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First Thoughts

Jubilee celebrations are all around us! This month we mark the 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's reign and all over the country communities have been planning ways to celebrate this Platinum occasion.

I have memories of the Silver Jubilee in 1977 because I was only five years old and we made flags in school, but I don't recall much of the Golden Jubilee or even the one that was marked ten years ago. I'm sure that the Platinum Jubilee will be more memorable, coming as it does on the back of a very unusual two years when our opportunities to gather and celebrate have been so limited. We're probably all ready for a party!

There is a long history of Jubilee that actually has nothing to do with celebrating the reign of a monarch. We can find it in the Hebrew Bible, written several thousand years ago. For the communities of ancient Israel, every 50th year was a Jubilee year. It was a way in which the people affirmed their trust in God's faithfulness and provision and it was a call to the rich to trust that if they treated their creditors compassionately they would still get an adequate return. The Jubilee was a year in which those in slavery were to be set free, debts were to be written off and property restored to people. It was a year to

focus on living simply and in gratitude to God. It was a year to remember that we are all bound together by our common humanity and that where one person suffers or is in need we are all diminished.



Right now we are in a cost of living crisis. Prices are rising uncontrollably and many people are facing impossible choices; do we heat the house or eat today? Even people who six months ago felt reasonably comfortable are feeling the pinch and only the very wealthy seem to have any way to absorb these everyday increases. In the light of this injustice, wouldn't it be amazing if we could mark this Jubilee in a much more radical way? Wouldn't it be

amazing if people could be given a way out of financial slavery? Wouldn't it be amazing if debts could be written off and people's sense of dignity and worth restored? Wouldn't it be amazing if this Jubilee marked the beginning of a profound change in mindset and practice for all those who hold any kind of power, so that when we look back on the 70th anniversary of the Queen's reign we can see it reflected in a better way of life, with greater equity and fairness for all?

Rev. Rachael Wilson

LINK magazine

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Contributions:

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

Email is preferred; otherwise deliver to The Lighthouse Bookshop.

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

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

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

Deadlines:

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

Happy Birthday, Link!

You may think Her Majesty's Jubilee is enough to celebrate. No, no. A little bird tells me that Highworth's own Link magazine is 50 years old this month! That just blows my mind! That's around 500 published issues of your community magazine. Gosh!

I've looked through the archives and the very first issue was produced in June 1972 by the churches of Highworth. Their heart was to bring the church to the community and over the years the magazine has grown to include news from the wider community of Highworth and the surrounding villages. Here at Link HQ, we all feel very privileged to be part of something of such significance.

We'll be publishing a special commemorative 50th anniversary issue to celebrate; not only Link but also the people of Highworth who have spent their lives working to make this a vibrant and caring community.

This is where we need you!

We'd love to hear your stories from the past 50 years; stories of significance. We'd especially love to hear from or about people who have been involved with Link over the years. Stories that tell of the history of Highworth, of the heart of

Highworth; those are the things we want to hear. Whilst we can't promise that every story will be published, it would be wonderful to have an amazing selection to choose from. Please send in your photos too!

Have a think. What can you remember about Highworth over the last 50 years? School stories. Business stories. Stories about Highworth characters. Exciting stories. Stories of achievement. We want to celebrate!

You can email your articles and photographs to Rachael at editor@highworthlink.co.uk, or hand them in to the Lighthouse Bookshop on the High Street. Be sure to have them entered by 01 August so that we can have the time to read through them all.

Looking forward to seeing what you have to tell us!



Rachael, Editor

Can You Find the Queen's Face!



Our tricky elves in the Link magazine design office have been having some fun this Jubilee and have hidden tiny images of the Queen's face throughout this issue of Link. Can you find them?

Make sure you check each page carefully and count up how many you see. Then, when you think you've found them all, email your answer to editor@highworthlink.co.uk.

The lucky winner will receive a £15 voucher for the beautiful Highworth Emporium. All entries must be received by **Sunday 26 June** at the latest to be entered into our free prize draw.

Remember to include your name, age if you're under-18, and an email address so that we can contact you if you're the winner.

Have fun!

Easter Fun for CAP Friends

30 volunteers from the Highworth branch of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) recently put on a lovely event for the many households they are supporting! Thank you so much to all who made this possible! An Easter egg hunt, handmade craft activities, kid's colouring competition, delicious dinner and desserts and take-home Easter eggs, all thanks to the Co-op and other generous donors, who made the event special for those who attended.

As costs of living rise and debts become harder to manage, CAP are working hard to help as many as they can. Since opening the Highworth branch eight years ago, we have seen over 60 households go debt-free and continue to have appointments available for free, professional debt advice.

CAP also helps in other ways:

- CAP Job Club courses are designed to help jobseekers gain the tools and confidence they need to get back to work. Over 50% of the course attendees have found work.
- CAP Lifeskills courses are friendly, community-based groups that work to help attendees gain the needed skills to lift the pressures of life on a low income. So far we have helped over 50 households through this course.



- CAP Money is a short, three-session money management course to enable you to feel in control of your finances.

You can find Kathryn or Eoli and other CAP volunteers at The Bridge Centre in Sheep Street, Highworth if you want an informal chat.

You can contact us directly via email: kathrynford@capuk.org and eolipieri@capuk.org or you can contact our freephone helpline on 0800 328 0006 if you're worrying about how to manage your debts and want a home visit. The friendly team will connect you with a Highworth-based debt coach; Kathryn or Eoli.

More information can be found online: www.capuk.org



Big City, Bright Lights at Westrop School



We really enjoyed our Big City, Bright Lights topic last term.

We started off by finding out all about London as it is today and looked closely at and described many of its famous buildings. We had great fun researching, designing, making, and evaluating vehicles for Paddington Bear to drive around London and learned about chassis design, wheels, axles and the body.

We were so proud to have written and illustrated our own story books about a magical London adventure and enjoyed sharing them with each other in class.

We then travelled back in time to 1666 to learn about the events of The Great Fire of London. As historians, we looked carefully at clues as to why the fire spread so quickly. We created our own Pudding Lane Bakery and even made our own bread! It was YUMMY!

We painted some awesome pictures using warm colours and then used printing ink to create a burnt building image over the top.

At the end of the topic, we were all very excited to meet the Stratton Firefighters who helped us understand how firefighting has changed over time. Their equipment was very different to that used in the Great Fire of London! We discovered more about the special clothing they wear, fired water from the hoses, sat in the fire engine and looked closely at all the tools and lifesaving equipment. A fantastic, fun-packed morning!

*Clare Bridge
Year 2, Otter Class*





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Spring has Sprung at Eastrop Infant School and Nursery

The children have been enjoying the wonderful weather and the great outdoors. We have plenty of open space at our school for the children to explore during break times and lesson times and we have been making the most of our outdoor learning classroom too, with recent additions to further enhance the children's learning experiences.

This term has seen the introduction of some new outdoor play equipment. The children have loved using the up-and-over climbing wall and climbing cubes. These also double up as fantastic den building materials, where possibilities are endless. "This is our bird hide, we can sit in here and watch the birds fly past. You have to be quiet though," said one child. The new 'build your own trim trail' has been a huge hit in our outdoor construction area. The children have been developing their skills in teamwork and turn-taking whilst, most importantly, having lots of fun!

Children take part in weekly Eastrop Ranger's outdoor lessons where stories are shared around the log circle, learning takes place about the local wildlife and their habitats, seasons are observed as they come and go and discussions are held about the importance of looking after our world.



We think the outdoors is a wonderful place to learn, but don't just take our word for it. Here are some comments from our very own Year 2s:

"We get to enjoy the fresh air and it is really good for our health."

"I love making things from

nature. We have made wands, practised whittling with potato peelers and built mud men!"

"It is better than being in the classroom because there are lots of natural materials to explore and you can observe all the animals and trees better."

Shine a Light on Highworth Candles



Tony Brewster is a man known to many of you. These days he can often be found wandering around the Saturday market in Highworth, making a particular beeline for the sweet stall! Tony has long been a champion of local entrepreneurs and businesses and was delighted to meet Nesren Aldiek at Highworth market who was there with her company, Highworth Candles.

In chatting with her, Tony discovered that Nesren only established her business in 2020 and, despite the series of pandemic lockdowns, has been able to forge a strong and loyal customer base in the town and the surrounding communities. Nesren was delighted to tell Tony that she was also chosen as Artist of the Month by Faringdon Town Council back in July 2021.

Nesren explained, "A big part of my inspiration comes from living in the peaceful and quiet countryside of Wiltshire and that is reflected in my candles. We are the perfect choice for shoppers looking for top quality candles and British-made home decor."

Highworth Candles is focused on creating products with natural soy wax and vegan fragrance oils. They also ship their candles nationwide in sustainable and recyclable packaging and have a strong presence online, selling on the handmade marketplace, Etsy, as well as social media.

Why not check them out? In the meantime, you could head down to the Saturday market in Highworth to see what other goodies are available. Who knows? You might even bump into Tony! (But will he share his sweetsies?)

Highworth Town Council Easter Egg Design Competition



Thank you to all those who entered our competition. It was very difficult for us to pick the winners as they were all winners in our eyes! A big thank you to Highworth CO-OP who provided the chocolate prizes!



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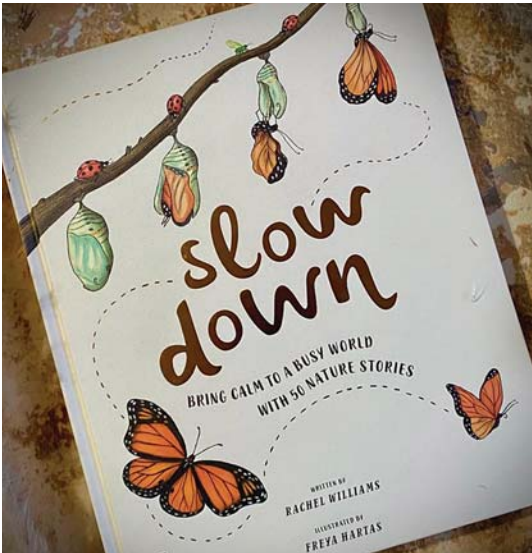
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Transitions at Westgate Nursery



In early years, we often think about things in terms of transition: the process, or a period, of changing from one state or condition to another. We are all experiencing numerous transitions throughout each and every day, both planned and unplanned. Often we take for granted how easily we 'grown-ups' can negate these adjustments without a second thought, so it is important we recognise and support our little ones with the transitions they encounter.

This is especially relevant as we prepare our oldest 'Littles' with their upcoming transition from life at nursery into their next exciting chapter; school. There are a number of ways in which we do this and we are very fortunate that we are able to work in partnership with our local schools to ensure this next step is less of a leap!

Change is present in everything around us and Mother Nature is always on hand to provide examples which act as the best resources for any lesson or classroom. Here at Westgate, we continually strive to attune and honour the seasonal frequency to maintain harmony and wellness amongst our little ones' minds, bodies and spirits.

Each season brings a specific resonance to us. Spring is like 'The Great Unfolding'. Activity increases as plans start to roll out and action is

taken. New life is given to ideas as dreams and hopes start to take shape. Over recent months, we have seen spring turn to summer. Our focus, alongside the changing seasons, has been firmly on rebirth and growth. We planted our seeds, saw the bluebells come into bloom, sang about the five little ducks and (quite simply) enjoyed the onset of sunny skies.

Our oldest 'Littles' have been observing and exploring physical change through the Miracle of Metamorphosis. The children have nurtured their very own butterflies into existence! Alongside our library's firm favourites, 'The Hungry Caterpillar' and Rachel Williams' 'Slow Down', we have taken the children on a journey from egg to caterpillar to chrysalis, culminating in the emerging and liberation of the butterflies. How better than this to provoke conversations about change, growth and progression? Through the nurturing of these tiny creatures we are enabling our little ones to begin this transition of their own.

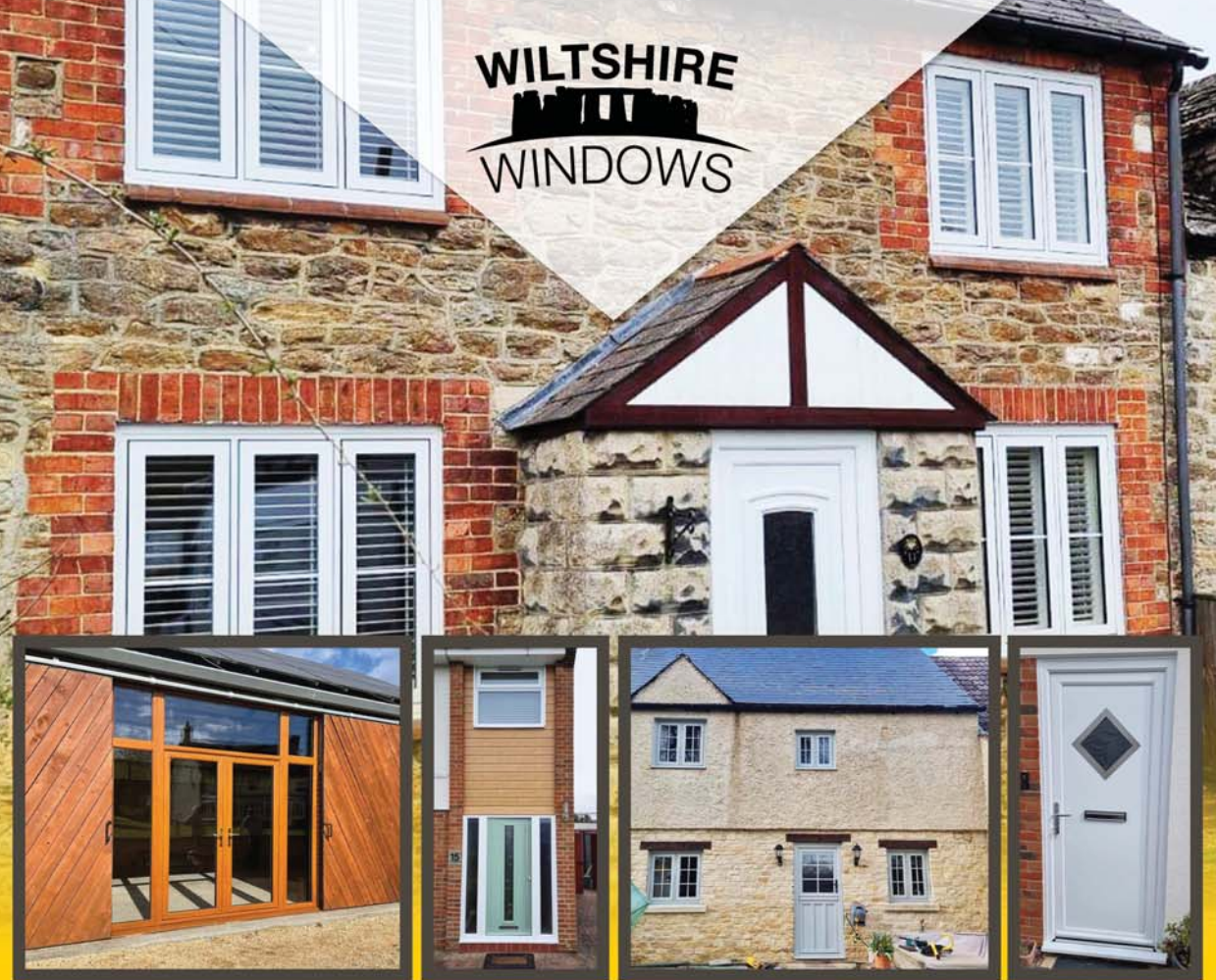
I'm sure you would agree the parallels are plain to see. It is time for our children to emerge and prepare to fly.

Shelley Murkin,
Manager



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A big thank you to everyone who came along and supported May Day in its eleventh year. To Fandangos, Lance, Richard and Ken who always get stuck in and to stall holders, High Street businesses, bands and acts. We hope you had a fab day and enjoyed the event!

As most of the present committee have been connected to the event from the start and would

like to retire, we are looking for new committee members and helpers with fresh ideas and fitter legs for this successful event to continue. If you would like to find out what is involved, please contact us.

Find us on Facebook: 'Highworth May Day' or email sandra.rendall1@gmail.com



Highworth Scouts Quiz

After an enforced absence of three years, the Scouts Quiz returned in April this year.

Following a titanic struggle throughout the evening, it was the New Arrivals who ended up as the 2022 winners. They overturned a two-point deficit going into the final round to triumph over The Toddletons by a single point, with Serendipity in third place. Congratulations to Deborah and Kevin O'Donoghue, plus their daughter Claire and husband Ade.

Thanks to everybody who took part. The number of teams was down, which was disappointing, and this was reflected in the lower amount raised. However, we still made £340 for the group.

Hopefully, the quiz will be back next year, with the likely date being 14 April 2023.

Finally, thanks to Simpsons of Highworth for their continued sponsorship over many years.

Highworth Historical Society

The last talk of this season will be on Wednesday 22 June, when Charles Baxter will be our speaker for a talk about the Wilton Windmill.

As usual, we meet at St. Michael's Hall on Lechlade Road, with the doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Visitors are always welcome, £3 payable at the door.

Our next season will start on **Wednesday 28 September** with our AGM and a talk. We are also hoping, after an enforced break of three years, to hold an Open Day at the end of October. More information to follow nearer the time.

For more information, please contact Chris Suter 01793 764811 or chrissuter16@googlemail.com

Market Vendors Wanted!

In addition to our Saturday market pitches, we also have 'casual pitches' which allow vendors the flexibility of having a stall without a weekly commitment. Is this something you would be interested in?

If you are a craft or produce seller and you would like to add Highworth Market to your schedule, please get in touch as we now have availability.

Please email admin@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk or call our office on 01793 762377



Freedom Church in Highworth

Some of you will have noticed an advert in the May edition of Link advertising a new church, Freedom Church Wiltshire, meeting in Highworth. Just in case you're wondering "why yet another church, and another Methodist Church at that," let me briefly explain.

One of the great strengths of the Christian church is that it has always had a variety of expressions and emphases. We believe God is creative and value the different ways we can all express our Christian faith.

Recently, a number of us, over quite a wide geographical area, felt led by God to join with the Free Methodist Church UK and our desire is simply to offer another alternative for those wishing to embrace a particular focus and understanding of the Bible.

Therefore, with others from Highworth, Shrivenham, Royal Wootton Bassett and

Brinkworth, we have formed Freedom Church, Wiltshire.

Our style of worship aims to give God space and we always focus on being open to the Holy Spirit. As well as worship, prayer, bible readings and a bible-centred sermon, we have time to be quiet and to allow God to speak to us. We look to draw on the rich heritage of Methodism, founded by John Wesley and work that out in today's world.

At the end of the day, we, along with the other churches in Highworth, affirm that really there is only one church in our town; we just meet in separate places with slightly different traditions and understanding of the Bible, but ultimately, we all believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Saviour of the world.

Contact Lou on 07548 371982 for more information.

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or email forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com

Visit Highworth and the Jubilee

At Visit Highworth we are really looking forward to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee!

As part of the celebrations, we will be holding a drop-in workshop for children where they can make and decorate their very own Jubilee Crown. We will also have storytime sessions in the Museum during the day. There is a full weekend of events in Highworth which we are sure everyone will enjoy and we are so happy to be taking part.

Next month we will be running another storytime with Neil Griffiths. We had such a good time and the children had so much fun at the event we held in April that we thought we would do it all again!

Go to www.visithighworth.co.uk ,
E: info@visithighworth.co.uk or call 01793 764440 for more details on our events.



You can also find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Helen Lacey, Centre Manager



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'We worked our butts off during Covid.'

I was truly inspired by my chat with Claire Waldron, manager of Highworth Travel. The pandemic was a double-whammy for them.

Like so many businesses, the company had zero sales during most of the 18-month emergency (March 2020 to September 2021).

But to compound their woes, the team spent a lot of their downtime issuing refunds for planned travel that simply could not happen. These refunds included commissions earned on pre-pandemic sales. Ouch!

Opened in 1983, Highworth Travel is a completely independent travel agency operating at 27 High Street (www.highworthtravel.co.uk). Operationally, they share some booking processes with Advantage Travel, a consortium of independent travel agents. "We do it all from initial enquiry, through booking, ticketing and being on standby to resolve the occasional hiccup," says Claire. She joined the business straight from school in 1986 and has maintained her enthusiasm for travel ever since. Like her colleagues, Nikki Doré and Lynne Richards, Claire is personable, someone you immediately feel is trustworthy and 'on your side' as travel gets more complicated.

Recently, a very satisfied customer posted this message on a local Facebook page: "I cannot begin to say how good they are," he praised. Clearly others think so too because this gushing post attracted 25 universally positive comments and 160 'likes'. Oh wow, what a team, and right here on our doorstep. No endless waiting in a queue on a phone call that's never answered, or a naff email from an airline saying how "terribly sorry" they are for cancelling your flight.

Highworth Travel trades on personal service. "We



Nikki, Lynne and Claire (Photo: Pauline Godwin, Highworth Camera Club)

get to know our clients and what they like," Claire explains. "A problem won't be passed to someone anonymous in Customer Services. The buck stops here; we deal with it."

But surely it's so easy to book travel online these days, I ask. "I think Covid has taught travellers that they'd like to

have someone to speak to when something goes wrong," Claire replies. "If there are any issues they can ask us." And of course, a good travel agent knows how to join together the various strands of any itinerary.

A few years ago, before I knew about Highworth Travel, I booked a long-distance flight using an apparently reputable national chain. When we got to Heathrow (in plenty of time), the check-in had long closed. We were rushed through the airport and only just made our flight in a stressed-out state of exhaustion. When we got home, I asked the far-away agent how this happened. "Didn't you get our email about the earlier departure time?" he asked. Surely something so important needs a phone call, the kind of personal touch you'd expect from a local trader with a jealously-guarded local reputation.

The reason Highworth Travel has survived is the underlying support of their London-based owner, Elliot Cohen, and prudent drawing on emergency loans to tide them over. The whole team is determined to see the business recover and to get over this financial hurdle. It's relieved smiles all round as customers re-engage with UK and international travel and shop locally.

Highworth Travel, you've earned your stripes as our High Street Hero for June Link.

Adrian Young

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Dear Editor,

I would like to say thank you to the kind people who helped me when I fell outside the Old Post Office in Highworth on 18 April. It's so good to live in such a kind and lovely community.

Kind regards, Gill Sheppard



Hedgehog-Friendly Highworth

Hedgehog-Friendly Highworth is a Facebook-based group looking to encourage people to undertake hedgehog-friendly actions and raise awareness about this precious animal.

Please join us on Facebook by searching for 'Hedgehog Friendly Highworth' or by scanning this QR code.



Highworth Craft Fair

After a break of almost three years, we're pleased to announce that the Highworth Craft Fair will take place at the Council Room in Gilberts Lane, on **Saturday 18 June**, 9am to 1pm. Everyone is welcome!

Gemma Dennis



Come & join us

Jubilee Forget Me Not Café Drop-in



In honour of Her Majesty The Queen
Highworth Saturday Plantinum Jubilee

Jubilee Music, Cakes & Refreshments

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Arts Section *Compiled by Iain Barnwell*

Contact: HighworthLinkArts@gmail.com



Highworth Artists' Society Exhibition Winner



We asked visitors on the first Saturday to vote for their favourite painting and the winner was 'Hopeful Cat' painted by Christine Purdy.

Christine is a Highworth resident and has been a member of our society since 2017. She is a prolific painter with a distinct, energetic and colourful style.

At the time of writing, our Spring Exhibition still has time to run so I can only say thank you to those who have visited us. We hope to see you again soon as we are holding a one-day exhibition on **Saturday 04 June** as part of Highworth celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The exhibition will be held in the Community Room at the Highworth Council Offices.

Silver Band Summer Season

The summer season is nearly upon us. Highworth Silver Band is looking forward to taking this step towards normality for us and the Highworth community.

We will be taking part in the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations with our principal cornet player, Simon, playing the special 'Majesty' bugle call just before the Lighting of the Highworth Torch on the evening of **Thursday 02 June**, and a performance on the Podium at 3pm on **Saturday 04 June**. We are very excited to be able to play a part in this historic event.

We recently played our first gig at Lechlade's vintage vehicle rally. We also have summer performances booked at Fairford's Jubilee Celebrations, the Memory Café at the Community Centre and Longworth Fête.

Our Improvers'/Juniors' band goes from strength-to-strength under Linda's expert tuition and they will be an important part of our summer's activities. Rehearsals for this band are on Saturdays at 9.45am at the band hall on Lechlade Road. There's a really friendly, fun atmosphere

and if you are, or know, someone that would like to learn to play a brass instrument, return to playing after a break, or a player that wants to try a different instrument, we would love to hear from you.

Our senior band rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7.30pm at the band hall. We are a friendly non-contesting band that focuses on playing at local events and providing an environment where players at all levels can enjoy making music with friends

If you would like to contact us regarding tuition, playing with the band or booking a performance please get in touch via our e-mail:

highworth.sb@gmail.com We also have a website <https://www.highworthsilverband.org> and a Facebook page (search for [Highworth Silver Band](#).)

Here's to a happy, healthy and musical summer for the whole community.

*Keith Waight, Highworth Silver Band
Acting Communications Officer*

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Update on Highworth Amateur Dramatics Society (HADS)

HADS will be back in (show) business very soon, so watch this space for updates!

If you'd like to register your interest in joining the group (onstage or behind the scenes), please contact us by email at:

hadshighworth@gmail.com or find us on Facebook, **HADS - Highworth Amateur Dramatics Society**



Elanor Keeble, HADS Secretary

The Potting Shed

*Life's detritus settled nicely within my outhouse,
Discarded artefacts packed under layers of dust,
Some rusted, some busted beyond repair
There creeping beasties populate the crevices,
Safe in their unmolested, under-mortgaged premises.
Cardboard boxes, odd sock, his perhaps.
Shards of china, one antique recliner,
Springs gone – boing – boing.
Wooden table, rustic but unstable,
Here's that extravagant sable.
When did I wear that?
Not with this moth-eaten hat!
Kitchen tiles, various, piles of 'em.
Left-overs not selected to fill those decorative spaces.
Black sacks, tied tightly,
Hiding their unsightly contents.
Ancient computers, routers,
Once most up-to-date, now completely useless.
Here's a school trunk, its battered frame
Custodian of their childhood journeys.
Now filled with mother's yearning, empty nests.
'The best years of their lives?'
A low-slung sun persuades me of time passing.
I drop the latch, leaving with nostalgic tread.
Yes, everything's maturing nicely in my potting shed.*

Nanette Maver, 2018

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Kelmscott Manor

Kelmscott Manor was the inspirational country home of William Morris; poet, designer, socialist and father of the Arts and Crafts movement.

This Grade I listed house was loved by Morris for its traditional craftsmanship in harmony with the surrounding landscape, inspiring many of his most important designs and writings. Today, visitors will find an outstanding collection of unique furnishings chosen by Pre-Raphaelite painter-poet Dante Gabriel Rossetti and pieces from each of Morris' London homes. The iconic portrait of William's wife, Jane Morris by Rossetti, The Blue Silk Dress hangs in the White Room.



The domestic charm and ambience of the house is still retained and visitors can draw inspiration from the Manor and surrounding gardens. The Manor is set in the beautiful village of Kelmscott and the River Thames is located just a few hundred yards away. The Tearoom, with its delicious home-made meals and cakes, is a must, whilst the Shop is packed with decorative and unusual items ideal for gifts or mementoes.

After major restoration and improvement works, we are looking forward to welcoming visitors back to Morris' "heaven on earth".

The Manor is open to the public Thursday to Saturdays from April to October.

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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 9:45pm

Lighting of the Beacon



The Programme so far...

SATURDAY 4TH JUNE – High Street – 8am to 6pm

Air Cadets Parade, Queens Platinum Jubilee Tart Competition, Craft/Produce Stalls, Walking Float Parade, Art Display by Visit Highworth, Storytime Reading in Visit Highworth, Music Performances including Chelsea Millard & Steven Tilley, Silver Band, Vocalists, Warneford School Portrait Competition, Bake Off Tent, Caricature Artist, Walking Magician, Fairground Rides, Photo Display by Highworth Historical Society, Food Vendors, Gin & Cocktail Bar, Craft/Produce Stalls, small Fairground, Eastrop School Dance, allocated seating area to sit and enjoy the celebrations!

And much more...

SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 2022 – The Elms Rec 10:30am to 5pm

Large Screen to Display Platinum Jubilee Pageant, Air Cadets – VR Simulator, Classic Car Display (Transport Through The Ages), Falconry Display, Warneford School (Games Through The Ages), Inflatable Sports, Funfair, Police Car (including finger printing), Fire Truck, Face Painting, Farmer Gows, Try Your Hand at Bowling, Penalty Shoot Out, Queens Platinum Jubilee Interactive Trail, HTC Football Club Bar

And much more...



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News from the Highworth Lions' Den

You will see below that the Lions Club made another donation to the Ukraine disaster and I think I should explain where this money went to and what it was used for.

The first donation went to the Disaster Emergency Committee Ukraine Appeal, which is a combination of major charities set up to aid refugees in Ukraine and other countries. We also made a donation to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) which provides assistance to local Lions Clubs to be used in disaster areas. Money allocated to this, and other disaster areas, is used locally by Lion members who are not paid and have to account for the expenditure at the conclusion of the disaster. LCIF immediately allocated money to Lions Clubs in Ukraine and surrounding countries as soon as the need was there and will continue to do so until there is no longer a need. In April, we made a donation to the UK's Emergency Fund which is being used to help refugees arriving in the UK to settle in and to provide them with their basic needs.

On a lighter note, we hope that you enjoyed the May Fair and took part in our fantastic Spring Jubilee Raffle. We will be taking part in the Queen's Jubilee celebrations at the beginning of this month and will be helping the elderly to enjoy the festivities, selling raffle tickets and helping everyone to make the event a memorable one.



Our involvement in the community continues, with outings for residents of The Grove Nursing Home, providing transport for the Forget Me Not Club and the Highworth Lunch Club, shopping

trips for people from residential establishments as well as making the minibus available for use by sports clubs and others. Don't forget that the Minibus is available for loan to non-profit making local organisations.

The Whist Club we sponsor is doing well and is open to everyone, meeting at the Council Community Room on the first and third Wednesday evening of every month.

You will also see below that we made a donation to help set up the new community shop at Blunsdon. It is in Hayfield Grove, Sam's Lane, Broad Blunsdon, SN26 7AZ, and is well worth a visit. Have a look at the block paving on the way in.

Donations during April were:

- New Community Shop, Blunsdon £3000
- Highworth Bumps to Babies £500
- LCI, District 105 Foundation £500

Rodney Davis, Highworth and District Lions Club.

T: 0345 833 9831, E: highworth@lions105sc.org

Swindon Shopmobility Service

To help sustain the Swindon Shopmobility service, Café Mobility will open this Spring. This will be a great space for shoppers to meet and socialise with friends and family for coffee and cake!

Situated alongside Swindon Shopmobility (at the back of Sanford House, Sanford Street in

Swindon town centre). It is fully accessible to wheelchair and mobility scooter users. Come and check us out!

For more information telephone 07379 689128 or email shopmobility@vas-swindon.org. You can also access more information on their website at www.vas-swindon.org/services/shopmobility/

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Swindon Guide Dogs

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A cup of coffee or tea and a slice of cake will be available for just £5. We will be also holding a raffle and will be selling Guide Dogs merchandise.

See you there!



Wiltshire Sight in Highworth

Wiltshire Sight is a charity providing support to people living with sight loss. Come and meet your Community Sight Loss Advisor for North Wiltshire at the monthly drop-in group at Highworth Community Centre, The Dormers, on the second Wednesday of every month, 10.15am to 12.30pm.

At the drop-ins, you will receive information, advice and guidance on how to live with sight loss, remaining independent and getting the most out of life. There will be resources and equipment available which will help with daily

living tasks. Drop in on the day, or book your appointment in advance on 01380 723682.

Wiltshire Sight also welcomes volunteers to help greet visitors at the drop-in groups, with a commitment of three hours once a month. If this is of interest get in touch on volunteering@sightsupportwest.org.uk



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- Do you, or have you had, a relationship that makes you doubt your own opinions?
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- 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.

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Kenneth Thomas (Ken) 1950-2021

Ken Thomas, who ran a successful retail business in Highworth since 1991, sadly passed away last December at the age of 71. He was very popular in the community and is greatly missed by many.

Born and brought up in Solihull in the Midlands, from an early age Ken was full of energy and used to cycle many miles to see trains or planes. Always a lover of nature and farming, on leaving school he went on to attend Norwich Agricultural College. Several years on farms in Dorset and Devon followed, where he also learned the skill of blacksmithing.

Later, he returned to Warwickshire to set up his own successful farming and animal transport business. He then spent several very memorable years working in Australia, returning permanently to England in the 1980s and having a career change to become a shopkeeper, which he thoroughly enjoyed.

Ken met his wife to be, Fran, in 1988 and she

joined him in his shop, B&B and smallholding in Lincolnshire. During this time Ken was able to indulge in his love of flying, learning at Skegness

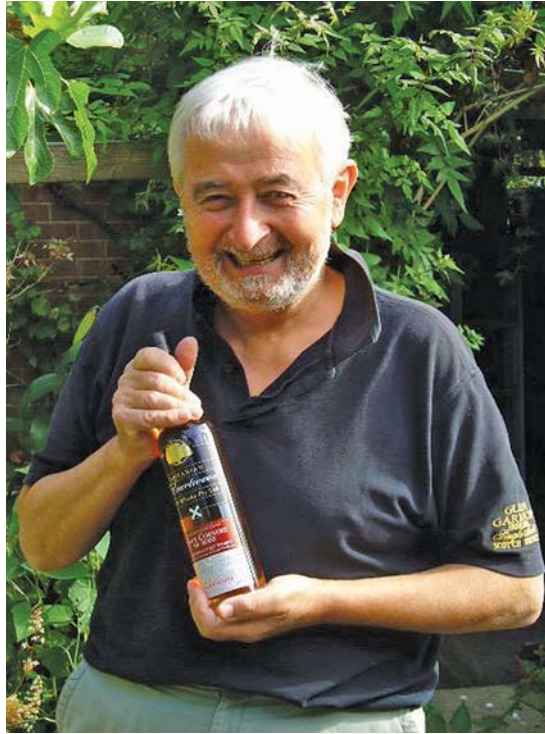
Flying School, and once flew solo as far as the Arctic Circle.

In 1991, Ken and Fran moved to Highworth and took over a grocery and newsagents shop in the Dormers and called it Arkwrights. The business proved to be a great success and it soon expanded its sales of wine and whisky, attracting customers from far and wide, with the renowned tasting events becoming very popular.

One of the highlights of Ken's life was becoming an honorary Commander at USAAF Fairford and meeting some of the pilots to discuss aeronautics and

whisky. Ken was a charismatic character who led a full life and made many friends. At the funeral many tributes were paid as he had touched so many lives.

Mair Huband





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Sport *Compiled by Jason Daniels*

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



Highworth Running Club



All smiles after five miles

As the 299 runners were given their pre-race brief minutes before the start of the Highworth 5-Mile Race in April, a mass round of applause escaped such was the harboured relief that finally, maybe things were back to normal. 1099 Days after the last event it was an emotional return for everyone, especially for former Highworthian Gary O'Brien who ran in his father Peter's memory; a pillar of the club's committee and key presence the last time the race was held. It was lovely to witness one of the original club vests seeing the light of day again and circulating with such pride.

To complete the canvas, the weather could not have been kinder, with a minus two degrees start to the day it warmed up to leave a beautifully bright and crisp spring morning that everyone seemed to enjoy. With spirits high, the one-lap course still held on to its devilish sting as runners were treated to Eastrop Hill at four miles. First across the line was Ed Knudsen representing Avon Valley Runners. After only 25 minutes and 20 seconds of running that most would call sprinting, he described the slight inconvenience of the climb back into Highworth as a "cheeky little hill". We asked around and no-one else shared this view. Chippenham's Jake Stevens and Royal Wootton Bassett's Michael Gilbert completed the podium.

In the ladies' race and entering herself into the club's record books as the first HRC member to win the race since it was first held in 1986; Kiya Dee crossed the line in 30:28 minutes, 38 seconds ahead of Chippenham's Emma Hines ahead of Marlborough's Jessica White. In another first for the club, the team award, calculated from the first three club members to cross the line, HRC earned third place courtesy of Michael Passmore finishing in 5th place, Kiya in 15th and Rhys Millet in 22nd.

Other more localised accolades were earned by John Cornago and Elle Jackson who were the first town residents to complete the course. Congratulations to all those who ran and made the day as fulfilling for the club as hopefully it was for those who took part. Full results, including the many age-related prizes also won can be found on the club's website, where you will also find many training sessions for anyone inspired to get a head start on next year's race.

Jason Daniels

W: www.highworthrunningclub.co.uk

Highworth Walking Football Club

The last Sunday in April saw the start of the Wiltshire Walking Football League. Highworth's Over-50's team started in style with three wins and a draw to take top spot after the first round of games. First up were old rivals Swindon Town (Croft/New Boys) and it looked like we would



Highworth's Over-50's Matchday Squad

take the points when 3-1 up; a double for league debutant Kevin Learoyd-Smith. However, a penalty and wonder strike saw Swindon claw back to claim a point. Next, were last season's champions Amesbury, looking to retain their title. They took an early lead but Highworth hit back with a quick double salvo, including a rare Glyn Evans strike. This was followed up by two more to see Highworth out as 4-1 winners.

Melksham were next on the agenda and this was a tricky game where we failed to capitalise on numerous chances. We finally nudged ahead only to see the score levelled straight from kick-off. The remaining minutes saw more chances come and go before Wayne Petrie finally got the winner. Last up were Stanley Park Rangers and this time the chances were taken, giving us an early lead before it was doubled without reply.

Our Over-60's were also in action with a changed squad but came away with an excellent set of results and performances also to finish in top spot after the first round of games. A hard-fought 1-0 win over Swindon Town was followed up with a 0-0 draw against Salisbury, albeit we hit the post twice with the opposition offering very little. Calne A Team fell to us 1-0 then Melksham 2-0, before a surprise 0-0 draw with Calne B Team after having a goal disallowed and the resulting penalty missed. Particular credit to our defending and of course John Kirkham whose superb goalkeeping ensured we kept clean sheets throughout. All in all, a good day at the office for a completely new squad.

If you are interested in playing either competitive or just social walking football, the club's men's sessions are held on Thursdays and Sundays 11am-12pm and ladies' session Sundays 10am-11am, all at Grange Leisure in Stratton with an additional Friday session between 11.30am and 12.30pm at the Highworth Rec. Please do get in touch for more details.

Graham Seeley

M: 07769 703 702

E: highworthwfc@outlook.com

Wrag Barn Golf Club

The temperature in the air was pretty chilly as 120 people lined up to play in the annual St. George's Day Trophy at 8.30am on Sunday 24 April. Set up 15 years ago to celebrate St.



Manuel Gomez, Wally Bryson, Jason Pellitt and Glen Schaming

George's Day and to raise funds for the junior section, this is always a popular event. A contribution from a well supported raffle and a portion of the entrance fee has accrued a donation total of £10,000 over the last decade and a half with this year's contribution of £964.

Thank you to the Crusaders, Wally Bryson, Wendy Bryson, Dave Caddy and Julie Caddy, for organising the event and, as this is their last year as organisers, we'd like to take the opportunity to thank them for their hard work and congratulate them for their achievements.

In third place were team 'The Patriots' comprising Peter Corrie, Mike Loveridge, Ross Loveridge and Tim Smith finishing on 114 points on 'count back'. Runners up were Shaun Matthews, Stuart Morris, Kevin Sandhu and Lee Welch making up the 'Standard Bearers' who also achieved 114 points. But out on top with 115 points, 'Comrades in Arms' took the spoils courtesy of Manuel Gomez, Jeremy Pitkin, Jason Pellitt and Glen Schaming.

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W: www.wragbarn.com

Highworth Town Football Club

Highworth Town's first team finished a respectable 10th in the 'Pitching In' Southern League Division 1 South. After six games without a goal their final game against Willand Rovers summed up a topsy turvy season with a 3-0 half time lead being squandered as the game finished

3-3. Our reserves won the UHLSport Hellenic Division Two South League and, at time of writing, still have a Cup Final to play. Attention now turns to the Annual 6-a-side tournament this month and re-shaping the squads for 2022/23 seasons. Find us on our Social Media platforms to keep up with us or catch up on our website.

Derek Lloyd

W: www.highworthtownfc.com

Former Town Pupil Tops Pool Podium

Admittedly Darren Smith left Warneford School "some" years ago but he still has family ties to the town and now coaches in nearby Faringdon. A passion for swimming that arrived "towards the end of his youth" saw his mature commitment to training pay dividends from the off. Even a liver transplant a few years back didn't dampen (pun firmly intended) his enthusiasm for developing abilities.

In preparation for this August's European Transplant and Dialysis Games, Darren entered the Staffordshire Masters Open Meet in April to test himself against swimmers not expressly hampered by life changing medical conditions and did rather well. After his first event, namely the 50m freestyle, left him lamenting "the least said about that the better" he turned his



Medalling at 'The Masters'

fortunes around by scooping bronze in the 100m freestyle only narrowly missing out on silver. Silver though was within his reach in the 200m medley relay before winning two golds in the 25m freestyle and 200m freestyle relays.

A very impressive medal haul considering the Meet's inflated attendance thanks to swimmers emerging in their masses now that pandemic restrictions have lifted. Congratulations Darren, some cracking results there and we wish you all the best at the Games in Oxford.

Jason Daniels

Swindon Croquet Club



Tony (left) presenting to Low Handicap team Captain Jeff Hannath

There was a strong turnout for Swindon Croquet Club's first golf croquet tournament of the season with a team of High Handicap players competing against a team of Low Handicap players. Tournament organiser Tony Tomlin did a superb job, not only arranging several rounds of singles and doubles matches but also coping with the introduction and complexities of the new 'Advantage' Handicap system.

After two rounds of matches, the High Handicap team held a narrow one-point lead but the Low Handicap team finished strongly, winning all but one of the afternoon singles matches to clinch a hard-earned victory. Low Handicap team players Terry Clements, Sandra Jerram, Martin Briggs, Colin Brain and Beverly Briggs remained unbeaten throughout. Everyone was very grateful to Tony for organising an enjoyable day's play. Please look us up on our website if interested.

Beverly Briggs

W: www.swindoncroquetclub.org.uk

Welsh Athletics Hall of Fame and Awards Dinner: John Linden Merriman

The Vale Hotel in Pontyclun was the stunning venue for the Welsh Athletics Annual Awards evening on Saturday 5th March. My Mum, Diana, and I had been invited by Welsh Athletics historian, Clive Williams, to witness my father's induction into their Hall of Fame. The event was attended by around 200 people, comprising club members, coaches and officials.

At intervals during a three-course meal, presentations were made. Then it was the turn of the inductees, including my dad, John Merriman.

For the first time in my life I saw footage, albeit grainy, of my father as he competed in the 1958 Empire (now Commonwealth) Games six-mile race in Cardiff. We watched the last 50 metres or so as he was beaten into second place by Aussie, Dave Power. My dad was the only Welshman to win a medal at those Games.

He didn't quite manage to repeat his heroics four years later in Perth, Australia, but a bronze was a respectable result nonetheless. In-between times he finished eighth in the 1960 Rome Olympics, becoming the first Britain to clock a time of under 29 minutes; all in the same six-mile/10,000 metre event.



John is in the number 22 shirt

We were both honoured to receive the award plus a vase and a plaque with the Welsh Athletics crest and Dad's name. Dad would have been so proud. Sadly, as many of you will know, he passed away in 1999. It was a proud night for us both, the audience getting a glimpse of his silver and bronze medals which my mum had brought with us.

Mark Merriman

Son of John and Diana Merriman



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From our MP

Recently there was a rare moment of cross-party cooperation in Parliament as MPs came together to discuss the very important issue of childhood cancer. My friend, Caroline Dineage MP, organised a debate on childhood cancer outcomes, inspired by ten-year-old Sophie Fairall, who tragically passed away after battling a rare and aggressive cancer.

If we are to improve the cancer care treatment for children and teenagers diagnosed with cancer, then we have to really understand their experiences. That is why I was pleased to see that the first Under-16 Cancer Patient Experience Survey was published by NHS England in October 2021, following the campaigning of charities like Young Lives vs Cancer and Teenage Cancer Trust.

Parliament can often be a very adversarial place so it was nice to see such unity on this very important topic. The debate allowed MPs to share their own experiences, or those of their constituents which although very moving and sometimes difficult to listen to, provided some vital insight.

My contribution to the debate focused on calling for improved peer-to-peer support, linking up families with those who are also going through the same thing, so they can help each other through such incredibly difficult circumstances.

This was a very tough debate to listen to, but if it can improve diagnosis and treatment for children and young people with cancer, then it is absolutely worth it.

I, like many residents, love football, so I was very pleased to see the Government accept all ten recommendations from the Fan Led Review of Football, which was led by my good friend, Tracey Crouch MP.

We should be very proud that the Premier League is the most successful in the world, the Championship is the fourth largest league and our national team can compete with anyone on their day. However, too often fans have felt powerless, with their

beloved club facing a number of challenges, either financial or with unscrupulous owners, as Swindon Town fans know all too well.

The Government's plans will establish an independent regulator focused on financial sustainability, a strengthened approach to owners and directors test and will seek to give fans a greater say in the running and protection of their clubs.

The outcome of the Fan Led Review presents an opportunity to change our national game for the better and I am glad plans have been welcomed by fans. The changes will filter down through the leagues, which would benefit our local clubs including Swindon Town, Swindon Supermarine and Highworth Town. I would also expect greater support at grassroots level, with clubs like Highworth Juniors so vital to our local community.

The proposed changes will be debated further as legislation is brought forward in the coming months, but the Premier League, EFL and FA should crack on and not wait for us politicians to force changes through legislation.

Justin Tomlinson,

North Swindon Conservative MP

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Floodlighting forms are available from the Lighthouse Bookshop or the Church website
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Your dedication will appear in the Link publication and the submission deadlines for the remainder of this year can be found below:

Submission Deadline	Link Issue
01 June	July/August
01 August	September
01 September	October
01 October	November
01 November	December 2022 / January 2023



Charity Coffee Mornings

Highworth Methodist Church charity coffee mornings are held each Saturday, from 10.30am to 12 noon. You are very welcome to come and enjoy freshly brewed Fairtrade coffee and tea plus cakes and other baked goods; meet with friends or make new ones. All drinks and baked goods are £1 each and table tennis is available if you fancy a game!

We are supporting several charities through our coffee mornings during June and July, including CAP, Wiltshire Air Ambulance, MIND and Highworth Scouts.

If you would like to organise a coffee morning for a cause that you are passionate about, please contact Cynthia Fitchett for more information on 07746 486377.

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St Michael's Church, Highworth

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 sanitiser 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 Michaels 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

Sunday 05 June

10.15am Jubilee Civic Service

7pm Pentecost Praise Service

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 15 June 2022.**

Coffee and cake are 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 28 June 2022.** If you would like to join us for lunch please book in with the Church Office by email office@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk or telephone 01793 762702.

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 1st Saturday of each month) from 10am until 12pm in the Church Room. All welcome.

We congratulate on their Marriage

Amy Linfield and Jordan Moore

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05 June Henley Drive and High Street

12 June Hannington, Sevenhampton and Inglesham villages

19 June Home Farm and Islay Crescent

26 June Kilda Road and Kings Avenue

Church contacts:

St Michael's and All Angels Vicar: Curate-in-charge Rev Emily Swinerd T: 01793 764488
(St Michael's Church Office: T: 01793 762702)

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

Highworth Methodist Church Minister: Rev Rachael Wilson T: 01793 764330

United Reformed Church Minister: Rev Robert Jordan T: 01793 513039

Community Church Leader: Matt Ford T: 07712 521046



COLESHILL

Coleshill Village Open Afternoon

12 June, 2-5pm

Adults £5, Children £2.50, NT members FREE

Visit Coleshill Village, descend into the underground operational base, visit the guard house, the watermill and take a stroll in the parkland.

Please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/buscot-and-coleshill-estates for more events and dates, email buscotandcoleshill@nationaltrust.org.uk or telephone 01793 762209.

FARINGDON

Faringdon Cinema

The Regent Cinema in Faringdon's Corn Exchange will be showing films on the following dates:

1 June Matinee film, 1pm.
Doors open at 12.30pm

24 June Blockbuster film, 7.30pm.
Doors open at 7pm

For films, please see Faringdon Town Council's website:

<https://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk/regent-cinema-2/>

Faringdon and District U3A

Faringdon Corn Exchange is delighted to host a talk by Richard Rickitt on Introducing the Amazing Honey Bee at 2.30pm on **Thursday 09 June**.

The greatest contribution of bees and other pollinators is the pollination of nearly 75% of the plants that produce 90% of the world's food. 33% of the world's food production depends on bees. Richard Rickitt is the editor of Bee Craft and keeps his bees at Westonbirt Arboretum. Passionate about this subject, his hobby grew into a job. He will explain lots of intriguing facts about bees.

Refreshments are available after the talk. All members are welcome, but visitors are required to pay £1.50 for each visit.

It is expected that all attendees will be fully

vaccinated against Covid before coming to the talk and will be in good health. For everyone's safety, please stay at home if you are unwell.

HANNINGTON

Hannington Open Gardens

Hannington Village Gardens open annually for the National Gardens Scheme. This year we will open on **Sunday 12 June**, 11am to 5.30pm.

There are approximately ten gardens to see and homemade teas to enjoy in the village hall. Lunches are served in the Jolly Tar but booking for these is recommended.

The gardens range from Lusshill House at one end of the village to Hannington Hall walled garden at the other. There are large gardens with full-time, professional gardeners, and the much-loved gardens of enthusiastic plant collectors and owner/gardeners.



Many styles of garden are represented; some are formal and some more natural. Of course, there are cottage gardens, flower gardens and vegetable gardens and many have areas that are left wilder to encourage wildlife and insects. The gardens hug the ridge of the hill and many have spectacular views over the Thames Valley.

Come early, because there is plenty to see and do.

Admission is £8, and children can enter for free. We are able to take contactless card payment, and all proceeds go to the nursing charities supported by the NGS. Dogs are welcome.

More detailed information can be found on the NGS website: www.ngs.org.uk.

INGLESHAM

A Cotswolds Cruise Caper



In 1789, a canal system was finally completed to link the River Severn at Framilode with the River Thames at Inglesham. With the advent of firstly, the Kennet and Avon canal and secondly, the railways, the Cotswolds canal declined in use. In 1911, the last transit of a working boat was recorded, with the eastern end of the canal being abandoned in 1927. Today, evidence of the canal can be seen west of Lechlade at the Inglesham Roundhouse and newly restored lock, with plans to restore the canal eastwards.

However, it is hoped that a number of canal boats of the Cotswolds Canal Cruising Club will be able to enter the Inglesham lock 111 years after its last use. One of those boats, NB 'ELEMIAH', is owned by a local resident. This event is due to take place over the weekend of **11 and 12 June**.

LECHLADE

Lechlade Gardening Club

We are organising a coach trip to Waterperry Gardens, Oxford, on **Sunday 12 June** when there will also be a Rare Plant Fair. The cost of the trip is £21, which includes entry to gardens and plant fair, coach and driver's tip.

We will depart from Lechlade at 9am, opposite the Jubilee Antiques Hall, with parking available at the new Memorial Hall nearby, and leave Waterperry Gardens at 3.30pm to return to

Lechlade. There is a café, but it could be busy so you may prefer to bring a picnic to eat in the grounds.

Please make cheques payable to Lechlade Gardening Club and send to Audrey Barnes, 1, Roman Way, Lechlade GL7 3BS.

Queries to Committee members on 01367 252242 or 01367 252286.

SHRIVENHAM

Shrivenham Park golf club

How fast a month can flow by! Golf results for May include Pam Bannister, who won the ladies Granny Cup and also the American Greensome with her husband, Dave. The ladies foursomes team for the Daily Mail competition now face Donnington Grove at their course in mid-May, whilst the men won their second round against West Berks and have been drawn to play Ogbourne Downs. Some of the former 12 Oaks club members met and played at Oaksey Park. They will be playing at Bassett Downs at the end of May.

Other events in May will see the senior Oxfordshire county ladies play a match at the Wychwood golf course and Carole from Shrivenham is playing in that team. Ladies at Shrivenham will be playing rounds of golf to try and earn the privilege to represent the club in the Coronation foursomes and the Ping competition. Home and Away club matches will also be starting. The men have taken part in the Hillman 7 team event recently, and many competitions are on the calendar in the coming months for both ladies and men's sections and the mixed ones will be starting shortly. One of the annual competitions for all is being held on the Thursday of the special bank holiday in June.

Ladies who are interested in joining a small group of players should contact the club. We meet on Thursdays just after 9am when we put names on cards and everyone is included. No handicaps barred. We just play for the fun and friendships that can be formed through playing this game. Now is the time to start as we would love to increase our ladies membership and would welcome you wholeheartedly.

Contact the club for details on 01693 683753.

The social putting groups will meet on **10 and 24 June** from 2- 4pm. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Carole, E: cleefairways57@yahoo.co.uk

SOUTH MARSTON

South Marston Gardening Club

We are having a plant sale on **Monday 06 June**, 7.30 to 8.30pm, at South Marston Village Hall. All manner of plants will be available, all reasonably priced, including:

- Annuals
- Hanging baskets
- House plants
- Shrubs
- Fruit plants
- Herbs
- Perennials
- Vegetable plants

Pop along and enjoy chatting with Gardening Club members for advice on growing, and much more. Refreshments and homemade cakes will also be on sale. We are unable to take card payments, so cash only please for all purchases.

Parking will be available on 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

COTSWOLD FARM GARDENS

Open Weekend – 11th & 12th June 2022 (2-5pm)

Supporting National Garden Scheme (NGS) and A Rocha.

(Also open by appointment through the year.)

A beautiful Arts & Crafts Cotswold garden in a stunning location, overlooking a quiet valley on descending levels with terraces designed by Norman Jewson in the 1930s. Enclosed by Cotswold stone walls and yew hedges the garden has year-round interest.

£7.50 Entrance (pre-booking available via the NGS website for the weekend or on-site contactless payment). Children FREE. Tea, Coffee and Cakes. Plants for Sale.

Directions – 5 Miles NW of Cirencester on the A417

Cotswold Farm, Duntisbourne Abbots, GL7 7JS
T: 01285 821837 W: costwoldfarmgardens.org.uk

STANTON FITZWARREN

Church Services at St Leonard Parish Church Stanton Fitzwarren

05 June Whit Sunday, Morning Praise for Pentecost, 9.30am

12 June Family Service, starting with coffee and cakes, 11am

19 June Team Service at St Margaret's Stratton, 10am

26 June Holy Communion, 9.30am

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

Please go to www.stantonchurch.info for updates.



*Welcome to our week-end of
Art, Nature & Nature
at Stanton Country Park*

A FREE programme of Activities for All

Saturday June 11th

2pm – 3pm
Guided walk with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust around the Nature Reserve.

2pm – 4pm
Woodland Games with the Dream Wild Forest School for children 5 -12yrs
Numbers are limited so booking is required on
<https://www.swindontuitioncentre.co.uk/health-wellbeing-day-forest-school-booking>.

2pm -4pm
Art & Craft demonstrations & Open Art Gallery

3pm
Short Mindfulness Health Walk to the Lakeside

Sunday June 12th

10am – 4pm
Drop in & Join in "Art of All" with No Added Sugar in the Barn.

10.30 – 12 noon
Introduction to Foraging around the Park with Ross Sheppard

12noon – 1pm
Make your own herbal tea with an infusion of fresh herbs in the Garden

2 pm – 4pm
Childrens' Story-telling in the Sculpture Garden
& light music in the Farmhouse Garden to accompany tea and cake

Further details see www.everycloudartscrafts.com; or email:
anne.billingham2@btinternet.com

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E: highworth.funeral@midcounties.coop



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Pest Control

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Non-Emergency
Non-Emergency
Emergency
Emergency
Emergency
Non-Emergency

999
101
111
0800 111999
105
0800 3169 800
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

DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS

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

LIBRARY

Highworth Library 01793 463500

RECREATION

Highworth Rec 01793 762602

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

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 Fayre

Saturday, June 18th
10am until 1pm

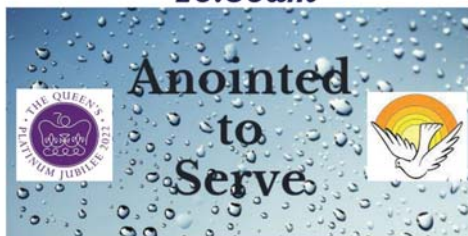
Refreshments served

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

Highworth Methodist Church

Jubilee Café
 Church

Sunday, June 5th
10.30am



Come and celebrate our faithful Queen's 70th
 Jubilee and Pentecost, the birthday of the
 church at this informal café style service.
 Refreshments served.

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