambulance service, the fire service and the armed forces, just to name a few and, who knows, they may just be the catalyst that our young people need.

I will look forward to seeing some of them on my weekly visit to the market where I catch up with friends and pay a visit to the market 'sweetie stall'.

Tony Brewster



Reggie with Tony in the police car

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



The Action Group would like to thank everyone for their support of the campaign so far. The deadline for the public consultation has been extended to **Thursday 7th October** so there is still time to respond if you haven't already. The Action Group will keep people updated and ask you to keep an eye on their Facebook page and website for further ways you can help going forward.

W: www.keepphighworthgreen.com

Facebook: [Action group for Saving Highworth's Old Golf Course](#)

4 Phenomenal Women



An evening of light-hearted entertainment held in St Michael's Church in August raised £540 for the Swindon Branch of the Samaritans. A glass of wine supplied by Ken Arkwright and a buffet donated by TT Linnet coffee house in Highworth complemented the evening. Thanks to all who supported the event.

John Williams, organiser



STYLISTS: TERESA, KERRY & SUZANNE

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Headlines Hair & Beauty would like to welcome our new stylist Suzanne to the team of myself, Kerry and Naj.

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From the Scouts



One of this year's summer activities was rafting. Rafting was fun because we got to design the raft together as a patrol and then test them on the water.

After we made the raft, we lifted it in to the water and tried to paddle around the island on the lake. After a few sessions of making rafts, designs and ability to paddle them improved. I learned that the best rafts built had to be near enough symmetrical.

Along with rafting we also did kayaking, archery, some community service and some pioneering.

Whilst mentioning pioneering, I really enjoyed building and using a dead man's crawl (one-strand rope bridge). We made two A-frames with wood spars. We then suspended, tensioned and anchored the rope between the two frames and enjoyed trying to crawl across without twisting around the rope.

Reuben, Scout, 1st Highworth Scout Group

On the 1st August, seven of the more capable Scouts and five leaders embarked on a trip down the Thames from Castle Eaton to Lechlade in kayaks and a Canadian canoe.

The journey was about 12km and took us around four hours. We encountered a few obstacles such as fallen trees, swans, cygnets, geese and narrow passages along the way.

Prior to the journey, I had some doubt in myself as I had missed some of the sessions we had on kayaking. Nonetheless, my scout leaders convinced me and gave me a kayak with a rudder to help me manoeuvre.

I am glad I went as the experience was rewarding and the skills I have gained will help me in the future.



Alessandro, Scout, 1st Highworth Scout Group



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Gardens Open and Highworth in Bloom



We finally managed to have our Highworth Gardens Open Day on Sunday 22nd August. Thankfully the weather stayed fair. We are very grateful to all of you who bought an entrance map and wandered from garden to garden. Many of you stopped for some refreshments and there was a lot of chatting in the sunshine. Many thanks to all the garden owners who made it all possible. The result; you raised £1800 for Highworth in Bloom!

For those of you who don't know, we started Highworth in Bloom 10 years ago to create some floral interest more widely around Highworth. The Town Centre displays are looked after by the Council (and paid for by your Council Tax). Our 37 rectangular planters are in most other parts of Highworth and are looked after by our wonderful volunteers who plant,

water and tend them through the year.

Some of our older planters are starting to show their age and have needed to be replaced. There are more that will have to be replaced soon and that was the main purpose of our fundraising.



The planter locations have been chosen because someone living nearby suggested it and volunteered to look after it. We hope that a few more of you may spot some other places where a new planter could be seen by passers-by and would like (perhaps with some neighbours) to look after it. Please let us know if you would and we will be very happy to discuss it with you.

*Ken Hooper and Norman Jeffery,
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Town tours and more at Visit Highworth

Guided Town Tours are now taking place and proving to be very popular; pop in to book your place.

Meet the Maker and follow-up workshops recently resumed, starting with a successful Jackie Panting needlecraft and felting morning.

Hedgehog-Friendly Highworth have been running a colouring competition to highlight the plight of our friendly garden visitors. Winners will be displayed in our window.

Halloween will soon be here where we will run a fun Saturday morning workshop for the kids, with autumnal arts and crafts making their way to us too.

Dare we mention 'Christmas'? The switching on of the Christmas lights will take place on



Saturday 27th November with the Mayor running outside entertainment and stalls.

Visit Highworth will be hosting a Christmas Arts and Crafts Fair in St Michael's Church from 12am to 6pm. Calendars and cards are on order, if you would like to pre-book your calendar, please let us know.

The updated Highworth Walks booklet has been well received, not many remaining and would make an ideal Christmas gift or stocking filler.

We look forward to

welcoming you.

Please keep up to date on Facebook/Instagram @Visit Highworth.



Scouts Christmas Post

At the time of writing this, we are hopeful the Scouts Post will be running as normal for Christmas 2021. Full details should be in the November issue.

David Roblin



An update from Westrop Medical Practice

With the shift from social distancing back towards a more normal existence, general practice needs to adapt once again. Although we have been seeing patients when needed throughout the pandemic, the majority of work has been done over the phone. With the relaxation of Covid regulations, it was clear that patients and our clinicians were keen to get back to a world where more was done face-to-face. This has resulted in a recent change in the booking system throughout Westrop.

Now when you ring to arrange an appointment you will be asked if you want to see the doctor/clinician, or whether you want a phone call; the patient has the choice. Of course, certain things lend themselves to needing to be seen in person; lumps and bumps, rashes, tummy pain, etc. (our reception staff can guide you). That said, a surprisingly large amount can be dealt with really effectively with a phone call, along with the benefit of not having to travel to or wait in the surgery. Don't forget we also still have the option of a video call or texting photos if needed, and with many patients having home blood pressure monitors and now even pulse oximeters, it's easy to amass a wide range of information to help aid diagnosis and management without leaving the comfort of your own home!

In an attempt to make the clinics as accessible to patients as possible, they are available to book online, a service that many are now making use of. When you do this, please add the best contact number (in the case of a call), or tell us if you are coming in to see the doctor. Also, try and give us a brief idea of what the problem is, just so we know it has been booked in with an appropriate member of the team.

As a practice we understand that plans change, or problems resolve, and we are very grateful to the vast majority of our patients who ring and cancel their appointment when it is no longer required. However, the move back to pre-bookable face-to-face appointments has seen the return of the dreaded "DNA" ("did not



Image: Shutterstock

attend"!). These are always such a frustrating waste of precious resources, and whilst it's inevitable that they will happen from time to time we thank you for helping us to keep it an occasional occurrence, rather than a regular one.

We very much appreciate your patience and understanding as we adapt the service to reflect the current Covid situation. As I write, the current wait time for a routine GP appointment (phone or face to face) is six working days, with a daily 'duty doctor' to deal with any problems that need to be seen more urgently than this. Over the last few weeks, this wait time has varied from three days, up to a maximum of seven. I know that prompt access to appointments at the surgery is something that is very important to patients, and it's definitely something we take very seriously at Westrop. The managers and partners review the wait time at all of our sites on a weekly basis and, despite fluctuating demand and sometimes staff availability, work hard to try and keep accessibility as good as possible.

We hope you find the new appointment system gives you the flexibility you need. As ever, we welcome feedback and one of the best ways to provide this is by joining our patient participation group (PPG); details are on our website.

Simon Stacey, Westrop Medical Practice,
www.westropmedicalpractice.nhs.uk

'Musings' by G R Umbler

Why are there only ever two people working on the roundabout being built at the entrance to Highworth?

Why is there such a lack of urgency, when traffic is being held up and backing back into town, causing gridlock and inconvenience?

Why is it so difficult to be seen by a GP and despite anecdotal evidence to the contrary and empty surgeries are we told that GPs are overworked?

Why not show pride in our town and each adopt a stretch of kerb near our house to keep clear of weeds?

Why not instil this pride in our children, teaching them not to litter?

Hedgehog-friendly Highworth tip of the month

Please don't rush to tidy up leaves as autumn goes on. Not only can leaf piles be used as a potential nesting site, they can also be used for bedding material for any other nest sites or hedgehog boxes in the surrounding area.

Also, please be careful when tidying up any leaf piles; there may be a hog in residence!

Photo credit: Barb Busby



The Churches of Highworth want to pray for you.

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

Jesus cares, and we care too.

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

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

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Pets' Corner



Name: Sheppy

Sheppy says: "I was rescued off the back of a meat truck on the way to a slaughterhouse in China, so everything in life is a little scary! If you see me out on a walk and I bark at you, I'm sorry! I don't mean any harm – I'm just learning how to get by.

Oh, one of my owners is Amy, editor of the Highworth Link. She couldn't resist putting me in Pets Corner!"



And now for something a little different...

Name: Dave is a lizard owned by Debbie Wainwright and family.

"Dave likes to join in with the girls when they play Barbies. He bangs on his glass until you let him out to play!"



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.

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Arts Section *Compiled by Iain Barnwell*

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Highworth Artists Society are exhibiting again!



Pictures above and right by Wendy Waight, Joan O'Rourke, Anthea Hilston, Pam Hague, Lou Thompson, Lyn Armstrong, Christine Middleton, and Christine Purdy.

What a joy it is to be able to hold our first exhibition (9th to 16th October 2021) since October 2019 and to welcome back our regular visitors as well as anyone visiting us for the first time!

If you haven't been before, our visitors have commented that our artwork is of a very high

standard so please come along to judge for yourselves.

You will be able to view framed and unframed paintings in several mediums and in differing styles. Paintings will be available for purchase as will greeting cards that have been produced from our artists' own original artwork.



The exhibition will run more or less as normal but, unfortunately, we have decided not to hold our preview evening, competitions or to serve refreshments this time because of Covid 19. However, we hope that you will feel able to stay to browse and look at the artwork at your leisure. Enjoy!

Opening Hours: 10am to 4pm daily (including Sunday). Free Entry.

In the Community Room, Highworth Council Offices, 3 Gilberts Lane, Highworth, SN6 7FB.

Pam Hague, HAS Secretary

Banding Back

Highworth Silver Band is still rebuilding after the Covid lockdowns, but we are all in high spirits now that we have had a couple of months of rehearsals and the music is getting better and better.

Our embouchures (lips) are recovering, sticky valves are loosening up and we've all started to remember what all those funny dots on the music are for!

Many thanks to one of our members, and her husband, who let us use their garden for our initial outdoor rehearsals and arranged for us to do some rehearsals in the barn at the Coleshill National Trust.

Hopefully, by the time this issue of the Link comes out we will have played our first gig for the National Trust at their Coleshill model farm open day on the 12th September. We also hope to be back to rehearsals in the band hall, with appropriate Covid precautions, and junior band rehearsals restarted on Saturday mornings.

If you have any enquiries about the band, whether it be about joining us or a possible performance, then please get in touch by email at highworth.sb@gmail.com



Return of Rehearsals

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 is 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, 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 Community Cinema



The second film for the current season will be another film that was due to be shown in 2020. The film is in French with English subtitles. If you came to the first film since re-opening we hope you enjoyed it. We would welcome any feedback to improve your experience.

'In Safe Hands', Friday 22nd October

Abandoned at birth, baby Théo's uncertain future lies in the hands of the Child Welfare Services. Jean, who is no stranger to the foster system, is given the responsibility of temporarily looking after Théo, while the members of the Adoption Agency have

the difficult task of finding him a home.

Jeanne Herry crafts the story stemming from a delicate two-and-a-half-month state of limbo for Théo. In *Safe Hands* choreographs parallel strands of action: the search for potential parents undertaken by the social workers managing Théo's case, the care and vigilance required for Théo's foster father to properly nurture him in the interim and the nine-year journey of adoption applications and fractured marriage embarked upon by a possible mother.

Film starts at 7.45pm. Doors open 7.15pm (Cert 15 110 mins). There is no membership fee. Admission £5 on the door which includes tea / coffee and biscuits.

Contact details: T: 01793 763907
E: info@highworthfilms.org.uk
www.highworthfilms.org.uk

Be Wonderfully You

Wonderful You, the second picture book from **Kate Jane Metcalfe**, (now **Neal**) is not only delightful but offers hope to us and our children in understanding our differences and embracing the goodness in each of us.

Kate was born in Highworth and educated at Southfields School and Warneford before going on to study art at Falmouth and Edinburgh. Her first book, *Words and Your Heart*, was written to help children understand the power and impact of words and was illustrated by Kate with two delightful characters, Pip and Cat.

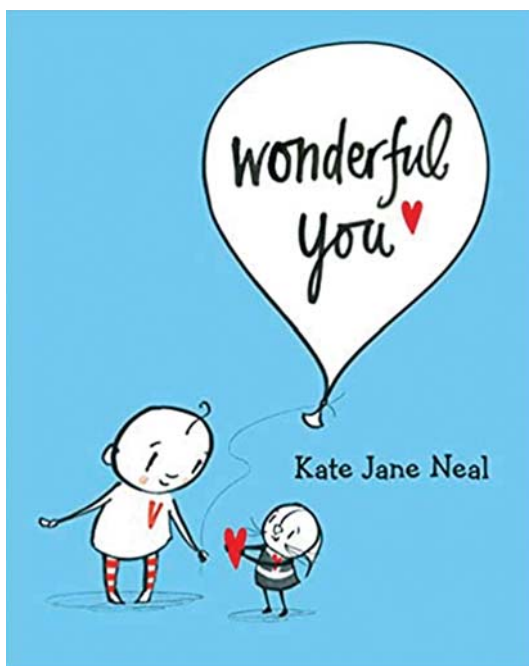
Children have loved this book, still available on Amazon, and it has been used in school classrooms as a basis for changing the culture of the class, enabling children to understand the significance of our words and how they affect us and each other.

This second book continues the theme of helping children (of all ages) understand that we are all unique and should celebrate our differences, "because together we make the world extraordinary".

Alongside the positive writing, the beautiful, joyful illustrations make each page a pleasure. Recently published, 'Wonderful You', will be loved as children realise their own self-worth and the preciousness and individuality of each other. The book is available from The Lighthouse Bookshop.

www.katejaneneal.com

Gwen Metcalfe



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'Streetwise' The Musical

A New Musical written by Ant Stevens

The Swindon Arts Centre Theatre, Old Town:
27th-30th October

At long last after many delays, *Streetwise, The Musical*, is on its way. Written by local Highworth resident Ant Stevens and set to stunning music by well-known composer Isabelle Fisher-Michalakakis, this latest of Ant's works is all about rough sleepers. It sets about raising awareness of those people who, for many different reasons, have ended up living on the streets.

While *Streetwise* highlights the misfortunes faced by the homeless, the show includes a great deal of humour, a bit of absurdity and even a little romance. Tickets are moving fast so reserve your seats now.

Booking: Online, search: Wyvern Theatre & Arts Centre or T: 0343 310 0040

(We are pleased to say that nearly half of the tickets have already been sold.)



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'A Flourishing Little Town'

This was the description of Highworth given by Pigot & Co's Trade Directory in 1830.

There was special mention of an excellent library kept by a Mr J Ricketts. Shopping at this time you could have chosen from the following shops: Three shoemakers, four butchers, two seedsmen, five grocers and tea dealers; three ironmongers, three drapers, four general shopkeepers, five tailors and three candle makers. Also a bookseller, a cheesemonger, a watch and clock maker, a hairdresser, a milliner and a glass and china warehouse.

Over the years many shopkeepers advertised in the local papers. Many of these had a more specialist trade or wanted to appeal to the middle classes. Quite a few combined several lines. The Mr Joseph Ricketts mentioned above had his business in the Market Place in 1848. He was a printer, bookseller and stationer, a sub-distributor of stamps, a circulating library and a Chemist and druggist also an agent for Sun Fire and Life Insurance.

June 1856. Mrs Reynolds, Milliner and Dressmaker. High Street.

'Begg to announce her return from London, and that she will have a select assortment of Bonnets, etc. Of the Newest Designs ready for inspection on Wednesday 28th inst.'

NB: Two apprentices wanted.

December 1867. Comptons, Compton House, High Street.

'Drapery to suit every class. We are now prepared for the season with the Largest, Cheapest Stock of Goods we have ever had.'

There followed a long list of what was available. Included were stays, corsets, crinolines and waterproof cloaks. They also had a Mourning Department.

May 1870. Joseph Hill. Established 50 years.

'Begg to offer his choice stock of seeds for Swedes, Turnips and Mangolds. Also Bedding Plants from 1/6 (7p) to 2/- (10p) a dozen.'



In 1900 there is the first mention of a dentist in the town. (It was usual for a blacksmith to pull out bad teeth!):

Mr R L Pinniger, Dentist from Southampton.

'Begs respectfully to announce to the gentry and inhabitants that he may be consulted professionally every alternate month. His first visit is on Wednesday March 9th at Mr Reynolds.'

F B Higgs was a Practical Tailor and Breeches Maker.

In 1892 he could be found on the High Street but later moved to what is now part of The Highworth. The firm stayed in the town for many years and was well-known for the quality of their work. You can still meet men who remember having their first suit made by Higgs.

Marsh's Drapery.

Another famous Highworth Store (now Allen and Harris). They advertised frequently in the 1900's. Always two sales a year. *'Everything reduced in all departments.'* In 1924 he had a special offer of *'Farm Coats of proven value. Enormous Demand. Coats 1/11 (10p) each with detachable buttons for washing. Two sent by mail, post free.'*

F. Wadley & Co, Brewery Street. June 1911

'Established nearly a century. Light Family Ales, Invalid Stout, Haymaking Ales.'

'All brewed from finest malts and hops'

Unfortunately the firm did not survive the loss of workers to the army in WWI.

Where the podium is now used to be a row of small shops (including the premises of the infamous fish and chip shop and its arch-enemy, Mr Wheeler). December 1921 sees a sad advert

by Joseph Billington, late Private, King's Liverpool Regiment. He made and repaired willow baskets. Joseph had been blinded in WWI and then been trained by St. Dunstons:



'Please give me a trial'

I hope that gives a taste of how the town once was. Just a sample from my large collection.

When we came to Highworth in 1980 we still had the following shops: a bookshop, drapers, wool

and sewing shop, wine merchant, two ladies dress shops, kitchenware and china, two butchers, greengrocer, sweets and tobacco, bread and cakes, DIY, children's shoes, electrical, dry cleaner and shoe repairs, three banks, post office and chemist. Most now gone. Newcomers please support those we still have.

*Christine Suter,
Highworth Historical Society*

Highworth Historical October Meeting: 'Last Orders' by John Stooke.

Wednesday October 27th, St. Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road.

Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

John will tell stories of some of the Swindon pubs and beer houses which have now vanished. His book, of the same name, will be available to buy at the meeting.

Visitors are always welcome to our talks. There is a charge of £3 payable at the door. Membership is £10 a year and covers all our talks.

Chris Suter, 01793 764811

Sport *Compiled by Jason Daniels*

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



Wrag Barn Golf Club



L-R Gill Loughery, Katie and Sammie Walls

Katie wins again! For the second year running, Katie Walls is the Wrag Barn Ladies Champion. The Ladies Championships were held on 14th August and for once it wasn't pouring with rain. Over 36 holes Katie, who plays off a handicap of one, shot 152 (Rounds of 77 and 75) to win the competition by eight shots from Gill Loughery who came second with a total of 160.

It's been a busy summer for Katie who is Captain of the Wiltshire Golf Under 18's Girls team and she created a tremendous team spirit throughout Girls South West Inter-Counties at Wedmore Golf Club; everyone felt valued and supported. She is also part of the Wiltshire Golf Ladies Team Captained by Gill Loughery and made a valuable contribution during SW Match Week at Bristol

and Clifton Golf Club. Individually, Katie has played in the Under 18 Mixed England Amateur Open and the Under 18 English Girls Amateur Open where she made the cut and came 28th. We keep her feet firmly on the ground at Wrag Barn where she has played in the Junior and Ladies Section this summer. She has a charming manner and a round of golf in Katie's company is always a pleasure.

It can't be denied that the future for Katie is bright; whether or not she makes golf her future career. For the moment she is working in the Pro shop at Wrag Barn and will go to college in the Autumn to gain her qualifications as a Personal Trainer. We wish you well for the future Katie and congratulations; Wrag Barn Ladies Champion 2021!

Verity Manners W: www.wragbarn.com

Come On England!

It was marvellous to see some sporting hoodoos finally put to bed during this summer's Euro 2020 tournament.

England, the plucky bridesmaid destined never to be wed again, finally beating a nation that had so often bettered them and finally bettering their own previous advancements and making it to a final again.



Of course, for English fans the final result of the tournament stung but they made it to the last match of the championships and gave themselves a chance and that's all I ever wanted. The weight of history and expectation must have been enormous for the young players but unjaded by disappointments that happened mostly before they were born, their belief was infectious and grew game by game.

The manager's tactics will inevitably be continuously lauded and lambasted in pubs until the end of time but the empowering of a squad of young players to simply focus on their football, believe in themselves and forget for the moment the nation's obsession with history was for me the key that unlocked their potential.

The pressure of course will now be even greater but having found the key let's hope they don't lose it!

Dear Gareth Southgate, please do make sure you invest in a decent keyring, we'd quite like to do it all again next summer.

Jason Daniels

Swindon Croquet Club



Colin Smith lining up a shot

Swindon Croquet Club's 'low handicap team' are champions of the North section of the SW Croquet Federation's Golf Croquet League!

Top of the league spot was secured via victory in the penultimate game of the last match of the season, away against Bristol CC. Captain Clive Smith beat Bristol's Marion

Hilton 7-1 to ensure a 10.5 to 9.5 win in the 20 game format. After the morning doubles session, Swindon held a narrow 2.5 to 1.5 lead, a close lead that was maintained throughout the rest of the match at Bristol's Cedar Road lawns.

Congratulations go to all the members of the team: Dave Booth, Colin Bailey, Garry Douel and Captain Clive Smith. Swindon CC now progress into the quarter finals of the Champion of Champions knockout competition against all other South West league winners which climaxes with the final at Sidmouth Croquet Club.

Beverly Briggs (SCC Press Officer)

M: 07835 464424

The Ridgeway 86 Challenge

For most a marathon represents the very limits of human endurance and rightfully so, but there is a weird and wonderful world beyond the

recognised 26.2 miles and this is the home of the Ultra Distance Runner. In this world the emphasis shifts from 'race' to 'challenge' as each participant pushes their own physical limitations, wrestles with their own pain thresholds and balances their ability to adequately manage nutrition and hydration.

The 'Ridgeway 86' that took place over August's Bank Holiday is one such event and starts at Buckinghamshire's Ivinghoe Beacon and ends at Wiltshire's Avebury Stone Circle 86 miles away. A historic 5000 year old trackway along the Chiltern Hills and North Wessex Downs with over 6000 feet of ascents and descents. With a 40% drop-out rate the faint-hearted need not apply. On the Saturday morning Highworth Running Club's Jason Campbell took to the start line and headed homeward, an undertaking of a full day's running followed by a full night's.

With bats and owls in the skies above and foxes and rabbits in the hedgerows the night time section can be a daunting prospect even with a head torch but thankfully Jason had the company of fellow club runner Suki Gregory, armed with a Bluetooth speaker to help fill the night air! With 11,500 calories being burned the set checkpoints were welcome intermissions for pasta, rice pudding and water bottle refills but even these couldn't keep Jason's energy levels topped up which meant the second half of the run was achieved on pure mental toughness. Imagine feeling exhausted and knowing you still had more than 30 miles to go!

After a night of trying to create mental distractions (naming music artists



Still smiling at Sparsholt Firs

by going through the alphabet to name just one) punctuated by friends and family popping up during the night to provide soup and coffee, the sunrise finally came and had a rejuvenating effect. With the daylight came the prospect of the end and a renewed sense of possibility.

With the additional company of his partner Lisa in the closing stages, Jason and Suki were signed in by the marshals at Avebury after just 24 hours and 21 minutes; bodies in need of rest, minds in need of sleep. Congratulations both, you've done Highworth proud. But such is the dedication of the Ultra Distance Runner, the following day would have been wasted had time not been found for a five-mile recovery run!

If there is anyone brave enough to enter this fascinating world then I'm sure Jason, as one of the club's coaches, would be more than willing to share his tips and provide some guidance on training so please do find his details on the club's website if interested.

Jason Daniels

W: www.highworthrunningclub.co.uk

Highworth Walking Football Club

Our 'Summer of Silverware' continued with success in all age groups, together with our newly formed ladies' team.

Following on from the Over 60s success at the Keynsham tournaments, the Over 65s team collected their trophy in an eight-team league. This was followed by our new Over 70s squad also achieving success in the Somerset town.

Not to be outdone, the Over 50s picked up a handsome trophy at a tournament organised by our good friends at

Amesbury and to complete the summer the Over 60s also achieved honours at the same tournament.

Victories were also forthcoming in the WFA National Cup for the Over 50s. First the team travelled to Gloucester for a first-round tie against a strong Abbeymead Rovers squad. Despite twice falling behind the team stormed back to an impressive 4-2 triumph. This was followed by a comfortable home win against Hereford Town. The third round is up shortly where we've been drawn away to Bournemouth.

Finally, our new women's team played their first competitive matches losing narrowly to Caldicot in a trip across the Severn Bridge before claiming their inaugural victory away to Melksham with Lisa Lane grabbing both goals in a 2-1 win. If you are interested in playing either competitive or just social walking football, our men's sessions are on Thursdays and Sundays 11am to 12pm, and our ladies' session takes place on Sunday mornings from 10am to 11am. Please do get in contact for more details.

Kevin Turner

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



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Mary 'Paddy' Tipping

20th July 1921-29th August 2021

You may have seen in the September Link that Mary celebrated her 100th birthday in July. Having been in Stanton Fitzwarren Care home for a few years, this was one of her main goals to reach.

Mary passed away peacefully in her sleep on Sunday 29th August.

The Link team send their condolences to all of Mary's family and friends.



HIGHWORTH & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS 2021

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



CHRISTMAS VOUCHER APPLICATION FORM

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Get to know your Church Leaders

As you'll probably know, Highworth Churches Together bring you the Link magazine every month so we thought we'd take the opportunity to introduce you to some of our church leaders in a bit more detail. You can get in touch with any of them via their contact details on page 39.

Robert H Jordan

Minister, United Reformed Church, Highworth and Immanuel, Swindon.

Favourite book:

Gabriel Garcia Marquez: One hundred years of Solitude, followed by books by Jose Saramago, Ian McEwan and Ben Okri.



Favourite film: Cabaret. Arrival.

Favourite hobbies: Learning new stuff, reading, exploring art and theology.

Favourite place: Claromeco (the beach in Argentina we lived close to), Tate Modern in London, Iceland.

Pets: Elliot, the Yorkie and Rory, a Labrador, shared with my daughter and her partners.

If you could go for dinner with one person (past or present), who would it be, and why?

The Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo, because they represent the strength, courage and determination for truth in the face of injustice and I would love to just listen to them for as long as I could.

A quote that guides you through life?

I've managed to reduce it to three, there are various other ones:

- *"I have come that all may have life in fullness"* Jesus – John 10;10
- *"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable*

network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." Martin Luther King Jr

- *"There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in."* Desmond Tutu

Interesting facts: I'm rubbish at telling jokes but have a spontaneous sense of humour. I am a passionate ecumenist, I am particularly thankful for having been on the drafting team of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches that produced the "Accra Confession: On Economic Injustice and the Destruction of the Earth", approved in 2004.

(Photo taken while on holiday in Amsterdam)

Geoff Sowden

Vicar, St Michael's

Favourite food:

Anything French with a wine sauce.

Favourite book: Les Miserables, Victor Hugo.

Favourite film: The Shooting Party.

Favourite place:

Somewhere with a view, a beer and crisps, and good friends with me.

Unusual talent: Riding a 50-year-old bike with a large basket round Highworth (do say hi if you see me!)

Hobbies: Walking, cycling, cooking.

Dream dinner party guest: My paternal



Grandfather, who I would now like to know as an adult.

A quote that guides you: Jesus said, "Come to me all who are weary and I will give you rest." The good news of Jesus has always made so much sense to me and guided my life.

"I think that's enough of me!"

Rachael Wilson

Methodist Minister working at Highworth Methodist Church and three other churches in this area.

Favourite food: I'm vegetarian and enjoy lots of food, but one of my favourite things is mushroom risotto.

Favourite book: Hard to pin down! Anna Karenina is a strong contender.

Favourite film: Also hard to pin down! We love going to the cinema and we have Unlimited Cards so we can go as often as we want and we watch anything that's on. I particularly love musicals, so films like Les Miserables, Moulin Rouge, Phantom of the Opera and Fiddler on the Roof get watched over and over again at home. If I'm not well and want something comfortable and familiar to watch while I drift in and out of sleep then I always go for the Harry Potter or Lord of the Rings film series.

Favourite place: Lake Como in Italy.

Pets: A dog called Susie and three goldfish called Porthos, Athos and Aramis.

Unusual talents: Not necessarily unusual, but I do seem to be reasonably good at lots of things! I pick up languages easily, I'm good at music, I can cook, I enjoy writing essays (and I'm good at that too!) and I'm fairly proficient in a lot of crafts.

Hobbies: Apart from going to the cinema with my family, I love singing with Swindon Choral Society and I enjoy the jazz piano lessons and



ballet classes I attend. At home I'm always doing something when I'm not working; usually crochet, knitting or some kind of needlecraft.

People I'd like to have dinner with: Will Self, Freddie Mercury, Keir Hardie, Brian Blessed.

A quote that guides you: Jesus: "Love one another" and "Love your enemies and pray for those who hurt you." And Mr Rogers (from the film at least): "I could never eat anything that had a mother."

Anything else?: On my sabbatical in 2018 I walked the 500 mile Camino de Santiago from the south of France across northern Spain to Santiago de Compostela. I think about it every day and would love to do it again.

How to get in touch: Phone on 01793 764330 or email at rev.rachael.wilson@gmail.com

Matt Ford

Chair/occasional problem solver!, Highworth Community Church.

Favourite food: Crayfish

Favourite book: Lilies Amongst Thorns.

Favourite hobby: Xbox.

Favourite film: Legends of the Fall.

Pets: Two dogs.

Unusual talents: I can put a lit match out with my tongue!

Dream dinner party guest: Adoniram Judson. Few have suffered so much for what they believe.

Guiding quote: "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else." C S Lewis

Anything else?: I love cooking and red wine. Especially together.



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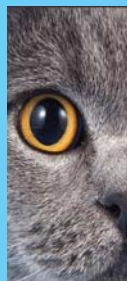
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St Michael's Church

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

Harvest Festival Services:

Sunday 3rd October

10.15am – Highworth

4.30pm – Hannington

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 20th October** at 11am.

Tuesday at St Michael's

Tuesday at St Michael's is held on the fourth Tuesday of each month and is a chance to meet up for some conversation, activities and lunch from 10.30am. The next meet is on **Tuesday 26th October**. Contact the Church Office to book your lunch.

We remember those who love and miss:

Peter Michael Rose

We welcome in Holy Baptism:

Ludovic Hirst

Henry Marshall

Arlo Bullin

Philipp Funck

We congratulate on their Marriage:

Daniel Head and Charlotte Head

Praying for the roads in the town:

03-Oct-21 Sevenfields and Sheep Street

10-Oct-21 Shrivenham Road and Skye Close

17-Oct-21 Spa Close and Squires Court

24-Oct-21 St Michael's Avenue
and Stapleton Close

31-Oct-21 Station Road and Stonefield Drive



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I was chatting to someone recently who said, "I was listening to you ringing the bells the other day and they sounded different to me". The conversation continued for a while on as to why that might be and then I realised that a few days earlier we actually rang on all eight of our bells instead of our usual five or six, which we had not done for probably the best part of two years. And yes, they did sound fantastic and are probably some of the best sounding bells for miles around.

You also might be surprised to learn just how far one of our very regular ringers travels to ring with us each week and has done so for many years. 18 miles is the answer, so a round trip of 36, for which we are very grateful. Thank you, Karen.

As Covid rules and regulations allow, I will also give some thought to opening up our hobby to new recruits. Maybe one or two taster sessions for people to have a go, or for people to just come along and watch. Look out for updates on Facebook and in future editions of the Link Magazine.

Highworth Churches contacts:

Community Church Leader: Matt Ford T: 07712 521046

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



- 19/09/2021 19 Sep: Joyce Ryder: Remembering a special Mum and Nan. Forever in our hearts. Janice & Pas, Louisa & Chris, Pep, Amy & Carina xxxxx
- 30/09/2021 Thinking of you especially today, Richard, our Diamond Wedding Anniversary, Many very happy memories, Elizabeth
- 02/10/2021 Julie Page: A year since my beautiful wife passed away but the pain still remains, Love you forever. Ray xxx
- 3/10/2021 In loving memory of my dear husband Cyril Jefferies on this 15th Anniversary, love and miss you. Joan & Family
- 5/10/2021 5th Oct: Eric Ryder - remembering a dearly loved Dad and Bamp on his 96th birthday. Forever in our hearts and thoughts. Love from Janice & Pas, Louisa & Chris, Pep & Amy & Carina xx xxxxx
- 17/10/2021 & 18/10/2021 Anti-Slavery Day - we pray for the 40 million people trapped in slavery worldwide - Highworth & Blunsdon Mothers' Union

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.

Tuesday Meet

Join us at St Michael's from 10.30am for activities, conversation and time together with lunch

Remaining dates for 2021:

October 26th
November 23rd
December 21st for
Christmas lunch



Midweek Church

Join us at St Michael's for a quiet service of Holy Communion at 11.00am, followed by a simple lunch and time together.

Remaining dates for 2021:

October 20th
November 17th
December 15th





Highworth Churches Together are four churches united through friendship, faith and a desire to support and bless our community.

Looking for a church in Highworth?

United Reformed Church

High Street SN6 7AG

'We are a Christian church of faithful people, searching for God's guidance, trying to follow the way of Jesus. We are here for you.'

Meets Sundays, 10:45am

bryanelk90@gmail.com
www.highworthurc.org.uk

Rev. Robert Jordan: 01793 513039

Methodist Church

Vicarage Lane SN6 7DG

'Our mission is to love, worship and serve God, whilst individually we aim to know Him and make Him known.'

Meets Sundays, 10:30am and 6pm

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

Rev. Rachael Wilson: 01793 764330

St Michael's Parish Church

Vicarage Lane SN6 7DG

'A vibrant Anglican church with a passion to help people on their faith journey.'

Meets Sundays, 8am and 10:15am

office@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk
www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Rev. Geoff Sowden: 01793 765554

Community Church

Office: 8 Sheep Street, SN6 7AA

'We love to be together, laugh, learn, and serve together. We are a church with a life full of God and a heart reaching out to people.'

Meets Sundays, 10:15am

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

Matt Ford: 07712 521046

Highworth Town Council New Neighbourhood Plan (NP2)

I hope you all managed to visit the Neighbourhood Plan 2 display at the Podium on 11th September. More importantly, thank you to all those residents who attended our first consultation on 18th September. Your responses are extremely important to the Neighbourhood Plan2 committee and will help to guide us towards the best outcomes for the town. You are already making a difference.

As you may have seen from our road map, the next few months are critical to the future of Highworth. In October we are planning a couple of workshops. On **Saturday 2nd October** between 9.30am and 2pm we are planning to look at two more areas of activity in the town. They are 'Getting Around Highworth' and 'Shopping in Highworth'.

We shall be looking for your views on roads, paths and transport within Highworth. Plus, we want to know how we could improve your

shopping experience in the town. In the new 'Age of Sustainability' we want you to make fewer journeys out of town if you can walk into the town centre to buy what you want at a price you are willing to pay. Come and help us to solve this conundrum.

On **Friday 22nd October** between 6.30pm and 8.30pm we are hoping to run a workshop on 'Improving the Highworth Area', (our area includes Hampton, Sevenhampton and villages around). Full details will be published later, please put the date in your diary.

Please check our website for further details or visit our Facebook page. There is often an information board on the market on Saturdays.

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

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richard.williams@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

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julie.murphy@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Kim Barber, Stable House, Eastrop, Highworth SN6 7AT
Mob: 07881 922861 kim.barber@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Julia Hazel Bishop, Sandstone, 37 Fitzgerald Avenue SN6 7JJ
01793 762807 Mob: 07773 045270 alanandjuliab@outlook.com

Alan John Bishop, Sandstone, 37 Fitzgerald Avenue SN6 7JJ
01793 762807 Mob: 07773 045270
alanandjuliab@outlook.com

Gerry Evans, 1 St Michaels Avenue, SN6 7JZ
01793 764236 gerry.evans@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Nick Gardiner, 12 Coffin Close, Westrop SN6 7HA
01793 226337 Mob: 07392 871243
nick.gardiner@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Paul Newton-Smith, 41 The Dormers SN6 7NZ
01793 764575 Mob: 07939 467907
paul.newton-smith@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Graeme Olley, 97 Eastrop SN6 7PP
Work: 01793 763700 graeme.olley@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Maureen Penny, Squires Court SN6 7FH
07787 977884 maureen.penny@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Keith Smith, Flat 35, High Street SN6 7AQ
07836 382827 keith.smith@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Kenneth Saunders, 343 Windrush SN6 7EF
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Lynn Vardy, Old School House, Shrivensham Road SN6 7AT
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Steve Weisinger, 8 Barra Close, SN6 7HX
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Editor: Sarah Gardiner. If you have a story please email villageseditor@gmail.com

BLUNSDON

Blunsdon Community Shop

The community shop has exciting new plans to expand their product range with higher end products and sustainable/reuse products. They are also busy raising money to open a café and are looking for volunteers to help out. Please pop into the shop on a weekday morning or get in touch via the website/facebook page.

The shop is also looking for business sponsors to invest £300 for 'Business Blocks' (to pay for the paving) or £500 'Community Business Shares' and there is talk of a 'sponsors wall'. Please contact Larry on T: 07711 110200.

You can find out more about the community shop and its plans online at www.blunsdoncommunityshop.uk, Facebook (Blunsdon Community Shop), Instagram ([blunsdoncommunityshop](https://www.instagram.com/blunsdoncommunityshop)) and Twitter (@BlunsdonCommun1).

A poster for the Blunsdon Community Choir. It features a colorful border of musical notes. The text reads: "Blunsdon Community Choir", "Starting back on Mondays from 6th September 2021", "At 7:30pm in St Leonard's Church, Blunsdon", "Block of 6 sessions = £24,", "Pay as you go = £5/session", "Everyone is welcome!", and "blunsdoncommunitychoir@gmail.com".

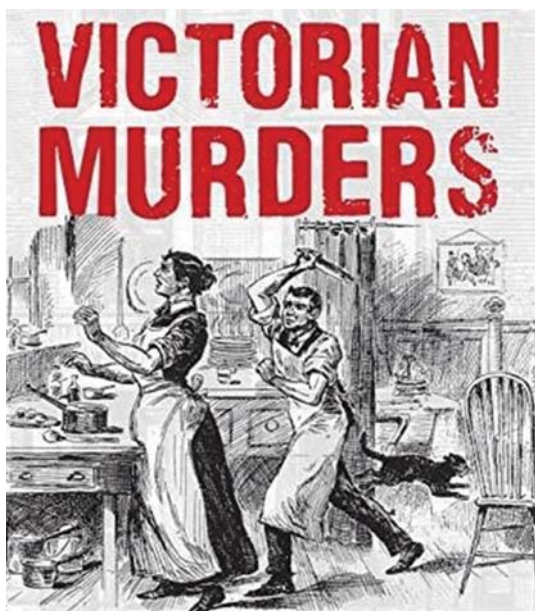
Blunsdon Community Choir
Starting back on Mondays from 6th September 2021
At 7:30pm in St Leonard's Church, Blunsdon

Block of 6 sessions = £24,
Pay as you go = £5/session
Everyone is welcome!
blunsdoncommunitychoir@gmail.com

FARINGDON

Faringdon & District U3A

Tuesday 5th October will be our annual OPEN DAY in the Corn Exchange, 10am-12noon. This event is both to attract new members and to allow existing members to learn something about groups with which they are not familiar and which they might consider joining. Come along and have a browse round the many stands, chat with Group Leaders and see if anything takes your fancy. Refreshments will be available.



Our next talk will be on **Thursday 14th October** at 2.30pm. Speaker David Allen will talk via Zoom about 'Blood, Gore and Victorian England'. David will take us on a fascinating journey through the world of plots, deadly poisons and the occasional chopped-up body, using contemporaneous accounts from newspapers and law reports. David tells of one meticulously researched story which is jam-packed with factual details; a particularly blood-curdling tale. Come and enjoy either in the Corn Exchange or at home by Zoom. Refreshments are available as usual afterwards. Note: Zoom details will be sent in advance to all members or you can just turn up to the Corn Exchange.

Faringdon Regent Cinema

We are very proud to announce that we are reopening our cinema once again. We will provide seating for 40 visitors. Advance tickets only from the Information Centre. Here are the film offerings for October:

Wed 6th October: Love Sarah (12A)

A young woman wishes to fulfill her mother's dream of opening her own bakery in Notting Hill, London. To do this, she enlists the help of an old friend and her grandma.

Stars: Celia Imrie, Rupert Penry-Jones

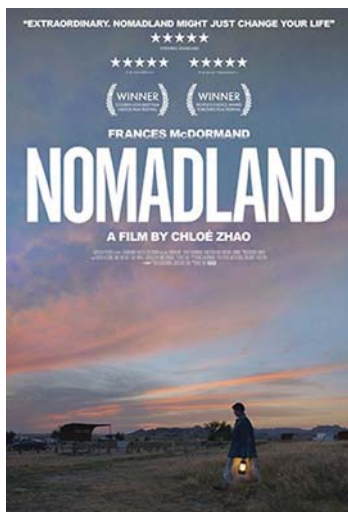
Film duration: 1hr 37 mins (no interval)

Matinee Club @ The Regent Cinema, Corn Exchange, Faringdon
Doors open 12.30pm, film starts at 1pm

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY £4 from

Faringdon Information Centre. Matinee Club Membership. Just £24 for 12 films

Fri 22nd October: Nomadland (12A)



A woman in her sixties, after losing everything in the Great Recession, embarks on a journey through the American West, living as a van-dwelling modern-day nomad.

Stars: Frances McDormand, David Strathairn

Film duration: 1hr 47 mins plus 15 min interval

Blockbuster @ The Regent Cinema, Corn Exchange, Faringdon. Doors open 7pm, film starts at 7.30pm

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY £3 U18s, £4 Adult, £10 Family from Faringdon Information Centre. For more info or to join the mailing list, please visit our website www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk/regent-cinema-2

SHRIVENHAM

Shrivenham Golf Club

A Special day was enjoyed by all the Ladies of Shrivenham Park on their away day to Basset Downs. It included a round of 9 holes golf, followed by a sandwich and chip meal and crowned with a birthday cake to mark one of the lady's birthdays. There was also a special treat for Mavis Rummung as she was made a Life Member of Shrivenham Park celebrating all her years of support playing and encouraging the ladies. The birthday cake had been made especially by Pam, one of the club members at Shrivenham. The winning team on the day were Molly, Rachael and Carole. It was a best 2 out of 3 scores on every hole.

On Bank Holiday Monday a Harlequin Texas Scramble was held at Shrivenham Park and 17 teams entered. We welcomed members and visitors. The team in third place was captained by the chairman/captain of the club Phil Welman. 2nd place was the Spicer's team and in 3rd place a team with two ladies and two men, Debbie, Tracy, Andy and Neil.

The Social putting afternoons have been a great success this year and it has been decided to continue then throughout October and then to become a morning group from November and through December. We were delighted in having Parkies pals join us at the final August session. It has been agreed by the management



Billie Hayter

that they can use our room for their meetings. We look forward to working together. If you are interested in putting please do come along to one of the sessions. The charge is £2 per session and includes tea or coffee plus biscuits and the loan of golf club and golf ball.

PUTTING SESSIONS/ MEETINGS

Friday 1st and 15th October 2-4pm

Friday 5th and 19th November 10-12noon

Friday 3rd and 10th December 10-12noon

Contact Carole, M: 07774 348614,
E: cleefairways57@yahoo.co.uk

SOUTH MARSTON

Volunteers needed for the Youth Club

There are many volunteers in South Marston engaged in various activities for the benefit of the villagers but there is one very important club that is in danger of closing because they need your help to run the club.

The Youth Club started in March 2007 and is run solely by volunteers. For the last 14 years, Julie Hatherall has been running the club for children aged between 8 and 16 years old and they meet in the Village Hall fortnightly on a Friday from 6.30-8pm. This very popular club for the children of the village was awarded the Youth Club of the Year Award from Youth Action Wiltshire in 2012. The club is in need of regular helpers to help set up the hall prior to opening on a club night, stay and help run the session and to then pack up at the end of the night. We are also looking for new committee members.

This is the only club in the village for our young children to enjoy and the benefits include:

- Having a safe space to relax and enjoy the various activities on offer.
- Promoting open youth-to-youth communication and being able to talk openly with peers and caring adults. Being part of a group that can help young people develop important personal and interpersonal skills including the ability to think critically and solve problems.
- It can also help young people gain self-confidence and self-esteem. Contributing to a

group can help them see themselves as being able to really help other people, having something important to offer and maybe join the adult village volunteers in the future. Age is no barrier, intergenerational interaction provides opportunities for different generations to come together to share experiences, knowledge and skills that are mutually beneficial to all.

- It can help reduce the risk of becoming involved in unsafe activities such as using drugs and alcohol. Being involved in community activities has been shown to be a protective factor and helps young people to make healthy choices.

If you think, you could help support this important club for our village children why not ring Julie, or email her, for more information. She can be contacted on 07749 211867 or email: smyc0307@gmail.com.

South Marston Gardening Club

On **Monday 4th October**, from 7.30-9.30pm, speaker Simon Maskrey will give a talk on 'Foraging'.

Simon is a professional forester and wild food forager. He has been foraging for wild foods and medicines for the past 30 years. The talk will give an insight into the abundance of wild food



plants and fungi which can be found all around us and how to safely use them, including some of those common garden weeds which can be utilised in the kitchen rather than thrown on the compost heap!

As usual, our meeting will be held in South Marston Village Hall. Parking is available on Old Vicarage Lane (next to the school). Entry costs £3 on the door or £12 for full Membership.

A warm welcome awaits you along with tea and cake as well as an optional raffle. For more

information, please contact:
Angela T: 07789 068340 or Mike T: 01793 827807
or see Facebook [@Southmarstongardeningclub](#)

Angela Newton

STANTON FITZWARREN

St Leonard Parish Church Services

Sunday 3rd October: 9.30am Morning Praise

Sunday 10th October: 11am Family Harvest service – check the website or contact Liz Hillman T: 01793 762935 for details.

Sunday 17th October: Team Service. No service at St Leonard. See website for details.

Sunday 24th October: 9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 31st October: Team Service. No service at St Leonard. See website for details.

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, T: 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.

Liz Hillman

Every Cloud at Stanton Park Farmhouse

Acrylic Pour Workshops: back by popular demand, Karen Holman will return to run two new sessions on behalf of Every Cloud on **Saturday 2nd October** at 10-12noon and 1-3pm.

Silver Linings: A new monthly Monday afternoon group for families living with dementia.

If you love looking at art, want to relax over a cup of tea, feel the joy of being creative yourself or take a walk, you will receive a warm welcome at Every Cloud. The Farmhouse in Stanton Country Park is a place where you can come to enjoy a tranquil garden, meet lovely people,

relax and boost the health and well-being of yourself and your loved one.

The group will meet from 1.30-3pm (winter hours) on the following days:

Monday 18th October 2021

Monday 15th November 2021

Monday 20th December 2021

As space is limited please book via Swindon Carers Centre on 07841 503849 or email heather.goldsmith@swindoncarers.org.uk. Please note the Farmhouse is behind the Barn (visible from the car park) SN6 7SF. Come through the gate to the left of the Barn to park in the courtyard. There is a public disabled toilet at the back of the Farmhouse.

Every Cloud's Annual October Art & Craft Exhibition at Stanton Country Park:

This year our Art & Craft Exhibition will be held over three days as follows:

Friday 22nd October 2pm-4.30pm

Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th October 10.30am-3pm.

All are welcome to enjoy the beautiful hand crafted and unique art work of local artists and craftspeople in a beautiful setting, with an opportunity to meet the artists themselves. **FREE** entry. Refreshments will be available throughout the opening times and much of the work will be for sale. We look forward to seeing you! Further information available at 07796 530560

Anne Billingham



Volunteers Needed!



There are many volunteers in South Marston engaged in various activities for the benefit of the villagers but there is one very important club that is in danger of closing because they need your help to run the club.

The Youth Club started in March 2007 and is run solely by volunteers. For the last 14 years, Julie Hatherall has been running the club for children aged between 8 and 16 years old and they meet in the Village Hall fortnightly on a Friday from, 6.30 – 8.00 pm. This very popular club for the children of the village was awarded the Youth Club of the Year Award from Youth Action Wiltshire in 2012. The club is in need of regular helpers to help set up the hall prior to opening on a club night, stay and help run the session and to then pack up at the end of the night. We are also looking for new committee members.

This is the only club in the village for our young children to enjoy and the benefits include:

- Having a safe space to relax and enjoy the various activities on offer.
- Promoting open youth-to-youth communication and being able to talk openly with peers and caring adults. Being part of a group that can help young people develop important personal and interpersonal skills including the ability to think critically and solve problems.
- It can also help young people gain self-confidence and self-esteem. Contributing to a group can help them see themselves as being able to really help other people, having something important to offer and maybe join the adult village volunteers in the future. Age is no barrier, intergenerational interaction provides opportunities for different generations to come together to share experiences, knowledge and skills that are mutually beneficial to all.
- It can help reduce the risk of becoming involved in unsafe activities such as using drugs and alcohol. Being involved in community activities has been shown to be a protective factor and helps young people to make healthy choices.

If you think, you could help support this important club for our village children why not ring Julie, or email her, for more information. She can be contacted on 07749211867 or email: smyc0307@gmail.com.



THE SIMPLY WONDERFUL
BOURTON VILLAGE

Quiz

at the
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FRIDAY 15th OCTOBER

6-8 people per table
(maximum of 12 tables)

**Not in a team?
Not a problem, all welcome.**

7.00pm for a 7.30 start

£12
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For more information and to book your place contact
Simon on 01793 627542 or bourtonflyer@gmail.com

Please note: There will be drinks available to purchase on the night
A £10 corkage donation will be charged if you choose to bring your own

RELAUNCH
September 21

HIGH WORTH
FORGET-ME-NOT CAFE

Highworth Memory Café

- 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
It is all personal

Dementia
Friendly

Highworth
Link

Dental
Care

HS

Highworth Town Council, Annual Fireworks

Friday 5th November 2021



Although it is still August/September, we are already organising the town's annual firework display that the Council has organised for many years. As usual this will take place on the top Rec at 7.30pm. Ticket prices will be £6.00 for adults and £4 for Senior Citizens and Children of school age (4-16 years of age) under 4 years free.

Please can I encourage everyone to purchase tickets before the evening to help the people who man the site.

Tickets can be purchased from the Town Council Offices and various other venues.

It is not an easy task to organise this event and I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the event and me over the years. Anyone who would like to help on the night will be welcome.

Please telephone the Town Council Office 762377 / 763511 or me on 762521 if you can assist.

Please note: No alcohol or private fireworks (including sparklers) permitted. Children under 12yrs old to be accompanied by an adult.

Cllr. Mrs Lynn Vardy
on behalf of Highworth Town Council



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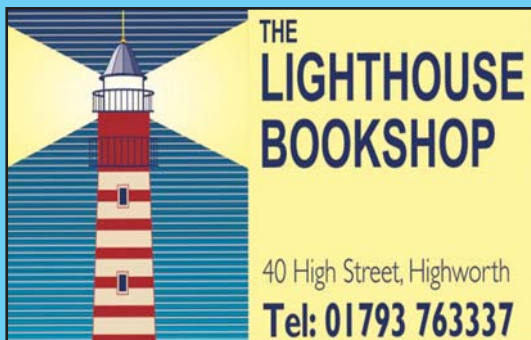
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Police, Fire, Ambulance	Emergency	999
Police	Non-Emergency	101
NHS	Non-Emergency	111
COVID-19 Test Line	Non-Emergency	119
Gas	Emergency	0800 111999
Electricity	Emergency	105
Water	Emergency	0800 3169 800
Pest Control	Non-Emergency	07789 781151

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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