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November 2021

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A Curious Contradiction

Can I share an observation? I hope it's ok. I hope you don't mind.

A couple of months ago I was watching a 'chick flick' with my wife (one of the keys to keeping a great marriage). Two strangers had met, fallen for each other and now were discussing their burgeoning relationship and expectations. Suddenly the God question came up!

On screen, things suddenly turned awkward. There was a long pregnant pause. A sense of shock and a lack of desire to go there. The scene elicited some very strong feelings. However, very quickly they papered it over and were very pleased that they had managed to talk a little bit about it at least.

Can I contrast that? Through my job I have the privilege of spending a lot of time with people who have lost loved ones. As we talk, the overriding sense, time after time, is a very strong, deep desire and questions. Will I see my family



member or friend again? Are they in a better place? These questions are tinged with a hope that they will be seen again and that they are in a better place.

It's strange how these two things are at odds with each other.

We seem utterly unable as a society to face the God question and yet at the end of life, (a time which has been so front and centre as the global pandemic rages on), we do

want more. We want to find more. We believe in more.

Can I encourage us all to embrace the tension of these things? To not be fearful, to discuss, to ask questions and challenge: because if there is more than this, then that is the biggest thing we can ever discover!

Blessings to your journey.

Matt Ford

Highworth Community Church

Cover: All hands helping with the re-wilding of St Michael's Churchyard. See page 40

LINK magazine

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Opinions expressed or implied in any contributions are not necessarily those of the editor or management committee.

No responsibility can be accepted for any error of fact in the magazine or website. Please inform the editor of any errors so they can be rectified.

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.

Job club on a mission to help people re-skill

The Highworth Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Job Club based at The Bridge Centre is celebrating one year of delivering free Job Clubs for people across the area. They are starting their 5th course on Tuesday 2nd November and so far over half of the previous course members have found work!



Due to the pandemic, it is anticipated that many people, both those in and out of work, will be re-assessing their priorities and making dramatic life changes including changing careers.

Kathryn Ford, Job Club Manager, said: "After what we've all been through over the past year we're looking at what is important to us and for some it may be that they want a better work life balance. This may mean a change of careers.

"Job seekers will need to look at ways to make their applications stand out in the job market. This could mean that they need to improve their existing skills or learn new ones.

"Our job club has proved to be a real confidence booster and has helped job seekers emphasise their volunteering skills and make the move into new and fulfilling work."

Job Club member, Callie*, lacked confidence when she started the Job Club having been out of work for some time. She said: "I was nervous when I first went to the Job Club but I did it! It

was comfortable, welcoming and friendly. It's a relaxed atmosphere."

The CAP Job Club helped Callie* find work.

"I started getting the hang of using a computer, then I started volunteering. I applied for a role as assistant manager. I've got it! I love the job!"

The seven-week course provides jobseekers with essential skills, such as

CV writing, interview technique (including socially distanced and online interviews) and the value of volunteering. At the heart of the course is a supportive peer-to-peer group where course members can share their experiences, struggles and advice. In addition, each is given one-to-one coaching to develop their strengths and identify other opportunities such as volunteering or additional training.

The course will be led by trained CAP Job Club coaches at The Bridge Centre, 8 Sheep Street, Highworth, SN6 7AA.

Each weekly session starts at 1pm with group time for about 90 minutes for up to 10 people, with lunch and drinks provided.

As there are limited places available, register now for the next course starting in November, by contacting Kathryn Ford on 07885 579876 or kathrynford@capuk.org.

**Callie is not her real name*



(L-R) Jackie Kerr and Kathryn Ford, lead job coaches

Memorial for Covid-19



The Mayor's Civic Service took place on Saturday 25 September 2021 at St Michael's Church, Highworth, and included a memorial dedication. Highworth Town Council planted a blossom tree in St Michael's Churchyard as a living reminder to the people of Highworth of all those who have lost or suffered during the pandemic.

Highworth Town Council would like to thank Swindon Memorials of Highworth who kindly donated a memorial stone engraved with:

'In loving memory of those who lost their lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Never to be forgotten'.



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e.g. buying an Electric Car (as Company car)

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Buying Petrol/Diesel Car (as Personal car)

Use £30,000 profit to buy a personally-owned fuel car. Leave Corporation Tax in the company (at 19% = £5,700) and take a £24,300 dividend. Then you must set aside money for higher rate income tax on the dividend (marginal rate: income tax/dividend tax 32.5% = £7,897), leaving £16,403 available for a petrol/diesel car. Cash for Car = only £16,403. Cash to HMRC = £13,597

And as Corporation Tax rates and dividend tax rates increase, the differential will get bigger.

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Terry's Christmas Trees

Rotarian Terry Williams will be selling Christmas trees on the podium in Highworth on the **11th and 18th December 2021** from 9am to 12pm.

All proceeds of the sales will be donated to local charities supported by the Rotary Club of Swindon North & Thamesdown.



If you would like to pre-order a tree please contact Terry on 762669 or email him at terry.williams1@btinternet.com

Scout Christmas Post

Stamps will be on sale in The Lighthouse Bookshop from **Monday 22nd November**, costing 30p. The final day for posting will be **Tuesday, 15th December** and cards will be delivered the following weekend.

This is traditionally our biggest fundraiser. It will also be our first fundraising event since the post of 2019.

David Roblin

New Guiding Commissioner for Highworth District

Local guiding volunteers are thrilled to welcome Lyn Taylor as their new leader who takes over from Vikki Walsh who recently ended her 3-year appointment and time as a Rainbow Leader.

Lyn said: "I am honoured to take on this important rôle and would like to thank Vikki for all the dedication she has shown to the youth of Highworth and the surrounding villages; she will be a hard act to follow. Girlguiding enables girls to experience adventure, voice their opinions and grow in confidence in a safe place and I plan to help our volunteers offer these valued opportunities to even more local girls. The pandemic has meant that some girls haven't had the experiences that they should and we are now back Guiding and excited to start the new term."

Vikki added: "Time to put my badge tab away now. I have enjoyed my six years in Guiding and I

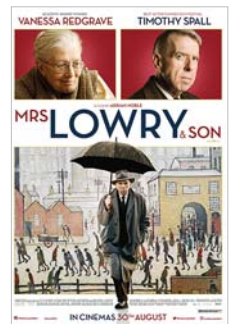
would recommend volunteering with them to anyone; it's an amazing way to meet people and give something back to your community."

Volunteering as an adult with Girlguiding offers you a whole world of opportunities, leading international trips, gaining valuable workplace skills; the possibilities are endless. If you would like to know more about how to join in the fun Girlguiding offers its adult volunteers, please contact Lyn on highworthdc@wncounty.org.uk.

Highworth Community Cinema

**Friday 26th November
Mrs Lowry & Son**

British artist L. S. Lowry, one of Britain's most iconic artists, lived with his overbearing mother, Elizabeth, until her death in 1939. Bed-ridden and bitter, Elizabeth actively tries to dissuade her bachelor son from pursuing his artistic ambitions, while never failing to voice her disappointment in him. Spall plays Lowry and Redgrave his overbearing mother.



Peter Bradshaw in the Guardian wrote that Vanessa Redgrave gives a shrewd and amusingly bleak performance here as Elizabeth Lowry, the cantankerous and bedridden mother of the artist LS Lowry played by Timothy Spall. Through it all is Elizabeth's deadpan gloom: Lowry patiently asks her to be cheerful and she replies acidly: "I haven't been cheerful since 1898."

Films start at 7.45pm. Doors open 7.15pm (Cert PG, 91 mins)

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

AGM

We will be holding our AGM before we show the film this month. The agenda will cover two seasons as we were unable to hold our AGM in 2020. This may take a little longer than normal but will aim to keep it to 20 minutes. We would welcome nominations for the committee as we have vacancies.

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An update from the allotments



Wow! What a fantastic, sunny September we all had. I hope this spurred on all your autumnal fruits and veggies.

As the nights draw in and the nip of autumn comes, it's time to reflect on our successes and our not such successes! For me, my squashes were very poor. Usually, the squash family are fail-proof. But I will not let it deter me!

I get quite excited at this time of the year. As I clear away and start to plan for next year I get the seed catalogues, my notebook and a cuppa and suddenly the surge of excitement starts all over again. Oh, the possibilities!

As it's November and thoughts turn to fireworks and bonfires, Swindon Council would like to remind all plot holders that bonfires/incinerator fires are not allowed throughout the year.

Jobs to do in November from 'Allotment Month by Month' by Alan Buckingham



Harvest - Root veg, autumn brassica and late salad

Pick - Autumn Raspberries and Cranberries. Sow Broad Beans outdoors. Plant Garlic and Rhubarb

Plant - New bare-root fruit trees and bushes before the ground becomes too cold and wet

Prune - Apples and Pear trees. Also, soft fruit trees

Dig - Over your plot, removing any perennial weeds and adding plenty of well-rotted organic material

Cover - Beds with polythene, carpet or cardboard to protect the soil from heavy rain. (More eco-friendly alternatives are available)

Remove - Nets from fruit cages, but keep brussels sprouts cabbages and other brassicas

Happy gardening!

Samantha Daniels

Highworth Link Deliverers sought

Due to retirement and house moves we have vacancies for deliverers in these areas:

Henley Drive (Top end), Turnpike Road (20 houses), The Dormers (30 houses) and Windrush (59 houses).

If you have some spare time and would like to be a part of the big team that brings the Link to your door, speak to Clive Hall on 07801 365282 or email me at: clive7045@btinternet.com

Clive Hall



Highworth May Day Charter Market 2020

Save the date: Saturday 30th April 2022, 10am-5pm

Theme: 'A Cleaner, Greener, Highw-Earth'

Back for 2022! Join us at our Highworth May Day Charter Market and have lots of family fun. The theme this year is 'A Cleaner, Greener Highw-Earth' encompassing a broad range of topics: being greener, recycle and reuse, protecting our oceans and saving the planet.

We will have all our usual fun and entertainment to enjoy such as:

farm animals, reptiles and meerkats, music, games, competitions and stalls.

Help your child(ren) make a recyclable costume out of anything that can be recycled or reused to be entered into the fancy-dress competition. If you don't fancy dressing up, wear something green!

Let's promote a greener, cleaner Highworth together!

We have a range of stall holders booked in already however, please get in touch if you would like to be a stall holder as we have a short waiting list for spaces.

If you would like to advertise your business in our brochure or would like to be involved in this fantastic event, please contact us via our Facebook page: [Highworth May Day](#) where you can also keep up to date. We hope to see you there!

Further info. T: 01793 762197

sandra.rendall1@gmail.com

Sandra Rendell

Keeping our roads safe: Community Speedwatch update

In September, the Highworth CSW team of 29 active members volunteered their time to do 72 sessions (80 in August, 71 in July) totalling 77.49hrs (86.46 in August, 76.29 in July).

They reported 1688 vehicles for speeding on Cricklade Road, Eastrop, Redlands, Roundhills Mead, Shrivenham Road and St Michael's Avenue. (1869 in August, 1299 in July). Of that total, 99 vehicles exceeded speed limits by 150%+ (115 in August, 92 in July).

As a percentage of vehicle count in September, 4.53% were reported for speeding, (5.72% in August, 4.53% in July).

As a percentage of those reported, in September, 5.86% were excessive speeders (6.15% in August, 7.08% in July). The team believes this proves they are influencing those drivers choosing to speed excessively, which is very encouraging.

The team also believes the vast 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 Highworth, making it safer for all.

The team needs more volunteers to help run sessions and make the town's roads safer for road users and pedestrians. The minimum commitment is one hour a month. If you are interested, 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.

Scouting Celebration

Bramble (a leader with Huron Beavers) was one of a team who organised the County Scouting Celebration at Wiltshire Scout Centre on Saturday 25th September. Over 500 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and family members took part in lots of free activities including tomahawk throwing, a climbing wall, archery, cave bus (yes, really a bus with over 300 feet of caving tunnels inside it!), virtual reality activities and a huge inflatable assault course.



Several members of the Huron Beaver Colony joined the fun on the day.

Dominic and his little brother Elliott said the tomahawk throwing was the best bit because they liked the challenge and excitement of trying to hit the target; but Nan was the one to hit the bullseye!

Thomas liked the climbing wall and it was exciting because it was so high. He also liked the tomahawk throwing where "you have to throw the angel and stick it on the target". His big brother Matthew is a Cub but he said: "All the activities were challenging my brain and always tested your skills".

Jacob, one of our newest Beavers, loved the cave bus because he had not experienced anything like it before. He also enjoyed the inflatable assault course and the tomahawk throwing.

Amelia and her sister especially enjoyed the



tomahawk throwing because they'd never done it before. They also enjoyed the wood burning (pyrography) which was another first for them.

Matthew and his mum (a Cub leader) also had a go at everything and really enjoyed it all.

Tom (Asst Beaver Leader)

A Scout's review of the day

I went on the cave bus. There were tight tunnels to crawl through and I had to crawl and stand up at one point. There were bits where you had to go up or go down a level. I went on the climbing wall and I got to the top on my first go.

I did archery and I hit the second red ring and it was the closest one to the bullseye. I also did tomahawk throwing and I didn't manage to hit the target so Jeff told me to throw a bit harder and then it hit but didn't stick in and so I threw it a bit harder again and then it hit the second largest ring.



I did pyrography and wrote my name and drew a car on a keyring. I went on the challenger obstacle course and I beat my sister by at least a minute. It was all very fun!

Simson

A Cub's account of the day

It was good to see other scouts face-to-face again. There was so much to do, including virtual reality, axe-throwing, and a cave bus.

The archery was definitely a winner! We were taught how to skilfully draw back the arrow and fire it at the wooden target. There was also a gigantic inflatable where we had to jump, dodge and climb the obstacles inside. I enjoyed it and so did all the other people.

On one side of the field, there was a wood-burning activity. We could burn designs into wooden keyrings which we could then take home. The outdoor climbing wall was certainly popular and I loved scaling the side and testing my bravery.



The tomahawk (little axe) instructor was very knowledgeable and he helped me to aim the tomahawk at the target. Even though it was my first time, I enjoyed giving it a go.

The barbecue was brilliant and I want to thank everyone who helped organise the event.

Elspeth

Would you like to try something new (or old) with Highworth Scouts?

Are you up for an adventure? Would you like to contribute to the development of some of Highworth's young people? If so, we have an opportunity for you.

Our two Scout Troops, catering for 10½-14-year-olds, would both benefit from another one or two regular leaders.

All our adults are volunteers and a lot of us have been involved for a number of years so must find it very rewarding. Perhaps you would like to give some of your experiences to Scouting and have some fun along the way? You may be adventurous and want to share some experiences, you may have useful admin skills as well as wanting to be part of a leader team or you may just want to be part of a team of volunteers running Scouting programmes.

If you feel you would like to spare some time on a regular basis and want to find out more, please get in touch.

Steve Mollart: 01793 861524
www.highworthscouts.org.uk/join

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The Dovecote

You may remember over a year ago I reported on the sad demise of the Dovecote at Haresfield. It had to be taken down as it was in such a poor state that it was a danger to the public.

I am now delighted to report that I recently had the privilege of chairing a meeting of local residents from Sevenfields and The Knowlands who are keen to have the Dovecote replaced.

A number of ideas were discussed including the type of replacement, the work involved and obtaining estimates. How it is going to be paid for, including searching for grants and/or asking

the people of Highworth to contribute. At the moment we are in correspondence with Swindon Borough Council as to the permissions required.

I am thrilled with the response and eagerness of the group of residents who consider a replacement is essential and Highworth Community Partnership Group (HCPG) will willingly support them in their efforts. It may take some time but there is a determination that the Dovecote will re-appear soon.

Once again, watch this space!

Keith Smith, Chair HCPG

Highworth and District Probus Club

This club has survived for over forty years and has even come through lockdown with video talks and a regular newsletter!

We have thirty to forty members and have now resumed meetings every other Tuesday morning at the Cold Harbour Inn at Blunsdon. We would welcome applications for membership from retired (or soon to retire) business and professional men who do not wish to fade away and are looking for social contact and new interests.

The main features of our meetings (apart from chatting in the bar afterwards) are talks from expert speakers on anything from aerospace to blacksmithing, to Bentley racing and travel. In normal years we also have an annual holiday and occasional lunch parties to which partners and guests are invited.

www.highworthprobus.co.uk

E: info@highworthprobus.co.uk

Clive Moore



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It's people before profit with Halo. We won't pocket profits, our local community will. Martin went on to say: "We are very proud that Halo is

a social enterprise and charity. That means all our profit is reinvested locally to help more local people get active.

Want a piece of the action?

Our Active Highworth Halo membership is the best value for money if you want to use the facilities at Highworth Recreation Centre. At only £29.95 per month, there is no sign-up fee or contract. We also have discounted packages for young people aged 12-24, people in receipt of certain benefits and local companies as part of our 'Active Together Workplace Wellbeing' scheme.

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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

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Thank you: Bryan Elkington

The Highworth Link team would like to send our warmest thanks to Bryan Elkington, who has retired from his rôle distributing the Highworth Link. Bryan, thanks for your sterling work over the years.

Highworth's very own 'Banksy'?



On the night of September 11th, Highworth's own Banksy was busy at work installing their latest piece of work. It highlights our beautiful open space which was the golf course and is now returning to nature.

This open space was a lifesaver for many people during the Covid restrictions and was, and continues to be, well used by people of all ages. Access through this area has been really helped by the provision and maintenance of the numerous paths by the council.

The artist has produced other works which have been placed in the Rec area and we look forward to their next submission. When you see one it does brighten your day and make you smile!

Gillian Miller

'Musings' by G R Umblar

Why not have some more litter bins installed around town, thus encouraging people not to litter?

Why do some people not respect the parking time limits in the Square and High Street?

Why do people park on the High Street on the double yellow lines, thereby causing dangerous congestion?

Why is this behaviour not addressed by the constabulary?

If the ill-conceived plan to build on the old golf course goes ahead, will that mean another roundabout?

We are told that our GPs are to return to 'normal' working yet Highworth residents have to wait ten days and more for a mere telephone appointment and the surgery is bereft of doctors, with only one present at any one time. Is this to be the new 'normal'? What happened to the Hippocratic oath? Has it been tossed aside for mammon? To who's benefit is the expansion of our surgery group?

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Dear editor,

Can you please shout out to see if we have any poker players out there? My name is Allan Oakes, I live in Stanton Fitzwarren and I've been a member of a poker school for best part of forty years. We play the old wild west game, five card draw. We play once a week at different members' houses, with simple refreshments provided by the host.

The members are all mature responsible chaps, both working and retired. The occupations of the members range from managing directors, gardeners, small business owners, retired doctors and journalists. We are all friends who go out for dinner and sometimes we go away and play poker in other countries. Anyone who's interested should please contact me in the first instance - we can have a coffee and a chat.

Many thanks.

Allan Oakes 01793 766771 or allan@stantonfitzwarren.co.uk



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Pets' Corner



Name: Scooby

Age: 6

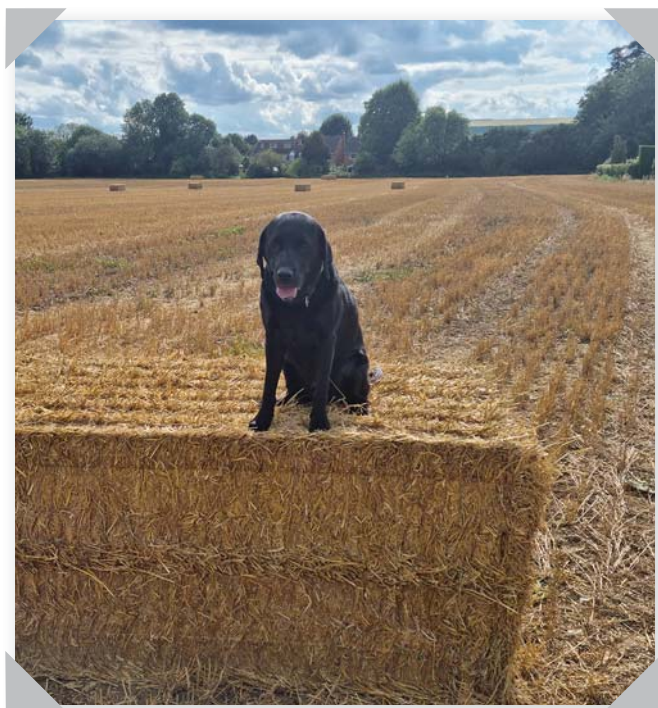
Breed: Labrador

*Owner: Liam Northeast, owner of
Paddy Paws Petcare
(see page 38 for more info.)*

*Scooby's favourite thing to do is
dragging a huge stick around the
fields then having a snooze in the
sun in the garden.*

**We'd love to feature your pets
here in Pets corner. Send a picture
and a little bit about them to:**

editor@highworthlink.co.uk



Hedgehog-friendly Highworth tip of the month

November's hog tip: If you are having a bonfire this year please check the bonfire by hand for hedgehogs as a bonfire is a perfect place for them to nest in. If possible, build on the day of lighting or move it just before lighting.

Photo credit: Neil George



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Arts Section *Compiled by Iain Barnwell*

Contact: HighworthLinkArts@gmail.com



Arts & Crafts Fair at St Michael's



Photo: M. Rendall

Come along to St Michael's Church where Visit Highworth are hosting a local Arts and Crafts Christmas Fair on Saturday 27th November from 12pm to 6pm.

There will be entertainment and craft stalls will also be on the High Street, all to coincide with the Switching on of the Christmas lights.

Some dates for your diary:

If you are interested in attending any of these events please book in advance.

Ooh! Lovely Ceramics Workshop:
Saturday 6th November

Pastel Workshop: one mid-week and one on a Saturday in November.

Jackie Panting's Christmas Workshop:
Saturday 20th November

Children's Christmas at Visit Highworth:
Saturday 18th December

Father Christmas will also be visiting our grotto before his busy schedule begins and there will be fun Christmas drop-in Crafts to do too!

We also have a 'Visit Highworth' Calendar and Christmas cards in stock. There are lots of locally handmade Arts and Crafts which would make wonderful Christmas presents too!



Back to the Hall for rehearsals

Highworth Silver Band is now back to (nearly!) normal operations. We have resumed using our band hall for rehearsals with both doors open to ensure good ventilation.

There is a junior training band rehearsing on Saturdays and the main band is back rehearsing on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm. We have done two gigs; a manor house fete at Longworth and a special one for the National Trust at their Coleshill model farm open day to say "thank you" to them for letting us use their barn for rehearsals. Everyone is really happy to be back making music with

friends. Our next payout will probably be at the Remembrance Day parade (Covid permitting) and we have a Christmas payout on **Saturday 27th November** at Lechlade celebrating their Christmas lights switch-on.

We welcome enquiries, either about playing with the band, as a beginner or experienced player, or about possible performances. Please get in contact via our email address: highworth.sb@gmail.com

*Keith Waight, Highworth Silver Band
Acting Communications Officer*

New Craft Group launched

Highworth Chatty Crafters is a new group which meets in the small hall in grounds to the rear of St Michael's Church on the 1st Thursday of each month from 10am-2pm.

You can just come and sit and chat and enjoy meeting others or you can also do some sewing, knitting, crochet, tapestry, embroidery etc. The time is yours and if your craft can be done sitting down and won't spoil the carpet flooring then its most

welcome. This is an adult only session due to health and safety risks to small people (needles, pins, sharp points etc). Refreshments will be supplied. Bring your own lunch. There will be a monthly fee to cover the 4-hour hall hire and refreshments once we know how many will attend, so, for the first meeting on **November 4th** we will just ask for a voluntary donation to start the ball rolling!

Our Facebook page: [Highworth Chatty Crafters](#)

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

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return completed form to The Lions Charity Shop, Newburgh Place,
before **Wednesday 10th November**

In to the Lion's Den

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas with the Highworth Lions. By the time this edition of the Link reaches some of you, the Fireworks on the 5th November will be over and the next item in the lead-up to the Festive Season will be the Lighting Ceremony in the Market Square on Saturday, 27th November. The Lions will be there with our barbecue selling bacon rolls, etc, and helping the Town Mayor, Richard Williams, to distribute mince pies.

Last year, Father Christmas extended the area with his Sleigh and covered not only Highworth, but Blunsdon and Tadpole Village as well. He will let you know where he is going this year in the December LINK, in the Lion's Charity Shop and on social media. This year, the Lions will be helped by some new recruits who joined the Club following the recruiting drive in September. They are very good and we have high hopes of them. Watch this space.

I feel I should give a gentle reminder to the over 65s. Don't forget the cut-off date of the **10th November** for returning your Christmas Voucher Application Forms to the Lion's Charity Shop so that we can get them distributed well

before Christmas.

Now you know why it's beginning to look like Christmas!

Major Grants made during September were:

- L.C.I.F. Haiti Earthquake Appeal - £250.00
- Local Welfare Case - £300.00
- N.S.P.C.C. Swindon Branch - £500.00

In August we gave money to a Country-wide Lion's project called 'A Ball for All' which supplies soft balls with bells inside to visually impaired children. If anyone knows of a child in the local area who would benefit from one of these balls, please let me know.

P.S. Don't forget the Whist Drives. Dates for 2021 are 3rd and 17th November and 1st and 15th December.

E: highworth@lions105sc.org

www.highworthlions.org.uk

T: 0345 833 9831

*Rodney Davis, Secretary,
Highworth & District Lions Club*

Cats at Christmas

On Saturday 11th December between 9am and 2pm Swindon Cats Protection are holding our Christmas Fayre at the Council Rooms in Gilberts Lane, Highworth.



We'll have 2022 Cats Protection diaries and calendars, Christmas items, bric-a-brac and books, etc, for sale and there will be refreshments available. Entry is free.

*Cheryl Fulker,
Swindon Cats Protection*

Pop-in for Prospect is back

The Highworth Support Group for Prospect Hospice is putting the kettle on again!

Come and join us in St Michael's Church Rooms, Vicarage Lane, on **Wednesday 10th November** between 2-4pm and then every second Wednesday of each month thereafter.

New safety measures will be in place and you can choose a generous slice from a choice of home-made cakes, together with tea or coffee, for only £3.00.

Ann, Daphne, Joan, Paul, Sue, Jill and Tony extend a warm welcome to past and new customers. It will be tea-riffic to see you!



Operation Christmas Child



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 inclusive.

The Highworth Collection centre will be based as usual at Highworth Methodist Church from 9.30am to 1pm each weekday. On Saturday and Sunday, boxes can be dropped off from 10am to 12 noon.

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.

In 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.

If you would like more information or would like to be a volunteer, then please contact Peter McAuley T: 01793 764385, E: mcauley.peter@gmail.com

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/

Millie's Cake Sale – another great success!

If you've got a sweet tooth, you might have spotted Millie Hamilton (or 'the cake girl', as one of her customers called her!) delivering yummy treats in Highworth for the second year in a row.

After losing her Grandma and dog, Pepe, Millie wanted to raise money to help people and animals with cancer. They both loved cake, so Millie thought it a fitting way to remember them!

Sharon at The Goldfinger pub helped sell cakes to her customers, so a big thank you to her.

The people of Highworth were treated to a variety of delicious fudge, brownies, biscuits and cakes, raising an amazing £1316 for Macmillan and smashing last years' total.

Well done Millie!



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Richard James

Village & Country Homes

You may have seen our new village & country homes boards in and around Highworth, and we would love to know what you think?

After some feedback from clients in the villages and market towns, we decided a rebrand was due to better suit the properties available and the clients that we represent in these locations.

We have also opened a satellite office in Dyer Street, Cirencester to better serve the Gloucestershire postcodes. Our office in Highworth is going from strength to strength, working closely with the team from our office in Faringdon.

If you are looking to move, or are just curious about the market, then please do get in touch - we'd love to hear from you.



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highworth@richardjames.uk

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Scan here to view
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80 High Street | SN4 9JZ

Royal Wootton Bassett
01793 855 117
139 High Street | SN4 7AY

Faringdon
01367 300 370
9 Market Place | SN7 7HL

Highworth
01793 765 292
36 High Street | SN6 7AQ

Cirencester
01285 708 610
45 Dyer Street | GL7 2PP

richardjames.uk

Highworth Forget-Me-Not Café relaunched

It was eyes down for the first face to face Forget-Me-Not Memory Café in eighteen months as we gathered in the hall at the Highworth Community Centre in The Dormers.

Our team of fantastic

volunteers provided the welcome and Zurich Community Trust provided the entertainment as we sat down for a game of bingo with the lovely ladies from ZCT on the big screen. ZCT provided everything for the session from the dabbers to the prizes; a lovely bag of chocolates for the first line and a fantastic M&S hamper for the full house in two games. They also provide goody bags for all attendees. Huge thanks to Becky and Nicky from Zurich for running this for us. Rachel from Home Instead also did a fantastic job to MC the event and generally keep control and Toby showed great hosting skills balancing the coffee and teapots.

It was so lovely to be able to get together again, greeting some old friends along with some new faces. We saw straight away the difference it makes being back together in person and the smiles, interaction and fun that it brought.

Thanks also to all our sponsors; in particular Home Instead for funds and personal support, the Highworth Lions Club and to Dumbledart's Bakery for providing two awesome cakes. We are pleased to say that the Coop continues to support us by providing a grant to cover the costs of the rest of the refreshments. We have also just received some funds from Highworth Bowls Club



as part of their annual fun day. Thank you so much for this extra support!

The November Café will be centred around a session of seated exercise with Aveen from Clubbercise. Aveen ran a previous session

for us on Zoom and we all really enjoyed following along on the screen and can't wait to be able to join in together again in the room this time.

The music continues in December with the Highworth Silver Band bringing us a selection of carols and festive music in the run up to Christmas.

We aim to add in crafts, memory games and quizzes at our café sessions as well as providing cake and refreshments and a chance to chat and make new friends.

The dates for your diary are:

24th November, 2-4pm

22nd December, 2-4pm

All these events will be in the hall at the Highworth Community Centre (ex-Northview School) in The Dormers, SN6 7PQ.

For those not able to come along in person we will be continuing Zoom access to the Café and will send out the Zoom details well ahead of the events.

E: forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com
or call Ruth, on 07970 543423

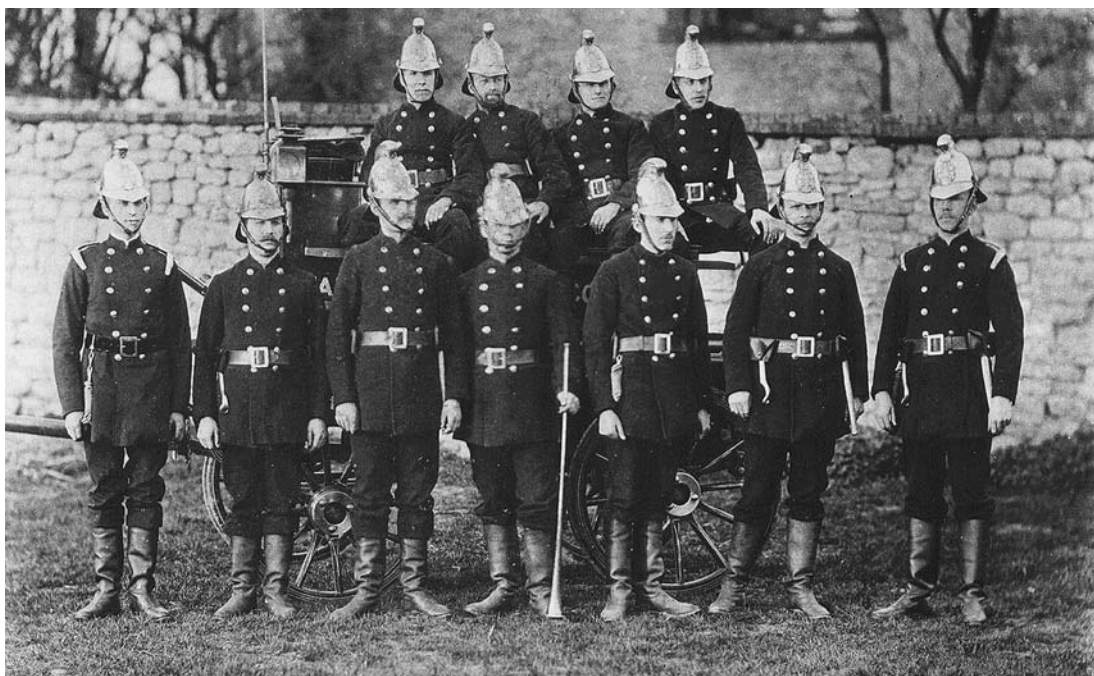
Support Swindon Guide Dogs

We are holding a Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 27th November 2021 from 10am to 12noon, at The Crown Inn, 71 Ermin Street, Stratton, Swindon, SN3 4NL.

Cup of coffee and a slice of cake for just £5!
We will be also holding a raffle during the event.

Come along for a cuppa and bring your friends too!

Fire! Fire!



Highworth Fire Brigade in uniform with engine and post horn. c1890

We are used to seeing a fire engine speeding to a fire. But how, in the past, did Highworth cope?

The town has always had a problem with water supplies. It's at the top of a hill, with water reached from wells or pumps. There is no river or stream nearby. The town did not have a piped water supply until 1904 and even then it was unreliable. Leather buckets and a small fire engine were held in the church.

In 1858 it was decided that a new horse-drawn engine would be built and the old one repaired. The men who manned it were volunteers but were paid for attending practices and for turning out to a fire. Civilians who turned out to help the brigade were also paid a small sum. The problem at the start seemed to be the horses.

The *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* on September 11th, 1858 reported the following:

"Between 8 and 9 in the evening of Wednesday last a fire broke out at Botany Farm, Castle Eaton. Destroyed were 2 hay ricks, about 6 tons, 2 straw ricks, a barn containing unthreshed

wheat and an outhouse. The fire raged all night and also destroyed a cottage near the farm. A large crowd came to help under the guidance of Inspector Passmore of Cricklade and Sgt. Saunders of Highworth.

The Highworth engine did not arrive until 1am, drawn by the men all the way from Highworth. No horses could be procured in the town."

This led to letters in the press:

9th October 1858

"Highworth Fire Engine"

"Notice is hereby given. To all Persons residing at a distance requiring the Highworth Fire Engine. They are requested to send Two Horses Ready Harnessed with common Thill Harness, so that the engines may be started without delay.

By order of the Inspectorate. John C Salmon, Clerk."

Later the horse situation was resolved but problems still arose.

Swindon Advertiser 7th May 1892

"Fire in Stanton Fitzwarren"

"The fire was reported at 3am and the Fire Brigade from Highworth was quickly summoned but there was some difficulty in getting the horses to go, one of them showing a strong objection to being turned out of the stable at that early hour."

Eventually the engine got to the fire, but the cottage, and the one next to it, had been destroyed.

Many of the smaller houses in Highworth still had thatched roofs which easily caught fire from sparks.

Swindon Advertiser
21st April 1883

"At 1pm on Wednesday 8 cottages in the vicinity of Swindon Street, located in an area known as Puzzle Alley took fire and in the space of a few hours all burnt to the ground. Most of them were termed as uninhabitable with thatched roofs. There was a danger of the fire spreading to Mr Rixon's barn and other cottages. The only water available was from a well. At 2pm a telegram was sent to Swindon for help. At 2.45 the Swindon Voluntary Fire Brigade drove into town. They had covered the 6 miles in less than half an hour."

In 1895 when a thatched building in Eastrop caught fire the newspaper stated that: *"thatched roofs are rapidly disappearing, and this fire has removed a not very elegant example which cannot be looked upon with regret."*

Many fires started in stores holding inflammable substances. A tallow chandler (candle maker) in the High Street had left his pan of tallow over a low heat overnight so that he could start making candles the next day. The pan caught fire in the early hours with the town awoken by the church and chapel bells and the town crier. Luckily the

fire was contained to the one property (now 'Two's Company').

In May 1911 there was a fire in Mr Moulton's paint shop (now Highworth Hardware). The alarm was given at 11pm, by which time the fire had taken a strong hold. The Fire Brigade was soon there and there was a good supply of water. The fire was out by 12.30 and did not spread to Mr Moulton's house.



Fire that destroyed the Sun Brewery in Brewery Street, 1974

The next week's paper announced that Mr Moulton had been charged with setting his own property on fire. However, the police said the case had carefully been gone into and the charges were dismissed.

Highworth's last major fire will be remembered by some people in the town. In November 1974, a fire wrecked the Meredew furniture factory in Brewery Street (now the site of the Co-op). Flames 50 feet high could be seen from Swindon and police closed all the roads into the town. Fire crews from Swindon, Cricklade, Wootton Bassett, Malmesbury, Cirencester, Ramsbury and Faringdon attended.

Chris Suter

Highworth Historical Society: November talk

On **Wednesday 24th November** we welcome back Nick Baxter as our speaker. The title of his talk is 'Swindon's Other Railway.' This is the story of The Midland South Western Junction Railway. It's HQ was in Old Town and it was once a serious rival to the GWR.

We meet in St Michael's Church Hall, Lechlade Road. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Members are free. £3 on the door for visitors.

Chris Suter, 01793 764811

Sport Compiled by Jason Daniels

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



Tutus & tiaras on the tees

Wrag Barn Golf Club

You'd be forgiven for thinking that a modern ballet was being staged at Wrag Barn during Lady Captain's Day. Our wonderful Lady Captain, Margo Campbell chose tutus and tiaras for her theme and added a few twists to the 18 hole competition.

On the 2nd we drove off the white tees, on the 8th an opposite-handed club had to be used and on the 11th a hockey stick was the weapon of choice. Throw in the mix a few 'nearest the pin' options and a couple of 'straightest drives' and we were all wondering what was going to happen next! After golf, everyone changed into summer dresses and tiaras and the regal setting

enjoyed a delicious lunch as the prize giving began.

Scoring 82 points, Cathy Stanford, Karen White and Claire Drew finished the day top of the pile ahead of Alison Talbert, Jac Brownsell and Marge Powell only eight points behind, themselves two points ahead of Di Reeve, Gwen Webster and myself. Sue Dodd and Claire Drew earned spoils in the 'nearest the pin' competition on the 3rd and 16th holes respectively, whilst Claire and Hope Jack took the accolades with the 'straightest drives' on the 14th and 4th holes respectively. For anyone who went in the water on the 5th or the 18th, a replacement ball was given to use next time. A little bird disclosed that the Greenkeeper's equipment took a battering from someone's ball (no harm done) and Tracey Judd was given a special prize of less wayward balls to try.

We said farewell and thank you to our Lady President of many years Sue Manners and welcomed Jenny Stenhouse to the rôle in recognition of her years of support for the club and we know her wisdom will be welcome in the years to come. Lastly, a game of Heads and Tails caused more hilarity and everyone went home happy. Whilst Margo is keen to express her love for the rôle of Lady Captain, her passion is only rivalled by our affection for her. To find out more about Wrag Barn please visit us at our website or feel free to give us a call.

W: www.wragbarn.com T: 01793 861 327

Verity Manners

Swindon Croquet Club

Swindon Croquet Club finished the competitive season on a huge high with the golf croquet team, captained by Tony Tomlin, recording a mighty 10-2 home victory over Hamptworth Croquet Club at the end of September to win the Bustard Trophy.

The competition consisted of 12 doubles games and the Swindon team raced to a strong early advantage during the morning games and then maintained dominance when play resumed after the lunch break in glorious sunshine. The pairing of Dave Booth and Chairman Clive Smith was particularly impressive, remaining unbeaten throughout the match; this event being the last competitive match of the 2021 season. Clive said

"It was pleasing to finish the season with such a convincing win against a very strong side. We are already looking forward to next season!".

If you are interested in finding out more about croquet please do get in touch.

W: www.swindoncroquetclub.org.uk

Beverly Briggs



L-R Dave Booth, Martin & Beverly Briggs, Tony Tomlin (Captain), Clive Smith, Derek Jones & Sandra Jerram

Highworth Town Football Club

Whilst the Worthian's 1st team disappointingly exited the Emirates FC Cup in Dorset after a replay to lower league Shaftesbury, three wins on the bounce in the Southern League Division One South league placed us 5th at the end of September with an FA Trophy home tie versus Plymouth Parkway imminent. Our reserves started the season very well and as September rolled into October they remained unbeaten. If you are interested the club is open Fridays to Sundays and on midweek match nights; all are welcome to come down and see us.

W: www.highworthtownfc.com

Derek Lloyd

Highworth Walking Football Club

The Over 50's team travelled to Bournemouth for their 4th round match in the WFA National Cup.

After going 1-0 down, strikes by Glyn Evans and Dave Winskill looked to have sealed the win until a late Bournemouth equaliser. Into extra time a Paul Watlings goal seemed again to have won it until once more the home side levelled with



Sexagenarian Silverware

mere seconds remaining. In the penalty shoot-out, Highworth keeper Neil Winter put on a splendid display to win the tie for Highworth.

Next was a home tie for the South West Regional Final against our old rivals, Weston-super-Mare. Despite partisan home support at Grange Leisure Centre, the visitors progressed to the grand final with a 1-3 win, Steve York briefly bringing Highworth back in the game with a blistering shot.

The Over 60's continued their summer of silverware, picking up a handsome trophy for finishing runners up in Maidenhead United's annual tournament. Despite a draw and a loss in our first two games, three consecutive wins meant we qualified for a semi-final against fellow Wiltshire outfit Calne. Our best game of the day saw us totally dominate and grab a late winner. The final was equally close with Bracknell opening the scoring before my equaliser, but in

extra time Bracknell squeezed in a golden goal winner. The good news for prospective players is that we have restarted a session at Highworth's Halo REC on Fridays between 11.30am and 12.30pm.

If you are interested in playing either competitively or just socially, our men's sessions are Thursdays and Sundays between 11am and 12pm and our ladies session takes place Sundays between 10am and 11am. For more details please either give me a call or drop me an email.

M: 07748 366 979 E: highworthwfc@gmail.com

Kevin Turner

Supermarine Rugby Club

The Supermarine Rugby Club is looking for new members. Men, women, boys, girls and Under 6 to teens all are welcome and catered for. It doesn't matter if you're experienced or brand new to rugby, just come along and have fun.

Our Mini's and Youths train on Sundays, Women train on Wednesdays from 7pm and Men Tuesdays and Thursdays also from 7pm.

Everyone's welcome; if you're a player or just want to be a social member we'd love to see you. We think the Supermarine Rugby Club is a great family environment with fun to be had by all so if you are interested, please just pop down or feel free to get in contact with us if you have any questions. We're on Facebook ([supermarine rfc](#) and [supermarineladies](#)) and are located on Supermarine Road, Swindon, SN3 4BZ.

W: www.supermarinerfc.rfu.club

Lucy Mayhew



Fun for all at Supermarine RFC

Is your child due to start School in September 2022?

If the answer is YES, then we would love to invite you to one of our **OPEN MORNINGS**



We are a caring, nurturing school with high aspirations for all children. We have highly experienced, dedicated staff who support all children to reach their full potential.

Take a look at our website for an overview www.eastropinfantschool.co.uk/

Take a look – OPEN MORNINGS

Tuesdays – 9th & 23rd November and 7th December
9.30 - 10.30am

Saturdays – 6th & 20th November and 4th December
9.30 - 10.30am

Please be advised that numbers per session are limited to ensure the safety of all.
VISITORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK ON SITE.

"Eastrop is brilliant because our classrooms are full of lovely books and exciting activities". YEAR 2 PUPIL

"Fantastic school – all my boys are very happy and settled here. Wonderful communication between school and parents". PARENT

"We do lots of building and have lots of outdoor space. Over to you time is the best!"
YEAR 1 PUPIL

"I like being here... I get to see all my friends at once! And teachers help me learn new stuff". RECEPTION PUPIL

"Thank you to the whole team for creating such a nurturing environment for the children to grow and learn in". PARENT

For all enquiries or to book a tour, please contact our admin team

01793 763772 or email admin@eastrop-inf.swindon.sch.uk



2020-2023



@eastropinfant @GroveLearningTrustWellbeing



@EastropInfant

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

Haresfield Knives: A cut above the rest



Ever thought about what goes in to making a kitchen knife? Neither had Ben Peters. Until 2018 he made do, like many of us, with a set of five Asda kitchen knives. Now he runs Haresfield Knives and makes beautiful, bespoke kitchen knives from his converted garage in Haresfield.

First things first! How did you get in to knife making?

"I was asked to join a small knifemaking company at the end of 2018 and this is where I learned a lot about knives. I left this company in 2021 and decided that I enjoyed making knives so much I would start it up as a hobby and here I am!"

What is your favourite thing about what you do?

"The feedback that I get. When someone uses a knife that you have spent many hours hand crafting, I think they can feel the effort and the love put into it. This translates into great feedback from everyone who has tried one, the satisfaction is very rewarding for me."

Where do you do all your work?

"I have converted my garage into a 'clean' area for heat treatment, routing, engraving, sharpening and cleaning. I have built a shed in the garden for the 'dirty' work of grinding, sanding,

polishing, cutting and turning. It's small, but I'm only just getting started!"

How often are you making?

"I started prototyping and building my workshop 7 days a week as I was furloughed due to Covid, I took a few days off for video games and beer though!"

"I now work full time for the NHS so my evenings and weekends are spent at the grinder, polisher, router and sharpener."

Where do you get your ideas from?

"I have no idea. Things just pop up. I chat to someone about knitting... so I'll make a handle with yarn in. I see a product that reminds me of a vegetable, I'll make a chopper out of it!"

Who do you make knives for?

"My knives are perfect for anyone who uses a kitchen knife that wants a handmade, personal product. They also work fantastically as a gift as they are all completely custom made and not something you can pick up off the shelf. They will last a lifetime too. I want people to enjoy using a kitchen knife instead of it being a chore."

Where do you go from here?

"My aim is to keep providing custom, tailored

knives to anyone who enjoys using or even collecting them. I want to create things that people are proud to own and in turn provide for my own family."

Orders for Christmas should be placed by **1st December 2021**.

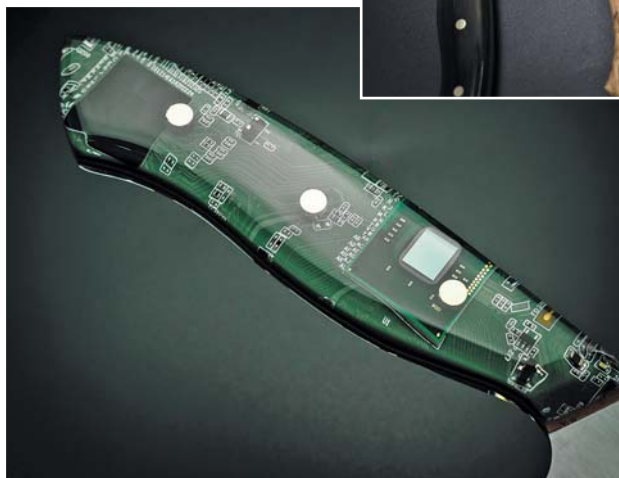
A selection of knives. Just a small example of what is possible, only limited by your imagination. Far left is a South African wood, middle is layered paper in resin, far right is silver flake and sparkly mica powder set in clear resin.

Contact:

benjamin@haresfieldknives.co.uk

www.haresfieldknives.co.uk

Instagram: [@haresfieldknives](https://www.instagram.com/haresfieldknives)



Crypto Kitchen: a handle made out of recycled IT equipment set in clear resin. I'm an IT guy... so why not mix the two!



Grinding the shape of the blade



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call
01793 764768

deb.hodgson@tiscali.co.uk



10 years in business: from Wedges and Undercuts to French Crops and Curtains

I'm Stacy, owner of The Director's Cut Barbers. Friday 5th November marks my 10th anniversary of being open in Highworth! I am so privileged to work in such a friendly and vibrant town.

I have been a barber since 1987 when I worked my Saturday job in George's in Gorse Hill. However, barbering wasn't my first passion. I originally went to college to become a graphic designer but some things in life just aren't meant to be so I thought "what else can I do that's arty?". From there, the barber in me was born.

I've come a long way from earning £28.50 a week back in 1988. I have seen hair trends and fashion come and go full circle and I've cut it all from wedges to undercuts, to French crops and curtains!

Fast forward 33 years and I have my own business and another barber on board called Kyle. Opening up in Highworth was very daunting at first. I was nervous and excited too, but after such an incredibly busy first day my nerves settled. I have made some strong friendships and have many loyal customers here. I've cut the hair of STFC players, Highworthian authors, a sergeant major and pilots. In my profession I meet lots of characters and interesting people from all walks of life.

To celebrate 10 years of The Director's Cut, I am offering £1 off all haircuts throughout the month of November with the voucher below. Plus, on **Friday 5th November** I will be handing out donuts with every haircut!

I would like to add how very proud I am to have



been nominated for the 2021 England Business Awards for Barbers in Wiltshire. I'm keeping my fingers crossed. You can vote for me at www.nominees.info/vote.

Thank you to all my customers for your business. Chatting to you and cutting your hair makes my day. 'Hair's' to the next 10 years!

Stacy Woolhouse



FROM TINY ACORNS GREAT OAKS GROW



Is your child due to start Year 3 in September 2022?

If the answer is YES, then we would love to invite you to look around our school.

We are a caring, nurturing school with high aspirations for all children. Dedicated, enthusiastic and skilful staff enable all children to reach their full potential.

Take a look at our website for an overview www.southfieldjuniorsch.co.uk/



At Southfield, we believe that all learning should be purposeful, engaging and should develop inquisitive minds.



▶ **Take a look – Open Afternoons** ◀
9th, 19th & 23rd November and 7th, 9th December 1.30 - 2.45pm

Please be advised that numbers per session are limited to ensure the safety of all.

Visitors will be required to wear a mask on site.

Currently, we have some spaces in Year 3-6

For all enquiries or to book a tour, please contact the school office

01793 762210 or email admin@southfield-jun.swindon.sch.uk

A new dog walker in town

After being made redundant from Honda, Liam Northeast grabbed the opportunity to follow his passion and turn his hand to a career with dogs, launching Paddy Paws at the start of September this year.

Based in South Marston, Paddy Paws offers dog walking, puppy visits and pet taxi services. They predominantly cover the SN3 postcodes and surrounding areas like Highworth and Stanton.

Liam said: "I was at Honda for 15 years. I absolutely loved my time there and have nothing but good things to say about the company, but when they announced they were closing the plant I knew right away that I wanted to do something with dogs. I have been around dogs all my life. My Nan always had two Labradors and I remember walking with her as a child. When I was around 11 my parents bought our first lab as a family dog and I got my first chocolate lab, Molly, when I was 19 so dogs have really just been a passion of mine as long as I can remember. I love walking, mountain biking and just being out in the countryside so being a dog walker is absolute dream job for me. I'm very lucky that the generous redundancy from Honda has allowed me to pursue this opportunity."



Not wanting to rely purely on his passion and personal experience, Liam completed a canine first aid course and a Diploma in Dog Walking and Care.

Liam added: "Meeting the new clients and dogs is my favourite thing so far. They all have their own personalities. It's also nice knowing I'm helping people who might be at work or unable to walk as far as they used to. The job satisfaction is unreal."

There's a fun story behind the business name, too: "My own dog, Scooby, is a 6-year-old black lab. When he waits for his food he shuffles with his feet and sort of paws at the floor.

My wife and I have always called this paddy paws! The actual meaning is an animal's soft pad."

Paddy Paws offer a personal service so the customer meets Liam and he's the one that will be walking the dog. The dog's best interests are at the heart of the business, so Liam doesn't walk the dogs in large groups and sends regular photos and updates to the owners.

www.paddypawspetcare.com
liam@paddypawspetcare.com

Award-winning gifts

Congratulations to the Highworth Emporium, who won a Great Gift Retailer Award for the third time.

They were in the final in three categories and snapped up Independent Retailer of the Year South West.



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www.highworthemporium.co.uk



Re-wilding St Michael's Churchyard



You may have noticed a scruffy fenced off area crop up in a part of St Michael's Churchyard this year. What do you think of it, I wonder? I know some people have thought it a disgrace and too messy. Others have noticed more butterflies and wondered whether or not the slow worms have moved in. I hope you have taken time to wonder why it has been done and what we are hoping to achieve with it.

We are trying to follow the directions from an organisation appropriately called 'Caring for God's Acre'. The people who set up the initiative realised that, in our ever more urban world, the ancient churches in our cities, towns and villages surrounded by graveyards could be put to use for the benefit of wildlife. In Devon, there are many churches who have taken on the task of rewilding their whole Churchyard.

The powerfully-named 'Living Churchyards' project is not so much a vision of the dead rising up as the dead providing sanctuary for species whose living space had been cut back.

Our hope in allowing this relatively small area of our graveyard to grow scruffy is that we will

eventually encourage the dormant seeds below the grass to germinate, enhancing the biodiversity of our town and providing food, shelter and opportunity for bats, mice, frogs, toads, slow worms, birds and insects.

We hope in time to be able to invite community groups and schools to come and do surveys of the wildlife and to maybe build bug hotels or bat boxes. This is an exciting, long-term project that will be for the benefit of the whole town and we hope you are willing to get behind and support us in this endeavour.

With the help of the friends of Pentylands country park we have started the arduous task of scything back the now long grass that grew this year which will have used the nutrients in the soil, preparing the ground for new growth next year. If you would like more information on what we are doing and why we are doing it, a good place to start is the 'Caring for God's Acre' website.

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

Emily Swinerd, St Michael's Church

Methodist Church

Sunday Morning Worship: 10.30am

Face coverings are recommended. They can be removed when you are seated, but must be worn when you sing. Hand sanitizer is available in the entrance foyer and social distancing is practiced where possible.

Fresh Fairtrade coffee, tea and biscuits are served after the service.

Special Sunday Morning Services

November 7th: Café Church – Run the Race
(see poster)

November 14th: Remembrance Service at St Michael's

Weekly

Every Friday: JaM Club 9.30-11am

For parents, carers and their children under school age. Toys, crafts, music and snacks available.

Every Saturday morning: 10am-12pm
Charity Coffee Morning and Table Tennis

Coffee, tea and cakes are served. Money is raised for different charities each week.

Monthly

3rd Tuesday: 10am-1pm - Craft Group

Bring a craft you are working on and make new friends. Refreshments served.

The next one is on **Tuesday 16th November**

3rd Wednesday: 2.30-4pm – 3Cs
(Coffee, Cake and Chat)

The next one is on **Wednesday 17th November**

Special Event – Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 13th November: 9.30am-12.30pm
(See poster)

For more information about any of these events, email highworthmethodistchurch@gmail.com





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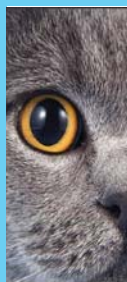


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St Michael's Church

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

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

Youth Worship every Sunday at 7pm
during term time

Remembrance Services: **Sunday 14th November**

10am – Highworth

10am – Blunsdon

10.15am – 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 is held 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 17th November** 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 23rd November**. Contact the Church Office to book your lunch.

Saturday Morning at St Michael's

As a family church of many generations, we come together on the first Saturday of each month to share time like any family. We offer a variety of activities you can join in. Whether it's chilling out together over coffee and the morning newspapers, crafts, challenging others to board games or tucking into a bacon butty or pastries. All welcome.

We remember those who love and miss:

Richard John Haine

Gordon Watts

Mary Tipping

Peter Joseph Deane McNally

We welcome in Holy Baptism:

Amber Latimer

Kyhlen Thomas

Ruby Hares

Harley Devenney

We congratulate on their Marriage:

Mary Maycock & Anthony Houghton

Lorna Slattery & Andrew Hallett

Praying for the roads in the town:

07-Nov-21 Stranks Close and Stroma Way

14-Nov-21 Swanborough and Swindon Road

21-Nov-21 Swindon Street and Turnpike Road

28-Nov-21 Vicarage Lane and Vorda Road

Tuesday Meet

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

Remaining dates for 2021:

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:

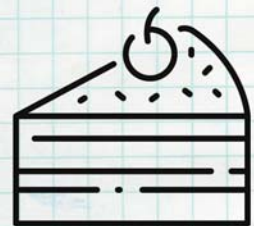
November 17th
December 15th



SATURDAY MORNINGS AT ST MICHAEL'S

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 10AM

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



03/10/2021

*In loving memory of my dear husband Cyril Jefferies on this 15th anniversary, love and miss you.
Joan & Family*

03/11/2021

Two years have passed, we miss you every day. Lindsay, Mark, Ben and Lucy xxxx

26/11/2021

*Joyce Ryder. Remembering a dearly loved Mum and Nan on her 93rd birthday. Sadly missed and
forever in our hearts. Love from Janice & Pas, Louisa & Chris, Pep, Amy & Carina xxxxxxxx*

29/11/2021

*Keith Lester. Thinking of you today and always on what would have been your 83rd birthday.
Lots of love Jackie and Natasha*

29/11/2021

*Brian Moody. Sadly missed Husband, Dad and Grandad. Miss you always, you are unforgettable.
Love Chris, Dawn, Simon, Emily, Alfie, Katie and Harry*

30/11/2021

*Elizabeth Shurmer: Sending your birthday wishes today. Loved and missed every single day,
especially today. Love Alf, Heather & families xxx*

*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.

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



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

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
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Find us on YouTube 'HighworthCommunityChurch'

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The Defence Academy and Swindon Branch RAeS (DASRAeS) provides lectures from **nationally renowned speakers** aimed at people with an interest in aviation, aeronautical engineering, science and technology. It also aims to host an additional 2-3 events per year, usually in the form of visits.

The Branch welcomes people from all walks of life, and seeks to engender an interest in young people over the age of 15 (accompanied by potential links to **work experience opportunities**).

Branch Season: April - October (first Wednesday of each month)

Ahead of the new season starting April 2022 and to get our process back on track following the COVID enforced shutdown, the Branch is hosting 3-4 taster lectures. You do not have to be a member to attend these free of charge.

Don't miss out, but do ensure you follow the registration process outlined below.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU REGISTER YOUR PLANNED ATTENDANCE FOR EVERY EVENT WITH THE BRANCH SECRETARY (COLIN IRVIN) AT LEAST ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE, AND THAT YOU CARRY A VALID PHOTO ID (PASSPORT, DRIVING LICENCE, OR MILITARY ID), TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE DEFENCE ACADEMY.



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From our MP

A few weeks ago I enjoyed another very informative visit to The Bridge to see the wonderful work it does to support the local community.

The Bridge, run by Highworth Community Churches, provides a number of services, such as: a support group for those with long term illnesses, computer and printing facilities, debt crisis support and money management advice; the latter led by the brilliant Kathryn Ford and Christians Against Poverty (CAP). This practical support and advice offered by CAP and The Bridge helps families in real times of need. I met with a number of families who have benefitted, whether through direct practical interventions, or regular ongoing support. I am full of admiration for Kathryn and the team of volunteers.

Having spent many years as a DWP Minister (I have just switched to become the Deputy Chairman of the Conservative Party), I understand the importance of providing support in times of need.

On Welfare Support, Universal Credit is helping simplify the very complex legacy benefit system. Claimants now have one point of contact, where personalised and tailored support can be provided; a stark contrast to legacy benefits where a claimant would have to navigate the Local Authority, Housing Association, HMRC and the DWP. No wonder £2.3bn was unclaimed each year as claimants, often the most vulnerable, were simply overwhelmed. There is still much more to do, but I very much welcome the continued improvements to increase the taper rates (allowing claimants to keep more money as they move into work), increases to the Local Housing Allowance, the significant increase in free childcare (vital for working families), the

new Life Time Skills Guarantee (helping people of all ages to retrain) and the doubling of work coaches across our Job Centres to increase the one to one professional support.

I have also been a strong advocate for making sure we have additional, flexible support, so I welcome the recent announcement of an additional £500m of local Welfare Support, targeting those most in need and bringing together not just national support, but local co-ordinated support.

Finally, I very much welcome the extension of both the free school meals provision into the school holidays and the introduction of the Holiday Activities Scheme, something I have championed in Parliament for many years. I have seen first-hand what a difference this is making to families and crucially the children in Swindon.

Kathryn and her team are not just providing that extra layer of local support, but I value their feedback, advice and suggestion to help shape future changes. To have them in the heart of our local community really is making a difference.

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Highworth Town Council New Neighbourhood Plan (NP2)

Highworth Town Council were very pleased to meet so many residents at our 1st and 2nd Workshops, particularly the latter on such a wet and miserable day. It was great to receive your feedback in relation to housing, modes of transport for getting around the Town and how to promote shopping.

For those that could not make the Workshops it isn't too late as you could always pop in to the Visitor Centre in the High Street where you will have the opportunity to fill out the forms to have 'Your Say'. We will also be publishing some online Surveys to reach out to as many residents as possible as your feedback is important. Once we have all the feedback we will let you know the results, so watch this space!

Our next workshop is on **Saturday 6th November** 9am-2pm in the Community Room next to the Highworth Town Council Offices, where you will have the opportunity to comment on the 'Community in Highworth Area'; achieving a

place that is healthy, inclusive and safe for all. This will look at Health, Leisure, Arts and Culture, etc. Please note the workshop due to be held on Friday 22nd October will be rescheduled to a later date as it was felt running a workshop on a Friday evening may be difficult for many to attend.

To be kept up to date on the progress of the NHP2 visit our Website or Facebook page and don't forget we also have information boards at the Highworth Market.

Remember, it is your Plan for the future so please help us by providing your feedback.

We look forward to seeing you at our next workshop.

*Highworth Town Council
Neighbourhood Plan Committee*
www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Borough Councillor Surgeries

Our Councillor Surgeries will be returning on the first Saturday of every month, from **Saturday November 6th 2021**.

They will be held at Gilberts Lane, Highworth, from 10-11am and then at Blunsdon Village Hall from 11.30am-12.30pm for the Blunsdon Councillor Surgery.





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julie.murphy@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Kim Barber, Stable House, Eastrop, Highworth SN6 7AT
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Julia Hazel Bishop, Sandstone, 37 Fitzgerald Avenue SN6 7JJ
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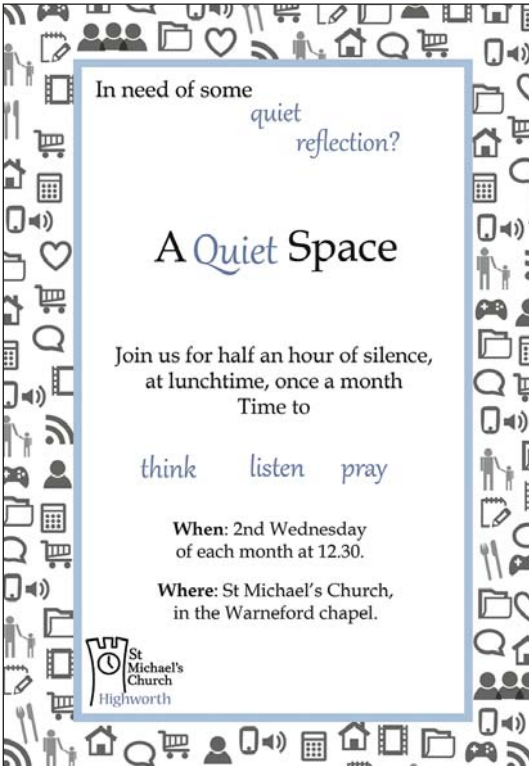
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Editor: Sarah Gardiner. If you have a story please email villageseditor@gmail.com

FARINGDON

Here are our offerings for November at Faringdon Regent Cinema in the Corn Exchange.

We are currently seating 40 people. Advance tickets only so please be sure to book early!

Wed 3rd November: Summerland (12A)
(2020 - Drama, Romance, War)

During World War II, reclusive writer Alice has her sequestered life upended when Frank, an

evacuee from the London Blitz, is left in her care. Despite initially resolving to be rid of him, Alice finds herself and her emotions reawakened by him.

Stars: Gemma Arterton and Tom Courtenay.

Film duration: 1 hour 39 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 26th November: In The Heights (PG)
(2021 - Drama, Music, Musical)

A film version of the Broadway musical in which Usnavi, a sympathetic New York bodega owner, saves every penny every day as he imagines and sings about a better life.

Stars: Anthony Ramos

Film duration: 2 hrs 23 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 information or to join the mailing list, please visit our website:

www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk/regent-cinema-2



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LECHLADE

Lechlade Art Society Annual Exhibition

The Art Society staged an impressive exhibition of members' work which was appreciated by a constant stream of visitors over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Many expressed their gratitude to feel life was on track for 'normality' after not having been out and seeing friends and neighbours for so long.

The society's patron, Lord Faringdon, attended the preview evening and he and Lady Faringdon judged the work to decide the winner of the prestigious Patron's Award. He said that the work was excellent and they had chosen 'Autumn Sunlight', painted in oils by Arthur Simmons as the winner of the award. Unfortunately, Arthur could not be there to receive his award from Lord Charles Faringdon on the night so it will be presented to him at a later date. Arthur's picture can be viewed on the Patron's Award page on the society's web site.

A lot of paintings and greetings cards were sold over the weekend resulting in a very successful and enjoyable event. In addition, the society has welcomed several new members, perhaps inspired by what they saw!

A new initiative at the exhibition this year was a project suggested by local artist Roger Jones. He

proposed that members could donate 'Little Gems', an 8" x 8" picture of anything they chose using any medium. These were displayed and sold for £20 each in aid of the Prospect House Hospice. It proved very popular and The final sum raised was approaching £700.

There is a regular series of meetings and demonstrations planned for coming year and more details can be found at www.lechladeartsociety.co.uk. Visitors and new members are welcome.

Margaret Hing

SHRIVENHAM

Shrivenham Golf Course

The busy season has nearly run its course. Daylight is a necessity for any outdoor sport. Unless under floodlights! But Shrivenham Park has managed an almost full programme of events this year.

Results from September:

The Senior September Stableford won by John Wellsted scoring 40 points and the runner up was Nick Howells with 37 points.

Jamie Sellwood won the 2 clubs and a putter competition with a good score of 35 stableford points, the runner up with 33 points was Martin Boase.



Photo: Lord Faringdon and society chair, Sharon Ellis at the preview evening.



Photo: Remnants of 12 Oaks Golf Course at Bassett Down

Trevor Rolls won the division 1 September Medal with a gross score of 79, a net 68 and Andy Betterton was second with a net score of 70.

The annual Daily Mail pairing taking top place at the club was Stewart Bentley and Jim Boyes. The ladies play this slightly later in the year.

The Pam Wright memorial trophy was won in the ladies section by Denise Shurmer who has also won the Birdie Trophy with 33 Stableford points. The runner up was Carole scoring 30 points.

Tracy scored the best 4 medal scores throughout the Summer season and wins the Bremhill Trophy whilst Debbie had the best gross score round of any player in the medals and won that trophy.

The juniors have been playing in County events and Oxfordshire has achieved some great results this year. OLCA (Oxfordshire lady Captains) travelled to Hampshire and played at Hartley Witney, near Basingstoke. It was a great day with

amazing hospitality and food and a pleasing ending as the visitors Oxfordshire were victorious by one point.

The remnants of 12 Oaks Golf Club also meet most months on the last Thursday of the month. In September they met at Bassett Downs for the monthly texas scramble and enjoyed the hospitality, the course and camaraderie in spite of difficult weather conditions.

Carole, cleefairways57@yahoo.co.uk

STANTON FITZWARREN

St Leonard's Church Services:

Sunday 7th November: 9.30am Morning Praise

Sunday 14th November: 11am Remembrance Sunday. Everyone is welcome at the war memorial in the Churchyard for the two minute silence at 11am. Join us afterwards for a quiet reflective service in the Church building if you would like to.

Sunday 21st November: No service at St Leonard. We are welcome at the team service at St Margaret's, Stratton at 10am.

Sunday 28th November:
9.30am Holy Communion

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 more normal 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

Every Cloud recently ran an 'Open Photographic'

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competition where we asked for our visitors to capture what it was they most liked about Stanton Park. We had lots of excellent submissions. Visitors to our exhibition were asked to vote on their favourite and the People's winner was Ken Kirkman, who is also a conservation volunteer at the park.

His winning photo (on the right) captured one of the park's trees in the early dawn light. He was presented with a small sculpture of a rabbit, carved from wood taken from the park. The photo exhibition can still be seen every weekend until the end of November so make sure you pop down to view it.

Saturday 6th November:

Welcome the early arrival of the Christmas Fairy

A workshop for ages 8 to 80. Make a fairy for the top of the tree using an easy technique with beautifully soft wool. Adults £10 and children £5. Children must be accompanied. Places must be booked on everycloudstanton@outlook.com

Saturday 13th November: Art in the Farmhouse

Try your hand at the very satisfying art of acrylic pour



with Karen whilst creating your own unique canvas or "Paint and Sparkle" your own Christmas Cards with Lisa. Either way, have fun and relax in the cosy Farmhouse. Both workshops run from 10am-12noon and 1-3pm. £25 per workshop. Please book on Every Cloud's Facebook page or text 07796 530560.

Commencing Saturday 20th November:

Come and experience the magical atmosphere of Christmas in the Barn and discover unique hand-crafted gifts and works of art for sale. Feel the warmth of our mulled wine and tasty snacks. Open every weekend, 10.30am-3pm.

Saturday 11th December: Christmas Wreath

Workshop

Join in the fun of making your own Christmas wreath with Jeni from 10am-12noon in the barn. Tuition, materials, tools and mince pies included in the workshop fee of £25. You are welcome to bring along greenery from your own garden / decorations if you wish. PS. We advise you to wear warm clothing. Please book on everycloudstanton@outlook.com

Friday 5th November, 6pm

Highworth Fireworks at The Elms Rec
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Saturday November 6th, 10am

Councillor Surgery (page 52 for details)

Wednesday 10th November, 2pm

Pop-in for Prospect (page 24 for details)

Saturday 13th November, 9.30am

Christmas Bazaar at Highworth Methodist Church (page 41)

Wednesday 24th November, 7pm

Highworth Historical Society November talk
(page 29 for details)

Wednesday 24th November, 2pm

Forget-me-not café (page 27 for details)

Friday 26th November, 7.15pm

Highworth Community Cinema film and AGM
(page 6 for details)

Saturday 27th November

Highworth Christmas Market and Lighting Ceremony, Market Square

Visit Highworth Arts & Crafts Fair, St Michael's Church (page 22 for details)

Saturday 11th December, 9am

Swindon Cats Protection Christmas Fayre
(page 24 for details)

11th & 18th December 2021, 9am-12pm

Terry's Christmas Trees on the Podium
(page 6 for details)

18th December

Father Christmas visit to Visit Highworth
(page 22)

22nd December

Forget-me-not café (page 27 for details)

Christmas Lighting Ceremony 2021

Saturday 27th November 2021



The switching on of the Christmas Lights in the Market Square is to be held on Saturday 27th November 2021 at 7pm.

The High Steet will be closed from midday with the usual Saturday Market running until 2pm, local Arts and Crafts stalls will be joining from 1-7pm.

Why not pop along for a mince pie, enjoy the carol singers, and maybe get a glimpse of Father Christmas.

Highworth Town Council Fireworks

Friday 5th November 2021



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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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SIX TIPS TO SAVE YOU MONEY THIS WINTER



With the soaring cost of living, we could all benefit from a little help to get through the coming months.

Here are our six tips on things you can do in your home to help reduce your heating bills:

- ✓ Get your boiler serviced
- ✓ Replace your boiler with an energy efficient one
- ✓ Top up the insulation on your hot water cylinder
- ✓ Book a radiator system flush
- ✓ Install thermostatic radiator valves
- ✓ Install a smart boiler thermostat

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