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April 2022

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Refreshing our approach to life

In the last month, my family has taken in a little dog to foster, just for a while before she rejoins her family in Australia. Pebbles' (see photo) approach to life is refreshing; if she is fed and safe, she is happy. She has caused me to reflect on how these essential things are so often taken for granted by most of us and it takes something like seeing the huge movement of people who aren't safe and may not get fed to take stock.

The outpouring of support, warm clothing and money from the general public to go towards looking after the refugees from Ukraine encouraged me and, along with Pebbles, led me to pray for all the people around the world who don't have food and safety. But it's hard to imagine the billions of people in dire need.

Did you know that it's harder for us to feel empathy for a large number of people and much easier for us to care for just one or two? It's because our hearts and our minds cannot process the enormity of that amount of trauma. As always, I think of Jesus and his approach to people. While he was on Earth, he



dealt with individuals; specific people that needed healing, love or attention. While limited by physics, he couldn't meet, love and help everyone. Much the same as us.

This month, we celebrate Easter; Jesus' death and the miracle of his resurrection. Because he died and rose again, Jesus is now able to help absolutely everyone who wants to be helped; he can now bring new life to all who ask for it. So even though we cannot comprehend the pain of such a huge number of people, that is

ok. We can follow the example of Jesus and do what we can for the people we can help.

Jesus is no longer bound by physics; he isn't limited by time and space and he knows each and every person. Jesus said, "God pays attention to you, down to the last detail, even numbering the hairs on your head!" While we do what we can for whom we can, we trust that God knows and cares for all those we can't help and we can pray for food and safety for those in need.

*Rev Emily Swinerd,
Curate-in-charge, St Michael's Church*

LINKmagazine

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

Email is preferred; otherwise deliver to The Lighthouse Bookshop.

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

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.

Hello from our new Editor



What a privilege it is to be the new editor of this fantastic magazine!

My name is Rachael, I'm 49-and-a-quarter (anyone remember Adrian Mole?) and I've lived in Highworth for six years having moved here from Norfolk. In truth, I've been a bit

nomadic to this point but, along with my family, I'm very happy here and love the sense of community people clearly share. Married to Phil, we have three children between us, all of whom have attended Highworth schools over the years. We do feel very grounded here and have been taken in by the charm and kindness of the town.

Whilst my background is in psychology, I've focused more on my skills in graphic design and

writing. You may see some changes over the coming months as we look to build on the success Link has enjoyed ever since its inception in the 1970s. (It seems that Link and I are about the same age; children of disco!)

It's so lovely to join a team of people who are committed to supporting this community of Highworth and we'll endeavour to keep on doing that in the months ahead. We're always delighted to receive your articles and news for this amazing community magazine so keep on sending them in. If you've never contributed before, what's stopping you? Grab that keyboard or pen and get writing! There's no feeling quite like seeing your own work published!

Thanks for your ongoing support and engagement and, if you see me out and about, do come and say hello!

Rachael (Laing Smith)

Edna turns 102!

Edna Courtney has just reached the incredible milestone of 102 years of age, a special day she celebrated with friends at the Carpenter's Canteen in Coleshill. Roves Farm provided a special birthday cake for the occasion.

Edna lives with her son, Richard, in The Cullerns and enjoys regular trips out to the Carpenter's Canteen, Roves Farm and Cotswold Wildlife Park. The staff at all these venues go out of their way to make her feel welcome.

Edna is also a member of Swindon Wrens, having served as an Aircraft Radio Mechanic during WW2, and she enjoys their monthly social events. Edna attended last year's Highworth Remembrance Parade wearing



her WW2 medals; she received these only a few years ago when Richard realised that she had never claimed them. This was the first time she had actually participated in a parade since she was demobbed in 1946.

Edna has led an active life and well into her eighties enjoyed swimming and skiing. When she finally retired from work in 2003, she moved to Highworth with Frederick, her husband, to be near her son and to benefit from the local countryside.

Edna's other son lives in Australia, about 35 miles from the other Highworth in Queensland! Each week they have a video call.

Richard Courtney

Highworth Poppy Project 2022

We have had very positive feedback for the Highworth Poppy Project 2022. Thank you so much to everyone who has responded to our appeal for help making poppies to display in St Michael's Church this November.

We have seen some completed poppies already but would love even more of you to get involved, so if you knit, crochet, sew or craft in any material, or you belong to a group who might like to be part of this, please get in touch.

We can provide suggestions for patterns if you need them or there are lots of ideas online for



making poppies (average size 6-10cm, leaves optional).

All we need is a wonderful collection of poppies that we can use to form a waterfall of red in the church and it looks as if this will definitely happen with your help.

Please keep your finished poppies for the moment. We will be setting up a collection point and all details will be in Link.

For any further information, please contact

Highworthpoppies@gmail.com.

Thank you!

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Down the Allotments

We all know that we need to stop using plastic. There are now so many different alternatives to pots and seed trays, which is fabulous! However, which ones are best? I found an article in the Kitchen Garden Magazine which is very helpful.



Here is a small selection of commercial alternatives, but you can also reuse and recycle. Currently, I'm saving loo rolls to make 'straight into the ground' pots! (see above)

Sili-seedlings

Made out of silicone; flexible, durable and reusable. Based in the US, but ships to the UK.

Gardening-naturally.com (Based in Highworth)

As wood fibre pots, organic, peat free and biodegradable, they can go straight into the ground.

Haxnicks.co.uk

Haxnicks create pots made from sustainable bamboo fibre, rice starch and resin. They are



fully biodegradable and compostable although they are durable and last at least five years or more. They also do Vigoroot pots which are similar to hemp but designed to last longer.

Anythingbutplastic.co.uk

These are rubber seed trays, FSC certified, from Sri Lanka and are both reusable and very durable.

Oceanplasticpots.com

These are pots made from 100% fishing nets and rope found in the sea. They are fully recyclable yet very durable. Each sale supports Ghost Fishing UK, a charity of volunteer divers recovering lost fishing gear.

Jobs for April, from the Book 'Allotment Month by Month' by Alan Buckingham

Harvest – First asparagus of the year, along with spring cabbages, cauliflower, sprouting broccoli and any leftover leeks and kale.

Sow – Outdoor if warm enough, otherwise indoors or under cover (see list below). Also look/ask your plot neighbours what they are sowing, open or under cover. The experienced ones have an in-built weather forecast. I'm thinking of you, John and Les!

Plant – Second early and maincrop potatoes and the last of your onion sets.

Earth up – First early potatoes.

Prepare – Seed beds by weeding thoroughly and raking over soil.

Prune – Cherries and plums now, they are growing once leaf buds have opened.

Vegetable seeds to sow indoors – Aubergines, cabbages, cauliflower, celeriac, celery, chicory, chillies and peppers, courgettes and summer squashes, cucumbers, endives, fennel, french beans, gherkins, kale, kohlrabi, marrows, pumpkins and winter squashes, runner beans, sprouting broccoli, sweetcorn and tomatoes.

Vegetable seeds to sow outdoors under cover

Beetroot, cucumbers, lettuces, oriental leaves, rocket, salad leaves, summer purslane and turnips.

Happy gardening!

Highworth Community Cinema presents...

Highworth Community Cinema would like to thank everyone who has supported our re-opening by attending film nights this season. The final film that we are showing in April is 'Radioactive'. We have a stall at the May Day Market on 30 April to help raise funds so see you there.

Friday 22 April

'Radioactive'

From the 1870s to the modern era, 'Radioactive' is a journey through Marie Curie's (Rosamund Pike) enduring legacies; her passionate relationships, scientific breakthroughs and the consequences that followed for her and for the world. After meeting fellow scientist Pierre Curie, the pair go on to marry and change the face of science forever by their discovery of radioactivity.



The film is based on the graphic novel, 'Radioactive: Marie & Pierre Curie: A Tale of Love and Fallout' by Lauren Redniss. If anything, the real story here is in the flash-forwards we see throughout the movie: to a Cleveland cancer ward in the '50s, the Nevada desert in the '60s, Hiroshima in 1945 and onward.

Film starts at 7.45pm.
Doors open 7.15pm
(Cert 12A 110 mins)

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

Contact details:

Enquiries: 01793 763907

E: info@highworthfilms.org.uk

www.highworthfilms.org.uk

Highworth May Day Charter Market 2022

Saturday 30th April 10am-5pm

'A Cleaner, Greener Highw-Earth'

With our May Day event nearly here, we are getting really excited to see you all.

In keeping with our theme of 'A Greener, Cleaner Highw-Earth' we are pleased to announce that special stacking pint cups will be available from the pubs at the bargain price of £1!

These will allow you to wander the stalls, sit and watch the entertainment, listen to the music and go back for refills! At the end of the day, the cups can either be kept as a souvenir, reused for

future events, or returned to pubs for a refund.

Lisa from Highworth Recycles will be on hand with information about other recycling initiatives.

Fingers crossed for lots of sunshine!

Facebook page: [Highworth May Day](https://www.facebook.com/HighworthMayDay)

T: 01793 762197 or E: sandra.rendall1@gmail.com



Christian Aid Week fast approaches

This year Christian Aid Week is from **15 May to 21 May** and there will be several events connected with this. A date for your diaries is our Christian Aid Coffee Morning on **Saturday**

23 April 2022. This will be in St Michael's Church Room to the rear of the church and it is to raise awareness of Christian Aid. We will be delighted to see you for a cuppa and chat.

News from The Friends of Pentylands Country Park



The contractors for the second stage tree planting have been appointed and are planting in Big Forty and Shill Furlong. The ground is still very wet and muddy, but these conditions are likely to provide the best start for the trees themselves. Apart from a proposed arboretum of between 20 to 30 trees in The Butts, this is likely to be the last of any large scale planting in the park.

Hedge Laying

Those of you who have braved the wet and muddy conditions of the park may well have noticed that some of the trees along the hedgerow between Grove Furlong and Shill Furlong have been laid.

This was necessary as Scottish and Southern Electricity's 5-year tree pruning program was due to take place over the winter. In the past I had expressed to SSE concerns regarding the haphazard cutting back that had taken place, resulting in damage to numerous trees. Agreement was reached with the SSE supervisor

that the Friends could lay the section of hedge where the power lines cross in an attempt to save and regenerate those trees.

The age and size of the trees meant there would be logistical issues and the hedge would not look like a traditional laid hedge.

Experience of laying other similar size trees elsewhere meant we were confident that laying the hedge will help it regenerate itself. With regeneration, it will provide an excellent wildlife haven and allow us to manage this important part of one of the many wildlife corridors that exist throughout the Park.

Apart from the hawthorn berries, the existing ivy and the brambles and dog rose will grow back through the hedge and will provide food sources for wildlife whilst the flowers will produce nectar attracting butterflies, bees and other nectar-loving insects.

Ken Saunders

Chair: The Friends of Pentylands Country Park

E: Pentylandscountrypark@gmail.com

T: 07968 640136

Rediscover Visit Highworth

Did you know that Visit Highworth is a Community Benefit Society owned by shareholders from Highworth? We are a not-for-profit organisation which has been open for over two years. With the Covid pandemic this proved very challenging and we had to close for several months so, incase you've forgotten about us, we thought it might be helpful to remind you of who we are and what we do!

We aim to encourage tourism in Highworth as a means of keeping our town vibrant and supporting the community. The information centre is a way of engaging with people, tourists and locals alike, by offering advice on local places to visit and to eat, promoting what's on in the local area and where to stay, as well as being a Safe Space and a recycling drop point. We advertise local events, sell tickets when required and, pre-Covid, had been a social spot to meet up to see what was happening in our town.

At Visit Highworth we run events and activities which we hope will entice visitors and Highworthians alike. To that end, we're pleased to announce that we will be holding our Spring Craft Fair on **Saturday 9 April**, from 10am until 4pm. This follows the successful Christmas Craft Fair in St Michael's Church (held in conjunction with the Mayor's Christmas Light Switch on) when we had around 900 people through the door so we hope this will be just as, if not more, popular.

We also have an arts and crafts centre which

supports over 40 local artists and makers who offer high quality handmade items, many of which were made right here in Highworth. We also run well-attended workshops, Meet the Maker sessions and so much more. Now that Spring is here, we are re-launching the factual and fun Guided Town Tours.

The tours involve a look at the rich cultural heritage of our town and include heading off for a coffee (or something stronger) in one of our cafés or pubs.

The Highworth Museum is run by Highworth Historical Society and has proved very popular. You can find a history of Highworth there and, new to the centre, a book of photographs from the Highworth Historical Society.

Our present exhibition of pottery and ceramics by local ceramists, Katherine Pleydell-Bouverie and Peter and Christine Burgess, is now joined by a selection of ceramics from Swindon Museum and Art Gallery as part of the Art on Tour initiative; an outreach programme to bring the collection to community.

Visit Highworth wants our town to remain economically viable, to increase footfall to the High Street, welcome tourists to stay and use the facilities we have on offer and encourage the community to shop locally and use local businesses.

We thank our shareholders and supporters for funding this project as well as all of you who attend events, buy items in the craft centre, or who kindly donate to us and support our fundraising activities.



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Wrag Barn wins 'Business of the Year' at FLBC Awards

On Saturday 05 March we hosted the Fairford and Lechlade Business Awards at Wrag Barn Golf Club.

We're thrilled to announce that we won the FLBC Business of the Year 2022. Thank you to our wonderful team who showed so much dedication during an extraordinary year and to our members who create a unique community.

Thank you to the sponsors, Cotswold

Woollen Weavers, and to the FLBC committee who provide a wonderful supportive club for small businesses in the local area.

Feedback from the judges was that our story describing the way the staff and members managed the pandemic made the business stand out above the other entries in the category and



FLBC Award Winners: (L-R): The Conditioning Club (New Business of the Year 2022), Andrew Pywell, Plan-A Planning & Development Ltd (Business Person of the Year 2022), The Health Box, Lechlade (Most Innovative Business of the Year 2022), The Coffee Post - Fairford (The Howard Dowler Award), Wrag Barn Golf Club (Business of the Year 2022), Abbie Knowles and Alice Kelly (Business Students of the Year 2022), Buscot Tea Rooms (Bob Warren Hospitality Award 2022)

the panel of judges were unanimous in their decision.

Thank you to everyone whose contribution made this happen and for being part of the team.

For more information please visit www.wragbarn.com

The Great Highworth Seed Swap!



The first Highworth Seed Swap was a great success! Our thanks to Richard Williams and the Council for providing us with a spot at the Saturday market.

The gardeners of Highworth and surrounding villages brought a wonderful selection of their cuttings and saved spare seeds and took home something new to grow this year.

What a great way to kick start this growing season and hopefully there will be lots of seeds saved from this year for our next seed swap in 2023!

On a chilly day it was heartwarming to see such generosity; a real community gathering.

Scarecrow Trail

Trail sheets for the Scarecrow Trail, to be held from **09 to 24 April**, can be obtained from The Lighthouse Bookshop, Allen and Harris, Visit Highworth and The Saracen's Head. The sheets cost £2 each and the trail will be open every day from 10am until 5pm.

We look forward to seeing lots of you at one or, even better, both events.

Highworth Scouts Annual Quiz

This year's quiz will be held on **Friday 22 April** in St Michael's Church. This will give everybody a little more space than in the Scout Hall. We will miss the unique atmosphere of the hall, but believe the larger space in the church is best for this year.

All the details were in last month's Link, but if you wish to enter a team or need more information, please contact David Roblin on 01793 763720 or david0410@btinternet.com.

Highworth Historical Society

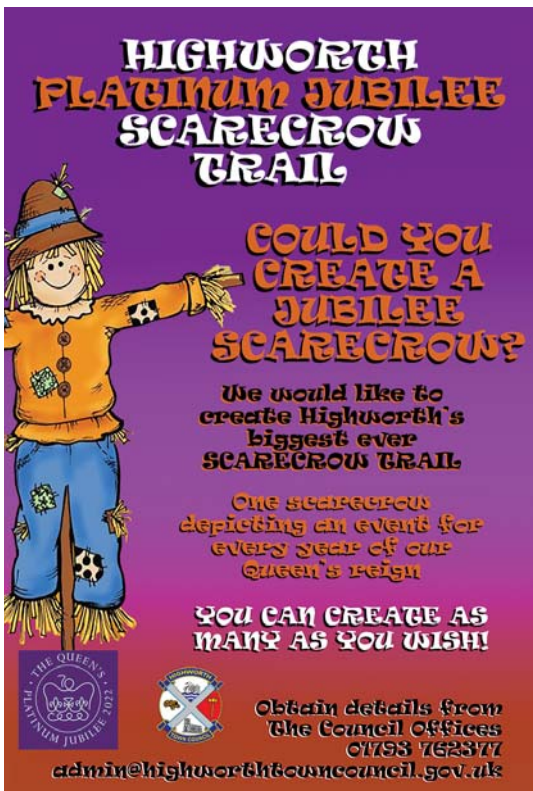
Our next talk is on **Wednesday 27 April** entitled, 'Two Midshipmen at Gallipoli' by Hugh Williams.

This is the story of two young midshipmen who led the assault on W. Beach on 25 April 1915. It is also the story of the troops that they helped to land, The Lancashire Fusiliers, who in the first morning won, "Six VC's before breakfast."

Hugh is the son of one of the midshipmen. He has written a book on the event which will be on sale at the meeting.

We look forward to meeting you all at St. Michael's Church Hall, Lechlade Road. The doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Visitors are charged £3 at the door. There is always a display of some of the society's archive material, plus a free cup of tea or coffee.

If you need more details please contact Chris Suter 01793 764811 or chrissuter16@googlemail.com



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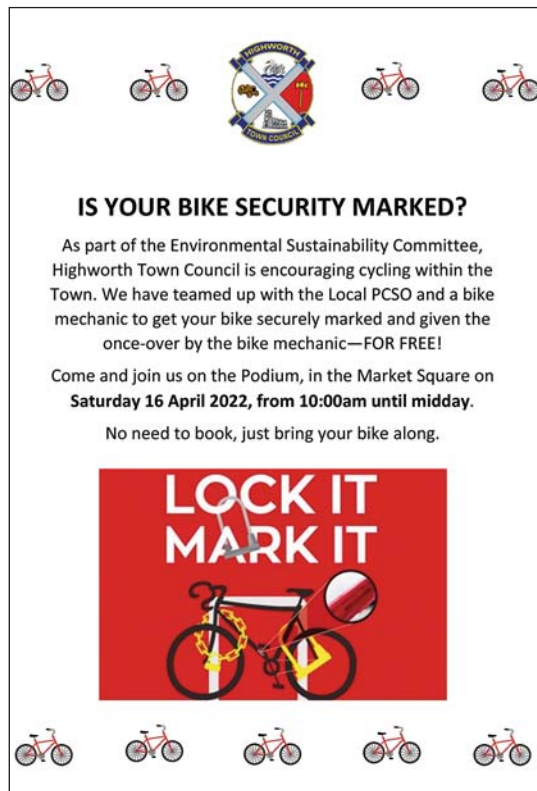
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PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022



IS YOUR BIKE SECURITY MARKED?

As part of the Environmental Sustainability Committee, Highworth Town Council is encouraging cycling within the Town. We have teamed up with the Local PCSO and a bike mechanic to get your bike securely marked and given the once-over by the bike mechanic—FOR FREE!

Come and join us on the Podium, in the Market Square on **Saturday 16 April 2022, from 10:00am until midday.**

No need to book, just bring your bike along.

LOCK IT MARK IT

www.highworthlink.co.uk

Highworth Forget-Me-Not Café sets new records!

We were delighted to welcome around fifty people to tea, cake and a lot of fun at the Highworth Community Centre on 23 February. We needed extra tables this time and it was a real joy to see so many people for our first face-to-face gathering for a few months.

There were many familiar faces, but they were almost outnumbered by new attendees which was brilliant to see. The Kencot Uke Group entertained us royally for well over an hour and we send big thanks to Jay and the group for such a fantastic afternoon of music and song. The band kindly distributed song sheets to everyone which included so many favourites, both old and new, and our café visitors and volunteers joined in with great enthusiasm.

Huge thanks go to our amazing team of volunteers who were, at one point, running out of period teacups whilst keeping everyone



topped up with tea and coffee. Thanks, of course, to Home Instead for their ongoing support and, for the first time, to Highworth Lions for providing their minibus (along with Steve) to provide transport for attendees both in and beyond Highworth. We also appreciate the help of Dumbledarts Bakery, Fung Yee and Annette in keeping us well supplied with awesome cakes.

The Café actually ended on a somewhat sad note this time as we said our goodbyes to Rachel Jannaway (aka Chief Elf). Rachel has been a stalwart of the Café for over a year now and she will be missed sorely. Her enthusiasm and energy has been a hallmark of our meetings, both in person and on Zoom, and we wish her all the best in the future. We are hugely grateful to Home Instead for allowing us to take up so much of Rachel's time and energy and we look forward to working with her replacement.

The March Café was a musical seated exercise session with Annamaria from Love to Move who provided us with a taster of our new additional Wednesday sessions which will be starting in May. We also gave out sunflower seeds and pots to encourage members to 'Grow More Sunshine!' with the guidance of Norman from the Highworth Gardening Club.

Our April Café will bring music and song to the



Ruth and Kevin thank Rachel Jannaway

room once again and we will be entertained by our very own Highworth ladies harmony group, Singing in the Park. We will also have a selection of fun table quizzes to encourage a little bit of competitive spirit in the room. All in good fun!

We have many more plans ahead as we look forward to this year! If you would like to receive our regular updates on these and other Cafés, please do drop us a line at

[forgetmenot.](mailto:forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com)

highworth@gmail.com so you can be added to our distribution list, or call Ruth on 07970 543423 for more information. Please also let us know if you need transport to and from the Café. All

emails are sent as blind copies and are not shared beyond the Café trustees. If you are in a local group and would like to collaborate with us and bring even more smiles to the room with music, entertainment and activities, please do get in touch; we'd love to hear from you! The joy we see in the room on the faces around us is priceless!

We look forward to seeing you at our next café on **Wednesday 27 April** between 2-4pm at Highworth

Community Centre on The Dormers.

*Ruth and Kevin
On Behalf of all the Highworth
Forget-Me-Not Café Team*



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Children's Mental Health Week at Eastrop Infant and Southfield Junior School

The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week was 'Growing Together'. Across our schools we decided to focus on our wellbeing and how we can grow in the way we look after ourselves.

One of our year 1 children described looking after our mental health as, "Keeping our heads and hearts healthy," which we think is a great message.

We are proud of the culture we have in our schools which is that all feelings are valid. We learn about each feeling, openly discuss feelings and share ways we can manage them. Every class has dedicated time to discuss feelings and they work together to solve problems and offer ideas for others to try.

Across the week where we focused on looking after our mental health, the children discussed the five ways to wellbeing and took part in a wellbeing bingo competition. They also created support balloons signifying who they talk to if they have a worry or are upset, looked at the importance of being kind and its ripple effect, considered ways to express themselves and made gratitude and memory jars.

Both schools finished with a non-uniform day themed Dress to Express.

From PTA funds, the Eastrop committee were able to give every child their very own Worry Bear for which they designed a t-shirt. Each bear shows a message which promotes the importance of sharing worries rather than keeping them inside.

If you would like to see more, we have an Instagram page dedicated to wellbeing. Take a look [@grovelearningtrustwellbeing](https://www.instagram.com/grovelearningtrustwellbeing) where we share resources and ideas to try at home.

*Miss Chamberlain
Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead*



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Forget Me Not 'Love to Move' – launching in May

We are really excited to be able to announce the start of our brand new monthly session!

Love to Move is a chair-based age and dementia friendly gymnastics exercise programme developed by the British Gymnastics Foundation.

Specially designed to get older people moving and functioning better, the programme is proving particularly beneficial for people living with dementia.

The programme has also been shown to:

- improve cognitive function
- help reduce depression in participants
- improve balance
- improve the ability to undertake activities for daily living

The Love to Move programme brings so many other benefits helping to improve the lives of people living with dementia:

Social Interaction

Whether taking part in a care home or community setting or at home with a loved one, the fun and enjoyment of Love to Move makes the programme so much more effective. The exercises are enjoyable to do and encourage conversation.

Memory stimulation

Trying the exercises in time to your favourite music can help to stimulate memory and recall in people living with dementia.

Use of foundation gymnastics skills

The movements used during Love to Move exercises help to develop coordination, balance, core strength and flexibility to name just a few of the many benefits.

Love to Move incorporates a number of key components, but the science behind the programme provides the real unique aspect of it

and is one of the main reasons it works. The programme uses bilaterally asymmetrical movement patterns which is where the left side of the body's movements do not mirror the right side of the body's movements.

Love to Move is brought to us by trained instructors and we welcome Annamaria Marone-Kiss to the Highworth Forget Me Not Team to collaborate with us in this new venture!

We are also being supported by Toby and the Home Instead team who have showed us ongoing support in our monthly Memory Café from day one and they are excited to join with us once again.

We presented to the Highworth Town Councillors at their meeting in February, sharing the great benefits to the residents of Highworth with this new monthly programme alongside our regular established monthly Memory Café. We love keeping our Highworth town focused on being Dementia Friendly and we also have many residents who may be struggling with their mobility too.

Our passion in the Highworth Forget Me Not Team is always in support of the many families around us living with dementia and advancing age and we continue to see the great need to bring ongoing activity to our town and surrounding villages. Our aim is always to bring fun, music, laughter and smiles into the room and the joy we see there is priceless!

Starting on **Wednesday 11 May** we will meet on the second Wednesday of each month from 1.45-3.15pm in the main hall at Highworth Community Centre, The Dormers, Highworth SN6 7PQ

Come along and give it a try and let us help keep you moving and have lots of fun in the process!

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Highworth Forget Me Not

Love to Move



Come and join us for a fun monthly music and movement session

British
Gymnastics
Foundation

Love to Move

Annamaria is our trained instructor and will be leading the sessions

The Love to Move Programme is a fun, age & dementia friendly seated movement programme to music. With demonstrable benefits in the physical, emotional and cognitive aspects of older people which is transforming the lives of people living with dementia and limited mobility

Meeting on 2nd Wednesday of each month 1:45-3:15pm

Launching Wednesday 11th May 2022

For more info please email lovetomove.highworth@gmail.com or contact Ruth 07970 543423 or Annamaria 07771 853337

Come & enjoy fun, friendship, fitness & refreshments



Highworth Community Centre
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HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL EASTER EGG DESIGN COMPETITION

IT IS TIME TO GET CREATIVE AND SHOW US YOUR EASTER EGG DESIGNS, ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

ENTRY FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE, OR FROM OUR OFFICES IN GILBERTS LANE FROM FRIDAY 1ST APRIL 2022

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES IN GILBERTS LANE BY TUESDAY 12TH APRIL 2022 AND THE WINNERS FROM EACH CATEGORY WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON THURSDAY 14TH APRIL 2022

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU COMPLETE THE DETAILS ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THE ENTRY FORM AND **GOOD LUCK!!**

CATEGORIES AS FOLLOW:

Reception to Year 1

Year 2 to Year 3

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EGG-CITING PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN IN ALL CATEGORIES, WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR DESIGNS!



"I didn't know that having a shop could make people feel good."

Anyone running a business will tell you their main objective is to make money in order to earn a living. There are ever-rising bills to pay, staff to recruit, train and pay, and products to research, order and prepare for sale. But for Aga Marsden,

proprietor of the Highworth Emporium, "It's become so important to make sure we are pleasing our loyal customers."

I interviewed Aga over a coffee on Valentine's Day, surrounded by rich chocolates and red hearts. Just announced as a finalist of The Greats Gift Retailer

Award, she was relaxed, the rush of another season over. In the gift business these are Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Easter, Father's Day and Christmas, but greeting cards are in demand all year.

The Emporium, which is a store that sells a wide variety of goods, had two previous owners before Aga acquired it in 2016. She emigrated from Poland some 15 years ago and initially was a buyer for a Polish company. Then she met her future husband Richard during the Spring Fest at Birmingham's NEC exhibition centre. Richard knows the British market well with 30 years' experience in the gift business.

Trade shows are an important source of products for the Emporium, something Aga missed during the pandemic. She's already ordered her stock for Christmas 2022. "I seem to have a feel for what will work," she says.

The Emporium employs seven people: Pocket Size Paula – Assistant Manager, Serene Vicky – Shop Manager, Eagle Eye Aga – The Boss, Giggly Loraine – Shop Assistant, Wonderful Emily – Sales

Assistant, Chippy Chirpy Nikki – Online Assistant, and Chauffeur Richard – Chief Cook and Bottle Washer. Richard also has a wholesale warehouse and is rarely seen in the shop, but he's always in the background doing something.



Photo: Kevin O'Donoghue, Highworth Camera Club

Their product range includes cards, gifts for all occasions, chocolate, jewellery, fashion accessories, wellbeing products, balloons and home décor (added during the pandemic). It's quite seasonal so stock management is the trick and the store will evolve with new lines, such as women's clothing, to replace less popular lines.

When the pandemic struck, Aga and Richard were in Thailand. They had a 30-hour trip home, arriving just in time for Boris's announcement of the lockdown in March 2020. After she recovered from the initial shock of closure and scrambling to work out how to keep the business afloat, Aga realised she needed to urgently wrap up the development of her website so it could go 'live'. Quickly, the Emporium offered a 'click-and-collect' service at the store as online sales grew.

The website (www.highworthemporium.co.uk) offers more products than the shop, including off-season products, and it has created a full-time job dedicated to maintaining the online offering, processing orders and stock control in the warehouse. While the Market Square store serves local patrons, the website reaches much further.

The online experience is limited by the technology, but in-store remains the preferred choice for local, High Street shoppers. "It's about experience and inspiration," Aga explains, "not supermarket shelves stacked with products."

Adrian Young

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A new name and crest for 878 Squadron!

To reflect better the great aviation heritage of the local area, namely the Supermarine Factory, our Squadron has changed its name to 878 (Highworth Supermarine) Squadron.

Supermarine Aero were the company that designed and made the

Spitfire, famous for the Battle of Britain in WWII. After the war, they turned to making jet fighters including the Swift, which is the aircraft seen on our new crest. It was a Swift which broke the absolute world airspeed record in 1953 at a speed of 737 mph and the aircraft on our crest is that specific one.

We hope this change will encourage our cadets, and the wider community, to research and learn about the important part the local area played in the British aircraft industry. We would love to hear from anybody who has stories from the Supermarine Factory!

Rev Bernard Rumbold RAF Ret'd



I have been completing my Silver Gliding Scholarship over several weekends at RAF Upavon with 622 Volunteer Gliding School. Only a handful of cadets get this opportunity each year so I am extremely grateful to have this amazing experience.

I am learning how to take off,

land and complete circuits as well as how to get the gliders up in the sky by assisting others in take-off from the ground. At the end of the course I will be able to fly a glider unassisted and will receive my silver wings to mark my accomplishment.

Once my scholarship is over I will have the option to join 622VGS as a Flight Staff Cadet and further my learning in gliding aviation. Eventually, this could open up the chance to receive the final set of wings in the training syllabus, Gold. These memories and experiences will stay with me for the rest of my life.

Cpl Katie Martin, age 16

Earning our wings

As cadets, we get to experience many incredible things that some could only dream to do in their lives. We get to go on camps, go shooting and learn many valuable life lessons to help us in our futures. But considering we are the Air Cadets, the best activities we have to offer are in the sky. Flying and gliding are exhilarating opportunities we get to experience through cadets. Both Air Experiences have a progressive syllabus that we move through by competing certain criteria: blue; bronze; silver and gold.

To find out what other activities cadets get up to, search '878 Highworth Squadron RAF Air Cadets' on Facebook or visit '@878Highworth' on Twitter and '@878highworthsqn' on Instagram.





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Photo credit: hedgehogstreet.org



Highworth Library

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Friday	12 noon to 6pm
Saturday	10am to 1pm

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E: highworth.library@swindon.gov.uk

www.swindon.gov.uk/libraries

We look forward to seeing you!

We would like to thank Highworth Town Council for the financial support they have been providing annually since 2017.

The additional funding allows the library service to employ two additional staff for 15 hours each week, enabling the library to increase the staffed opening hours from 15 hrs per week to 30 hours per week. This allows greater access to the library and its services by the community.

The additional funding over the years has been greatly appreciated.

Highworth Library Team

Pets' Corner



Name: Jasper

Age: 4 and a half months

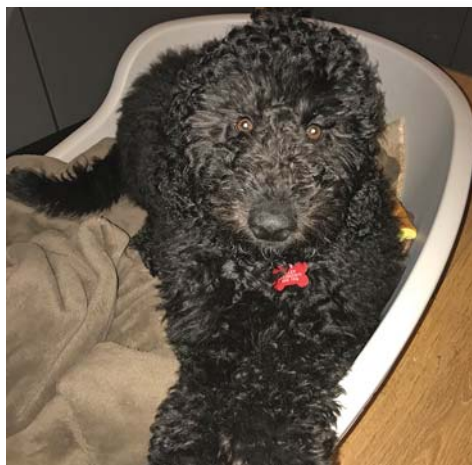
Breed: Labradoodle

A bit about me:

I was born in Oxford but have recently moved to Highworth.

I enjoy playing with my two sisters, Evie and Amber. My favourite toy is my cuddly lion which I have had since I was born, and I love cuddles with my family.

I can't wait to find new walks to enjoy around the area and make lots of new doggy friends!



Arts Section *Compiled by Iain Barnwell*

Contact: HighworthLinkArts@gmail.com



Highworth Camera Club is back in the room!

After several months meeting online via Zoom, Highworth Camera Club are again meeting at the Community Centre in The Dormers. If you are interested in any aspect of photography we would love to see you there.

We are a thriving group of photographers based in and around the Highworth area. Formed in 1982 (It is our fortieth anniversary this year!), the club has gone from strength-to-strength and continues to offer an informative and friendly environment for people to come along to share their hobby and develop their skills. Our membership is open to all levels of photographers, from complete beginners through to experienced high-end camera users.

We host informative talks by regular speakers on a variety of topics from different genres of photography, equipment and supplies, all with tea and biscuits! We also hold a number of print and digital image competitions, with a series of



Photo of the Year, 'Aliens at Salisbury' by Peter Osbourne'.

member challenges on a variety of subjects, throughout the year.

The club meets at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month at Highworth Community Centre, The Dormers, Highworth, Wiltshire, SN6 7PQ. (This venue is wheelchair friendly.) No need to let us know – just turn up!

Visit www.www.highworthcameraclub.com, or follow us on Facebook; just search for 'Highworth Camera Club'.

Choral Society presents a Spring Concert

Highworth Choral Society will be presenting a Spring Concert on Sunday 03 April at 7.30pm in St Michael's Church. Please be aware that we will be holding our concert on a Sunday evening for a change.

It features a wide variety of music composed from 1550 to the present day and includes many well known pieces as well as some which may be less familiar. It has been so good to be back

singing together under the direction of Leon James with Chris Williams accompanying us and we would love to share this amazing music with you in our wonderful St. Michael's Church.

Tickets cost £10 (free entry for under 16s) and will be available from The Lighthouse Bookshop, members or hcssecretary2019@gmail.com.

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Swindon Recital Series returns

Wyvern Theatre Wednesday April 6th, 1.05pm



Swindon Recital Series Founder and Artistic Director, Paul Turner, has the stage to himself for this recital as he indulges us with some of Beethoven's most popular music.

The Moonlight Sonata was written when Beethoven was 31 and in love with his 17-year-old piano student, The Countess Giulietta Guicciardi. He proposed, she accepted, but her parents forbade the match as Beethoven was a commoner. This sonata is dedicated to her.

Shortly after Beethoven's death, a well-known music critic commented that the first movement sounded



Paul Turner

like moonlight shining on Lake Lucerne and so the sonata gained its popular title. The name may be romantic but overall the mood is darker and heavier than it implies.

Paul Turner appears at the Wyvern Theatre on **Wednesday 06 April** at 1.05pm. Standard tickets are £7 plus administration fee of 50 pence. Student tickets are £3, accompanied children aged 14 and under are admitted without charge.

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Lechlade Artists' Exhibition

Members of Lechlade Art Society have been invited to exhibit paintings for sale in NOLABELS, an exciting new shop based in the former Lechlade Ironmongers, near Londis.

NOLABELS is an ethically run business which promotes mental well being. It is the vision of Occupational Therapist Nikky Reed, and incorporates the values-Create-Chat-Connect. The gift shop is stocked solely by independent makers with mental health connections.

Work by Art Society Members will be displayed from **Saturday 02 April until Saturday 30**, and the shop is open from

Wednesday to Sunday inclusive 9.30am-5pm.

There will be an opportunity to 'Meet the Artist' on **Saturday 02 April** between 12 noon to 4pm.



Paintings clockwise from right: Gill Cox, Val MacKenzie, Jill Smith, Michael Lowe, John Sirrelle.



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During the '90's Will purchased salvage rights to London buildings to be demolished, reclaiming pub and church interiors, nursing homes and building facades. He then shipped them to the USA and constructed pubs for a Scotsman building two Irish pubs in Michigan called Deacon Brodies Tavern. He played a big part in designing and constructing a period mall before

his return to England to set up a workshop in Ramsbury making kitchens, doors and windows while doing building and renovations.

Chris has 22 years of experience and is skilled in all aspects of building with a keen eye for a finely detailed finish in woodwork. If it is made of wood, he'll design and build it from concept to completion. From new build to barn conversion or restoration these are invaluable skills that save valuable time and money.

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richard james

Village & Country Homes

Since the beginning of the new year, we've been incredibly busy across all of our Village & Country offices and have hit the ground running with clients who are looking to move this Spring. It's always been a popular time to move for many reasons, such as the association with fresh starts and the increasing number of property listings hitting the market.

With that in mind, we wondered if you had considered our 'Home Swapping Service' to help get you moving? Many people are reluctant to put their property on the market until they have found a suitable property to buy, which causes a shortage of available properties and frustration.

On this new scheme, we have been able to put together a chain of clients who have managed to indirectly swap homes. To the right is a video of our Village & Country Homes Director, Ross Sutton, demonstrating how this scheme could work for you.

If you're considering a move in 2022, contact us today on **01793 765 292**.



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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

News from the Lions' Den

Spring is in the air and the evenings will start getting lighter and the flowers will begin blooming.

Following the sad news of the passing of one of our formative members, Jack Hendrick, in January, we will be donating £100 to Prospect in his name and memory.

Other donations for February were:

Tonga Appeal £500

Co-op Heart Defibrillator, Highworth Appeal £200

Due to a lack of volunteer resources, our charity shop continues to be closed on Mondays. However, we hope to return to a six-day opening as soon as possible. If you'd like to volunteer in the shop, please contact us. Donations are now being accepted, but we must ask that you limit these to two bags or boxes per person as we simply do not have the storage space.

We're delighted to welcome Susan Bodman and Sean Forde to the Lions. Susan will be helping us with our fundraising and Sean will be developing work and projects with young people. If you'd like to help, or have a project idea to make a difference, we'd like to hear from you.

We'd like to thank all those who donated to our tombola stalls and the raffle at the Mother's Day and Easter Craft Fair in St Michael's Church held on Saturday 12 March. It was lovely to meet and find out about the other good causes at the event too. We'll update you of the amount raised in the next edition of Link Magazine.

This year we'll be holding a spring raffle with a limited number of tickets. The proceeds will be

used to support our work with local organisations and projects, as well as helping and supporting families and individuals. Tickets will go on sale on **Saturday 23 April** with the draw taking place on **Saturday 18 June**. The first prize is £250 cash. There will be details of other prizes in the next edition of Link. If you're a business and you can donate a spring raffle prize, please contact us.

We're busy finalising our plans for the Highworth May Day Charter Market. We'll have a fundraising stall on the High Street and we'll be

selling our spring raffle tickets.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Celebrations for HRH the Queen's Platinum Jubilee have begun across the UK. From

Thursday 2 June through to **Sunday 5 June 2022** communities everywhere will be coming together. Members of our team have been meeting regularly with Highworth Town Council and other town groups and organisations, as well as the local schools, to organise the celebrations in Highworth. We'll be there on the Jubilee weekend. Further updates from us about what we'll be doing are coming soon.

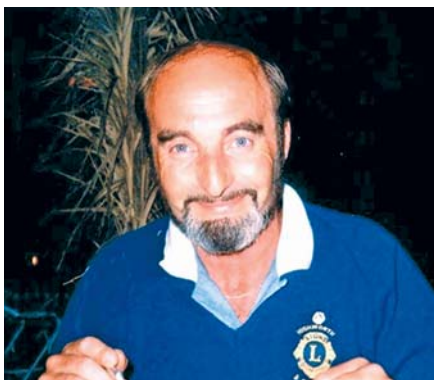
To keep updated or to send us a direct message you can

visit our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/highworthlions>

Contact details – highworth@lions105sc.org and 0345 833 9831

Many thanks to you all for your continued support from the team at Highworth & District Lions Club – supporting and serving the community since 1974.



Jack Hendrick member of Highworth & District Lions who recently passed away



President Norman Little welcoming new members Sean Forde and Susan Bodman

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Helen Browning

A Lazy Brunch

A real treat for a lovely lazy brunch; although no-one here in the office would refuse to eat this any time of the day! We've chosen this yummy recipe to showcase Helen Browning's traditional Dry Cured Ham, but would be equally good with a few slices of our Wafer Thin Ham or Honey Roast Ham Ends.



500g mushrooms, sliced
 250ml double cream
 125ml chicken stock
 4 slices of brioche, or bread of your choice
 2 tbsp butter
 2 tbsp fresh parsley, finely chopped
 2 cloves of garlic, minced
 1 tsp lemon juice
 1/2 tsp Dijon mustard
 4 slices of Helen Browning's organic dry cured ham
 Olive oil, as needed

Heat a large frying pan with a splash of olive oil over a medium heat. Add half of your mushrooms, spacing them out. Leave to fry without moving about until deep golden. Season with salt and pepper, then use tongs to individually flip each mushroom. Leave again until golden on the other side. Remove from pan and add your second batch, adding more oil as needed. It's important to not overcrowd the pan or they'll steam and lose flavour.

Add your first batch back to the pan, then push to the outside of the pan. Melt in 2 tbsp butter, then add 2 minced cloves of garlic. Fry for 1-2mins, then incorporate with all the mushrooms.

Pour in 125ml chicken stock and allow to simmer until reduced by half (5-10mins). Pour in 250ml cream. Add 1/2 tsp dijon mustard, a few drops of lemon juice and seasoning to taste. Bring to a rapid simmer and stir occasionally until fully thickened (another 5-10mins). If you over thicken just add a splash more stock. Meanwhile, lightly brush both sides of 4 slices of bread with olive oil and pop under the grill to crisp up (flip half way) or fry in a frying pan.

Serve by placing a slice (or two) of ham on your hot toast, then spooning creamy mushrooms on top, finished with a sprinkling of fresh parsley.



Entrants can raise funds for their favourite charity

The Rotary Swimathon gives a team of swimmers the opportunity to collect funds for a charity or organisation of their choice. Friends, family members and colleagues can enter as a team, collect a load of sponsorship on themselves and swim in relay for an hour. Rotary organises and runs the event and there's no charge to enter.

It's not a marathon or a race

The Rotary Swimathon is a fun event for swimmers of all ages and any ability to enter. There'll be no prizes for swimming the fastest or the farthest. What it does provide is a means for

people to raise money for a charity of their choice by getting lots of sponsorship.

Prizes for collecting the most sponsorship

Each team member should collect as much sponsorship on themselves as they can. The three swimmers with the most will be given a shopping voucher.

Entry Forms and Sponsor Forms can be downloaded from the Rotary Club's website. Also on the website is the facility to enter online and collect sponsorship online and of course there's more information. Visit

www.rotaryswindonnorth.org.uk

Mother and Daughter run the Cardiff Half

On a whim, when in Cardiff for a weekend with friends, actually attending a Welsh National Opera production of Carmen, I saw the signs for the 2019 Cardiff Half Marathon. I suddenly thought that maybe I should end my fifties as I started them and do a half marathon before I settle for the gentler pursuit of walking; much more suitable for a woman of my advancing years!

I signed up, too late for a regular place, to run the 2020 Cardiff Half Marathon for the NSPCC. You can read about my motivation for supporting this charity by heading to

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Charlotte-Weisinger-Miriam-Boston>. I ran the London marathon in 2016 when my son and daughter were too young to run competitively, but this time they were keen to run with me or way in front, no doubt.

We all know what 2020 and 2021 was like, so now, 18 months later than planned, when I am no longer in my fifties, my daughter, Charlotte, and I have completed the postponed 2020 Cardiff Half, held on 27 March. Our fundraising page is still open, so please, if you are able, support the NSPCC on our behalf.



Children of today are the adults of tomorrow. They have a massive task ahead of them trying to right the wrongs my generation, and those before, have inflicted on them and, indeed, on the planet.

T A Reed (Wiltshire) Ltd have generously offered to match the sponsorship raised up to the value of £2,500. We would be delighted if you are able to help Charlotte and I reach that target.

*Miriam Boston (formerly Weisinger)
and Charlotte Weisinger*

Have fun at 'It's a Prospect Knockout!'



It's a Prospect Knockout promises a fun day out with friends, family or colleagues whilst tackling wacky challenges.

The event, in aid of Prospect Hospice in Swindon, involves entertaining games including those with foam and water, running over large inflatable obstacles and more. Not only a challenge for those

taking part, but great for spectators to come along and cheer on your team.

It is being held on **Sunday 17 July** at Swindon Cricket Club, County Road, Swindon, from 10am to 2.30pm and is for teams of ten adults aged 18 or over.

The friendly competition will involve teams competing in several games and working together to get as many points as possible.

Sheryl Crouch, head of income at Prospect Hospice, said, "Everyone who takes part will have an unforgettable experience and will also be helping Prospect Hospice to care for people who need end-of-life care and supporting their loved ones."

Entry is £300 per team (or £30 per person) and each team is asked to raise an additional minimum of £500 (or £50 per person).

To find out more and to enter a team go to www.prospect-hospice.net/knockout



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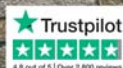
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Sport *Compiled by Jason Daniels*

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



Wrag Barn Golf Club



Swapping putting for passing

Wrag Barn Juniors kicked off the season with a football match.

With the promise of spring around the corner you'd be forgiven for thinking that the Junior Section at Wrag Barn would be practising putting drills and checking their swing stats. Instead, thanks to the generosity of Jez Webb, they held a football match for parents and Juniors at Supermarine.

PGA Head Teaching Professional Richard Scarrott planned the morning with the Junior organisers, Alan Kavanagh and Brian Drane, and the standard of football was impressive. Everyone got involved and the feedback from the parents was jubilant on the day and full of pain afterwards as they rediscovered muscles from days gone by.

Verity Manners www.wragbarn.com

Wiltshire Community Badminton

Welcome to Wiltshire Community Badminton offering a wide range of coaching opportunities for all ages and levels of play and delivering

professional, weekly, junior and adult badminton coaching programmes, holiday camps, competitions and fun events for the whole family. We welcome players of all ages and standards, focusing on the enjoyment of playing badminton in a relaxed and friendly environment.

With a busy programme of activity and great facilities, WCB is the place to play! Our programme is overseen by former world number one and double Olympian Julie Bradbury. Julie has a wealth of playing and coaching experiences and is responsible for the overall programme of activities, working in partnership with both Wiltshire Badminton and Badminton England to deliver current and relevant badminton programmes across the county.

Professional group badminton coaching at Dorcan Recreation Complex. Get on court with a weekly group coaching session delivered on Saturdays. Register online with a two week free pass. See you soon.

Simon French

W: www.wiltshire.communitybadminton.org

(Photo courtesy of the WCB website)



Register online for a two week free pass

Swindon and District Motorcycle Club

For the second time in as many months, the bikes were back at Hannington Station, this time thanks to the Brian Freegard Trial. With Storms Dudley and Eunice ravaging the country the week before, setting up the course on the Saturday sounded like a sport in itself, but thankfully the winds abated by Sunday morning in readiness for the 60+ strong field to take on the ten sections.

In a race against darkening cloud, Kevin Nolan and Bailey Tibbs circulated with the least penalty points (dabs) in their respective A and supporting AB Classes. In the B Class it was a three-way tie between Tony Griffiths, Mark Elms and Ben Wilmore who, after four rounds of each section, ended the morning with only six dabs a-piece. Michael and Thomas Maslin (uncle and nephew) faired best in the C Class, and the morning's youth winners were Isobel Coopey and William Sparks. In the introductory 'Green' Classes, Graham Gough and Thomas Plank rode themselves to the top of their respective leader boards.



As bikes were being loaded, the rain began to fall, missing its chance to spoil any parties but probably helping to wash off some of the mud! The next event is the Corinium Enduro event in Cirencester Park on **Sunday 24 April**, with plenty more throughout the year if you fancy popping over to hear and see the excitement for yourself.

All information can be found on the club's website.

Jason Daniels

Find us at www.sdmcc.org.uk

Highworth Town Football Club



A narrow defeat at home to Plymouth Parkway

Highworth Town's First team's poor form continued through February with only one win at Willand Rovers to bring any points.

A couple of players have left the club and, with the prolific Ash Edenborough injured, the club brought in numerous youngsters either on loan or on permanent moves. Relegation, or a play-off to avoid it, remains unlikely, with another pyramid re-organisation on the cards at the end of the season. Hopefully March saw, and April will see, results pick up.

Derek Lloyd

Photo courtesy of Facebook

Swindon Croquet Club

There has been lots going on at Swindon Croquet Club in preparation for reopening of the lawns on **Friday 01 April**.

During the February and March closure period, the three lawns have been verticut in order to remove moss and to encourage strong grass growth. All the equipment (six trolleys with six hoops in each trolley, plus six centre pegs) have been repaired and meticulously refurbished. The tricky tasks of marking out the lawns for hoop setting and white lining were also carefully carried out.

The Clubhouse has been given a spring clean so



Repaired, re-furbished and ready to go

all the working parties have ensured that everything is spick and span with members now keen to pick up their mallets again!

New members are always given a warm welcome. Free taster sessions, with friendly tuition and equipment provided, are available, so why not give croquet a try? Email us or find us on Facebook for further information.

Beverly Briggs

E: swindoncroquet@outlook.com

Highworth Running Club

With only days to go before the Highworth Running Club host their first race in three years, there's still time to enter the Highworth Five Mile race on **Sunday 10 April**. The race starts at 11am promptly from outside Warneford School, and finishes after one lap of rural roads back on the School's sports field.

With mementos for all finishers and excellent refreshments on offer before and afterwards, why not give it a go! Have you got what it takes to beat Eastrop Hill? Entries available online from our website, but get in quick!

Jason Daniels

www.highworthrunningclub.co.uk



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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 or on YouTube by searching St Michael's Church Highworth

Other Services

1st Sunday of the month at 8.45am:
Holy Communion

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

Easter Services

Highworth:

Thursday 14 April, 7.30pm:
Maundy Thursday Service

Friday 15 April, 10.30am:
Good Friday Service

Sunday 17 April, 10.15am:
Holy Communion with Bishop Lee

Blunsdon:

Friday 15 April, 10am:
Good Friday Service

Sunday 17 April, 10am:
Holy Communion

Hannington:

Sunday 17 April, 11am:
Holy Communion

Sevenhampton:

Sunday 17 April, 8.45am:
Holy Communion

Prayers

Tuesday Prayers are held every Tuesday morning at 9.30am.

Friday Blessings are held every Friday morning at 9.15am.

Midweek Church

Midweek Church at St Michael's is a spoken Communion service and is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 11am with the next service being on **Wednesday 20 April**. Coffee and cake served prior to the service from 10.15am.

Tuesday Meet, Greet, Eat

Tuesday at St Michael's is held on the fourth Tuesday of each month and is a chance to meet up for conversation, craft activities, board games and lunch from 10.30am. The next meet is on **Tuesday 26 April**.

Saturday Morning at St Michael's

As a family church of many generations, we come together on the first Saturday of each month from 10am 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.

Saturday Coffee Morning

Our coffee morning runs every Saturday (excluding the first Saturday of each month) from 10am until 12pm in the Church Room. All welcome.

We welcome in Holy Baptism

Leo Smith

Praying for the roads in the town:

03-Apr-22 Fitzgerald Avenue and Folly Close

10-Apr-22 Folly Crescent and Folly Drive

17-Apr-22 Folly Way and Gilberts Lane

24-Apr-22 Gilmore Court and Glebe Place



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



21/04/2022

*Cyril Knight - It's 17 years since you have been gone. We miss you and think of you often.
Lots of love Lyn, Ruth, Patrick and all of your family xxxx*

25/04/2022

*Frank Dean - On this anniversary, in our thoughts as always. Love Jean, Beverley,
Sharon and families*

28/04/2022

Ivy Pointing - Remembering a dearly loved Mum, Nan and Great Nanny - From Shirley and Family

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 Methodist Church
Café Church
Sunday, April 3rd
10.30am
Fishy Tales
Come and enjoy a free coffee at
this informal café style service
including film clips, thoughts and
songs.

**Highworth Easter
Craft Fair**
Join Visit Highworth
in St. Michael's Church for our
Easter Craft Fair.
Featuring Local independent Artists and
Makers showcasing original handmade
Arts and Crafts.
10am – 4pm
Saturday 9th April 2022
St Michaels Church,
Highworth

OUR REPRESENTATIVES

From our MP

Throughout my time as an MP, I have been passionate about harnessing sport and leisure activities as a way to support child development. Sport and activities play a vital role in supporting physical health and social development, but above all, they provide fun and entertaining experiences for young people.

Sadly, not all children have access to enrichment activities and this is particularly apparent during the school holidays. School holidays can be difficult for some families, leading to a holiday experience gap. Research has found that children from low-income households are less likely to access organised out-of-school activities, are more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' and are more likely to feel isolated.

I have spoken about the importance of sport and enrichment activities in Parliament, lobbied to protect funding for school sports and supported using the sugar tax to allow sport organisations to use school facilities in the evening and half-term.

In 2018, the Government began a pilot of its Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme to offer support to children in receipt of free school meals through holiday periods, providing grant funding to local authorities to coordinate free holiday provision for eligible children.

HAF aims to help the children taking part to eat healthier and be more active through the holidays, as well as providing engaging and enriching activities which build confidence and support development. In addition to this, HAF works to ensure that families benefiting from the programme develop their understanding of nutrition and food-budgeting.

Parents also benefit from HAF as it provides an easy and affordable childcare option, meaning they

don't have to find someone to watch their children, pay for childcare, or take time off work.

Hundreds of thousands of children across the country have benefitted from HAF, including hundreds in Swindon. Thanks to HAF, these children have enjoyed a whole range of experiences and continued their development throughout the holidays.

We are very lucky to have a number of organisations offering fantastic enrichment activities to children in Swindon. A few months ago, I invited Education Minister Will Quince to visit one such organisation; Draycott Sport Camp. Will was able to see for himself the excellent work done by the camp and see first-hand how HAF has benefited young people in Swindon.

HAF is a fantastic initiative which supports the work I have done in Parliament to ensure that all children have access to activities they can enjoy and help their development.

Justin Tomlinson,

North Swindon Conservative MP

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SUNDAY 29TH MAY 2022 - 2PM TO 4PM

SUNDAY 26TH JUNE 2022 - 2PM TO 4PM

SUNDAY 31ST JULY 2022 - 2PM TO 4PM

SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST 2022 - 2PM TO 4PM

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TOGETHER WE CAN KEEP HIGHWORTH TIDY!



THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACONS

THURSDAY 2ND JUNE 2022

Highworth Town Council is delighted to be taking part in the lighting of the Beacon, timings as follows:

TOWN CRIERS – THE "PROCLAMATION"
2:00pm

Town Crier will undertake the "proclamation" at the Podium, Highworth

PIPERS – "DIU REGNARE"
9:35pm

This lovely tune to be played at the Beacon site before the Beacon is lit

CORNET PLAYER – "MAJESTY"
9:40pm

A Cornet player to play the unique Bugle Call – "Majesty" officially announcing the lighting of the Beacons at 9:45pm



THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACONS & CHOIRS
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BLUNSDON

A Foundation Governor is required at St Leonard's School in Blunsdon

Because of Geoff Sowden's retirement we are looking for a Foundation governor to replace him on the Academy Council at St. Leonard's school in Blunsdon.

Jane Medlock

Chair, Christian Distinctiveness Subcommittee of St Leonard's Academy Council

HANNINGTON

Delivery of Link Magazine in Hannington

We need someone for ten monthly deliveries of 70 x Link magazines in Hannington per year. This is a great opportunity to exercise with a purpose. A regular dog walker or jogger would be perfect. In return you could earn £40 per year to give to a charity of your choice.

If you are interested contact Keith Ratcliffe on 01793 861122.

LECHLADE

Macmillan Mammoth Quiz at Lechlade

Once again, Keith and Sharon Fuller organised a Lechlade quiz for Macmillan Cancer Support and raised a mammoth £565 so far and counting!

The Macmillan Mammoth Quiz takes place across the country on the last Friday of February each year. On Friday 25 February nine teams of six mustered in the Memorial Hall and had a great time pitching their wits against some tricky



'Done and Dusted' Andrew Auger, Karen Draper, Will Draper, Max Bacon, Kathy Scourfield and Emma Payne.

questions ranging from the Winter Olympics to an eclectic mix of subjects requiring knowledge of Disney films, to the periodic table and logarithms, and more.

The winning team, 'Done and Dusted', swept the floor with an impressive score! Team members were Andrew Auger, Karen Draper, Will Draper, Max Bacon, Kathy Scourfield and Emma Payne.

Keith and Sharon are considering running a Summer Quiz as they did last year.

SHRIVENHAM

Shrivenham Cricket Club to restart with new pavilion

We are one of the longest established cricket clubs in the area thanks to the Barrington Estate, and we are most keen for this to continue.

It is so good to know that we will soon be playing again as the Covid regulations gradually relax. We are particularly excited as we have a brand new, purpose-built pavilion this season, officially opened in March this year. If you take a stroll around the Recreation Ground in Shrivenham you will be able to see for yourself this fine building which will be a great asset for the future of our club and also for the whole community.

In 2020, the Club took the bold decision to switch from playing in the Oxfordshire Cricket Association leagues to play in the Wiltshire Cricket League, and we currently field one team in Division 6. With the added attraction of a new pavilion, we are anticipating expanding our playing membership to eventually allow us to field two league sides (as in the past) and also to begin friendly matches once again on the occasional Sundays.

For those of you who are interested in joining, our club subscription is £40 for this season.

Our Indoor Net Sessions began on Wednesday 02 March, at St. Joseph's School, commencing at 7.30pm until 8.30pm. These will continue for six weeks (excluding Wednesday 06 April) at a cost of £2 per person per session.

We have a 'friendly' match arranged against Lechlade away on **Saturday 23 April**, starting at 1.30pm, and our league fixtures for May are:

07 May	Bishops Cannings	Home	1pm
14 May	Calne 2	Away	1pm
21 May	Malmesbury 2	Home	1pm
28 May	Swindon 4	Away	1pm

We have further plans to purchase a new sight screen and a new mower is also needed. We will again run the All Star sessions and Dynamos for the juniors during the summer months to which you are welcome to come along. Watch this space for dates.

We are hopeful that we can increase our playing membership so if you are at all interested in giving it a go, please contact Martin Hammond on 07890 626912.

SOUTH MARSTON

South Marston Gardening Club

Monday 04 April

Speaker: Joff Elphick

Talk: "Crayfish on the Lawn"

7.30pm to 9.30pm

Joff's talk, Crayfish on the Lawn, is a multimedia presentation with video, photographs and audio of the things he's seen: the plants, the people and the natural history.

Joff has worked at: Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons, The National Trust Advisory Department, Rosemary Verey's Barnsley House, the private estate of Sir Chris and Lady Evans and the award-winning cookery school and country estate, Thyme, at Southrop. He also hosts POT and CLOCHE garden podcasts and edits a number of other well-known UK podcasts.

£3 entry fee on the door or join the Gardening Club for £12 (annual membership).

Refreshments included.

Optional raffle.


A warm welcome awaits you.

Parking: Old Vicarage Lane, next to the school.

For more information, visit our Facebook page 'Southmarstongardeningclub' or contact Angela on: 07789 068340.

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May	2nd	15th
June	5th	19th
July	3rd	17th
August	7th	21st
September	4th	18th
October	2nd	16th

The Tower is open:
April - October on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.
11am - 5pm.

Adults: £3.00 11-16s: £1.00 Under 11s: Free

enquiries@faringdonfolly.org.uk www.faringdonfolly.org.uk
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The Tower is available for private parties and events

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9th April. 7th May. 11th June. 9th July.
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12th November. 10th December 2022

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email: lechlade.repaircafe@gmail.com
or call: 07554 230323

STANTON FITZWARREN

April Church Services at St Leonard Parish Church, Stanton Fitzwarren

Sunday 03 April	9.30am	Morning Praise
Sunday 10 April	11am	Family Service, Palm Sunday procession
Sunday 17 April	11am	EASTER SUNDAY, Holy Communion
Sunday 24 April	No service at St Leonard	

(We are welcome at the team service at Coleview Community Centre at 11am)

The church building will be open every Wednesday in school term time, from 10am to 4pm. If you would like to visit outside of these times, please telephone 01793 762935 to organise for the building to be left open for you to visit safely.

Please go to www.stantonchurch.info for up-to-date information.



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Friday 15th April



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Police	Non-Emergency	101
NHS	Non-Emergency	111
Gas	Emergency	0800 111999
Electricity	Emergency	105
Water	Emergency	0800 3169 800
Pest Control	Non-Emergency	07789 781151

BUSES		DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS		SCHOOLS	
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Thamesdown Transport	01793 428400	Elm Tree Surgery, (Shrivenham)	01793 782207	Southfield Junior	01793 762210
Dial-a-Ride	01793 616050	Great Western Hospital	01793 604020	Westrop Primary	01793 762897
Community Transport	01793 617828			Highworth Warneford	01793 762426
Traveline	0871 200 2233				
COLLEGES		LIBRARY		TAXIS	
Cirencester College	01285 640994	Highworth Library	01793 463500	V Cars	01793 701701
New College	0808 172 4445				
Swindon College	01793 491591				
LAW & ORDER		RECREATION		TRAINS	
Crimestoppers	0800 555111	Highworth Rec	01793 762602	National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
Victim Supportline	0808 16 89 111			Great Western Railways	03457 000125
Action Fraud	0300 123 2030			Disabled and assisted travel	08001 971329
COUNCILS		PHARMACIES		OTHER SERVICES	
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Swindon Boro. Council	01793 463000	Home Farm Pharmacy	01793 861392	Trading Standards (business)	0207 830 6000
Streetsmart	01793 445501	Jones Graham Pharmacy (Shrivenham)	01793 783336	Trading Standards (consumers)	03454 04 05 06
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(St Michael's Church Office: T: 01793 762702)

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

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