

# *Highworth***LINK**

HIGHWORTH'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE BROUGHT TO YOU WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE CHURCHES OF HIGHWORTH



July/August 2023

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## Insurance

Life is full of decisions. Some are really big, like 'Do I get married?', 'What career do I choose?' or 'Who am I?'. Some are, on the other hand, really easy, like 'Do I order extra fries?'. However, some of the hardest ones are the ones you don't anticipate being a problem at all.



Let me talk about crockery. We have very recently moved house and were standing in IKEA getting some new plates, bowls etc. This, I think, is our fifth set in nearly 25 years of marriage and, whilst we are not given to Greek weddings or domestics, each set had experienced chips, cracks and breakages to the point where we no longer had enough of the one set to lay the table uniformly. Our recurring mistake has been, we realised, not getting enough of one set to cope with loss. A set of 32, it would seem, has a lifespan of roughly six years. So I began loading the trolley with our chosen design and I went big – grabbing three packs of four dinner plates, side plates, bowls, dessert bowls and pasta bowls. Moving onto the cushions and throws area, doubt hit me: Perhaps I need more? So I stopped, turned back, and added another pack of four of each. Feeling pleased that our dining future was secure I moved on, only for fresh doubts to erupt: What if the dishwasher hasn't

finished? What if we hold a big celebration? And isn't some crockery used more often than others? I returned to the kitchenware department.

Insurance is a funny thing. The point is to make us feel secure safe and ready to meet the swings and roundabouts of life, yet it is often driven by fear and we never really know how much is enough. Whether it's having enough dinner plates, medical cover, or reserves in the bank, am I safe? Will everything be ok? Psalm 18 (found roughly in the middle of the Bible) says, 'The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the strength of my salvation, my stronghold.' We are in days of great turmoil and this reality, Jesus being my rock, has been, and is, life-changing for me. Despite moments of crockery weakness I know I am safe and secure because He will never change. He is always there. He will never leave me. It's not mere insurance but my purpose, my hope, my rest, and my future.

By the way, we are now looking for more storage solutions.

*Matt Ford*

*Cover photo by Martin Trehwella*

## LINK magazine

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

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

### Contributions:

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

Email is preferred; otherwise deliver to The Lighthouse Bookshop.

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

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

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

### Deadlines:

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

## Welcome from the Editor

**'I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.'**

**Mother Teresa**

It's safe to say it's been a busy season in Highworth and the outlying areas over the last few months. Along with celebration days, GCSE exams and SATs, exhibitions, open days and sports events, we now have a newly elected town council, including a new mayor and a new deputy mayor. (You can find all their names at the back of this magazine.) Keith and Tony will be known to many of you and I encourage you to make them feel welcome and appreciated. Our local councillors work so hard for the benefit of this town. I know I'm always banging on about you needing to look for the positives in this neighbourhood, a community which promotes local services and events, and seeks to provide for the needs of the lonely and the vulnerable. I don't apologise for that! The way I see it, we can all do something to help one another, even if

we've not yet met. Bringing positive change can seem like such an onerous task, but if we all do one thing for someone else, and do it well, the ripples will be far reaching. You don't need to create a big splash to have a huge impact.

In this combined issue for July and August, become part of creating ripples of positive change by getting involved with local groups and charities. We'll be hosting a Volunteer Expo in the autumn and this is your chance to find out what volunteering opportunities are available and where you can make a difference.



*Rachael*

## We Have a Winner!

Back in May's issue of LINK magazine we launched a competition to find all the coronation crowns that were hiding in the pages. So many of you emailed me with your answers but only one person found all 21 crowns. Well done



**Denise Wright!**



*Denise receiving her £15 gift voucher from Weigh It Up owners Matt and Michelle Aherne*

For those of you who are desperate to know where all the crowns were, check out the answers below.

Crowns appeared on: Front page, inside pages: 4 (2 crowns), 6, 8, 9, 10, 14, 19, 20, 21, 24, 27, 30, 31, 32, 35, 37, 39, 40, 41.

## 'Thank You' from 1st Highworth Scouts Scarecrow Trail

The Easter Holidays saw the return of the 1st Highworth Scouts Scarecrow Trail, after an absence of two years, on the theme of **A Moment In Time**. We had some spectacular scarecrows – thank you to everyone who created a scarecrow. We had over 40 around the town.

Thank you to Visit Highworth, The Saracen's Head, Lighthouse Bookshop and Allen and Harris for selling the trail maps.

In addition, the Scouts would like to particularly thank Andrews Quality Meats, Highworth Emporium and TT Linnets for providing the prizes. We managed to raise over £500.

To advertise in the Highworth Link contact [deb.hodgson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:deb.hodgson@tiscali.co.uk) or visit [www.highworthlink.co.uk](http://www.highworthlink.co.uk)



# Faringdon and District u3a

On Thursday 13 July, 2:30pm, at the Corn Exchange, Jessica Beare, Recycling and Education Officer at the Vale of White Horse, will explain what can and cannot be recycled from our bins.

All of us have various items which can cause confusion about whether to recycle or deposit in our black bins. Jessica aims to answer all these queries. She is also happy to answer any other questions about recycling. Come to the meeting prepared with all your questions. Refreshments are available for everyone, but visitors are

required to pay an entrance fee of £1.50.

Please note that you should be in good health and up to date with all Covid vaccinations. Covid is still around so if in doubt please stay at home and avoid all meetings. Many thanks.

Advance notice: The summer lunch is on **Thursday 10 August**. Please contact us for more details by going to our website.

Alison Thomson  
[www.faringdondistrictu3a.com](http://www.faringdondistrictu3a.com)

## CAP Celebrates!



This summer CAP Highworth has celebrated being open nine years and helping over 70 households become debt free!

No one finds it easy to ask for help but, since we have been open in Highworth, we have supported over 250 households in the area on their journey out of debt; with money coaching, life skills sessions and job searching skills. All of those who are now debt free felt the incredible weight of debt lifted as they engaged with the process and absolutely experienced joy as they were declared debt free!

That could be you – don't struggle alone! Anyone can receive free debt advice from this

professional, award-winning charity whether you live in Highworth, Faringdon, Cricklade, Blunsdon, Tadpole, Shrivenham, Lechlade, or surrounding areas.

To get free debt advice and begin your journey to being debt free, simply call our freephone number on 0800 328 0006 and ask for a home visit. To chat informally, first pop into The Bridge Centre on Sheep Street, or contact Kathryn on 07885 579876.

Kathryn Ford

Highworth Centre Manager: 07885 579876  
(Monday and Tuesday)

South West Area Manager: 07888 268267  
(Wednesday and Thursday)

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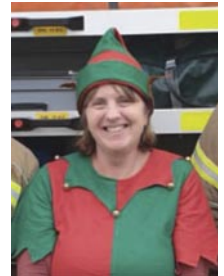
We are so looking forward to our first Art and Literature Festival on Saturday 12 August. The Art Exhibition will be in the beautiful St. Michael's Church from 9am until 4pm, featuring local artists, photographers and sculptors. There will be a full day of literary events including Storytime and talk from Neil Griffiths. Steve Antony is

holding a Creative Writing Workshop, and there will be an evening with Jasper Fforde and the opportunity to join some of the authors for lunch at The Highworth. There are more events happening on the day so if you would like to come along visit our website or pop into the Centre for tickets.

Would you like to find out more about Highworth and its links to Coleshill Estate? In partnership with the National Trust we will be running a historical tour of Highworth followed by a trip to the Coleshill Estate to learn more about its role in World War II. Contact the Visitor Centre for more details. Transport is provided for the trip.

Speaking of walking tours, Visit Highworth was delighted to invite the Fairford and Lechlade Business Club to come to the town to take part in our guided walk. They were joined by Highworth Mayor Keith Smith as they toured the town, and then it was on to The Old Bakery for tea and cake – a very successful visit! You can take part in these walks as well as our Wildlife Walks by contacting the Visitor Centre.

Finally, it is time to say goodbye to Sandra Rendall. Sandra was on board from the very beginning of the Visit Highworth journey. She was Project Manager for the set up and then, going forward, Committee Secretary. She could often be found in the centre behind the desk, creating crafts with the children at our workshops, helping Santa in his grotto as his elf, as well as organising our craft fairs and events. She has played a pivotal role for the last four years at Visit Highworth and will be very much missed. Thank you for all your hard work, Sandra. Paint and Prosecco evenings won't be the same without you! Good luck with your move to Devon.



*Helen Lacey, Centre Manager  
7 High Street, Highworth SN6 7BE  
info@visithighworth.co.uk*

## Highworth Community Larder

The Larder has proved very popular. We are now collecting surplus food from several supermarkets every week, supplemented by individual donations.

By the time you read this article we hope that we will also be receiving surplus fruit and vegetables from allotments and gardens in the area. All food is passed on to local residents at the Larder, in Westrop School, on a **Tuesday morning between 8am and 11am**. Visitor numbers have risen from 30 to over 70 every week.

We have a very supportive group of volunteers but, as we expand, we will need more people to collect the food donations. Should you wish to volunteer, or if you have food to donate, you can

contact us by email at [highworthcommunitylarder@gmail.com](mailto:highworthcommunitylarder@gmail.com) or through our Facebook page; Highworth Community Larder. We also have collection boxes in the Library, Visit Highworth and Highworth Holistic Health for non-perishable food donations.



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## Ask AMS

### Changing from a sole trader to a Limited Company

Transferring from a sole-trader or partnership, to a Limited Company is sometimes recommended by accountants for tax planning reasons or to benefit from Limited Liability and they will consider the following issues.

**When:** Work out which side of a tax year end to transfer the business because this decision will affect taxable income (and rates) between tax years.

**Documents:** A Company is a separate legal entity, this needs to be reflected in all legal documents including invoices, contracts, your website and any insurance policies.

**Capital Gains Tax and hold-over elections (s.162/ s.165 elections):**

Transfer of a business can result in Capital Gains Tax. Valuation of assets (particularly 'goodwill') may be necessary and 'hold-over elections' considered and, if necessary, submitted to HMRC in order to reduce/postpone Capital gains Tax.

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# Tribute Act at Wrag Barn

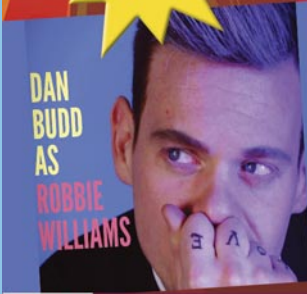
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Child: £15



**Brighton**  
Sat 1st & Sun 23rd &  
Fri 28th July 2023  
Adult: £30 | Senior: £28  
Child: £15



**Bournemouth OR  
Poole** Sat 15th &  
Thu 27th July 2023  
Adult: £28 | Senior: £26  
Child: £15



**Weston Super Mare**  
Sun 16th July 2023  
Adult: £25 | Senior: £23  
Child: £15



**Kew Gardens**  
Tue 25th July 2023  
Adult: £44 | Senior: £36  
Child: £20



**West Somerset  
Railway & Minehead**  
Tue 25th July 2023  
Adult: £54 | Senior: £52  
Child: £37



**Horse Drawn Boat  
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Child: £33

View our full list of Summer day trips online at: [barnescoaches.co.uk](http://barnescoaches.co.uk) or request a free day trip leaflet.



## Forget-Me-Not Project Updates



Following the launch of our Dementia Friendly Choir in February, we are enjoying our time with Karen Owen and Jane Smale who lead us in lots of laughter with fun warm-ups, singing in rounds and joining in together with many familiar songs. We shake some instruments and add coloured scarves too when the mood takes us, and not forgetting our ending to most songs with our jazz hands! Join us on the second and fourth Friday of each month from 12:30pm to 2pm in St. Michael's Church.

Highworth Town Council supports us in so many ways, and this spring we took over an allotment space at Park Avenue. This completely blank canvas has allowed us to plan a more accessible allotment with our cafe attendees. With friends helping build our first two raised beds and receiving many donations, including our lovely yellow bench and tools, we have made a start. Thanks to the Highworth Lions for the £800



donation which has helped us to purchase a lovely shed, many bags of compost for the beds, a second bench and starter items. Thank you to their van drivers too for helping us move the slabs. We have now planted our first veg and flower plants grown by our Friendship Fridays group. We are delighted also to have now been chosen to receive further funding and horticultural support from Dobbies and Wincanton, and we look forward to seeing even more progress as we work together with them.

We want to create a space where we can be outdoors and work together with our groups to grow produce to share, along with some fragrant herbs and flowers for sensory stimulation. In later life, many are finding their own gardens more difficult but want to be part of a communal space, while others don't have their own garden anymore to sit out in. We'd love some help with watering this season and look forward to meeting our fellow allotment friends as we grow the space.

If you'd like to get involved in any of these new projects, as well as our other regular groups, then please email [forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com](mailto:forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com) or call Ruth on 07970 543423.

## Eco Tip from Weigh It Up

The average person in the UK uses 152 litres of water a day. By using water more wisely we can ease the pressure on the natural environment, especially in times of drought, and save energy. Making small changes, like turning off the tap when you are brushing your teeth (the average person uses six to nine litres of water a day brushing their teeth) or living by the saying 'if it's yellow let it mellow; if it's brown flush it down', can make a big difference to your water usage, helping the wildlife which depend on water in the environment for their survival.

**Cooking Eco Tip:** Switch from boiling your vegetables to steaming them. When you steam vegetables you use less water and you keep more nutrients in your vegetables whilst also saving money and energy.



Weigh It Up



Weigh\_It\_Up\_Highworth



## Raising Money for Parkinson's Walking Football

Once sport resumed during the first lockdown, around ten of us in Highworth ran a competition predicting the winners of various sporting events. This has now moved to a weekly prediction competition and, for 2022/23, we had 43 people taking part. There was no entry fee, we just asked for donations, and for the past season raised the magnificent sum of £1,035. One of our participants then raised a further £500 from an auction.

We were therefore able to pass over a cheque for £1,535 to the Swindon Parkinson's walking football group, making a grand total of £2,610 since 2020.

We are very keen to get more people taking part. If you are interested for the 2023/24 season, please email; [spforparkinsons1819@btinternet.com](mailto:spforparkinsons1819@btinternet.com).

*David Roblin*

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## Sustainable Shrevenham at The Hub

In May we held a talk on The Pros and Cons of Electric Cars and in June a workshop on No Dig Vegetable Gardening in partnership with Eastbrook Experiences at the Royal Oak, Bishopstone, given by Rebecca Brain from Soil Song Nursery.

The next Repair Café will be on **Saturday 22 July from 9:30am to 12:30pm**. One item only please, and nothing too large. Our trusty repairers can attempt to repair everything from a table lamp to a vacuum cleaner, and a snagged jumper to an electric fire. They can also do tool sharpening. Our crafting morning is held on the **second Saturday each month** and anyone is very welcome.

We now have two more bulk containers to add to the washing-up liquid and laundry detergent, i.e. all-purpose, cleaner and handwash. Either bring your own bottle or we can provide one.

We are now only accepting donations to our Thrifty-50 Shop and Craft Scrap Store on a Saturday.

Up and coming events include a bric-a-brac sale, a book sale (fiction only), and an adult clothes exchange. Please visit our website or Facebook page where you will find further details.

*Steph Muir*

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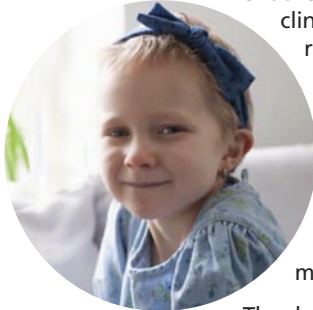
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## The Peaky Climbers Stride to Save Avaya

**Eight ladies from Honeys Bootcamp – a bootcamp set up two years ago in Blunsdon Village – will be taking on the National Three Peaks Challenge on 22 and 23 July, and they need your help.**

Avaya is eight years old and has been battling Neuroblastoma, a rare but aggressive childhood cancer, for three years. In that short time she has endured so much treatment, clinical trials, radiotherapy, radiation treatment, and 22 cycles of toxic chemo, but the tumour is still present and hasn't shrunk since the first lot of treatments Avaya had in 2020. It is also wrapped around two major blood vessels.



The doctors, surgeons, and Neuroblastoma team have given Avaya the ability to live as normal a life as she can (going to school, dancing, playing with her friends, and enjoying life) without having to think about the next time she needs to visit the hospital, lose her hair, or endure the pain that she has encountered over the

last few years. Avaya's tumour is not shrinking but to remove the tumour would be far too risky as Avaya may suffer life-changing problems which is not justifiable at present. Avaya and her family try to live life to the full; however



Avaya still has to go to hospital every three months for scans and assessment, and a lifesaving operation to have the tumour removed privately (at a cost of over £250,000, which is far greater than the family's means) is not a realistic prospect.

Avaya's family, medical team, friends and supporters who have fought to help save this little girl have given her hope and a light at the end of the tunnel. However, until Avaya's tumour is removed, that bell can't be rung.

Group organiser Rhae McCartney said, 'Honeys Bootcamp was set up in the village two years ago to bring together women through the fun of exercising and the group has grown from strength to strength. Training twice a week, 30 ladies support each other through everything and the eight of us taking on this monstrous challenge know the group, and our friends and families, will be right behind us.'

*If you would like to donate or sponsor The Peaky Climbers, go to Avaya's Fight Against Neuroblastoma Go Fund me page at [www.gofundme.com/f/ya4e8n-avayas-fight-against-neuroblastoma](http://www.gofundme.com/f/ya4e8n-avayas-fight-against-neuroblastoma)*



### Wiltshire Sight in Highworth

Wiltshire Sight offers practical and emotional support to those with sight loss and eye conditions that cannot be improved with prescription glasses.

From June, meet your friendly local Community Sight Loss Advisor at our appointment-only session in Highworth Library, **10:15am to 12:30pm, on the second Monday of the month.** We can demonstrate tools and techniques that can help you maintain your independence. The next sessions are on **10 July, 14 August, and 11 September.** Call in advance to book your place.

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## News from the Rotary Club of Swindon North and Thamesdown

We held a special meeting in May to hand out to several charities the money we collected in our Santa Sleigh Appeal in December and also the funds raised at our annual Quiz and Ploughman's Supper in March.

We distributed a total of £6,000 to ten charities. Representatives from the following charities attended the meeting to receive £500 each and are pictured with President of the club, Terry Williams:



- Gloucester House Rehabilitation Centre, Highworth
- NSPCC (Swindon Branch)
- Parkinson's Disease (the Parky's Singers)
- Recycles, Booth House, Swindon
- Swindon Carers Centre

- Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service
- Wiltshire Treehouse
- Youth Adventure Trust

In addition, £1,500 was sent to Operation Smile and £500 to Crohn's & Colitis UK.

## Highworth Historical Society

**Our series of talks for this season is now over but we will be back on 27 September, starting a little earlier than usual at 7:15pm. Doors will open at 6:45pm. There will be a very short AGM, (about ten minutes) and we will be ready to start the meeting proper at 7:30pm.**

A change for us this time as we will have not one speaker but seven or eight. The hall will be arranged for people to sit around tables and the speakers will move around to give a short talk on an item of their choice. These items will include: a tablecloth; a prayer book bag; a mystery glass item; a medicine book; and a watch from the Boer war. All the items tell a story and have been found or handed down to the speakers. We hope that this will be a friendly, inclusive way to start our new season.

For people new to the town, we meet in St Michael's Hall on the Lechlade Road. Visitors are always welcome at individual meetings, with a charge of £3. Our membership at £12 covers all nine talks for the season. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be offered as usual.

This is a reminder that membership fees of £12 will be collected at this meeting. Please bring the exact money if you can to help Ken and Sue.

We welcome ideas for future speakers, subjects or events. We are also interested in any 'finds' which might come your way.

For talks and research contact Chris  
chrissuter16@googlemail.com

For finds and research it's Ann Marie  
annmarie@annmariemurphy.co.uk

For general queries contact Caroline  
caroline.pooley@yahoo.com

Finally many thanks to everyone who has supported us in the last year. We look forward to seeing you all in September.

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## Former Warneford School Teaching Staff to Walk Offa's Dyke

Sue Hodgson and Elaine Rowe are walking the 177 mile Offa's Dyke national trail to raise funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK in memory of their dear friend, Julia Rothermeier.



On 13 May, a coffee morning was held at the Methodist Church which raised over £1600. We are so grateful to everyone who helped, those who donated the delicious cakes, for all the

fantastic items made for the craft stall and for everyone who came along and donated so generously. It was lovely to see many who had known Julia from when she lived in Highworth and attended Warneford School and some family who had come up especially from Cornwall. We were overwhelmed by the response as we know resources are very stretched for some at the minute and there are so many other good causes also requiring our attention.

Because this article had to be submitted by the first of June, at the time of writing we haven't yet



Coffee morning

set off on our marathon trek. However, by the time you read this we will hopefully be well along the way. It is going to be quite a challenge for us two women who may be in our prime but are definitely not in our youth!

Julia lost her life to Pancreatic Cancer on 3 June 2022 at the age of just 56. Her



tortuous journey since sudden diagnosis reflects a disease that is extremely difficult to detect in its early stages and has the lowest survival rate of any common cancer at just 7%. Despite this, it only receives 3% of all cancer research funding.



So we are walking to raise awareness and funds; you can find out more at the JustGiving site which we will be updating regularly along the way with photos... if we are in any fit state to do so! You can use the QR code or type [www.justgiving.com/page/sue-hodgson-1679511960286qr](http://www.justgiving.com/page/sue-hodgson-1679511960286qr) into your search bar. Or you can search the JustGiving site for Hodge and Rowe

Trek Offa's Dyke for Pancreatic Cancer UK. Of course we would be very grateful if you felt this wee trek deserved a donation to Pancreatic Cancer UK!

Many thanks again for the wonderful support already shown by the people of Highworth; you have been amazing! Our thanks go to Julia's husband Thomas, sons Christian and Domenik, mother Brenda Bunting and brother Andrew and family for supporting the walk and our other fundraising activities at such a difficult time.



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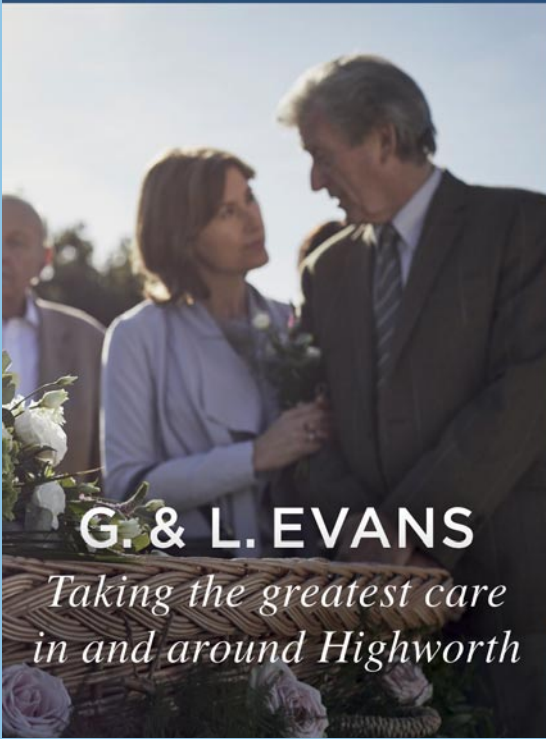
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## St. Michael's Church is Never Still

We may have been 'in vacancy', as the Church of England fondly describes it, following the retirement of our vicar, Geoff Sowden, 18 months ago and our curate, Emily, moving on to her new church in Ipswich, but if anyone thought this would mean the active life, worship, and ministry of St. Michael's would slow down in any way, they'd be wrong!

We praise God that, thanks to a truly committed team of church wardens, retired clergy, gifted lay leaders and office team, together with so many inspiring, willing and gifted members of the congregation, our full pattern of regular Sunday worship has continued unabated, including to the other churches in the Benefice, and alongside weddings, funerals, baptisms, youth ministry and so much more.

Our Monday parent and toddler group continues to grow and welcome many families with a whole church full of toys and activities along with the tantalising smell of toast, coffee, and croissants as they arrive. The monthly Tuesday lunchtime Greet, Meet and Eat is a favourite for many and open to all, as is the first Saturday morning of the month's At Home at St. Michael's with refreshments, activities for the children and a chance to relax together.

Other activities include the Wednesday monthly Communion Service, with tea and cake enjoyed first, which is popular with many who are unable to get to church at another time, and the Thursday Kitchen offered an evening meal for all throughout Lent.

We provided refreshments for over 400 people during Highworth's wonderful May Day celebration and continue to host concerts, craft fairs and an activity day for children every half term holiday. Special services

and commemorations have taken place during the past year including the Mayor's Civic Service and the occasion of our late Queen's death.

Why not come and get to know us better at any of our services or midweek activities? All details are available on our website and in the church. A very warm and unpressured welcome is guaranteed!

And of course, in the midst of it all, we are continuing earnestly to trust and pray that there will soon be a new rector for us all to meet and get to know when they take the leadership reins at St. Michael's and lead us into the years ahead!

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## Highworth Twinning Association Presents Coronation Flags in France

On 27 May, people from the HTA visited our twin town, Pontorson in Normandy. You will see from the photo we made good use of the flags the Council kindly gave to us and presented one each to the Mayor of Pontorson and the Deputy Mayor of Wassenberg. The Presidents of the Twinning Associations are also in the picture. For more photos of the trip, please see our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/highworthtwinning/](http://www.facebook.com/highworthtwinning/). You don't have to be signed up to Facebook to see our page.

We are looking for people to join our committee and help with visits or hosting. A party from Wassenberg will be visiting on 7 October for four days. For more information, or if you have any questions, please



contact Richard Pearce at [rjnppearcehta@gmail.com](mailto:rjnppearcehta@gmail.com) or 07513 009044.



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# CORONATION



## Front Row Seats for the Coronation

After checking into our hotel, a stone's throw away from the Mall, we went for a stroll to find a good vantage point for the following day. As we approached the Mall, we could feel the excitement and were greeted with a sea of red, white and blue. People were already camping out and there was lots of laughter and happy faces all around. It didn't take long for us to work out where we needed to be if we wanted a good spot, so we nipped back to our hotel, got changed, grabbed the camping chairs, and returned to the Mall which was going to close once it had reached capacity.

After finding a space behind a lovely group of people we settled down for the night. Although it was a little cold, we did our best to keep warm knowing it would be worth the wait. Those who were asleep were woken at around 6am with a loudspeaker announcement asking for tents to be dismantled. The opportunity to move forward to the barrier had arrived!

The Coronation Procession was spectacular. The display included the Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, Scots Guards, Irish Guards, Welsh Guards, the Household Cavalry, the Life Guards and the Blues and Royals. Not a foot was out of place. We're now feeling prouder than ever to be British!

The police did such a wonderful job too – so many forces coming together to keep us all safe – lining the Mall every six feet or so, keeping a straight face no matter how much we tried to distract them.

We all stood in silence as we listened to the service at Westminster Abbey and joined in when we could; somehow the heavy rain didn't really make a difference. Then the moment we had all been waiting for; the King and Queen passing by in the Golden State Coach. It's simply breathtaking and unbelievable to think the carriage is 260 years old!

Later we gathered on the Mall to watch the Red Arrows overhead, a moment we will never forget even though the flypast was slimmed down due to the bad weather. The day was topped off when the beautiful Anita Rani, who happened to be filming on the Mall at that time, made a beeline for Malcolm to ask him about his day. Star struck or what!

*Janet and Malcolm Harman*



*Getting them to the Abbey on time*



*Mum! That blokes nicked my hat*



*Did someone say 'Free food'?*



*Bored now... biscuits please.*



*The day's official artist*



*Anita Rani & Malcolm*



*Janet & Malcom*



*The Masked Charles – but who's the authentic one?*



*Grub*



*Once a Prince, now a King*



*Coronation Chicken!!*



*Nice of him to turn up*



## Pam Adams

8 November 1951 to 11 May 2023

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the sudden and unexpected death of Pam Adams.

Pam first came to Highworth 48 years ago to teach at Warneford School, where she was an excellent and well-respected teacher. Pam was an enthusiastic hockey and netball player and she met her husband, Charlie, through the hockey club. When they married they settled in Highworth, first in Eastrop and then moved to Brookfield when their two sons were born.

Pam carried her northern roots and political beliefs with her when she moved south! She was a hard-working member of the Labour Party and a conscientious



councillor. She served first on Highworth Town Council and, more latterly, was elected as Borough Councillor for Stratton St. Margaret /South Marston. She was a firm believer that local councils should transcend party politics and she worked tirelessly for the benefit of ALL of the people of Highworth.

She served as Mayor of Highworth in 2014/2015. Her nominated charity was Brighter Future and as a breast cancer survivor she passionately believed that the people of the borough deserved their own radiotherapy unit.

Pam worked with great determination for over 20 years, helping to secure funding for the Highworth skatepark. She always said that if her children didn't get to use it then her grandchildren would! She was extremely proud when it was finally opened. She had a wide range of interests and was variously a member of the WI, HT Netball Club, a walking group, and a quiz team. She was very sociable, meeting up with former teaching colleagues and an extensive network of friends.

Her family say that Pam suffered from FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out) but it was more of a case of being widely interested and supportive of a range of people. She did all this despite having Type 1 diabetes and she never let this condition define or restrict her.

Pam will be sadly missed by her family and friends. Her life benefited everyone.

A vertical advertisement for Heritage Tree Care. The background is a photograph of a tree surgeon in a red shirt and yellow helmet climbing a tree. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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A horizontal advertisement for a Christmas event. The background is white with green pine branches and red and gold Christmas ornaments. The text is in red and black.

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## Lechlade Town Twinning Trip

The visit to Lechlade's French twin town was scheduled for 2020 but, along with many other events, was postponed until this year. It was worth the wait to rekindle old friendships and make new ones. It was also a milestone in the partnership, celebrating a terrifically successful 25 years.

A small party left Lechlade on the Friday evening of the May Bank Holiday weekend and took the overnight ferry from Portsmouth to St Malo on a flat calm sea. An early start the next day took the group to La Chapelle des Fougeretz for a continental breakfast and welcome at the school where they met their host families. The afternoon was spent exploring Rennes with a very informative guide followed by a group dinner at Le Colvert Restaurant. The hosts provided entertaining charade-type games between courses and, by popular request, Michael Colley provided a magic show including some balloon modelling – very ably assisted by Barnes Coach driver Jason (but not a sequin or leotard in sight).

On Sunday, armed with waterproofs and umbrellas, the party went to Josselin, a picturesque historic town with a magnificent Gothic style castle by the River Oust. There was an extensive guided tour of the castle and then exploration of the town. Next was Lizio for a tour of the Poète Ferrailleux's universe: an eccentric

creative artist who has made a world from scrap materials. Here the weather turned and provided a theatre of thunder, lightning and very heavy rain, which resulted in the coach being well and truly stuck in mud. A large car, a tractor and a very muddy coach driver later saw everyone safely back on the road for an evening with host families.

There was a fond farewell on Monday morning and another tranquil crossing back home.

Twinning is a fantastic opportunity to be immersed in French life and makes for a very enjoyable weekend. Lechlade will welcome our French friends here next year. If you would like to know more about the twinning association, email Jane at [jane@leshed.plus.com](mailto:jane@leshed.plus.com)

*Margaret Hing*



*Sunday visit to Josselin*

---

## National Trust Buscot and Coleshill Estates

After months of preparation, the Heritage and Rural Skills Centre is officially open and we have a summer programme of courses and workshops. It's a varied selection for anyone wishing to learn a new skill or develop an existing one. Try your hand at stained glass, weaving, wood carving, blacksmithing or even learn to spin after making your own drop spindle. For details and to book, visit the website, call 0344 2491895, or follow us on Facebook. Programme leaflets can be found at Visit Highworth.

Coleshill has always been home to innovation and creativity. We have now added history tours to our visitor offer to share our stories. There's our new exhibition too. It would be lovely to see you soon, at our July Village Open Day on **Sunday 9 July**.

I'll end with a correction from May's edition. I mentioned the story of Coleshill and the Auxiliers and referred to them as the 'Royal' Auxiliary Units. One of our eagle-eyed volunteers, rightly, picked this up. They were valued but not royal. We are lucky to have volunteers that are so involved and enjoy their own personal research into the history of Coleshill. BBC Radio 4 recently visited and recorded an episode of 'Open Country, Wartime Secrets of Coleshill' which is available on BBC Sounds.

*Sarah Hannis*

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

search Heritage and Rural Skills Centre

01793 762209

Facebook: *The Buscot and Coleshill Estates NT*

## News from Highworth and District Lions Club



**Another month has flown by and it's been a busy time for us.**

Our car boot sale in May was a huge hit with the community. Our pitches are reserved in advance and it's proving to be a very popular event each month, both with buyers and sellers. Please do get in touch with us via email or Facebook if you'd like to reserve a pitch.

We couldn't do it without the generosity of Sharon at The Goldfinger Tavern who lets us use the car park once a month, as well as opening up early to offer everyone delicious food and drink – a huge thank you, Sharon.

Our Charity Shop is still very popular with the community. So many people are visiting our shop and also giving us amazing donations and we thank each and every person who has supported us. Without you we couldn't provide the much needed help to those in need within our community.

We celebrated our 49th year of service within the community with our Charter Night at Wrag Barn Golf Club, which included an evening dinner and disco. We celebrated with so many people on the night, from other Lions Clubs as well as from other charities, and people who support us and whom we have supported. Roll on our 50th next year!

In May we donated to the following:  
Dressability £500; Wiltshire Disabled Games £250.

We are still looking for volunteers to join us in the charity shop, as well as volunteers to join our Club. Please get in touch if you'd like more information.

*Melanie Davenport – Highworth and District Lions Club*



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## Lechlade Gardening Club

Join us on Thursday 6 July as we visit Laskett Gardens.

Over four decades Sir Roy Strong and his designer wife, Dr. Julia Trevelyan Oman, transformed a four acre field into a series of stunning garden rooms and vistas. Set on the Herefordshire and Welsh borders, the gardens reflect the personalities of two people and their equally famous acquaintances at the centre of the arts in the latter half of the twentieth century. The overall formal structure of hedges, topiary, statues and colonnades has been softened with informal underplanting and extensive herbaceous borders. A very different garden.

On our way to Laskett we will be calling at The 3 Shires Garden Centre for refreshments/lunch in their restaurant overlooking the lake. Bring a drink with you to Laskett as there are no refreshments available.

Price: £25 which includes coach and entry to Laskett, departing from Lechlade at 9:30am and arriving back at 6pm.

Please send a cheque payable to Lechlade

Gardening Club or cash to Mrs. Audrey Barnes, 1 Roman Way, Lechlade GL7 3BS. Any queries email [audreybarnes96@gmail.com](mailto:audreybarnes96@gmail.com)

The Lechlade Annual Flower and Produce Show will take place on **Saturday 2 September** in the Memorial Hall, Lechlade.

There are so many different classes to enter that there is definitely something for everyone: Young, old or in-between; whether a gardener, hand crafter, cook, photographer or flower arranger. Please pick up a free schedule from the post office, library or many other local outlets, or check our Lechlade Garden Club website for details on how to enter.

The last entry date is **Tuesday 29 August** but NOW is definitely the time to decide what you are going to choose to enter. There are prizes and cups to be won.

There's also a grand raffle. And a grand tea, with cake!

<http://www.lecladegardeningclub.org.uk>

---

## South Marston Gardening Club

On Monday 3 July, from 7:30pm to 9:30pm, our speaker will be Anne Luder whose theme will be **Naturally Native**. The talk is about gardening with british natives at home; looking at native plants you can grow at home. Anne worked as a garden designer for over twenty-five years, designing both public and private gardens and specialising in allergy-free and challenging gardens.

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

Our Annual Flower and Produce Show takes place on **Saturday 19 August**. Admission at the door is 20p per adult with refreshments and a raffle available. The schedule is as follows:

5pm	Open for viewing
5:15pm	Giving of prize money
5:30pm	Presentation of show winners
5:45pm	Auction of produce
6pm	Raffle Prize Draw

If you would like to take part by exhibiting in the show, please make enquiries into joining the Gardening Club.

We are only able to take cash for auction of produce, raffle and refreshments.

On **Monday 4 September, 7:30pm to 9:30pm**, we will be joined by Sonia Wright speaking on the theme of Autumn Gardens. Sonia Wright Gardens is a long-established plant nursery near the Ridgeway in Ogbourne St George. As well as plants Sonia offers horticultural courses and workshops, has appeared on *Gardeners World* and, in 2016, her *Nepeta Crystal Cloud* was one of the top five new plants at Chelsea.

All events will be held at South Marston Village Hall, with parking 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.



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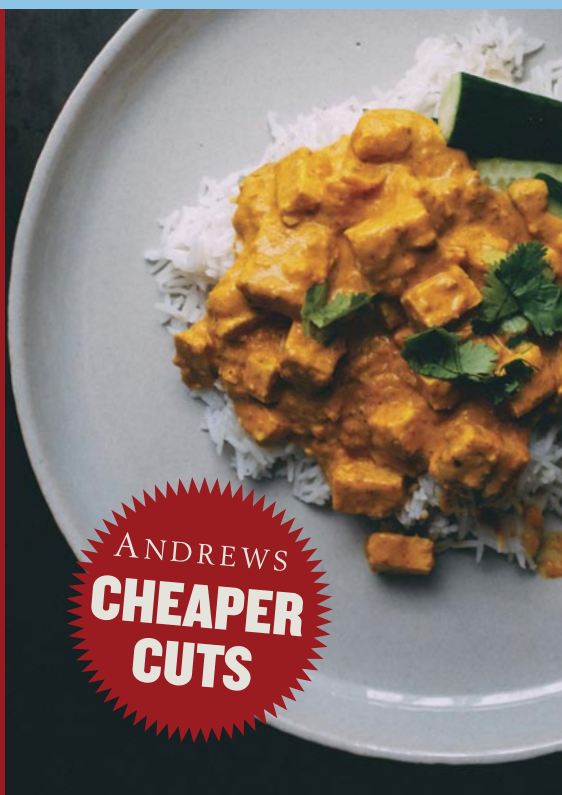
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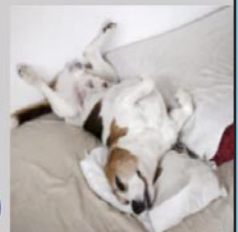
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## Highworth Artists' Society: Did you know?

- Highworth Artists' Society began in the 1960s when three artists, who wanted to paint together, decided to form a painting group.
- An open exhibition in February 1969 in the Wild Oats Café in the High Street (now Salam's Restaurant) triggered the formation of the Society and the inaugural meeting was held in March of that year.
- By 1990 the Society was meeting for two hours a week in the Council Offices in Gilbert Lane. Exhibitions were held in the Saracen's Head pub, still a regular haunt for some of our members on a Tuesday lunchtime!
- Since 2013 we have shown over 2000 paintings and welcomed over 10,600 visitors to the exhibitions, many of whom are returning supporters.
- Although art used to be an Olympic event, only 20 minutes of creativity a day is said to improve our mental health by relieving stress, improving memory, and slowing cognitive decline.
- Whilst up to 60 minutes of brush mileage a day can radically improve technique, 10,000 hours is generally accepted as being the number of hours to become a master. A very good reason to join us and start getting the miles in!
- In 1706 the colour wheel was invented by Isaac Newton, who refracted sunlight into six colours. The Hundred of Worth, or Highworth as it became known, had been in existence before 1300 so predates one of the greats!



Collage by Lin Jones

### Second skip

The second skip appeared today  
 Resting on the path.  
 Articles of their existence.  
 Pairs of slippers soothing the feet  
 Pillows plumped to rest the head.  
 Box set of Tchaikovsky, whiling away the time  
 Broken bookcases once full of knowledge and  
 light romance.  
 Saucepans to prepare and savour the meals.  
 Silver paper to wrap and preserve.  
 We leave behind material baggage  
 Others decide how to dispose  
 The final bond broken.  
 Recollections remain in the minds  
 Of those close, and of friends,  
 Circle of essence to nothing.  
 Somebody to something.

John Williams

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## Sport Compiled by Jason Daniels

If you have a sport story email [jcdsport12@gmail.com](mailto:jcdsport12@gmail.com)



(L-R) Dave Booth, Colin Bailey (Captain), Terry Clements, Steve Williams & Steve Hares

### Swindon Croquet Club

SCC's 'Golf Croquet Handicap' team played away against Nailsea in the South West Federation handicap league (northern section). Nailsea fielded a team with several low handicap players but the Swindon team responded well and did brilliantly to hold a 7-4 lead at the lunch break. Nailsea fought back strongly in the afternoon, during which there were several closely contested matches. The final result was a 10-10 draw with both sides securing one point. Swindon's captain, Colin Bailey, said, 'Everyone played exceptionally well against a strong Nailsea team with our most successful players in the singles being Dave Booth, Steven Hares and Terry Clements; with three wins, two wins, and two wins respectively.' If you would like to try croquet, see our website, email us or just come along on **Tuesday afternoon or Thursday morning** – a warm welcome is guaranteed. The club is located on Moredon Sports Complex, opposite Manor Garden Centre.

[swindoncroquetclub@outlook.com](mailto:swindoncroquetclub@outlook.com)  
[swindoncroquetclub.org.uk](http://swindoncroquetclub.org.uk)  
Beverly Briggs

### Highworth Town Football Club

HTFC were relegated after a play-off defeat to Malvern Town and returned to the Hellenic League for 2023/4. On the positive side our travel mileage will reduce by around 42% which will, hopefully, make player recruitment easier. A new

manager will be in place as well, as the club looks to rebuild quickly; more details to follow. We are always looking for sponsors and volunteers so please contact us through our website if you want to get involved.

[www.pitchero.com/clubs/highworthtown](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/highworthtown)  
Derek Lloyd

### Wrag Barn Golf Club

#### Wrag Barn celebrates with the Coronation Cup!

Anyone watching the weather forecast for the Coronation Bank Holiday Monday would be justified in predicting an absolute washout, but in the end the rain stayed away until late afternoon and the competition went ahead. The format of a 'Stableford Waltz' meant that the pressure was off for anyone feeling the after effects of a busy weekend; 32 couples joined forces in groups of four for the 18 holes of fun and the odd good shot. The crowning glory to the afternoon was a delicious cream tea with bubbly and the dress code was a gold paper crown. Congratulations to the winning team of Scott and Alison Talbert and Shaun and Tracey Judd who won by miles. Thank you to everyone who worked hard behind the scenes to organise the afternoon. Special mention to Shaun Judd who came up with the idea, Jenny Stenhouse for presenting the prizes, and the catering staff for the delicious tea, but more importantly thank you to everyone who took part.

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(L-R) Alison & Scott Talbert, Jenny Stenhouse, Shaun & Tracey Judd



## Shrivenham Cricket Club

Well, the Coronation is over and what a splendid spectacle it was. So well-planned, organised and executed; except for the weather! The Party-in-the-Park was good, well attended by many families and residents, and this was followed by quite a few street parties on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday. God save the King.

Now to cricket. The league was warned that the first league fixtures were scheduled for Coronation Day but they decided that was not an issue! We were scheduled to play Chippenham 4 that afternoon at home. Amazingly, we had a strong team that day but the weather had other ideas and, like many of the matches, it could not be played. The following Saturday we were away to Bradford-on-Avon 2 and we batted first. We amassed 187 all-out in double-quick time, with Jerry Francis scoring 84 runs and Simon Carr taking 6 wickets from 24 overs, wasting 21 overs! Bradford, though, could only get to 166 for 9 in their overs so a win for us in our first league game of the season.

The following Saturday we were at home to Bathford, and winning the toss we elected to bat, scoring 211 all-out in 44 overs; Jed Gedera scoring 68 runs. Bathford were then all-out in 29 overs for 80 helped by Manoj Perera taking 5 wickets for only 6 runs.

May ended with an away match hosted by Calne 2 and June began with a visit from Allington before a planned visit from the Military Academy in a T20 match; a much anticipated entertaining evening!

*[www.shrivenham.play-cricket.com/home](http://www.shrivenham.play-cricket.com/home)  
Julian Stevens*

## Highworth Bowls Club

It has been a busy start to the season for Highworth Bowls with mixed results. In the Wiltshire League, Highworth Men are struggling and it already looks like a fight to avoid relegation to Division 1 North. However, in the Swindon and District League the men have got off to a good start with wins over Rodbourne, Purton and Wroughton whilst suffering two defeats at local rivals Shrivenham and Westlecott B. In the Tea and Biscuits League (Monday



*Jo, Deanne, Linda and Maggie*

afternoons), the A team in Division 1 are riding high after wins in their first three games whilst the B and C teams have had mixed results, with the B team sitting in mid table of Division 5 and the C team having room for improvement from second bottom. The Ladies' Evening Team started slowly with a draw against Stratton followed by a defeat at the hands of a strong Westlecott team before taking all of the points at Swindon North End. The club have welcomed teams from Wantage and Fairford to play weekend friendlies; both have been close games with Highworth coming out on top against Wantage before losing by only one shot to Fairford. The club are delighted to announce that several members have been selected to represent Wiltshire in upcoming national competitions. Shaun Hicks, Tom Pittuck and Tom Walkley will represent Wiltshire in the Middleton Cup against Herefordshire in Ross-on-Wye. Meanwhile Jo Hicks, Deanne Davis, Linda Young and Maggie Jordan (pictured) will play in the ladies equivalent of the John's Trophy against Somerset.

In May the club, who are delighted to welcome MB Carpentry and Decking as their new sponsor, held its annual Open Day as part of the National Bowls Big Weekend. A number of visitors had an enjoyable day in the sun trying their hand at bowls. If you couldn't make the day but would like to try bowls please get in contact. All details can be found on our website.

*[www.highworthbowlsclub.org](http://www.highworthbowlsclub.org)  
Christopher Davis*

## Highworth Town Walking Football Club

Our Over-50's played in the first round of the National Cup at the start of May; away to Eastleigh WFC, which Highworth won 3-1. This gave us another away fixture, this time against Peasedown Albion at the end of May. Highworth won this one 7-0 with Alisdair Ross scoring three, Wayne Petrie two, and Paul Harper and Glyn Evans one each. A fantastic result and we look forward to the next round, hopefully at home! If you are interested in playing competitive or social walking football, men's 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 for more details.

*highworthwfc@outlook.com*  
*07769 703702*  
*Graham Seeley*



*Highworth's team against Eastleigh WFC*

## Shrivenham Park Golf Club

Summer sunshine created a lovely May Bank Holiday. Hopefully the sun will shine on many days during the summer! The ladies have played both the club qualifying rounds for the Coronation foursomes and the England Golf Ping competitions. Pam and Carole produced a good Stableford total of points in the foursomes Coronation competition and Denise and Carole played successfully in the 4ball better Ping competition. We now have to wait and see if the scores were high enough for the pairings to go forward to the area rounds.

Oxfordshire Captains have played v Wiltshire at Camberwell and won 6½ to 1½ and at Witney Lakes v Gloucestershire, winning 5/3.

The Junior dates for coaching at the club are **8th and 29th**. 10 till 11 £5.

Parkies Pals will be meeting on 3 July. It will be an open meeting for anyone as well as Parkies Pals because Nan Pratt is coming to talk about the SSSI which adjoins the 13th hole. Many interesting wild flowers and small creatures inhabit this area.

Social putting is being held on **14 July and 28 July**. Everyone is always welcome at the Shrivenham Park Golf Club and we are pleased to offer a wider choice of food on the menu at reasonable prices. Please do call in if you are in the area; you are assured of a warm welcome. One change is that the only Open which will be played this summer is the Junior one. Details can be obtained from the club. Do please contact the club if you had entered the Mixed or the Seniors Open.

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# OUR REPRESENTATIVES

## From Our MP



I recently met Highworth Warneford pupils – Perrin, Mason and Lucas – to hear about the fantastic project they were working on to improve access to sport for people with disabilities. The group is working with the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust and the AQA Unlocking Potential project to host an inclusive sports day for students at Uplands School.

Firstly, the trio delivered a very informative presentation outlining the issues which may prevent people with disabilities engaging with sport. These include difficulty travelling to events, inaccessible equipment, and limited disability sport events to attend. As the former Minister for Disabilities, these are issues I came across often, and I was very impressed that they understood them and had carefully considered how they may be overcome.

Having spent time discussing how they could ensure that all activities were suitable for the young people at Uplands, the group decided they

would run a football and basketball session specifically designed to involve everyone. To recognise the efforts of the Uplands students the group also decided to present certificates and awards to those taking part.

In addition to benefiting the students at Uplands School, the project also helped Perrin, Mason, and Lucas – it saw them build their confidence and develop important leadership and teamwork skills.

I was very pleased to hear that the sports day was a huge success and that everyone involved enjoyed it. The group will be attending an event in London later this year where they hope to meet Dame Kelly Holmes!



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# YOUNG JOURNALISTS

## Summer Fun!

By the time you read this it will almost be the summer holidays, or maybe you're already on it! I'm looking forward to the summer because of all of the tropical fruits you can eat sitting out in the hot sun. I like to eat ice cream, swim in my pool, play in the sprinkler, go on long beach walks and not be at school!

I cannot believe that at the end of these holidays I will be in Year 8; it's like I started Year 7 only yesterday!

I have decided to put together a bucket list for this summer holiday:

- Go to the beach.
- Make a meal from scratch.
- Go to a festival.
- Visit somewhere I haven't been before.
- Go camping.
- Take a boat ride to Caldey Island.
- Have a sleepover with a midnight feast.
- Eat an ice cream outside Buckingham Palace.

What will you do this summer? What will be on your bucket list? Whatever you do, I hope you have lots of fun.

Bye for now!

*Sophie Nolan*

## Coronation Celebration



Although it was raining a lot, people were still going to the Rec Centre to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. There were stalls selling goods, a big screen showing the coronation, fun games and inflatable bouncy castles. There was also an ice cream van. We had a great time. Happy Coronation!

*Constance Davenport*



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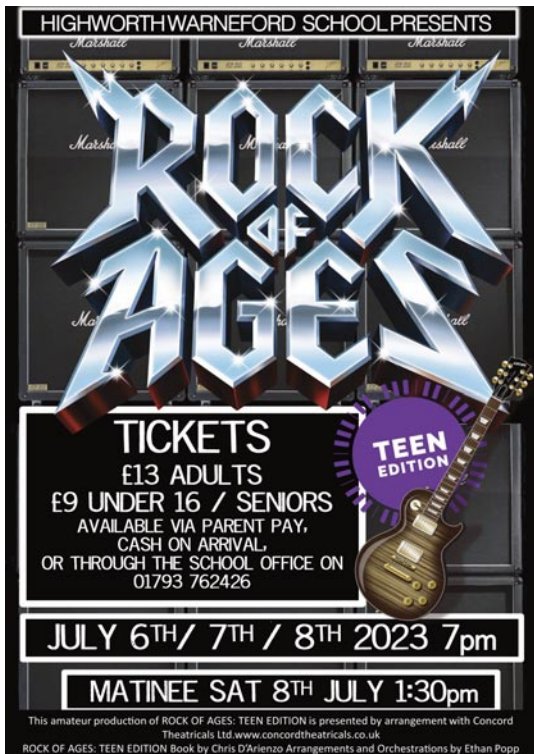


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ROCK OF AGES: TEEN EDITION Book by Chris D'Arenzo Arrangements and Orchestrations by Ethan Popp



# MAYOR OF HIGHWORTH



Hello. I have just been elected by my fellow councillors as your mayor for this coming year. My name is Keith Smith, I have lived on the High Street since 1990 and loved every minute of it. Why? Because it is such a friendly place to be. Being a councillor, which I have been for the past six years, it is

important that I meet with residents and businesses which I am able to do every day of the week. We bought the flat as a stop gap until we could sell our home in Northamptonshire, but in the end Cindy, my wife, decided she liked it so much and that we should stay put. A wise decision.

I have been involved in the life of Highworth since I retired. I often attended town council meetings to exercise my right to ask questions at public question time. It was through this

idiosyncrasy that I became a member of Highworth Community Partnership Group (HCPG), and I am still a member to this day, although our meetings are fewer, as are our members. It is through HCPG Highworth that we wrote its vision, and from that vision came the Neighbourhood Plan, produced in 2017 by the town council. It is also from that vision you have a Community Centre in The Dormers, of which I am still a trustee. It is also thanks to HCPG you have a tourism strategy and a visitor information centre, funded by the purchase of shares, bought by you. You own it.

It looks as though my mayoral duties are going to keep me very busy this year. I have already represented you at RAF Fairford (twice), at Royal Wootton Bassett, Malmesbury and Chippenham. Looking at my diary there are some interesting events ahead and I will introduce my chosen charity in the next issue of LINK magazine.

*Keith Smith  
Mayor*

## Highworth Mayor's Fundraising Efforts

When the mayor of Highworth, Councillor Julie Murphy, was tasked with choosing a charity to support throughout her mayoral year of 2022/23, she said, 'Although there are many wonderful charities that need support, a charity that is dear to my heart is the Prospect Hospice based in Wroughton. They supported my family to ensure a family member with a terminal illness was able to spend the last few weeks of her life at home, where she died peacefully. The charity that relies heavily on donations has helped so many families and I wanted to do my bit to help them continue to provide this valuable service.'

Over her mayoral year Julie held several different events in the Highworth community, including a Mayor's Ball at Wrag Barn Golf Course (which included a silent auction and a competition to grab the most cash), a Civic Service event to celebrate the work of volunteers, providing a



rodeo bull and snow globe at the Highworth Christmas light switch on, serving mulled wine and mince pies at the Christmas market, and ran a raffle amongst lots of other things. Julie said, 'I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of people supporting my fundraising and I want

to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart.'

Sheryl Crouch, head of income at Prospect Hospice, said, 'When Councillor Julie Murphy chose to support Prospect Hospice during her mayoral year we felt so fortunate. She has been tireless in her commitment to fundraising and has really taken the time to get to know and understand some of the needs of our charity. She has had great support from her community and the donations we've received have made a real difference to local people. The hospice service is free for local patients and their families, making fundraising crucial for us to be able to deliver

# HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS

that care. Every donation is precious to us, enabling us to give that support when it is needed. On behalf of everyone at Prospect Hospice a huge thank you to Julie and everyone who has helped her raise funds for us this year.'

Julie was delighted to present a cheque for £10,156.30 to Sheryl Crouch from the Prospect Hospice in the Highworth Town Council Chamber on the 24 May this year.



**Highworth Town Council  
Events 2023**

**CIVIC SERVICE**  
September 2023

**HIGHWORTH FIREWORKS**  
Friday 3rd November 2023

**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**  
Sunday 12th November 2023

**CHRISTMAS EVENT/LIGHT SWITCH ON**  
Saturday 25th November 2023

[www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk)



**HIGHWORTH FIREWORKS 2023**

Our Firework Event is  
back on  
Friday 3rd November  
2023

Tickets will be on sale from October, look out for more details on our website & social media pages

[www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk)



**NAME OUR ROAD SWEEPER COMPETITION**

It's your chance to name our new Road Sweeper, all names will be considered and must be emailed to [assistant@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:assistant@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk) no later than 1st September 2023

The winner will have their chosen name on the road sweeper and receive a certificate at the naming ceremony. The competition is open to all ages!!

NAME ME



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**TOWN MAYOR & CHAIRMAN**  
Keith Smith, Flat 35, High Street SN6 7AQ  
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**DEPUTY MAYOR & VICE-CHAIRMAN**  
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Richard Williams, 7 Park Avenue SN6 7AW  
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[sweisinger@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:sweisinger@swindon.gov.uk)

**Council Offices,**  
**3 Gilberts Lane, Highworth SN6 7FB**  
**Tel. 01793 762377 / 763511**



## St. Michael's Church

The church is open daily for private prayer.

The **10:15am Sunday Service** is held in Church and streamed live and can be found at [www.twitch.tv/stmichaelshighworth](http://www.twitch.tv/stmichaelshighworth) or on YouTube by searching St. Michael's Church Highworth.

Other services include **Holy Communion** on the first Sunday of each month at 8:45am (excluding July) and **The 3 (Family Service)** on the third Sunday of the month at 3pm (excluding August).

**Tuesday Prayers** are held every Tuesday morning at 9:30am and **Friday Blessings** are held every Friday morning at 9:15am. **Prayer Hour** is held in the Church Room on the second and fourth Monday of the month at 8pm, with the **Online Prayer Hour**, on the fourth Monday of the month, being available through Zoom via the email link obtained from the church office.

**Evensong** will be held at St. James Sevenhampton on Sunday 9 July at 6pm.

### We remember those who love and miss

Ruby Wheeler

### Praying for the roads in the town

2 July	Knowlands and Leclade Road
9 July	Lismore Road and The Mews
16 July	Middi Haines Court and Newburgh House
23 July	Newburgh Place and Northview
30 July	Our church family who live out of Highworth
6 August	Oak Drive and Orange Close
13 August	The Paddock and Park Avenue
20 August	Parsonage Court and Pentylands Close
27 August	Pentylands Lane and Pound Road

## St. Leonard's Parish Church, Stanton Fitzwarren

<b>Sunday 2 July</b>	Morning Praise, 9:30am
<b>Sunday 9 July</b>	Family Service: Godparents, 11am
<b>Sunday 16 July</b>	Team Service at Stratton, 10am
<b>Sunday 23rd July</b>	Holy Communion, 9:30am
<b>Sunday 30 July</b>	Team Service at Coleview Community Centre, 11am
<b>Sunday 6 August</b>	Morning Praise, 9:30am
<b>Sunday 13 August</b>	Family Service: Daniel, 11am
<b>Sunday 20 August</b>	Team Service at St. Leonard's, 10am
<b>Sunday 27 August</b>	Holy Communion, 9:30 am

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 note that the schedule is open to change. Please go to [www.stantonchurch.info](http://www.stantonchurch.info) for updates.

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



05/07/2023

16 years have passed. We miss you every day.  
Lindsay, Mark, Ben and Lucy xxxx

24/07/2023

Remembering my mother, Jean, who was born on 24 July 1923 in Northern Ireland and died in October 2015.

01/08/2023

Elizabeth Shurmer  
Three years have passed without you, a big hole in our hearts you left behind. Loved and missed always. Love Alf, Heather and families xxx

20/08/2023

Sally Shurmer  
Three years have passed without you, a big hole in our hearts you left behind. Loved and missed always. Love Dad, Heather and families xxx

28/08/2023

Sally Shurmer  
Thinking of you today on your birthday. Loved and missed always. Dad, Heather, Josh and families

To sponsor the floodlighting, please collect a form from the Church or from the Lighthouse Bookshop, or fill in the electronic form at [www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk) If your dedication misses the copy deadline it will always appear in a later edition. Please send all church lighting requests to St Michael's Church Office, Vicarage Lane.

### 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: **28 July for the September 2023 publication.**

## LOCAL CONTACTS

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