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March 2023

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Seasonality of creation and life

W. H. Davies asked, 'What is this life if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare?' His question challenges, but also encourages us to stop. Despite the busyness of our lives, we need to reassess our existence and appreciate the seasonality of creation and life.

Most of us need a calendar, diary, or an electronic device to remind us of various appointments and 'to do' lists, making it seemingly impossible to function effectively. However, in the busyness of life, when do we carve out time to 'stand and stare'? Do our days flow into one another without moments of joy? Is life tedious and mundane? Do we just hope for one season to pass quickly, in order to enjoy the one we like best?

A recent hospital visitation reminded me how easily the busyness of someone's life can cease instantaneously, due to a fall or sudden illness. The apparent important things become irrelevant, and one is rendered to 'stand and stare'. Likewise, we see the similarity in the seasons: one minute we are in winter and March comes announcing

spring, a time of reawakening, rebirth and renewal, which should prompt us to 'stand and stare'.

Hopefully, we have not lost a sense of beauty in the ordinariness and the monotony of our daily lives, which overcomes our awareness of God's presence. Nothing is ordinary. Each season and day brings wonder and delight when we are open and willing to accept them as God's gift to us.

*Rev Shirlyn Toppin
Highworth Methodist Church*



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.

Welcome from the Editor



This is the month spring officially begins. Astronomically speaking it's Monday 20 March, if I'm not mistaken, but if you're in the meteorological camp then your spring begins earlier, on Wednesday 1 March.

How many of you are now dancing a happy dance with warmer weather on the horizon? I'm very much a cold weather person, but even I like that feeling of sunshine on my face and watching people walk a little straighter rather than hunkering down against the chills. It's been thrilling to see the

bulbs coming into flower, and I've been particularly grateful to all you gardeners who keep your gardens so well stocked.

This month's magazine should give you a serotonin boost with articles from various local clubs and organisations, as well as mood-boosting news about exciting ventures in the town and beyond. Why not put a spring in your step by joining a local group or trying a new activity? You could even take part in LINK magazine's photography competition. Check out page 7 for more details.

Another Record for Forget Me Not Café!



Chris The Hombre

The memory café on 25 January was attended by sixty people who had a fantastic time. We were royally entertained by Chris The Hombre with a mixture of country, rock'n'roll and just great music. By the end, a large proportion of the audience was up and dancing. We will definitely be inviting Chris back again!

We also heard from Jackie at Swindon Carers Centre who explained the many services they are able to offer. Find out more at www.swindoncarers.org.uk or call 01793 531133.

During Chris's interval, Diane Turner, a local physiotherapist, gave some great information to keep us all mobile and healthy. Sit to Stand exercises, improving your balance by exercises, and paying attention to lighting and trip hazards can all reduce the likelihood of having a fall. Apparently dancing helps a lot as well!

We also heard briefly from Jeanette Warner at Kingshill Research Centre. She explained some of the studies being performed looking into dementia and mild cognitive impairment at the Centre. We will be inviting Jeanette back to a future cafe to give her more time to go into the research that they are doing at the Centre.



Highworth Community Larder



Highworth Community Larder opened for its first session on Tuesday 31 January. We were delighted to welcome 34 customers who collected 105kg of the 165 kg of food on offer, donated by Aldi, Sainsbury's, and residents of Highworth. All the perishable food was taken and the remaining non-perishable items will be on offer at the next Larder.

The general consensus was that a local community larder was of benefit to residents, giving access to free food and, at the same time, avoiding waste.

We look forward to welcoming you to the larder which is held in one of the meeting rooms at Westrop School and can be accessed through the gate to the right of reception. We will be open every Tuesday from 8am to 11am.

For more information you can contact us on highworthcommunitylarder@gmail.com or through our Facebook page (just search 'Highworth Community Larder').

Highworth Twinning Association

The committee is pleased to tell you about the Association's programme for 2023. Events are as follows:

- *AGM: Thursday 2 March*
- *May Day Market: Saturday 29 April*
- *Visit to Pontorson: Thursday 18 to Sunday 21 May*
- *Safari Lunch: Sunday 9 July*
Picnic: Saturday 9 September
- *Visit from Wassenberg: Saturday 7 to Tuesday 10 October*

You will be very welcome at these events.

We would especially like to hear from you if you are interested in visiting Pontorson in May.

Please see the separate poster in this magazine or contact Richard Pearce at rjpnpearcehta@gmail.com or 07513 009044.

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Ask AMS

What repairs can be claimed against rental income in a Buy-to-let property?

This is a common issue when calculating net rental property income and you should seek advice.

You can claim for maintenance and repairs/renewals. Repairing or replacing should be 'like-for-like' as much as possible but you cannot claim for repairs that constitute an improvement to the property. e.g. You may make a claim to replace a bath but not for installing an extra shower unit.

You can also claim for repairs incurred in preparing the property for rental. Pre-letting expenses are treated as incurred on the first day of rental.

Repairs incurred prior to the 'decision' to rent the property are not claimable.

Since April 2016, you can claim for replacing furniture and white goods in a rented property – but not for the original furnishing of the property.

Peter Bromiley ACA

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1st Highworth Scouts Scarecrow Trail

The Annual 1st Highworth Scouts Easter Scarecrow Trail will be running from Saturday 1 April to Sunday 16 April. The theme for scarecrows this year will be 'A Moment in Time', and it is your opportunity to recreate a historic event.

We look forward to those who have made a scarecrow in the past doing so again and welcome any newcomers. All you need to do is make one based on this year's theme. Don't worry if you haven't got room for a scarecrow but would still like to make one; we can always find a home for extra scarecrows.

If you wish to have a scarecrow included, please go to 1st Highworth Scouts website (<https://highworthscouts.org.uk/events>) where you can enter details of your scarecrow. If you need any information, please email scarecrow@highworthscouts.org.uk

You can also check our website or Facebook page for details of where Scarecrow Trail sheets will be on sale and can be returned. Details of where Scarecrow Trail sheets can be obtained will also be published in the April issue of LINK magazine.

Last year we had over 40 spectacular scarecrows around the town. The Scarecrow Trail is organised by 1st Highworth Scouts. All funds raised go to support the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts of Highworth. A prize draw on returned entries, as well as the best scarecrow as voted for by you, will be held.

Funeral Announcement

Forever In Our Hearts

The Negrin Family invites you to the funeral service of Cheraldene Mary Negrin on Friday 3 March at 10.30am, Kingsdown Crematorium, Kingsdown Road, Swindon SN25 6SG.

CAT SHOW (championship)

Cricklade Town Hall, High St., Cricklade

Saturday April 15th – open from 12.30 to 4.00 pm

Pedigree and non-pedigree cats, good food/refreshments, very varied stalls, raffle. There really is something for everyone – not only cat-lovers.

Don't miss this show, it's fun! Adults £4.00, concessions £2.00

Enquiries to Show Manager Barbara McEwan on

01362 562135

LINK Photography Competition

We're always on the lookout for new, eye-catching photographs for our front page. Over the years, LINK has sported images of local buildings, local events, local wildlife, and local people, and we want to carry forward this tradition.

We're launching a competition to find engaging front cover images for our May, June and July issues. There are very few conditions to be met and anyone, whatever your age or experience, can enter, but bear in mind:

- *We need photographs that are seasonal or tell a story.*
- *All photographs need to be family-friendly. (You know exactly what I mean!)*
- *Photographs of people are more engaging than photographs of buildings.*
- *The images need to be of a high quality so that they reproduce well on the cover of the magazine.*
- *The image needs to be in a portrait orientation and take into account the 'Highworth Link' banner that is placed at the top of the image.*
- *Only one photograph per entry will be allowed.*

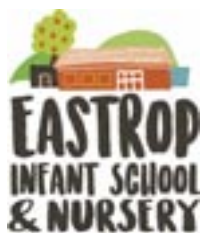
Three winning images will be chosen and used for the issue covers of either May, June or July. If your image is intended for a specific month, please state which one when you submit your photograph.

Email your entries with your name (and age if you're under-16) to editor@highworthlink.co.uk. The closing date for all entries is 1 April.

We're looking forward to seeing all your amazing images!

Rachael Laing Smith, Editor

News from Eastrop Infant School



At Eastrop Infant School and Nursery we are passionate about the importance of looking after the mental health and the wellbeing of the whole school community. The children enjoy weekly Circle Times which are dedicated to talking about

our feelings, helping others by solving problems together, and sharing top tips for emotional regulation.

We have a weekly assembly on Mental Health and Wellbeing, termly Families Together coffee afternoons for parents and carers, Young Carer and Services children support groups, and lots of chances to share support available in and out of

well as helping to take care of our school environment by litter-picking and sweeping up dead leaves. One of our next tasks is to make bird scarers to scare away the pesky crows that keep tapping on our windows and drinking our milk!

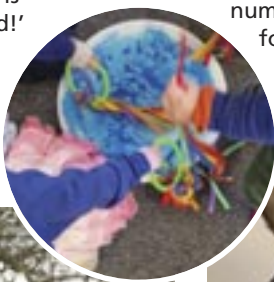


school. We have lots of resources to help support children too.



One of our pupils said, 'Mental Health is looking after your heart and your head!'

Each week, the children become Eastrop Rangers – going on welly walks, bug hunts, and much more! Recently, children have made wands and dreamcatchers from willow as



Our Nursery children love learning through play. Whatever the weather, you can find them in the garden digging, building, painting, exploring, and looking for minibeasts. We have been preparing our new bug hotel so that all kinds of creatures can find a warm home for the winter.

Our Nursery staff are very excited and have been working hard to create a new sensory area for our Little Acorns to explore. We hope to have a grand opening when it is finished.

Recently, Year 1 has been dazzling us with their number knowledge. Here are some of our Squirrels using tens frames to look at part-part whole models. Part-part-whole models are a great way to help children understand how numbers can be made in different ways, for example, 11 can be made of $10+1$, $9+2$, $8+3$ etc.



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When faced with living every day in a painful relationship we adopt more than a fight/ flight response. We 'Please and Appear' compromising our needs, wants and even likes to please another person. Are you a people pleaser?

Do you regularly 'Collapse/Submit' and give way to a partners choice or decision? Or are you in the state of 'Attach/Cry for help' clinging to the relationship, but desperate to be rescued. Is this you?

Love and relationships shouldn't cause you pain or distress in any way!

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Sustainable Shrivenham Hub

WE ARE OPEN!

After a long and often rocky journey, we have at last reached our destination: Shrivenham's Community Hub. We are open every Wednesday and Saturday, 10am to 4pm, and are located in the old Lloyds Bank building next to the Co-op.

You will have heard of the '3 R's'. Well we are promoting the '4 R's':

Reduce: Especially the use of single-use plastic

Reuse: Packaging, containers etc

Recycle: As much as possible

Repair: Rather than throw away

This will hopefully, in time, help towards achieving a more sustainable future for our planet.

What you will find in the Hub

Children's (0-13 years) Clothes Swap; Recycling Bins, for items you can't recycle at the kerbside; SESI and Splosh Refill Station, for household cleaning liquids; Craft Scrap Store, for any craft-related projects (e.g. wool, fabrics, beads, ribbons



etc.); a Thrifty-50 store full of new/unused/unwanted items of any description, where you can donate or receive 50% of the proceeds. There will also be a Repair Café on the fourth Saturday of every month where small electrical/electronic goods can be repaired for a donation plus the cost of any parts.

More details can be found on our website/Facebook page/Hub noticeboards or pop in and see us on a **Wednesday or Saturday, 10am to 4pm.**

Highworth Historical Society

The topic for our talk on 22 March is 'Avebury: the stones, village and Manor House' by John Farrow. Avebury is regarded as one of the best World Heritage Sites to visit.

John is a volunteer who takes tours of the henge; he is also a volunteer at the Manor House. His talk covers the history of the site, village and manor. The question of what a henge is will be answered but know this: Stonehenge is not a henge!

With warmer weather on the way, Avebury is a lovely place for a walk. All the better if you know something about it.

We meet at St. Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, with the talk starting at 7.30pm. The doors open at 7pm, with free tea or coffee.

Visitors are always welcome for a £3 charge at the door.

If you would like more information on the talk or the Society contact Chris on 01793 764811.

Thursday Kitchen

At the time of writing we have been hosting Thursday Kitchen for a month and hopefully everyone who has popped along has enjoyed their meals.

People, both individuals and families, join us for many different reasons: to help ease the financial burden by not having to provide a meal; to have somewhere warm to go, and to enjoy the company of others for an hour or so.

Everyone from the community is very welcome to join us for a free hot meal, served from 5pm to 6.30pm every Thursday until the end of March.



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Faringdon & District U3A

David Lacey will examine three ways of looking at the world in this month's talk entitled 'Cloth from Thread, Curd from Milk and Ring of Gold'. Speaking in the Faringdon Corn Exchange on 9 March at 2:30pm, David hopes to open our eyes to seeing the world afresh. He intends to examine the thinking framework which we use to interpret the facts, and considers that they are the glasses through which we see the world.

This will certainly be rather different from many of our talks which are mainly about facts and unfamiliar life situations. All members are welcome to attend the talk and to enjoy the refreshments afterwards. Visitors are also welcome but are required to make a £1.50 contribution.

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Forget Me Not Choir

Come and join us on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at St. Michael's Church, 12.30pm to 2pm, for the Highworth Forget Me Not Choir.

We'll start at 12:30pm with sandwiches to share together, then from 1pm until 2pm we will sing together, learn new songs, sing old ones, make memories and smile! Thank you to Jane Smale and Karen Owen for saying a big yes as our music makers, and for making this a new event in our Highworth Forget Me Not Calendar!

For further details call Ruth 07970 543423 or email forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com.



Spring into Action With a New Walking Habit

People who walk regularly appreciate the health and feel-good benefits of getting out of the house, meeting people and stretching their bodies, whatever the weather. For us it's not about the wrong weather for walking, only the wrong clothes.

So why not dig out your walking gear and join us? The walks are free and you don't have to book. You just need suitable footwear and be able to walk for an hour at a steady pace. Highworth Wellbeing Walks meets at The Rec car park every **Thursday afternoon at 2pm**, rain or shine. After the walk we socialise indoors and enjoy a well-earned warm drink (available at cost).

If you want to know more, contact Lesley at lesley.muir@outlook.com.

Lesley Muir and Carole Clegg



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Lechlade Town Twinning Quiz Night

The Memorial Hall must have been near-capacity as a last minute rush of keen quizzers bought tickets for our quiz night in January.

Once again, Elaine Long compiled very varied and entertaining rounds of questions which appealed to all – we could actually answer some of them! The music round, for instance, was rewarding as many of us had ‘Heard it through the Grapevine’ the first time round and, better still, could remember it!

Catherine Pritchard compiled two challenging slideshow rounds. One involved a presentation of photographs of interesting architecture in Lechlade. This proved to be quite a challenge despite the fact that we all probably walk past them at least once a week. The second presentation was an in depth series of questions

about the Cotswolds which resulted in a very informative talk when we were given the answers!

There was a mid-evening break for cheese and biscuits and the purchase of raffle tickets.

After the second part of the quiz, three teams had the same score so a tie-break of three general knowledge questions was held, and as that was inconclusive, another tie-break! This left two teams as winners.

The Twinning Association was also a winner after the evening as this magnificent effort by all had raised over £900 which will fund some activities when the French next make a visit, probably in 2024.

Meanwhile, this year, Lechlade will be visiting its twin town, La Chapelle des Fougeretz.

Fairford and Lechlade Business Club Awards

They're back and to be held once more at Wrag Barn, Highworth, on 18 March.

All the details for how to join us for the event can be found online at <https://flbc.org.uk/flbc-awards-2023/>. Places are limited and booking closes on 12 March.



opportunity to share information and trade with each other. Relevant and interesting speakers ensure that our meetings are informative and useful to members.

The main member area encompasses Highworth, Faringdon, Lechlade-on-Thames, Fairford and South Cerney.

The Fairford and Lechlade Business Club is an independent organisation now run entirely by a team of volunteers elected by the members. We pride ourselves on our regular, high quality monthly meetings in a friendly environment, which give our members and their guests the

*Shirley Wheeler – Chair
Fairford & Lechlade Business Club*

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Highworth Library

Opening times

Monday 10am to 4pm
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Wednesday – Closed
Thursday 9am to 4pm
Friday 12 noon to 6pm
Saturday 10am – 1pm

Contact us on 01793 463500
[e mail highworthlibrary@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:highworthlibrary@swindon.gov.uk)
www.swindon.gov.uk/libraries

News from Westrop Medical Practice

There was much learned within general practice as a result of the pandemic, and not least the effectiveness of remote consultations as a way of providing medical care to patients without the need for travelling to the surgery. It is for this reason, therefore, that Westrop is excited to have started working alongside *Livi*, a private provider of GP video consultations.

This is very much an additional service – the same number of face-to-face GP appointments remain available to book should this be your chosen route. However, if you want to benefit from the convenience of seeing a doctor between the hours of 8am to 10pm, Monday to Friday, and 8am to 4pm, Saturday to Sunday, and you feel that your problem is one that would not need a physical examination, then *Livi* provides a great alternative to the existing options. Fully regulated by CQC, and last graded as ‘outstanding’ when inspected in 2021, *Livi* has a team of GPs that you can book in with at a time that is convenient for you. You simply download their app and follow the online instructions. The doctor will then contact you via their app at the agreed time.

The consultation is on video, hence the doctor is able to see you and carry out some basic examinations, for example looking at skin rashes. What’s more they have full access to your medical records, can request blood tests and prescribe medication, and the notes they make will be visible for Westrop staff to see, helping with continuity for ongoing problems. If the GP feels that you do need a face-to-face appointment, this will be organised directly through the surgery in a timeframe that the clinician feels is appropriate. This service has been live now for several months and seems to be working really well. What’s more, it is fully funded by the NHS and is therefore completely free to access, so why not consider this next time you need an appointment? More details can be found at www.livi.co.uk.

In other news, we are pleased to have taken over the running of Moredun surgery in January, growing the group to six surgeries and a total practice population of around 45,000. There is no change to clinician numbers working at Highworth, so patients won’t notice any change in service as a result of the takeover.

Dr. Simon Stacey

01793 821303

barnescoaches.co.uk



Steam into the Wondrous West Country, Tiverton
Fri 5th May 2023
5 Days: From £569
Inc. West Somerset Railway and Bishop's Palace exclusive visit!



Guernsey by Sea
Sat 6th May 2023
7 Days: From £589
Inc. Half Day Familiarisation tour!



Magical Mayo & Connemara's Captivating Coastline, Ireland
Sun 7th May 2023
7 Days: From £849
Inc. Kylemore Abbey and Westport House, Local Guide for Achill Island, Knock Shrine and



Ifracombe
Fri 12th May 2023
4 Days: From £359
Inc. visits to Exeter, Dunster, Lynmouth, Bideford & Minehead.



Pennine Pleasures and the Vales & Dales of Durham
Mon 22nd May 2023
5 Days: From £599
Inc. Raby Castle, South Tynesdale Railway, Teesdale Cheese Makers.



Highland Fling
Sat 27th May 2023
5 Days: From £599
Inc. boat cruise, Strathspey Railway, whisky tasting & Highland Folk Museum!



Bronte, Brews & Amazing Views, Harrogate
Sun 28th May 2023
5 Days: From £569
Inc. Allerton Castle, Keighley & Worth Railway, cider maker & York Mansion House cooking demo!



Jersey, Guernsey & Herm
Sun 4th June 2023
7 Days: From £969
2-centre holiday, plus a tour whilst on Guernsey & Jersey!



Action-packed Mystery
Thu 8th June 2023
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By Hook and By Crooke, Enniscorthy - Ireland
Sun 11th June 2023
5 Days: From £579
Inc. Huntington Castle & Gardens, Johnstown Castle, Waterford Crystal & Dunbrody Famine Ship!

Athlete Mentors for Young Students

Four students from Highworth Warneford School – Lucas Page, Lucas Bright, Mason Pepperell, and Perrin Burszynski – have been selected to take part in a life-changing mentoring scheme, the AQA Unlocking Potential programme, run by the exam board and the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust. Hundreds of learners were nominated from across England with only 80 learners successfully selected by the panel.

The beginning of December saw them travel to Milton Keynes, together with Mrs. May and Mr. Clarke, for the launch event where they met and listened to their athlete mentors inspirational stories and participated in fun activities. The young students will be mentored by Paralympian footballer Jack Rutter, and have already had a further two sessions with him where they worked on problem-solving, communication and teamwork. He will also help the students to deliver a social action project towards the end of the programme.

Fun. Resilience. Determination. Focus. Just some of the positive key words from the young students at

the end of the day's activities.

Musical Instrument and Equipment Request

As many Highworthians will know, Warneford School has a great reputation for music studies, concerts, shows, and events. As educational budgets tighten more and more, we would like to appeal to the community of Highworth and surrounding areas, to anyone who might have unused, quality, musical instruments that they would be willing to donate to our thriving music department.

We will gratefully accept any musical instruments of any description, PA equipment, amplifiers, music books, stands etc.. We know that many of you will have such items that were perhaps once loved or have been long-forgotten. We promise them a good home and a well-used life here at school.

If you have anything you would like to donate, please drop it into the school reception, or alternatively email James Hanson, Head of Music, at jhanson@warnefordschool.org and collection of donations can be arranged. Many thanks in advance.

Multi-Linguistic Year 7s Win

At Warneford School, the students love to learn foreign languages. One way of doing this is a website called Duolingo, which teaches lots of different languages in a really fun way. We have weekly competitions to see who can score the most points and our teachers set challenges for each year group. If you win, you receive merits towards the House Cup, which is a big competition that runs across the whole year and includes lots of different events.

Our most recent Duolingo competition was for Year 7 students, and we had 115 people competing. On average, they were on the website for 96 minutes and got over 90% of the questions correct, which is amazing. My tutor group won, so we got lots of points for Stanton House. We also have Languages Culture Club. Here we have friendly Year 11s who are willing to help us to expand our knowledge of languages but also find out more about the countries and people that live there.

Matthew Gaskell 7S1



Highworth Twinning Association
**Visit to
Pontorson**
Interested in seeing our twin town in 2023?
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Return: Sunday May 21st
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News from Visit Highworth

At Visit Highworth we are very excited to have a full schedule of events coming up.

First is 'Paint and Prosecco with Christine Purdy' on **Wednesday 1 March at 7pm**. For beginners and those with experience, this is a fun and relaxed evening where you can learn about painting with watercolours whilst enjoying a glass or two of Prosecco. There will be more evenings to follow during the year.

Do you have a camera and wish you knew what all the buttons and dials are for? Do your photos sometimes come out not quite as you imagined them? In a series of three sessions with photographer Neil George, you will explore the wonderful world of photography:

1. *How the camera works. Which buttons are important and what they do.*
2. *What makes a good picture? Setting up your camera and pointing it in the right direction.*
3. *Photo clinic. Bring your pictures for review and for tips on ways to improve.*

This course will run for three weeks from **Wednesday 15 March, starting at 7pm**. There are limited places, so if you would like to take part please get in touch.

We will also be recommending our 'Wildlife Walks with a Camera'; a great way to try out your new photography skills.



Kingfisher on a branch



Visit Highworth's guided Town Tours are also back this month, so if you have visitors who would like to learn more about our wonderful town then contact us to book. If you are a Highworthian who would like to find out more you can join in too. We can also take out larger groups, so if you are a member of a society or club who you think would like to take part please get in touch. We can even book you into one of our lovely cafes, pubs or restaurants when you finish the tour.

For more information on all Visit Highworth events and activities then please visit our website, check our social media or call in to see us.

Visit Highworth
7 High Street, Highworth
www.visithighworth.co.uk
info@visithighworth.co.uk
01793 764440

Scout Group Annual Quiz

This year's quiz is on **Friday 14 April** and we are back home in the Scout Hall. It starts promptly at **7.30pm** and is **£24** for a team of four.

We extend a warm welcome to teams old and new and would love to get back to the number of teams we had pre-pandemic.

To enter a team, please contact David Roblin at david0410@btinternet.com or 01793 763720. Once again, we are grateful to Simpsons of Highworth for their continued sponsorship.

Weigh It Up has arrived in Highworth



Michelle and Matt



Weigh it Up (WiU) is the High Street's newest addition and the brainchild of local Matthew Aherne and his wife, Michelle. The couple have transformed the old betting shop opposite Highworth Travel into a refill and gift store with sustainability at its heart.

The store is a mix of the couple's passions: horticulture; food, and sustainability. Matt, who has recently left the RAF, said, 'When I was approaching the end of my service in the RAF, I wanted a new challenge. We hit upon the idea of starting our own business and were looking for something different that we believed in. We both love cooking and care about the environment, so it felt like a perfect idea – even though neither of us have done anything like this before. With the Betfred premises becoming vacant, we couldn't think of a more perfect location. After a lot of hard work by us, our friends and our family – all of whom have been so supportive – Highworth now has a refill shop.'

As you would expect from a store with a sustainability ethos, much of it has been equipped with recycled, repurposed, or secondhand things. All of the refill hoppers were bought secondhand, as were the scales, milk machines, and the furniture found in the shop.

Matt and Michelle want to encourage people to make even a small change to their weekly shop. With 75% of adults worried about climate change, they are encouraging everyone to help reduce their waste and make a difference. If everyone chooses to refill just one bottle or container it will have a huge collective impact.

So what can you expect to find in the shop? As the name suggests, a large proportion of the shop is devoted to the sale of loose goods, allowing you to buy just the amount you want, or need, for a

particular recipe which helps reduce both food and plastic waste, either by bringing in your own container or using one of the paper bags in store. There are also sauces, rubs, jams, pickles, plant pots, cards, and many more ever-changing items and gifts.

So what can you refill? There are a plethora of dried goods such as: pasta; rice; cereal; pulses; nuts; flour; dried fruits; herbs and spices; coffee; tea, and the ever-popular pick 'n' mix. There are also liquids, such as fresh organic whole milk, oat milk, oils and vinegars, as well as cleaning products for both you and your home. Most of the products have been chosen for their ethical or environmental credentials, companies such as Hedgy Socks who donate 10% of their profits to wildlife charities, and Sapling Spirits who are a climate-positive producer that plants a tree for every bottle sold.

When quizzed on their favourite areas there were clear winners for each. Matt said, 'Without a doubt, the specialist food area with weird and wonderfully different ingredients. By far our best seller must be the liquid herbs and anything hot; people love all the chilli sauces and oils.'

Michelle, however, is 'very proud of our UK-grown plants, all grown by Harriet's Plants. Harriet is an inspirational young woman who grows all of her houseplants, which are normally shipped in from abroad, in Staffordshire, in peat free compost using sustainable, chemical free practices.'

The shop is constantly evolving and hopefully WiU will be able to offer what Highworth and the surrounding villages want. If there is something you would like to see in the shop that isn't currently stocked, pop in and speak to Matt or Michelle. Like all local businesses, they can only keep going if you go into the shop and support them.



Bridge Centre

At The Bridge Centre on Sheep Street, we passionately believe that Hope is Alive today! At the heart of everything we do are compassion, confidentiality, and a non-judgemental approach. Everyone is welcome and valued, no matter what their background or circumstances. You are welcome to pop in to say hello or access more specific help. The Bridge Centre is run by Highworth Community Church and brings together:

- Drop-in and registered Warm Welcome Space
- Food Collective
- Christians Against Poverty (CAP)
- The Surgery

FOOD COLLECTIVE

If you have been given a voucher for Swindon Food Collective or been referred by a registered agency, we can supply you with an emergency food parcel. Our friendly team can help and signpost you to other sources of support as needed. We have a drop-off point outside The Bridge Centre for donations of non-perishable items.



CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is an award-winning, national charity that Highworth Churches partner with in order to provide free, professional, debt advice to anyone in our community. Our office is based at The Bridge Centre so we are able to work closely with volunteers here to provide holistic support, however the debt appointments are home visits for privacy and confidentiality. To make a free appointment simply call 0800 328 0006.

We also run CAP Job Club courses and CAP Lifeskills courses from The Bridge Centre. Both are eight-week friendly, community-based courses involving one-to-one coaching. The Job Club sessions cover motivation, strengths, CV writing, interview skills etc. whilst the Lifeskills sessions enable members to gain practical skills to lift the pressures that a low income and the rising cost of living bring. Finally, we have our own CAP Money coaches who run short, three-session, money management courses to help anyone find out where their money is going and gain better control of their budget.

To join a course, either pop into The Bridge Centre and ask for Kathryn or contact her at kathrynford@capuk.org.

WHAT'S ON AT THE BRIDGE CENTRE

Drop-in and registered Warm Welcome Space

Monday to Friday, drop-in 11am to 1pm.

Food Collective

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 11am to 1pm.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

Various services and appointments.

The Surgery

Runs on specific days. Contact us to make an appointment.

// 01793 765060

// bridge@highworthchurch.co.uk

// www.highworthcommunitychurch.co.uk/here-to-help

THE SURGERY

We all need a bit of help from time to time! If the thought of filling out a form sends you into a spin then our team of volunteers can help you. We can support you to:

- Find out what benefits you may be entitled to, e.g. Universal Credit.
- Apply for government help, e.g. help with energy costs.
- Access support for money worries.
- Help you work with agencies, e.g. DWP, Job Centre Plus
- Apply for a blue badge, and other things!

We do not offer financial advice, but we can offer support, a listening ear, and help filling out forms or navigating government websites. Surgery sessions happen two days a week by appointment.



DROP-IN and WARM WELCOME SPACE

If you fancy a cuppa, need to talk, or simply need somewhere free to keep warm, The Bridge Centre Drop-in is for you. With friendly volunteer hosts to make you feel welcome, we can also help with a range of other tasks. From photocopying to using the computer, we can help you arrange appointments or point you in the right direction if you're not sure where to go next. And with free tea and coffee, what's not to love?!

A wider range of groups and activities also happen at The Bridge Centre, including Knit and Natter (Fridays), wellbeing groups, church events, and activities for young people and families. Check out The Bridge Centre window, drop in, or visit our website for the latest events calendar www.highworthcommunitychurch.org/whats-happening.

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What a fantastic January we had!



The opening of our refurbished charity shop in Newburgh Place went even better than we dared hope.

It was wonderful to see so many people coming through the door. A big thank you to all of you that came along and for your kind feedback on how much nicer our shop is looking. It was great to get the year off to such a positive start, and we were delighted to have some new volunteers join us to help in the shop for a few hours a week, but we don't want to stop there. If you can spare some time and would like join our friendly team, do please get in touch.

Our next goal is to add to our ranks with new volunteers for getting out there and having some fun with events, fundraising and joining the Lions team. If you have a some time on your hands to a make a real difference in your community, as the Lions have been doing for many years, then we need to hear from you. The more people we have on board, the more we can achieve for local good causes.

On the matter of good causes, we have recently donated money to Highworth CAP for their emergency

No experience is required to get involved with the Lions. We can mentor you to be a fully active participant to be involved with, experience and enjoy the many community activities we provide or participate in.

DROP US A LINE 



cover scheme, which includes helping people in need with some essentials, such as white goods. We were also able to make a donation to St. Michael's after school dinner venture, Thursday Kitchen, and the Mayor's chosen charity, Prospect Hospice. We presented individual gifts to Richard and Misty Willis for their help towing Santa's Sleigh at Christmas, and to the farmer who kindly looks after our sleigh during the year.

Our ever-popular minibus is loaned to various charity organisations, including, including the 'Forget-me-not Café', ensuring people are able to attend their valuable events.

Highworth & District Lions

Contact: highworth@lions105sc.org
Charity number 285690

Prospect's Spring Run and Starlight Walk

This year sees the return of two of the most popular fundraising events for Prospect Hospice: the Spring Run and Starlight Walk.

The Spring Run takes place on **Sunday 12 March** at Stanton Country Park, with three options to choose from: a 2.5km fun run, or 5km or 10km multi-terrain routes, both of which are chip timed.

All runners will receive a medal, with entry costing £7 for the 2.5km run, £15 for the 5km run, and £18 for the 10km run.



The Starlight Walk also makes its return on **Saturday 24 June**, with 10km and 15km routes and a 'festival fever' theme. Signing up before 1 April gives you the early bird price of £12; after this, entry is £15.

For more information on both of these events and

more, visit: www.prospect-hospice.net

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Our volunteers help out with gardening, cooking, craft and woodwork activities... but please do get in touch whatever your background.

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T: 01793 780 380 E: rootandbranch@btconnect.com
www.rootandbranch.info

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Highworth Choral Society Spring Concert

Highworth Choral Society will be performing a spring concert on Sunday 2 April at 6.30pm in St Michael's Church, Highworth. The programme will include movements from Rossini's *Petite Messe Solonelle* which we plan to perform in full for our summer concert in July. It would seem, from the title, that the music is solemn, but it really isn't!

There will also be a number of part songs and, at the end of the concert, tea and cake will be

provided (included in the ticket price).

Tickets cost £10 and will become available from Lighthouse Bookshop in Highworth, from members, or email hcsecretary2019@gmail.com. Under-12s have free entry.

For further information visit the website www.highworthchoral.co.uk.

Highworth Community Cinema

Highworth Community Cinema is an independent, voluntary organisation run by Highworth residents since 2006, which aims to bring world-class films to Highworth. We will be showing our penultimate film for the current season in March, starring Colin Firth and Matthew Macfadyen.

Friday 24 March

Operation Mincemeat

St Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, SN6 7HQ

7:45 pm

It's 1943. The Allies are determined to break Hitler's grip on occupied Europe, and plan an all-out assault on Sicily but they face an impossible challenge: how to protect a massive invasion force from potential massacre. It falls to two remarkable intelligence officers, Ewen Montagu and Charles Cholmondeley, to dream up the most inspired and improbable disinformation strategy of the war, centred on the most unlikely of secret agents – a dead man. Operation Mincemeat is the extraordinary and true story of an idea that hoped to alter the course of the war, defying logic, risking countless thousands of lives, and testing the nerves of its creators to breaking point.

128 mins Cert 12A

Doors open 7:15pm

There is no membership fee. Admission £6 on the door. 50p for tea/coffee and biscuits.

Contact details

Enquiries: 01793 763907

Email: info@highworthfilms.org.uk

www.highworthfilms.org.uk



Do you have new and interesting articles?

We are always on the lookout for new local material from individuals, clubs, societies and about local events

For more details please send an email to editor@highworthlink.co.uk

Highworth Artists' Society

Now we're settled into 2023, activities are picking up and we have welcomed new members to the group. A demonstration in acrylic by Paul Weaver of a snowy winter scene was well attended at the end of January and has inspired some new ideas about how to achieve similar results!

We are now looking towards our Spring Exhibition in April, but in the meantime we are planning a painting taster session for adults who want to return to painting with no pressure. (And a little bit of guidance if wanted!) Aimed at local residents, this will be a free event on **11 March** from 10am to 1pm, in the Highworth Council Community Room, Gilbert's Lane. Please come along (no booking needed), bring your paints (watercolour or acrylic) and meet like-minded people. Materials will be available if you just want to try something completely new.

Date for your diaries: our Spring Exhibition will be from **21 to 30 April**. More information will be available in the next edition of LINK magazine.



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YOUNG JOURNALISTS

Springing into Spring

Spring is a lovely time of year filled with fluorescent flowers, crystallised raindrops and new animals being brought into the world. Even though Easter is a month away, it doesn't mean we can't eat the odd chocolate egg.

Spring is also a great time for going on long walks in the countryside. One of the places I love to go walking with my family is the magnificent old golf course in Highworth, walking across the undamaged old greens looking back at Highworth and seeing it from a different perspective.

Blooming flowers, beautiful rainstorms, calming walks, morning skies getting brighter: what is there to hate about spring?

Constance Davenport

I Love Spring!

In March it is bright and colourful. I think that the spring colours are pink, purple and yellow. I like going to the farm to see the new baby animals and I love seeing the wild flowers grow.

Did you know that the name for March comes from Mars, the Roman god of war?

Celebrations in this month are St. David's Day (Are you wearing a yellow daffodil?), St. Patrick's Day, and my birthday! And it's soon to be Easter.

Keep active and stay healthy!

*Spring, spring
How colourful!
Purple, pink and yellows,
Daffodils and dandelions.
Spring, spring
How much life!
Sheep, goats and rabbits,
Babies and adults,
Spring, spring.*

Sophie Nolan



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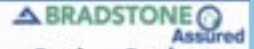


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Sport Compiled by Jason Daniels

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



Swindon Croquet Club

SCC is gearing up for the 2023 season having entered three teams in the South West Croquet Federation leagues. Regarding Golf Croquet, the Club's High Handicap team and the Handicap team will compete in their respective North section leagues, and the Association team will compete in the North East section league.

Having tied on points for top spot last season but narrowly finishing in second place, the Handicap team will be keen to regain the Championship title this year.

The grounds maintenance team remains very busy preparing the lawns for competitive and social play and the hoops have been cleaned and repainted.

Members are very much looking forward to unpacking their mallets and returning to the Club when it reopens on 3 April. Should you wish to give this intriguing sport a try please email us as free taster sessions will be available.

Beverley Briggs

E: Swindon.croquet@outlook.com



Highworth Town Football Club

Postponement after postponement throughout December and January has left HTFC with a growing backlog of fixtures. With more at home than away left, the mood in the camp is good especially after a creditable draw at Didcot Town and an astonishing 4-1 win at Ware, both of whom are pushing for promotion. A couple of loans from the Swindon Town youth set up has helped create some stability in the group as we go into the second half of this fragmented season. Follow us on social media regarding fixtures being rearranged.

Derek Lloyd

W: www.highworthtownfc.com

Highworth Running Club

The Highworth 5 Mile Race is now only days away! On Sunday 2 April runners, joggers, and plodders will gather at Warneford School to take part in the town's annual road race. With prizes for the fleet of foot, first residents to finish, and



mementoes for all finishers, the event is guaranteed to bring smiles as well as miles. Starting promptly at 11am, anyone

wanting to take part should arrive at the main hall by 10am to collect their number, and the club encourages entries in advance to guarantee yourself a place; link available from the club website. So if you fancy testing yourself on the rural one lap course

that turns off of Shrevenham Road, winds its way down Fresden Lane and culminates with Eastrop Hill, then the club would love you to join us. The club runs a variety of training sessions for those wanting some advanced preparation so please look us up and pop along. Good luck to all those lining up with us in April.

Jason Daniels

W: www.highworthrunningclub.co.uk

Anyone for Pickleball?

Imagine a racquet sport where two or four players use a wooden paddle, run around a badminton court hitting a polymer ball to rules more akin with tennis! You've just imagined pickleball. Invented in the 1960's by an American family looking for a way of keeping the children entertained, a badminton set was found but without a shuttlecock. Paddles were fashioned from wooden objects found in the garden shed and with a plastic ball and a lowering of the net came the first ever game of pickleball.



The game, boasting a semi-prohibited area seven feet either side of the net referred to as 'the kitchen' soon became a hit with adults and has since spawned national leagues and has an International Federation governing it! The naming of the game is debated,

with the family dog (called Pickle) often cited but however it got its name, it has a growing reputation for fun and fitness. Will we ever cover a story from the Highworth Pickleball club?

Jason Daniels

Wrag Barn Golf Club

Sub-zero temperatures didn't deter a large field of golfers from joining in the Lady Captain's Drive In competition on Wednesday 25 January. There were some unusual bounces and cold fingers, but spirits were high and everyone accepted the unusual conditions. Fully restored after a bowl of hot soup, the ladies section assembled for the presentation of hard won prizes and the AGM.

During the AGM, committee members presented their reports, new members were voted on to the committee, and the captaincy was handed over from this year's Captain, Jac Brownsell, to next

year's Captain, Suzanne Hunt. Special mention to the ladies who represented Wrag Barn and won the Wiltshire Scratch A League. An amazing result and huge thanks to Captain Gill Loughrey and her team consisting of: Sheila McNeil; Ashleigh Thorne; Katie Walls; Ellie Webster; Pam Megarry; Molly Barby; Sammy Walls, and Sarah North. The shield and vase were presented to Sheila McNeil and the team by Wiltshire Golf Director Verity Manners.

Every Lady Captain raises funds for a charity during her year and Jac Brownsell was pleased to announce that she had raised £3014 for Asthma UK. Suzanne is raising money for Kidney Research UK, and started her campaign by selling plant labels which were distributed across the first fairway; she then drove a ball off the first tee and was very relieved that it flew down the fairway and landed near a stick bearing the name Anne Mullane, who will no doubt enjoy her prize of a bottle of wine.

We are all looking forward to another year of fun and competitive golf at Wrag Barn, and are hugely grateful for all the hard work which the committee and captain's put in to make it happen.

Tracey Lee

General Manager

W: www.wragbarn.com



L-R Molly Barby, Sheila McNeil, Verity Manners, Sarah North, Pam Megarry and Katie Walls

Highworth Town Walking Football Club

The Over-50's & 60's were back in action in January with the fourth round of the Gloucester FA League fixtures. The Over-60's had a mixed bag, winning one, drawing one but losing two by the odd goal. Some poor refereeing (in our opinion) didn't help but goals win games and possession sadly counts for nothing. The Over-50's fared much better, playing four with four wins, seven goals scored and none conceded with Damon York scoring six of them! If you are interested in playing competitive or social walking football, mens sessions are held on Thursdays and Sundays 11am to 12pm and ladies Sundays 10am to 11am, all at Grange Leisure in Stratton with a Friday session

11.30am to 12.30pm at the Highworth REC.
Please get in touch with me for more details.

E: highworthwfc@outlook.com

M: 07769 703702

Graham Seeley



Braving the cold, the pre-match warm up regime for some Over-50's

Shrivenham Park Golf Club

This has been an exceptionally cold winter but the brave have continued to enjoy their golf at Shrivenham Park, and improvements to the course are continually being made.

The men played a stableford competition and the top scores were produced by Steve Dawson and Tom Gristwood who both scored 40 points. Steve took first place on countback, and a few ladies have played in the eclectic winter scheme... well done. This competition concludes at the end of March.

There are always great deals at Shrivenham Park so please look online and come and enjoy them! Food is always available at reasonable prices, and although membership fees have risen slightly they still remain amongst the cheapest in the area. We will be welcoming in the new captains at the end of March.

Parkies Pals will meet between **10am and 12pm on 6 March and 3 April.**

The Social Group will meet between **10am and 12pm on 10 and 24 March. Once in April, they will begin the afternoon sessions, 2pm until 4pm, outside on the putting green.**

Thank you to all the people who have attended these sessions during the winter months and we all look forward to a summer of putting. There is a modest charge made to cover costs at both Parkies Pals and Social Group. It is going to be possible to offer bacon/sausage baps and a cuppa, if preferred, in place of cake and biscuits – this will be with just a small increase.

Liam, our youngest greenkeeper, has left us for pastures new and we thank him for all his efforts and wish him well in his new work.

The junior section is hoping to continue to be developed and cards put in for handicap – competitions are going to be played to encourage this to happen – and a new scheme of Sixes will be running during the spring months, continuing into the summer and beyond. Coaching will be taking place when possible.

Any youngsters who would like to join us should contact the junior organiser on 07774 348614 with a text message.

We look forward to welcoming all golfers from near and far during 2023.

Enjoy the spring!

Carole
07774 348614

GARDENING CLUBS

LECHLADE

Lechlade Gardening Club

On Wednesday 8 March, at 7:30pm, Oliver O'Dell will come to tell us about his aquaponics farm: a combination of fish farming and aquaponics. The farm is a Horticultural Social Enterprise farm near Faringdon, and in May we will be going on a group visit to actually see how the aquaponics system works.

Aquaponics is a food production system that couples aquaculture (raising aquatic animals such as fish, crayfish, snails or prawns in tanks) with hydroponics (cultivating plants in water), whereby the nutrient-rich aquaculture water is fed to hydroponically grown plants.

Oliver is passionate about healthy food. He grows it without pesticides or chemicals, and his mission is to 'to educate, support and mentor young and old by getting them involved in growing fresh produce.'

Both these talks are very much of the present AND the future. Do come to learn more.

Our usual meetings are held on the **second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm** in the New Memorial Hall Lechlade where there is ample parking. 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 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 speak to any member of the committee.

SHRIVENHAM

Shrivenham & District Gardening Club

This year, the Gardening Club is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

We are very lucky to have Chris Beardshaw (Chelsea Gold Medal winner, plantsman, author

and broadcaster) coming to talk about designing a garden for Great Ormond Street Hospital (another Chelsea entry). Tickets are now on sale at IV Florist and Shrivenham Post Office for £15. The talk takes place in the Memorial Hall on **Tuesday 7 March at 7:30pm** and there will be a bar and a grand raffle.

Tickets are limited, so make sure you get yours for what we are sure will be a fascinating evening.

SOUTH MARSTON

South Marston Gardening Club

On Monday 6 March, from 7.30pm, we have our AGM and registration followed by a talk by Mandy Bradshaw entitled 'Finding the Angle at Chelsea'. A journalist's view of the world-famous flower show, this promises to be a light-hearted, behind-the-scenes glimpse of what happens at press day.

Discover how Mandy finds stories and what the designers and sponsors do to attract the attention of the world's press.

£3 entry fee on the door or join the Gardening Club for £12 (annual membership). Refreshments are included, and there is an optional raffle. A warm welcome awaits you.

Come to our Seed Swap on **Saturday 25 March, 2pm to 4pm!**

If you have any unwanted seeds (it doesn't matter if the packet has been opened), or seeds that you have saved yourself from your own flowers and vegetables, bring them along in small packets clearly labelled to add to the Seed Table and take what seeds you need. No seeds to swap? No problem. Just make a small donation.

Refreshments will also be available. Free entry.

Both events will be held at South Marston Village Hall where there is parking available on Old Vicarage Lane, next to the school.

For more information, visit our Facebook page @southmarstongardeningclub or contact Angela on 07789 068340.

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MAYOR OF HIGHWORTH



This last month has been particularly busy, not only with council responsibilities, but finalising details for the Civic Service to thank all those that volunteer their time to the community. It has been particularly challenging to hold a church service since Rev. Geoff Sowden retired, and Emily, St. Michael's curate, moved

on. My sincere thanks to Pam Linfield for accommodating this service and to Alison Williams for agreeing to lead it. Also thanks to all those that participated and helped. If you attended the service, I hope you enjoyed it.

Since my last update, I was delighted to officially open the revamped Lions charity shop in Newburgh Place, Highworth. The shop has been transformed, and is not only a great way of raising money for charity but is also an important hub for people to chat, have a browse, and for the volunteers to help with a great cause. I am

sure the new look shop will be a huge success and a great asset to the town. It was an honour to formally relaunch it.

I was invited to the first production of the year from the Highworth Amateur Dramatics Society – such a great evening. It is amazing how many talented people we have in our community. If you enjoy a good night out, I highly recommend visiting one of their performances.

March is the time of year when spring is in our grasp and we can look forward to the trees blossoming and flowers blooming. The season certainly feels like this as we spring into action with preparations, which are now well underway, for the May Day and Coronation celebrations. More details will follow in due course, but remember to save the dates: **May Day is 29 April** and the **Coronation is on 6 May**.

I am pleased to announce that the Mayor's Charity Function will be held on **17 March** at Wrag Barn Golf Course. At the time of writing, preparations are underway, but the finer details will follow shortly. Keep an eye out for this event to be advertised around the town and online. The aim is to have a fun evening with a great community, and all for a great cause.

Before I conclude for this month, I want to thank the lovely resident who kindly donated the proceeds of her coffee afternoon to the Mayor's chosen charity – you know who you are. Such a lovely, kind gesture in support of Prospect Hospice, thank you again. If you would like to contribute to the Mayor's chosen charity, Prospect Hospice, please email or ring Highworth Town Council Offices on 01793 762377. Thank you so much for all your support.

If you run a group, organisation, club, or business and think I can support you in any way, please contact my secretary at counciladmin@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk. I would be delighted to help.

*Julie Murphy
Mayor of Highworth*

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Eric Ryder – A dearly loved Dad and Bamp. Loved and missed every day, in our hearts you'll always stay. Love from Janice and Pas, Louisa and Chris, Pep, Amy and Carina xxxx

20/03/2023

Ann Berry – Two years have passed but time has still not stopped the heartache nor can it stop the tears. John and Family

23/03/2023

Happy Birthday Dodo. All my love Momo xx

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Please send all church lighting requests to St Michael's Church Office, Vicarage Lane.

IMPORTANT SUBMISSION UPDATE:

*Please note the submission to the Church Office date is changing to ensure floodlighting requests can meet the Link deadline. We now need submissions **by the last Friday of the month, 2 months prior** as any submissions must be with the Link on the 1st of the previous month with no late submissions now possible. It's hard to get that in writing so please do contact the Church Office on 01793 762702 if you need clarification.*

Submission date: 31st January for the May 2023 publication.

St. Michael's Church

The Church is open daily for private prayer.

10.15am Sunday Service:

The 10.15am Sunday Service is being held in Church and streamed live.

The live service can be found at www.twitch.tv/stmichaelshighworth or on YouTube by searching 'St Michaels Church Highworth'.

Please see our website for more details of what's on, including Midweek Church, Tuesday Meet Greet Eat, and our Monday Toddler Group.
www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

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, 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 are welcome.

We remember those who love and miss

George Edward Clifford

Ian Sumpter

Esme Weight

Praying for the roads in the town

6 March Cricklade Road and The Cullerns

13 March The Dormers and Downs View

20 March Eastrop and Edencroft

27 March The Elms and Fair View

St. Leonard's Parish Church, Stanton Fitzwarren

Sunday 5 March Morning Praise, 9.30 am

Sunday 12 March Family Service, 11am

Sunday 19 March We are welcomed to a Team Service at South Marston, 10am

Sunday 26 March Holy Communion, 9.30am

The church building will be open on every Wednesday in school term time from 9am to 3pm, or phone 01793 762935 to organise for the building to be left open for you to visit safely.

Please go to www.stantonchurch.info for updates.



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