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"I know you!"

Seemingly innocuous words, yet considering the situation, they held an air of threat. I was with an outreach team in Swindon late one evening where we had gone to meet, chat, pray and buy food for the homeless.

Now, in a badly lit, cold and dirty area of an underground carpark, we had engaged with a group who were obviously under the influence and things were tricky. Then one guy (who was a lot bigger than me) gets up really close and utters those words, "I know you!" Slightly surprised, we both stared at each other trying to work out if this was true and, if so, where we had met. "Didn't you come into Gloucester House?" he blurts out.

Suddenly, I recognise him. Serving at Gloucester House, the only Salvation Army run drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre in the country (we are so proud that it's in Highworth) is a great privilege. The team there are amazing and week-in-week-out go above and beyond, doing all they can to see lives changed. It's 'lives on the line'



work and sadly not everyone can stay the course.

Then his eyes cleared, his speech became more coherent, and in a moment of clarity he said, "You know, I never got it." (referring to the 12-step programme at Gloucester House) "I never understood what it was all about. It's about... surrender."

Surrender. Recognising we can't do it all. Honestly facing our inadequacies and failures. Surrender. Stopping putting me and mine first. Surrender. Realising life is bigger, more powerful, more challenging than I ever imagined and the only way through is to let others in and, in my belief, let God in.

There, at the bottom of the pile, immersed in the mess of this life, that man saw something and had a revelation. The question for him, and for you and me, is can we have the guts to follow up and walk that road out?

Can we surrender?

Matt Ford

Highworth Community Church

Cover: Highworth girl and ex-Warneford student, Rachael Gillespie as Ygraine in Northern Ballet's Merlin. Photo: Guy Farrow

LINK magazine

Published under the auspices of Highworth Churches Together.

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Highworth Link is published monthly except in January and August.

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.

The Search for Link's Junior Journalist Begins!

I think everyone possesses a superpower. That's right everyone! Especially grannies but grannies are so clever at being grannies; they give everyone the impression they're slow and old... and slow... when really, if you just check, they've got a twinkle in their eyes which tells you there's much more going on than someone just being slow and old.

Even you have a superpower, you do. Honestly. It's just a case of finding what it is. My personal superpower (wait! I have two!) is being able to wiggle my nostrils without laughing. My second superpower, of which I'm not especially proud, is that I can put my fist in my mouth and still breathe. Yep, a beautiful image you have in your head right now, I know. Anyway, my point is that we are all good at something and the something we're good at no one else can do quite like we do.

I'm searching for a young journalist to join our team at Link magazine. Do you like writing? Do you have a curious mind and a brimming imagination? Do you love stories? Do you love Highworth? Do you think adults need to understand the world from your point of view? Maybe you're just discovering your superpowers. Whatever it is, this could be your chance to write about issues that matter to you and see them

published in this magazine. We print 7,000 copies every month so that's a lot of people reading what you have to say. I'll even get you a badge!

If you're aged between 11 and 16 (or know someone who is) and would like to have the opportunity to be selected to be Link magazine's first Junior Journalist, all you need to do is write 300 words about something that you've

seen in the town, or something that's happening in

the wider world that matters to you. It might be that you want to write about an event at your school, the new skate park, or the weird three-legged cat you saw yesterday. Whatever it is, I want to read about it. Then, along with a panel of experts, we'll decide which person we think has the superpower we're looking for.

The closing date for entries is **01 June** so you haven't got time to dawdle. Get your writing hat on and email your stories to me at

editor@highworthlink.co.uk.

If we get enough of them, we'll print a selection in the following issue of Link magazine.

Looking forward to reading

Rachael (Editor)



WHAT'S YOUR
SUPERPOWER?
WE NEED **YOU!**

Link Magazine are looking for a junior journalist to join the team.

- > Are you aged between 11 and 16?
- > Can you write?
- > Have you got interesting things to say?

Send your 300-word story to:
editor@highworthlink.co.uk

See main article for more details.

your stuff!

New to Highworth – ‘Bumps to Babies’

We are a new, Highworth-based, community group for expectant mums in their third trimester and parents of babies 0-9 months of age. As we are focusing the group on this specific age group we regret that we are unable to accommodate older siblings.



The group will meet on Wednesdays, commencing **04 May**, from 9.30 to 11.30am (term time only), in the Church Room situated behind St Michael's Church (easily accessed from Sheep Street with a path up to the door).

We aim to provide an environment where you are able to socialise with other expectant mothers and new mothers and benefit from the experience of a hand-picked group of volunteers who all come from relevant child development

backgrounds. All volunteers are DBS checked and we will follow all appropriate procedures to ensure the safety of all who attend.

Until such time as we are successful in grant applications, there will be a small charge of £2 per session to help cover costs.

We will be hosting a coffee morning at Highworth Methodist Church on **Saturday 21 May** at 10.30am to 12 noon. Everyone is welcome. Please come along to support us in raising funds and take the opportunity to meet some of the volunteers who will be pleased to chat with you.

To register your interest or ask any questions, please feel free to contact us at ask@bumpstobabies.club. Follow us on our Facebook Page 'Bumps to Babies'.

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A Wonderful World Book Day and more!

On Thursday 03 March, Eastrop Infant School and Nursery joined thousands of schools across the world to celebrate World Book Day.

Children at Eastrop were invited to dress up as their favourite word, verb, adverb or adjective. There were many amazing outfits on the day such as 'flowery', 'camouflaged', 'glittery' and much more.

However, we don't just enjoy books at Eastrop once a year; we love books all year round! Some of our recent favourites that have sparked our imagination have included:

The Egg Box Dragon

Years 1 and 2 have been using the Egg Box Dragon as part of their topic, 'A pile of junk'. They have made their own egg box dragons and have also written instructions for how to make them. I'm sure you'll agree that their dragons look amazing!

Trouble at the Dinosaur Café

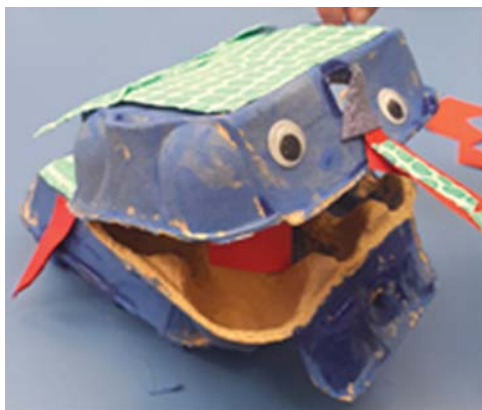
In Reception, they have been learning about carnivores, omnivores and herbivores. To bring this learning to life, the children had to investigate dinosaur poo to see what they had eaten. They then determined if the dinosaur was a carnivore, omnivore or herbivore. The children had great fun and they used lots of fantastic descriptive words to describe what they found.

Plunge into the Pirate Pool!

Last week, our Little Acorns in nursery have walked the plank, made their own treasure maps, and dressed up as pirates – 'Argh me hearties!' They have had a wonderful time building their own pirate ships using construction and using Small World Play to retell their pirate stories.

Pancake Day

This year, every child at Eastrop Infant School and Nursery enjoyed making and eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. There was lots of measuring, mixing and stirring as well as talking about our favourite toppings. Sugar was a firm favourite amongst the children, but many didn't like the lemon they tried.



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Flying with your feet on the ground

From a very early age, I have always had a fascination and interest in all things aviation. As a young lad, I made rubber-powered models made of balsa wood, covered in tissue and dope. Invariably they crashed as, at that time, I did not have the understanding of balancing and trimming a model aeroplane. I was also fascinated watching older lads fly control line models on a local sports field which further fuelled my interest. Some 32 years ago, I took up the hobby again when a friend of mine started flying radio-controlled model aircraft. He had joined the Swindon Model Aero Club which, at that time, operated from Wroughton airfield.

Back then, I was very impressed with the controllability of model planes with the latest radio control equipment and my interest was immediately rekindled. Within weeks, I had bought a radio control package, built a small trainer plane with an engine and joined the Swindon club. I soon learned that a club is by far the best route to go as you have the benefit of many experienced members who can help, advise and teach you to fly and, if necessary, take over flying your model plane if you get into trouble.

Over the years, the hobby has transformed considerably from basic kits you had to build entirely to buying a pre-built model plane in a box. These pre-built planes are called ARTF's which stands for 'Almost Ready To Fly.' All that is required with ARTF's is basic assembly, installation of a motor and radio gear and you are ready to go flying in no time. The radio control equipment we use today has improved considerably over the years; it is extremely reliable, sophisticated and relatively low cost.

Since retiring, I have built numerous models and my enthusiasm for building is equal to my enthusiasm for flying. During the Coronavirus

lockdowns, I kept myself occupied by building a WW2 P51D Mustang fighter with a wingspan of 90". Currently, I have eight powered model aircraft with wingspans ranging from 5ft to 9ft. They all take off, fly, and land just as their full-size counterparts.



In 2014, the Swindon Model Aero Club had to vacate the Wroughton site due to the installation of solar panels so now we fly at Shrivenham. The club shares the same site with the Vale of White Horse Gliding Club at Sandhill airfield and we have the benefit of a long, well-mown grass strip to fly off as well as a clubhouse with all facilities. Flying is conducted safely over open farmland and well away from housing or the general public.

The Swindon Model Aero Club has around 50 members and is affiliated to the British Model Flying Association (BMFA), providing members with appropriate insurance and compliance with the Civil Aviation Authority

Drone/Model Aircraft Regulation and Education Scheme. During the winter months, the club has monthly social evenings at a local community centre. These include talks, demonstrations and videos.

Young people can certainly learn a lot from the hobby, not just aeronautics and flying, but modelling skills, understanding plans and instructions as well as how the radio control equipment works. The club always welcomes new members so, if you have an interest in model aircraft flying or would like further information, the club's contact details can be obtained from the Swindon Model Aero Club's website at www.SMAC2000.org.uk and on our Facebook page.

Derek Russell

Chairman, Swindon Model Aero Club

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To get the maximum Basic State Pension, you must have 35 qualifying years (which means you must have made National Insurance contributions for 35 years).

For the current tax year – 2022/23 – this would mean a salary of more than £6,396. Above this figure, you start paying National Insurance at 0% - which counts as a qualifying year. At a salary level of £9,880, the Employee's National Insurance rate increases to 13.25%. (Employer's National insurance at 15.05% begins at a salary level of £9,100).

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Repair Café in Highworth

Are you interested in repairing items rather than having the expense of buying new ones? Do you have skills to support residents in Highworth to help repair items rather than having them go to landfill? If so, Highworth Town Council would like to hear from you. The Environmental Sustainability Committee is investigating piloting a Repair Café within the Town.

Repair Cafés are meeting spaces where you can come along and find out how to get help in repairing household items. The aim is to prolong the life of an object and reduce items going to landfill. At a Repair Café, there will be tools and materials available to help you repair your items. These may be items of furniture, electrical goods, bicycles, crockery, toys or tools; essentially, anything that is broken but repairable. Volunteers at the Repair Café might stipulate

certain items that they will focus on according to their own expertise. The aim is to repair the object and for you to learn how to make future repairs. All repairs will be free with a request for contributions for materials.

If you are interested in attending a Repair Café in Highworth, or have expertise and skills you would be willing to share as an expert volunteer, please complete the online survey at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/pilotrepaircafe/> or on the website at www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Alternatively, pop into Visit Highworth or the Council Offices to complete a survey.

*Environmental Sustainability Committee
Highworth Town Council*

Update on the Old Golf Course

Whilst Swindon Borough Council's decision on 20th January to remove Highworth's Old Golf Course from the current Local Development Plan was a great result, an enormous amount of work now lies ahead to ensure that this wonderful space remains open, green, accessible and undeveloped.

To that end, a small number of the Old Golf Course Action Group's core team have formed a collaborative Working Party with Highworth Town Council to pull together ideas and proposals for recreational uses for the Old Golf Course land that will generate income for its sustainment whilst preserving its unique nature. By time of reading, this Working Party will have met three times and begun to scope ideas and their realistic feasibility. The aim is to develop a Business Case to present through HTC to SBC later this year as they undertake their deliberations on the land's longer-term future.

Whilst the Action Group has a very good idea of the thoughts of its own members and of those other Highworth and Borough residents that completed the survey in the run up to last year's Local Plan consultation period, there will be plenty of other good ideas out there. To become

reality however, most of them will need to be capable of generating revenue.

We believe that the best way to ensure that these ideas are considered alongside the Old Golf Course's place in the wider Highworth Neighbourhood Plan is for them to be heard at the HTC Neighbourhood Plan Workshop on **Saturday 21 May** and we would encourage all of those who have strong feelings about the Old Golf Course to take part in that and subsequent HTC consultation activities.

With SBC indicating that the next iteration of their Local Plan is likely to be issued for consultation at the end of this year (we will be watching and reading it very carefully!) there is a clear need for Highworth to offer potential means of allowing SBC to keep the Old Golf Course green, open, accessible and undeveloped whilst, effectively, paying its own way.

We in the Action Group look forward to your help and support in achieving this over the coming months. There is much more for us all to do!

The Old Golf Course Action Group

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Our open sessions are a time to explore with your child and see the space your child could be



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Open Sessions

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Tuesday 17th May at 9.30am

Wednesday 18th May at 1.30pm and 4pm

Tuesday 24th May at 9.30am

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Website: www.westropprimaryschool.co.uk

learning in. Meet key staff who will be involved in your child's learning journey and ask any questions.

Take a look at our open session details and contact us to book a visit to Westrop Primary & Nursery School. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you cannot make any of these sessions but would like to visit.

Telephone: 01793 762897

Email: nursery@westrop.swindon.sch.uk

Website: www.westropprimaryschool.co.uk

Highworth Historical Society

Our next talk is on **Wednesday 25 May**, where John Dymond, from the Aldbourne History Society, will speak about 'The Rise and Fall of a Downland Community'. This refers to the settlement of Snap, near Aldbourne. If you have walked on the downs from Upper Upham then you will have probably passed through what remains of Snap.

As well as the talk, there will be an opportunity

to see a small display of some of our archives.

We meet at St. Michael's Hall on Lechlade Road. The doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start and visitors are always welcome. £3 per person at the door and tea and coffee will be available.

For any further information about the talk, or the Society, please contact Chris Suter on 01793 764811, or email chrissuter16@googlemail.com





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



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Forget Me Not Café

The Forget Me Not Memory Café welcomed over 25 customers to the Highworth Community Centre in March, and a great time was had by all!



Norman Jeffrey

Norman Jeffrey, Chair of Highworth Gardening Club, came to talk to our customers about the planting and propagation of sunflowers for this season with a demonstration of best practice. The audience was rapt and there were lots of questions following the talk. We are looking forward to wonderful horticultural results this year; thanks for your help, Norman!

We also had a taster session of Love To Move seated exercises from Annamaria. This was great fun (as well as being really good for us) as the photos show. Annamaria will be running a monthly Love to Move session at the Community Centre, under the Forget Me Not umbrella, on the second Wednesday of each month starting in



Annamaria

May, with the first session on **11 May**. We are hugely grateful to Highworth Town Council for funding this initiative as part of the desire to have Highworth become a Dementia Friendly Community. If you want to come along, or if you have any questions, please email us at lovetomove.highworth@gmail.com.

Shoutouts this month go to Dumbledarts for providing some fabulous cupcakes and also to Fung Yee and Deborah for additional refreshments. Thanks, of course, to our sponsors, Home Instead, and to our amazing team of volunteers. Particular thanks to Highworth Lions for providing transport. We also need to mention The Highworth Recreation Centre who held a quiz recently and gave the Café the proceeds from the event: £347! We are indeed blessed with the level of support we are getting from Highworth.



April will see us table quizzing and enjoying the local ladies group, Singing in the Park. We love having local musical groups along to the Café. Please get in touch with us if you are part of a musical group and would like to come along and entertain our wonderful Café goers.

May's Café is on **Wednesday 25 May**, and we are looking forward to welcoming the musical duo of Claire King and David Knowles, brought to us through the Keep Music in Mind project from our friends at Wiltshire Rural Music. There will be plenty of opportunities to sing along with many well known, familiar tunes, including some old favourites.



Highworth Memory Cafe
 Wednesday 25th May 2-4pm
 Highworth Community Centre
 The Dormers SN6 7PQ

*Keep Music in Mind
 with Claire King &
 David Knowles*

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Highworth Memory Cafe
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Highworth Community Centre The Dormers
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Swindon Alzheimer's Society

Helping to become Dementia Friendly

What is a 'Toxic relationship'?

A toxic relationship is usually with a partner, but it could be with a colleague, manager, family member or even a friend. Ultimately a toxic relationship is when one person asserts power, control and their will over another.

Relationship Abuse comes in many forms: Physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, financial and technical.

- Do you, or have you had, a relationship that makes you doubt your own opinions?
- Do you find yourself consistently agreeing, because it keeps the peace?
- Does your partner 'gaslight' you?
- Do your friends and family think you have a wonderful life, but do not know the psychological and emotional toll that happens behind closed doors?

If you recognise any of the above, then I am here to help you with any toxic relationship.

Based in Highworth, I provide unbiased and non-judgemental contact to any person and situation.

If you want the emotional pain and distress of a relationship to stop... Then call me

BREN HOSKING
The Toxic Relationship Coach
07511 929020

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“Retail customer service is in my blood”

When a friend suggested the site for Bloomfields in our High Street, Sue Belcher of Watchfield was bowled over. “What a location, overlooking Market Place,” she immediately thought. The store is a haven for niche food and drink products. The Highworth store opened in 2009, quickly winning the Swindon New Business Award. “That really got the ball rolling,” she says.

Sue’s parents had a traditional newsagent shop in Gloucester trading as Paterson’s, her mother’s family name. Sue picked up the retail trade bug from them, especially her dad. “So when starting my own business, it was important to see his name, Bloomfield, on my shop.”

The original Bloomfields delicatessen started in Shivenham in 2006 in a small shop by the bank. In 2016, Tim joined the business and they relocated to a prominent High Street location in a remodelled former motor garage of distinctive 1930s design, a site that Sue has continued to expand and improve.

There are approximately 20 staff employed across both stores, including Sue and her husband Tim. Regular Highworth team members include Laura, Jenny, Julie, Bianca, Shannon, Sam, Rojina, Karen and Nicole.

“It’s the staff who pulled the business through the pandemic,” Sue recalls. “In the lockdown, it would have been easy to close. But we had a great sense of purpose. The girls were so determined to keep us going.”

By 2016, Bloomfields had outgrown its rented premises in Highworth. They took a risk and bought the building, opening up the retail space with a new steel frame and improving the kitchen facilities on both floors. There is also a large ‘room with a view’ upstairs available for catered meetings. The Highworth and Shivenham stores complement one another, share the food preparation and swap some staff.



Photo: Pauline Godwin, Highworth Camera Club

Tim Belcher is Bloomfields’ Mr Fixit. He oversaw the exhausting building work and keeps everything running smoothly. Tim handles their social media advertising, writes proposals, runs the home delivery (something they expanded considerably during the lockdown) and their outside catering service.

Bloomfields responded to the pandemic by introducing a colourful range of locally sourced fruit and vegetables. They also introduced ‘home cooked’ ready meals, which most of the staff are engaged in. (I can confirm these are quite nourishing and yummy!)

Attention gin fans! Sue has established the Bloomfields’ label. You’ll find diverse ingredients such as juniper, lavender, rosemary, citrus and coriander in a classic dry gin made by Wood Brothers Distillery in Bampton.

They took a punt on diversifying in the pandemic and it has paid off. It’s the good footfall of repeat customers who buy a few items each that makes the deli a viable and valued shop in our increasingly busy town centre. Hail another High Street Hero: Sue Belcher.

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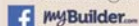
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Dear Editor,

I was interested in a recent piece in the Link about hedgehogs (March 2022 issue). I used to have several living happily in my garden and, in the winter, hibernating in the hedges in boxes prepared for them. But, one morning, I found the skin of a hedgehog, spikes still on, but no hedgehog's body inside. It had been eaten alive.

I was told that only a badger has tough enough claws to do that. I saw that there were badgers digging holes in the lawn and so, sadly, I no longer encourage hedgehogs to come into my garden.

Yours sincerely, Margaret Tuckwell



Hedgehog-Friendly Highworth

This month's Hedgehog Tip

Logging hedgehog sightings, both live and, sadly, deceased hedgehogs, allows a picture of hedgehog populations to be developed, both nationally and at local level.

If you see a hedgehog, please consider logging it at bighedgehogmap.org. You can also add your hedgehog highway.

Thank you!

A note from the Editor

If you have seen our April issue, you will have read about a remarkable Highworth resident, Edna Courtney, who celebrated her 102nd birthday in March. It is with great sadness that we have heard of Edna's passing, dying peacefully, surrounded by those who loved her, and we send our condolences to her sons and other members of her family.

Highworth Library

We're relaunching Lego Club on **Friday 22 April**, 4 to 5.30pm, then every Friday during term time. It's a free to attend, but please contact us to book a place.

We look forward to seeing you!

Highworth Library Team

T: 01793 463500

E: highworth.library@swindon.gov.uk

W: www.swindon.gov.uk/libraries

We're open:

Monday 10am to 4pm

Tuesday 9am to 5pm

Thursday 9am to 4pm

Friday 12 noon to 6pm

Saturday 10am to 1pm



Arts Section *Compiled by Iain Barnwell*

Contact: HighworthLinkArts@gmail.com



Oxfordshire Artweeks

May 2022 marks the fortieth anniversary of Oxfordshire Artweeks. This is your opportunity to see the work of artists, designers and crafts people of all kinds. Visit them in their own studios or see exhibitions in venues all over the county. The festival is divided into three geographical areas and everything is listed in the online guide at www.artweeks.org

Oxford City: 07 to 15 May

South Oxfordshire: 14 to 22 May

North Oxfordshire: 21 to 29 May

In and around Faringdon, more than 30 artists are waiting to show you what they do, including a pop-up exhibition in the town hall.

All free to visit, artists and makers are showcasing their ideas, skill and eye-catching creations from local landscapes to art with a difference. There's everything from paintings and pottery to mosaics and felted wall art.

The picturesque village of Great Coxwell is playing host over two weekends with a whole-village event including ceramics, jewellery, painting, sculpture and more. In

Bourton, two artists invite you in. Enjoy dreamy ephemeral landscapes and an exhibition 'Bloom' of vibrant drawings, collages and prints. In Bishopstone, on the very edge of the Ridgeway, in a wooden studio with a wonderful view, you can see colourful and enchanting textile pictures.

Between Bourton and Faringdon, there's a trail of sculpture gardens. Visit Watchfield village, see more stone around a large pond in the grounds of a grand old house in Longcot and another glittering display next door to Farmer Gow's. You'll find striking local pottery in the heart of Fernham alongside unusual sea-inspired lamps.



Faringdon town centre by Paul Tomlinson

Two local artists to exhibit this month

Two local artists will be displaying work in The Council Rooms, Gilberts Lane, Highworth, on Saturday 14 May from 9am until 1pm. Admission is FREE and all are welcome.

Original animal paintings by John Sirrelle will be

available. Bob Marchant paints a wide variety of subjects and will also have cards for sale.

This exhibition will be for one day only, so don't miss it!



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Visit Highworth activities for May

Pottery demonstration

Saturday 14 May on the Podium. Join local potter Keith Panting for Pottery Demonstration and a fun children's pottery event.

'Paint and Prosecco Night'

Wednesday 25 May, 7 to 9.30pm with local artist Christine Purdyco. Cost £25. As numbers are limited, please pop in to book as soon as possible. It should be a fun evening!

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Saturday 4 June. As part of the celebrations, we will be running a free pop-in children's craft workshop to make and decorate crowns.

Wildlife Walks with your camera to spot local wildlife will continue during early May with local photographer Neil George.

Ever wanted to know the history of your town? Then book a **Guided Town Tour** for an informative, fun history walk.


We look forward to seeing you.



'Hoglet' by Christine Purdy

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Fairford and District Choral Society Review April 2022

It was good to attend a pleasurable concert by the Fairford and District Choral Society which took place on 02 April 2022 after the enforced pandemic break. As we move from a difficult winter into Spring, I was struck by the sense of optimism which infused the evening from the first note to the last.

Part 1 of the concert was devoted to works by Mozart, beginning with an energetically executed performance of Mozart's Overture in C, K399, 'in Baroque style' by organist Robin Baggs and culminating in the composer's 'Mass in B flat' K.275, a bright and joyful work featuring SATB soloists juxtaposed with the choir. The diction and vocal precision of both choir and soloists in this work, under the direction of conductor, Katrine Reimers, was impressive, as it was throughout the concert.

The four professional soloists: Charlotte Newstead (Soprano); Olivia Gomez (Alto); John Bacon (Tenor) and William Stevens (Bass), took us through a range of solos and ensembles throughout the evening, beautifully

complementing the choir and each displaying a wide range of vocal tone colour, admirable breath management and soaring legato lines.



Katrine Reimers

However, for me, the outstanding performance of the evening was the first item of Part 2, 'Mendelssohn's 'Hear my Prayer', so sensitively executed by the soprano soloist and equally well delivered by the choir. I like Mendelssohn sung with the discipline of Bach (whose works the 19c composer championed), so that the romanticism in the music speaks for itself. Charlotte's sensitive, lyrical legato line and her subtly managed dynamic nuances were here equally matched throughout by the choir, resulting in romantic warmth coupled with 'baroque' precision. This allowed the sensitivity, shape and drama of this lovely work to shine through. Bravo!

The Mendelssohn led us to other short romantic items and the programme concluded with Franz Schubert's 'Magnificat in C' featuring both choir and soloists; a delightful end to an enjoyable evening.

Janice V Thompson

A Frame of Time



*A frame of a time - old beast
Shaped from a worn, dead tree.
A prehistoric being
That roamed this ancient plot
When Arthur fought the Saxons
Leading to victory.
Stands ready to pounce.
Angular limbs in position,
Sense of danger.
My imagined creature reverts to the oak.
So - on with the walk.*

Artweeks returns to Great Coxwell in May!

Ceramics, Drawing, Jewellery, Painting, Pottery, Sculpture, Quilts, Wirework, Wood: after a 2-year break, the picturesque village of Great Coxwell is once again playing host to ten artists and craftspeople over two weekends for Oxfordshire Artweeks.

Follow the trail map from the beautiful Great Barn, where there will be a demonstration of green woodworking, down to the 12th century church, where you can stock up your garden and allotment from the plant stall.

On the way, call into the Stable Studio where you will find ceramics and stone carving, and Peter's Barn and the Chicken Barn where you can see quilts, painting, digital art and wire modelling.

Down the lane, stop off at Chapel House to see jewellery and paintings before taking a well-earned break in the Reading Room where there will be delicious homemade refreshments all day; teas/coffees, lunches and the most amazing cakes!



Great Coxwell Artists look forward to meeting you!

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30 Years and Counting!

Melanie is our senior stylist and is celebrating the amazing achievement of working at Sweeney's for 30 Years! She has devoted herself to making the people of Highworth look and feel their best day in, day out.

Melanie came to work at Sweeney's in 1992 after completing her City and Guilds apprenticeship. It is safe to say that she has been witness to many changes over the years, including fascinating changing fashions, some dubious salon décor decisions and many different colleagues and clients through years.

One thing is for sure, Melanie's passion and love for hairdressing is evident. She has always embraced the constant evolution of the hairdressing industry. From the curly perms and settings, the voluminous layers of the 90s, the creative colouring of the 00s, to the most up-to-date cutting and colouring techniques of today. She continues to embrace new opportunities to develop and add to her vast experience to offer our clients the very best service.

On a personal note, from working with Mel myself now for the best part of 16 years, I would like to say a massive thank you to her for her



commitment and dedication, more so than ever given the last couple of years with the numerous lockdowns and extra measures we have all had to work with. Mel has been a friend as well as a colleague as we have faced life's challenges together. We stand stronger than ever as the business continues to adapt and evolve to embrace the next chapter. Here's to many more years!

Congratulations Melanie. Well done!

Mandy Quarrell

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Well Hung Framing

Local picture framer Kate Herbert has run her studio workshop, Well Hung Framing, in Watchfield since settling in the area in 2015.

As a mother of two school-aged children, she started picture framing about ten years ago and has now become something of the 'go to' framer of choice for those wanting beautiful, high quality products at very competitive prices. "I love the variety of picture framing, and I really enjoy working with clients to help them select the most appropriate combinations of mounts and frames to complement their pictures" said Kate in her well-stocked basement studio. "It's such a pleasure being able to frame precious memories for people; from relatively straightforward prints, photographs and certificates, through to more complex pieces like a child's first pair of shoes, a set of medals or a sporting shirt."

As Kate has become locally established, she has developed a loyal following from near and far and takes enormous pride in the personalised nature of her work, spending time with her clients to discuss their ideas while providing helpful advice on mount colours and styles and the perfect frame in which to put the work.



With more than three hundred frames to choose from, the choice could be bewildering to the uninitiated, but Kate's creative and experienced advice is sure to help everyone make the right decision.

"Working closely with my clients is the most rewarding thing about my job. Whether it's a relatively simple job on a budget or a more complicated piece of fine art, there's nothing more satisfying than seeing a client delighted with the finished product."

With a number of testimonials on her website, the evidence of Kate's professional excellence is clearly undisputed. As one satisfied customer states, "I have used Well Hung Framing on many occasions for all sorts of different pieces and I have been more than delighted with the result every time. Kate has a fantastic eye, so even if you're not sure where to start with your piece or artwork, photos, medals, etc., Kate has lots of great ideas which not only 'frame' your chosen piece but enhances it. Kate's work is great value too, easily beating High Street prices. Equally, the turnaround for getting the work done is always minimal. I would strongly recommend using Well Hung Framing in a heartbeat. Thank you."



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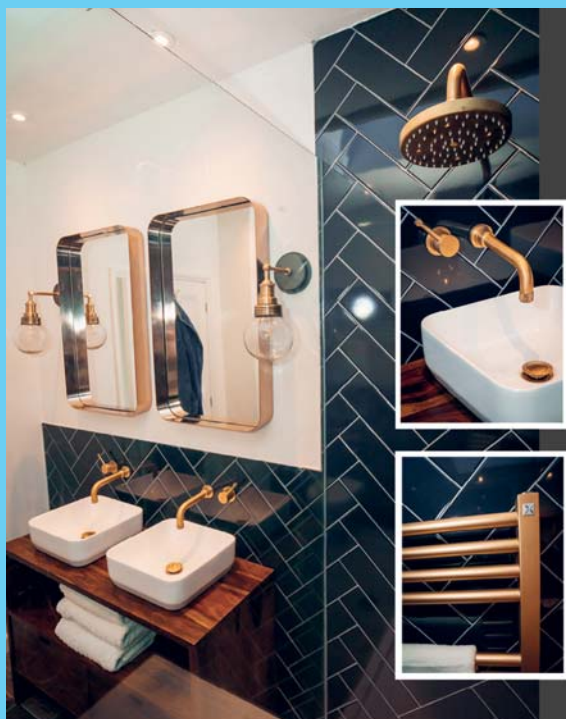
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Women and men in Zimbabwe are hungry to provide a more hopeful future. Mums often skip meals to share with their children what little food they have.

One of these mums is Jessica Mwedzi. Drought makes every day a struggle for survival. Jessica is hungry: hungry for a good meal, hungry to earn a decent living and hungry to provide a more hopeful future for her family.

"My children crave a good meal, but I can't provide." Jessica says. "It pains me to send them to bed hungry."

Your gift could help Jessica grow drought-resistant crops. You could help her set up a water tap on her farm and learn how to grow food in the harsh climate. She'll turn her dry, dusty land into a garden of hope.

This Christian Aid Week, you can be one of the hundreds of thousands of our supporters who give, act and pray; stepping out in love for our global neighbours. With you by our side, we won't stop until everyone can live a full life, free from poverty and hunger. Christian Aid Week brings people together as one community helping those living in poverty to transform their own lives.



This Christian Aid Week (15-21 May), please:

- Give generously to help women grow crops that survive in the drought.
- Act and raise your voice for justice. Join our Loss and Damage campaign.
- Pray that families will stay strong during tough times of drought.

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Highworth Christian Aid Committee.





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News from the Highworth Lions' Den

April saw the launch of our Big Spring and Jubilee Raffle. There are some really good prizes up for grabs in addition to the top prizes of £250.00, £150.00, and a fantastic gourmet meal at The Highworth, including hampers, champagne, and vouchers, all for only £1. Tickets are available from the Lions charity shop at Newburgh Place, and many other outlets in the town and surrounding villages.

A quick word about spectacles. Did you know that one of the main focuses of Lions Clubs International is on eyesight? This ranges from the eradication of preventable blindness to setting up an eye hospital and training centre in Ghana, sponsoring eye camps to correct vision-related problems, to providing glasses. We collect thousands of pairs. These are sent to the Lions Club in Chichester where they are sorted and sent to developing countries around the world.

Unfortunately, the operation at Chichester was suspended during lockdown and all Clubs in the country have large stocks of them. The activity in

Chichester is now up and running and so we decided to take a trip in our van to the other Lions Clubs in North Wiltshire to collect their spectacles and deliver them to Chichester. Job done!

We are on the lookout for staff for our charity shop. We are looking for people who can give a regular commitment every week to work one or more shifts in the shop with our existing staff. If you are interested, please give me a call to discuss the details.

Donations in March were Ukraine-related:

£500.00 to the Disaster Emergency Committee Ukraine Appeal.

£670.00 to Lions Clubs International Foundation Ukraine Appeal. This included the donation of £162.45 made from the craft fair in March. We also made donations of clothing, etc. from the charity shop to the local appeal.

Rodney Davis T: 0345 833 9831

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Helen Browning

Spring Burger

This is a world-class burger with an amazingly fragrant, quick and simple pesto made with pungent wild garlic as showcased for Spring by Honest Burgers

400g Helen Browning's Organic Minced Beef (hand mould in to 4 beef patties)

1 pack of Helen Browning's Organic Smoked Streaky Bacon

4 Brioche Buns

Slices of mature cheddar

Wild Garlic Pesto (see recipe below)

Rocket and Pickles to dress

100g Wild Garlic (have some fun foraging – it smells amazing!)

50g Parmesan grated

50g hazelnuts, skinned and toasted or pinenuts

Olive oil

Lemon juice to taste

Salt and pepper



Step 1. Thoroughly wash your wild garlic and place in a food processor, blitz until fairly well broken up.

Step 2. Next add your Parmesan and process further, this will help to break down the garlic leaves.

Step 3. Finally add your hazelnuts. When the nuts are added you will want to have your olive oil to hand; turn the machine back on, and add olive oil to your desired consistency.

Step 4. Add salt, pepper and lemon juice to taste.

Step 5. You can always make this more traditionally and slowly in a pestle and mortar too

Also delicious thrown through pasta, swirled through soups and stews or served as a condiment to baked potatoes or a perfectly roast chicken. Try using it as a salad dressing or popping a few dabs into your favourite sandwich.

Sport Compiled by Jason Daniels

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



Wrag Barn Golf Club



Captains win the Captain's drive

It felt very early on a March Sunday morning for the 'Captain's Drive' as 140 golfers arrived for a bacon roll and an 8am shotgun start. After a week of rain the conditions weren't ideal, but it didn't stop a number of teams from posting some amazing scores. Our new Club Captain, Dave McGrory, presented the prizes to those who won 'Nearest the Pin'; namely John Thomas, Simon Cox, Jack Seaman and Duncan Case, then to the team that came second overall. He became rather bashful as it became apparent that the team of new Captains had won the top prize.

Congratulations to the 'Nearest the Pin' winners, our runners up Shaun Matthews, Kevin Sandhu, Lee Welch, Stuart Morris and our winners (pictured L-R) Dave McGrory, James White, Jac Brownsell and Steve Gulley. Wishing the latter four a fantastic year as Captains at Wrag Barn.

Verity Manners W: www.wragbarn.com

Highworth Town Football Club

Approaching the end of March, HTFC sat eleventh in the table after a four match

unbeaten run in which only a single goal was conceded. The enforced personnel change player-wise has seen numerous youngsters given their chance and the effort and commitment shown has been rewarded with results. At the time of writing, and with six games to go, the target is to better the points tally achieved in their only completed Southern League season in 2018/19.

Derek Lloyd

Highworth Walking Football Club

Our Over-65's fielded two teams in a friendly competition against two strong Abbeymead sides on 09 March. Highworth Blues came out as competition winners remaining undefeated, drawing 0-0 against Abbeymead Yellows and beating Abbeymead Reds 1-0, with the winning goal scored by Danny Cross from a tight angle. Both teams and all players put in superb disciplined performances against two very competitive teams.

The final round of matches for the Gloucester FA Over-50's and 60's leagues were completed in March, with both teams having mixed days. Our Over-50s winning two games, 2-0 against,



L-R Danny Cross, Graham Seeley, Charlie Newton, Martin Bennett, Mal Lyons, Trevor Robinson

Caldicot and 3-0 against Wotton and drawing two games; 0-0 Keynsham and 1-1 Altudion, whilst the Over-60's won.

Swindon Croquet Club

At the time of writing, working parties were busy at Swindon Croquet Club, Moredon, doing the final preparations for the start of the 2022 season due at the start of April. The three full size lawns were 'verticut', the white lining made pristine and the tricky hoop-setting task completed.

The first golf croquet tournament of the year was scheduled for 08 April when a team of low handicap players took on a team of high handicap players. This provided an opportunity for players to familiarise themselves with the new 'Advantage Golf Croquet' handicapping system. This has been introduced by the Croquet Association as a simple way for players of different abilities to compete against each other with each having an equal chance of winning. Depending on the differential between the handicaps of the two players, the lower handicap player will start on a negative score so will have to win a number of hoops before he/she actually records a positive hoop score. This replaces the system where higher handicap players were allocated a number of additional 'free' shots.

New members are always given a warm welcome at the club. Free taster sessions, where friendly tuition and equipment is provided, are available so why not give croquet a try? For more information, please email us or find us on Facebook.

Beverly Briggs

E: swindon.croquet@outlook.com

Highworth Phoenix Diving Club

Our divers are pleased to have been back on their travels again. A small team of our junior divers competed in Southampton in February and although we didn't win any medals this time, it was a great learning experience.

Proving that age is no barrier, 80-year-old Jose Adam won gold in the National Masters in Southend in March, beating her previous highest score by nine points. Our juniors are now training for the National Spring Novice Championships in Cheltenham at the beginning

of this month. If you would like to join us, just send us a message for more information.

Irene Aldridge. M: 07810 708664

W: www.highworthphoenixdiving.wordpress.com

Shrivenham Cricket Club Established 1854

By the time you read this, our new pavilion will be in use and very gratefully welcomed and received. It was handed over initially on 20th April but with reservations as 'the snagging' had yet to be completed. This will necessitate some work on the part of the Cricket Club as we need to transfer our equipment from Shrivenham Memorial Hall over to the new pavilion.

We have been working industriously on our square, in the meantime, in preparation for the coming start of the 2022 season. The last storm reinforced our decision to replace one of our sight-screens and this has been ordered but delivery is not guaranteed! We have also decided to purchase a new mower after an informative and positive demonstration at Shrivenham Recreation Ground.

Our Junior section organised by our coach, Naveed Akram, will commence with Dynamos (8-11 year-olds) at 0930-1030 hours on **07 May** through every Saturday to **25 May**. This will be followed on each of those Saturdays with All Stars (5-8 yrs.) from 1030 to 1130 hour at Shrivenham Recreation Ground.

For further information and booking please see the AllStars website or contact Naveed on 07879 101284.

We commence our Division 6 Wiltshire league fixtures with a home game against Bishops Cannings on **Saturday 07 May** although there will be no normal 'between innings' tea as was decided by the Wiltshire Leagues.

Our home fixtures for June are as follows:

4th home to Allington, 11th home to Biddestone 3 and 25th home to Blunsdon all starting at 1pm.

We hope to see a few spectators, even if it is only to have a nose at the new pavilion!

Anyone interested in trying their own cricket prowess, please contact Martin Hammond on 07890 626912.



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Highworth Town Council New Neighbourhood Plan (NP2)

The Neighbourhood Plan Committee would like to thank everyone that attended the last workshop focusing on the Town Centre. We were delighted to see so many of you attending as your views are important in updating the Plan. We have since run a Focus Group with the town centre businesses, sharing the views of residents from Workshop Four.

For residents who couldn't make it to the town centre workshop or any previous workshop, you are still able to participate by using the link below. Alternatively, you can pop into the Visitor Centre, North View Community Centre, Library or Highworth Town Council Offices to pick up paper copies.


<https://highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

Save the date: Saturday 21 May

We will be running Workshop Five where we will be looking at valued landscapes and open spaces, including the Old Golf Course. The event will be held in the Community Room, Gilberts Lane, 9am to 2pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

*Highworth Town Council
Neighbourhood Plan Committee*



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From our MP

I come from a family of teachers, and ensuring that all children have the best education and opportunities has been a really important issue for me throughout my time in politics.

Having gone to a school at the bottom of the league tables, and seeing friends go down the wrong path, I absolutely understand the importance of a quality education and plentiful opportunities for young people. I regularly visit our local schools and colleges and have seen the fantastic work done by staff and teachers. These visits are also useful in allowing me to gather information I can feed to Ministers and help shape education policy.

The Government recently announced the Education White Paper, Opportunities for All and the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper. Both papers set out detailed plans to improve provision.

Since 2010 we have already seen significant improvements in Swindon. Funding per pupil is up significantly and, in addition to various school expansions and improvements, we have delivered eight new Primary Schools and three new Secondary Schools.

Alongside the White Paper, and following a review which recognised the system was not delivering the improved outcomes it should be for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, despite increased investment, the Government has also announced a SEND and alternative provision green paper.

The green paper will consult on a stronger national system for SEND children, and will support young people in Swindon to access more

specialist and supported mainstream places, improve the system of assessment and decision making and address the issues of integrating health services.

I am passionate about ensuring young people have a solid foundation on which to build success in later life and a good education is a vital part of this. I will continue to encourage the Government to push further in areas such as: allowing communities to hold academies to account, extending after-school and holiday clubs and highlighting the importance of STEM subjects to equip students with the skills for new hi-tech jobs.

Every child deserves access to the opportunities which allow them to fulfil their potential and, as ever, I am happy to feed in any of your suggestions on what more needs to be done.

Justin Tomlinson,

North Swindon Conservative MP

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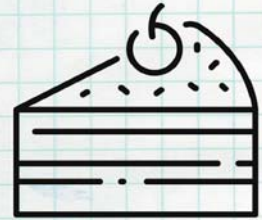
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 SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST 2022 – 2PM TO 4PM

MEET US OUTSIDE THE COUNCIL OFFICES IN GILBERTS LANE, HIGHWORTH

 **TOGETHER WE CAN KEEP HIGHWORTH TIDY!** 

FARINGDON

Faringdon and District U3A

We will be meeting on **Thursday 12 May**, when our speaker will be Chrissie Harper. Chrissie will talk about her work with tawny owls, barn owls, little owls and kestrels at Chrissie's Owls, Stonesfield near Charlbury, where she provides a rescue service for injured wild owls and captive bred owls that need caring for and rehoming. This is a non-profit organisation. Chrissie will bring several of her captive bred owls to help illustrate her talk.

The talk will start at 2.30pm and be followed by refreshments for everyone. All members are welcome to attend, and visitors are required to pay £1.50 each.

NB. We want everyone coming to u3a to feel safe and protected, so we ask that you only attend general meetings if you are feeling well and are not showing signs of Covid. Please take a test if you are in any doubt and in that way we can try to safeguard all members attending talks and events.

LECHLADE

Lechlade Community Library



The library continues to thrive and we are lucky that so many members of our community are willing to give three hours of their time each fortnight to provide an essential service, not only book, audio CD and DVD loans, but also provision of local advice, a point of call for help leaflets provided by other groups and an Information centre regarding local and further afield tourist information, taxi and bus information, a provision of free computer time, printing/copying and more. If you would like to

volunteer with us, come in and talk to one of our team members.

2022 sees the library celebrate ten years as a community library and, in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, providing various events such as window displays, reading to preschool children and timelines about the Royal years. We have produced a new flag, to be displayed in May during the Flag displays in Lechlade, of which we hope you will approve.

BT are shortly upgrading the computer system and we should have a more resilient Spydus system. It has been very frustrating to the volunteers when it has not worked consistently, and we thank you for your patience when the system has crashed or gone slow.

Lastly, we wish to give our sincere thanks to one of our Directors who is stepping down after ten years of volunteer service to the library. Nigel Jones has acted as the Company Secretary since the beginning of the campaign to save the community library. He has been the link to Gloucestershire CCs support to the library, to Companies House and the Charity Commission. His position is being covered by other capable volunteers but he will be missed for his professional knowledge and his good counsel.

Tim Yeoman

Chair, Lechlade Community Library

Lechlade Gardening Club

In May, we have Richard Harvey coming to talk to us about Gloucestershire and Cotswold Gardens. Richard is a photographer and invites us to, 'Take a stroll through beautiful rose gardens, flowing herbaceous borders, Cotswold stone architecture, rolling parklands and majestic woodlands.' A virtual tour without having to get in your car!

You may also want to consider visiting Kew Gardens with the Gardening Club on **Wednesday 13 July**. The coach will depart at 9am from Oak Street, Lechlade, opposite the Jubilee Antiques Hall, and there is a car park nearby. Tickets will cost £28 each and include coach travel, entry to the gardens and a driver's tip. We are aiming to arrive at Kew at 11am and will depart for home at 4pm.

If you wish to join us, please make your cheque payable to Lechlade Gardening Club and send it to Audrey Barnes, 1 Roman Way, Lechlade, GL7 3BS.

Our usual meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the New Memorial Hall Lechlade. Membership is £5 per person per annum, after which it is £2 to attend each meeting or £3 for Visitors who are always most welcome. Membership also entitles you to 50% off Suttons seeds, 15% off other items, and 10% off plants at Burford and Bampton Garden Centres if plants are not already discounted. Current membership cards have to be shown at the checkouts.

For further information please contact 01367 253309 or 01367 252286, or speak to any member of the committee.

Lechlade Repair Café

On 12 March, the very first Lechlade Repair Café was launched in the Memorial Hall, Lechlade.

The Repair Café concept came from Martine Postma in Amsterdam in 2007 who, in 2011, went on to create the Repair Café International Foundation, which has grown to 2,295 registered Repair Cafés globally, 205 of which are in the UK.

As a journalist reporting on the ever-evolving issues around global climate change, Martine saw a significant annual increase in the volume and range of household appliances, goods and personal tech items ending up in landfill. This is primarily because manufactures are allowed to build in obsolescence and limit spare parts availability so they push the consumer to have the latest and greatest gizmo, with total disregard for environmental impact.

For the past four years, I have helped run and organise the successful Cirencester Repair Café as the technical lead repairer, helping other volunteers develop their skills and confidence to repair customer's and their own faulty items. The oldest kitchen appliance I have repaired, extending its working life, is a 53-year-old Kenwood Chef food mixer. They don't make them like they used to!

The list of portable household appliances we will attempt to repair or fix is extensive: from kettles, toasters, hairdryers, food mixers, soup makers,

vacuum cleaners, clocks, TV's, radios, CD players, PC's, laptops, sewing and some textile repairs, to toys and bicycles. We will have a go at fixing it!

Three like-minded volunteers and I opened the doors at the Lechlade Memorial Hall to offer our community repair service to Lechlade, Fairford, Highworth and all surrounding villages. As a not-for-profit volunteer group, we rely on generous customer donations to cover the cost of hiring the Memorial Hall room and to replenish consumables used for the repair. We still need some specialist tool kits and a Portable Appliance Tester, which are expensive, but necessary, items.

The Lechlade Repair Café meets every second Saturday of the month. The doors open to the public at 9.30am and we repair up to 12 noon, with the doors closing at 12.30pm.

In the near future, we will have a Facebook page where we will list the full range of appliances and products we can attempt to repair. This will also be a space where customers can ask questions and get advice on how to make simple repairs themselves.

New volunteer repairers are always welcome. If you are a skilled tradesperson, a DIY repairer or simply wish to help with receiving and booking in customer items, please contact me. We are also looking into running an actual café selling teas, coffee and cake. If there are any volunteers wishing to be part of or to help run this new part of the venture, I would love to hear from you.

We look forward to seeing you at our next Repair Café on **Saturday 07 May**.

Colin Thompson. T: 07554 230323

E: lechlade.repaircafe@gmail.com

SHRIVENHAM

Shrivenham Park Golf Club

New club captains for Shrivenham Park are due to be installed and once again we welcome Denise Shurmer and Ady Betterton to those positions; they bring a wealth of experience with them. We are also organising free junior sessions at the club by pro Richard Jeffries and we are very much hoping that some of the youngsters attending will return for more lessons, especially with the opportunity for them to become junior members.

Parkies Pals UK held a special event at our club on 11 April. Prizes and certificates were awarded to everyone who took part in the putting competition.

Whilst the social coffee and chat morning sessions will have ceased, the afternoon putting with drinks sessions have restarted in the afternoons, from 2 to 4pm, £2 per person, and we would love to welcome you there. You can borrow putters and golf balls from us so please don't worry about that, but we do ask that you wear a pair of flat soled shoes. Thanks to all the people who supported the coffee and chat sessions during the winter months.

We wish everyone a good and healthy summer, and hope to see you on our course or enjoying refreshments at our club. You don't have to be a member to see the wonderful scenery on our course; the scything group are keeping our course looking neat and tidy, as are our green keepers. There have been many improvements made during the winter months and we always have delicious food available for you to purchase and enjoy.

If you are tempted to play, please call the Club and enquire about our excellent green fee prices and membership deals.

Carole Lee E: cleefairways57@yahoo.co.uk

SOUTH MARSTON

South Marston Gardening Club

On **Monday 09 May**, we will have a visit from Carol Gubler who will be talking to us about 'Aspects of Fuchsias'. Carol has run a specialist fuchsia nursery, Little Brook Fuchsias, in Ash Green since 1986. She's currently Assistant Secretary of the British Fuchsia Society and has other roles, such as a show manager. Over the years she has written a book, written for Garden News, and even made a couple of appearances on Gardeners' World!

The talk will take place in South Marston Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. There is a £3 entry fee on the door, or you have the opportunity to join the Gardening Club for £12 (annual membership). Refreshments are included and there is an optional raffle.

A warm welcome awaits you. Parking is available at Old Vicarage Lane, next to the school.

For more information, visit our Facebook page, '[southmarstongardeningclub](https://www.facebook.com/southmarstongardeningclub)', or contact Angela on 07789 068340.

STANTON FITZWARREN

Church Services at St Leonard Parish church, Stanton Fitzwarren

Sunday 01 May Morning Praise, 9.30am

Sunday 08 May Family Service 'Being a church family', 11am

Sunday 15 May Team Service for Rogation, 10am
We welcome everyone to Stanton for a celebration of farming and food.

Sunday 22 May Holy Communion, 9.30am

Sunday 29 May No Service at St Leonard, 10am
We are welcome to the Team service at South Marston.

The church building will be open on every Wednesday in school term time from 10am to 4pm. You can to organise for the building to be left open for you to visit safely by telephoning 01793 762935.

Please visit www.stantonchurch.info for updates.

EVERY CLOUD



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Police, Fire, Ambulance	Emergency	999
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

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

COLLEGES

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

LAW & ORDER

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

COUNCILS

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

FIRE SAFETY

Home fire safety check	0800 389 7849
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DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS

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

LIBRARY

Highworth Library	01793 463500
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RECREATION

Highworth Rec	01793 762602
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PHARMACIES

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

PRESCHOOL/NURSERY

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

SCHOOLS

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

TAXIS

V Cars	01793 701701
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TRAINS

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

OTHER SERVICES

Citizens Advice Bureau	08444 994114
Trading Standards (business)	0207 830 6000
Trading Standards (consumers)	03454 04 05 06
Alcohol and Drug Service	01793 695405
Pest Control	08000 988652
Samaritans	01793 537373
Women's Refuge	01793 610610



Highworth

Methodist Church



CRAFT GROUP

This is a very friendly group that meet on the
1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month
from 10am-1pm

Just come along with your knitting, crotchet,
sewing, patchwork, quilting etc.
or just come along for a chat
and make some new friends.

Tea, coffee and biscuits are available.
All are welcome







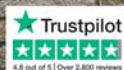

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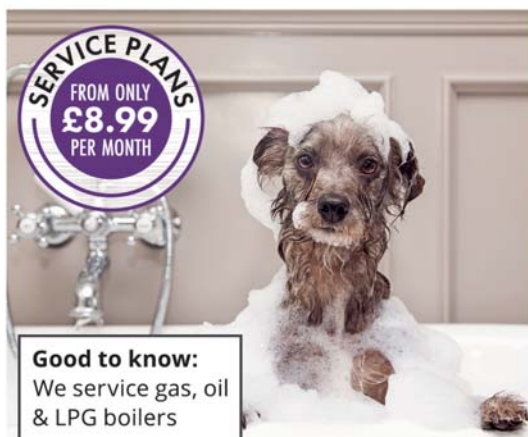
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