

# HighworthLINK

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October 2023



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## Welcome from the Editor

As I sit writing this to you my desk is drowning in a sea of sticky notes and other papers reminding me of the things I need to do. You see, I'm preparing for the Volunteer Expo and I'm hoping that, when you read this, you'll be nodding your head in agreement when I say that it was a really great event! Let's just say that I'm projecting forward and *really* living in hope right now...

According to Hal Lindsey:

'Man can live about forty days without food, about three days without water, about eight minutes without air...but only for one second without hope.'

Having hope is more than just thinking positive thoughts – although that can help grease the wheels, so to speak. Hope is more than just a feeling, more than just an attitude, and is more than a desire for something good to happen. I believe it's about being confidently expectant for something good in the future. It's a moral certainty.

And so, with that in mind, be sure that I'm sitting in confident expectation that the Volunteer Expo will be (and was) super!

I get it though. I get that it's not always easy to have hope, to be expectant or confident, and I understand

sometimes we all need something, or someone, beyond ourselves. As you read through this month's issue you'll see there's plenty going on in the town and surrounding areas. If you're in need of hope, if you're feeling alone or bored, or if you're in need of someone to stand with you in a specific way, I'm absolutely sure there is something for you. Given all the initiatives, all the programmes, all the kindnesses and practical support available in this area, I really do believe that hope is alive in Highworth.

Reach out. Someone who can help will grab your hand.



A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Rachael".

## LINK Magazine Vacancies

With a 50-year history, Highworth LINK is the free community magazine for Highworth and the surrounding villages. The magazine is delivered to approximately 6500 homes and is delivered by dozens of volunteers. It is a huge team effort that makes this a real community venture.

**The LINK team now has vacancies for Lead Distributor and Treasurer.** The people currently in these roles wish to step down after doing their roles for many years and we are very grateful for their service and dedication.

The Lead Distributor oversees the receipt and sorting of the magazine, which is done by a team of people from each of the different churches on a rota basis, and helps deliver the sorted magazines to the distributors ready for delivery to homes in Highworth. This is done on the last Thursday and Friday of each month.

The Treasurer looks after the day-to-day finances of the magazine.

If you are interested in filling either of these roles, please contact the editor, Rachael Laing Smith, at [editor@highworthlink.co.uk](mailto:editor@highworthlink.co.uk).

## Broken Yet Beautiful

Leonard Cohen has a song called Anthem. This is a favourite of mine, particularly these lyrics, 'There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in.' These are important words reminding us that our humanity makes us vulnerable and fragile no matter how strong we would like to be. The truth of the matter is that we all have cracks, but does that make us imperfect? And as the song says, it is through our cracks that the light gets in.

Have you ever heard of Kintsugi? This is a traditional Japanese art and it means 'golden joinery'. It's the art of repairing broken pottery by mending the areas of breakage with lacquer dusted or mixed with powdered gold, silver or platinum. As a philosophy it treats breakage and repair as part of the history of an object rather than something to disguise.

I believe both these concepts are helpful for us to realise that we all have our cracks which are a result of life – our pains, our sadness, our frustrations – we all have them. Even people of faith



experience situations that leave marks or cracks or brokenness. Sometimes they are the result of a terrible accident which needs repairing, often the result of situations that aren't visible but have left deep scars. Whatever the cause, they lie there and will fester if ignored.

It is in recognising our scars, our cracks, that we can begin to heal and connect with others who also feel the pain of brokenness. And then light gets in, and in this connection we become stronger, more caring, more accepting, more loving, less judgemental. In short, this is what makes us more human. Jesus once said it wasn't the healthy that needed a doctor but those who knew they needed healing.

Our cracks are there, not to brag about them but to know they are there. And in this way we can let the light in, shine and share. We don't look for pain, we find it. But we can also find wholeness through our cracks. We can become a beautiful vase.

*Rev. Robert H Jordan  
Highworth United Reformed Church*



## Highworth Climate Talks

### Concerned about the climate?

It's certainly going to dominate our lives in future. While we may be experiencing only relatively minor effects on our lives today, the major disruptions worldwide will increasingly impact us; such as the way in which we heat our homes or in the price of our food.

The last few months have seen a sudden rise in sea surface temperatures so the calls to reduce emissions are ever more urgent. Moreover, how do we prepare and adapt for the challenges ahead for our town?

A group of climate-aware Highworthians are arranging a series of free admission, deep-dive talks

followed by an open discussion on a range of climate related issues. We invite you to come along, be informed and share your thoughts too.

All welcome. Refreshments included.

On **Tuesday 3 October**, 7:30pm to 9pm, John Ranford ([www.FutureFriendly.org.uk](http://www.FutureFriendly.org.uk)) will speak on the topic of Can Electric Cars Solve the Climate Crisis? Later, on **Tuesday 17 October**, 7:30pm to 9pm, Dave Knight, who is a sustainability expert from RWB, will bring a presentation on How to Boost our Campaign. Both talks will take place at Highworth Methodist Church, Vicarage Lane, Highworth.

*John Ranford*



## News from Highworth United Reformed Church

As an integral part of our Christian ministry, Highworth URC widely shares income from a trust fund with Victorian origins. We are modestly proud of our record of gifts totalling more than £700,000 since 2001.

The largest grant is to the URC and its ministers nationally. Close behind is a major gift to the vital local debt advice of Christians Against Poverty, also the Lighthouse bookshop. In 2022 we helped 17 other charities, both local (principal among them the Swindon Food Collective) and national, including two disaster appeals.

Our church fellowship, meeting at least fortnightly for worship, is sincere, tenacious, thoughtful and warm in welcome. We love our historic High Street 1825 chapel, long resonant with faith and peace. Take a look at our website [highworthurc.org.uk](http://highworthurc.org.uk) and you will see we seek to be 'faithful people searching for God's guidance, trying to follow the way of Jesus. We are here for you.'

However, we must share with you that we face an uncertain future.

We expect, subject to agreement of church members, soon to effect a legal amalgamation with our sister church, Immanuel URC, Swindon – 'one church in two locations'. We have no financial worries. But, though strong in trust in the Good Lord, we are few in number, too few to maintain our worship in the coming years; that is painful to contemplate.



It is never easy to enter the doors of a new church. But if it may be that indeed 'We are here for you', then now is the time to find that warm welcome and bring your strength and character to our fellowship so its service to Highworth will stay strong.

*Bryan Elkington, Secretary  
Keith Salway, Treasurer*

## Licensing Service for Rev'd Phil Goodey

The licensing service for Rev'd Phil Goodey will be led by Archdeacon Christopher Bryan on **Tuesday 3 October** at 7pm in St Michael's Church, Highworth. All welcome.

## Lechlade History Society

Our speaker for Monday 16 October will be Ian Boskett who will present to us a talk on the Great Train Robbery of 1963. Ian will be presenting an illustrated talk, including police files and family members' stories and, using a 1960 signal, he will show us how the robbers stopped the train whilst it was travelling at 95 mph. We will hear about the train driver, the police, and general odds and ends.

We meet at Lechlade Memorial Hall, 7:30 pm, with doors opening at 7pm for tea and coffee.

*Rosamund Godden  
rosamundgodden@btinternet.com*



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## Ten Ways to Save Money on Your Food Shop



It's likely you've felt the impact of the rising cost of living when doing your regular food shop recently. With the cooler autumn weather setting in, saving money on our food bills is more important than ever – but how?

**Plan your meals:** Have a good root around in the back of your cupboards – what could you use to pull together a meal? Then, plan your meals for the next week.

**Check expiration dates:** Get into the habit of checking the expiration dates on any items that don't have a long shelf life.

**Study the yellow labels:** It's a good idea to head to the reduced section first to see if you can pick up anything that's on your list. Check they're good value for money and make sure you use them before they go out of date.

**Make the most of loyalty benefits:** Lots of supermarkets offer free loyalty cards and other benefits that can save you money on various everyday items.

**Don't shop when you're hungry:** Shopping when you're peckish increases the likelihood of impulse buying.

**Shop around for the best deals:** Compare the cost of shopping in different places so you know how much you pay for each item at each different store.

**Try a cheaper brand:** Taste tests commonly show that we can't really taste the difference between luxury and budget brands, so give a cheaper version a try – you might be surprised.

**Shop in the early evening:** You can often find a bargain or two in the early evening as supermarkets push to sell off products that are nearing their expiration date.

**Share the cost:** Having people round for food? Ask your guests to each bring an item or ingredient for the meal, instead of shouldering the cost by yourself.

**Get local support:** Through Highworth Churches Together, Christians Against Poverty (CAP) in Highworth provides free debt advice, including personal financial education and support for those living on a low income. Visit [www.capuk.org/help](http://www.capuk.org/help) to find out more or call 0800 328 0006 for a free home visit.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is a UK charity working with over 800 affiliated churches to deliver debt help, budgeting guidance, support to find work, life skills education and more. Visit [capuk.org](http://capuk.org) to find out more.

*Kathryn Ford*  
Area Manager and Highworth CAP Centre Manager  
[kathrynford@capuk.org](mailto:kathrynford@capuk.org)  
07885 579876



Church Website  
[stmichaelshighworth.co.uk](http://stmichaelshighworth.co.uk)

### HARVEST SERVICES

Sunday 1st October

10am St Leonard's, Blunsdon

10.15am St Michael's,  
Highworth

The 10.15am service is live streamed  
on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@stmichaelschurchhighworth9643>

Sunday 8th October

4.30pm St John the Baptist,  
Hannington





## Ask AMS

### Should we set up our family business as a Partnership?

There are many reasons for *not* choosing a Partnership in your position, for instance:

They are generally less tax efficient than Limited Companies;

Partners must pay Class 4 National Insurance;

All Partners are jointly responsible for all debts;

Partnerships can result in disagreements if there is no legal agreement. (A Limited Liability Partnership could be better).

#### Here are *some* advantages to a Partnership over a Limited Company structure:

Income can be apportioned more flexibly between Partners (but *please* get a legal agreement);

The rules for paying owners varying proportions of profit are less rigid than for Company dividends;

Partners' cars can be more easily used to save tax – no need for a P11D.

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## Autumn at the National Trust Buscot and Coleshill Estates

Our last Coleshill open day of the year will be on **Sunday 8 October, from 2pm to 5pm. The mill and underground operational bunker will give a glimpse into the past. There will be guided walks on the history of the Victorian model farm that shows how the Heritage and Rural Skills Centre fits with the creativity of the estate. No need to book. For this open day we are looking forward to hosting the Highworth Twinning Association too.**



While the open days attract many visitors, we have plenty more throughout the year who support our second-hand bookshop by bringing their old books and buying something new. The bookshop is an inviting place to linger thanks to the amazing team of volunteers; the children's section even has a comfy place to sit. Not only do the volunteers sort donated books and create lovely seasonal displays (including fantastic folded book sculptures made from unsellable

books), they are full of local knowledge helping visitors get the most out of a visit to the area. It's easy to tell they do a great job as the bookshop has taken over £6000 in donations so far this year!

There is plenty coming up for younger visitors, including autumn fun during half term with an adventure trail and craft activities. Keep an eye on the website and social media for details. Our countryside team

have been building a new children's wild play area at Badbury Woods and are planning more, including a forest bathing platform! This will be a great addition for families to enjoy.

*Sarah Hannis*  
*Senior Volunteering and Community Officer*  
*West Oxfordshire*  
*01793 762209*  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

## Highworth Open Gardens Summer 2024

**Highworth Gardens will once again be open next summer. Our last opening was in 2021, which had been delayed by a year through the pandemic.**

As before, a number of gardens in Highworth will be open (date yet to be decided) and you will be able to wander around and enjoy the flowers, hidden corners, good company and some refreshments!

We are always keen for new gardens to open, so if you feel you'd like to open yours – perhaps you are new to Highworth – please do get in touch with us. Every size of garden is welcomed.

Money raised from the event goes to support Highworth in Bloom. This community group provides



and looks after many of the flower troughs (those not provided by the town council) placed around the town.

We look forward to welcoming you to our gardens once more.

## Cardiff Bay Rugby Codebreakers



**This story starts on the day of Queen Victoria's funeral in 1901 when a young merchant seaman arrived in Great Britain from Antigua. His grandson, my cousin, was one of the Welsh Codebreakers who have finally been recognised for the rugby talent they demonstrated back in the 1960s and 1970s.**

On 19 July this year other family members and I went to Cardiff for the unveiling of the Codebreakers Statue, a bronze statue sculpted by Steve Winterburn of Yorkshire Fine Arts. The statue honours three men, all sons of immigrants. Guz Risman, on the left (see photograph), was born in 1911 to Russian immigrant

parents and became one of the greatest rugby players produced by Wales. In the middle, with his arms round his fellow players, is Billy Boston MBE, born in 1934. The player on the right is my cousin Clive Sullivan MBE, born in 1943, who became the first black captain of any Great Britain team and led his country to victory in the 1972 Rugby League World Cup. His mother was my Auntie Doris.

All three left Cardiff for the north of England, along with many other players, in the days when rugby league was professional and rugby union was an amateur game. They have now been recognised, and in these days when there is so much concern about racism, inclusion, diversity, the evil of slavery and so on, the words of the leader of Cardiff Council sum it up.

'The exceptional achievements of so many rugby players from Cardiff Bay's multicultural melting pot have for too long been overlooked. They not only brought honour to themselves, their city and their nation but also helped to break down the barriers of racism and social injustice. They strode confidently into the wider world and their example and achievements are an inspiration to us and future generations.'

To any young people I would say don't let your gender, skin colour or anything else hold you back. If you have a talent for something, work hard and strive to achieve your best.

*Miriam Boston*

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## Upper Thames and Ridgeway National Trust Association

**Following on from our last outing of the year to Tyntesfield House, our winter series of talks commences on Wednesday 4 October, 2:30pm, at Memorial Hall, Oak Street, Lechlade GL7 3AY. The speaker will be Kate Findlay with her talk, Working in Series.**

Puzzled by the title? Why not come and join us to find out more?

Kate will be talking about producing several works to a theme based on her body of work inspired by the Large Hadron Collider. These are all textile pieces, namely large art quilts, and are the culmination of nearly five years of work.

This will be followed on **Saturday 18 November** by the ever popular and very versatile historical speaker, Dr. Gillian White. We will meet at the Baptist Church on Chesterton Lane, Cirencester GL7 1YE.

Why not get more for your money from your National Trust membership by joining our group for talks, outings, coffee mornings, a Christmas tea and a New Year lunch, not forgetting our annual holiday which will take place in South Wales in May 2024?

Contact the membership secretary for further information

*Gillian Miller*  
millerwrde@icloud.com • 01793 762599

## CAP Lifeskills Course

Taster session: Tuesday 10 October, 1pm to 2:30pm.

Eight-week Course: 17 October to 5 December, 1pm to 2:30pm (weekly on Tuesdays).

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To book a place contact Eoli Pieri on 07753 627049, or [eolipieri@capuk.org](mailto:eolipieri@capuk.org)

## Highworth Historical Society

Our talk for October deals with more modern history. On 25 October, Peter Williams will present a talk titled, **Bosnia: A Tragedy Recalled**. Peter served in this conflict and there is a sad Highworth connection. Those of you who have heard Peter speak before will know that it will be an interesting evening.

As always visitors are welcome, with payment of £3 at the door. (Sorry, we have no card reader, it will have to be 'old fashioned' cash.) Membership of £12 is available and will cover all nine of our talks.

We begin at 7:30pm with doors opening at 7pm. Coffee and tea are available, and there is always a display of some of the articles that we hold. For those new to the town, we meet in St. Michael's Hall on Lechlade Road, Highworth.

Looking ahead, on **22 November** our speaker will be Roger Vlitos from Buscot House.

If you need more information then contact Chris Suter on 01793 764811.

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## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Highworth Bowls Club – Midday on Saturday 30th September

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## Letter from the New Rector of St. Michael's Church

### Dear Friends

My name is Phil Goodey and I am the new Rector of Highworth with Sevenhampton and Inglesham, Broad Blunsdon and Hannington.

I have been married to Sandra for 39 years and we have two married daughters, Megan and Esther, and two grandsons. Both Sandra and I love music. Sandra is a singer, pianist and organist whilst I sing and play the guitar. I have been a vicar for over 30 years and have served God in many different churches, both rural and urban, from North Devon to South Yorkshire.

I first became a Christian as a teenager in Devon. If you would like to hear my testimony I recorded two videos (during COVID times) on YouTube. Just search for *TheRealVicar* YouTube account and find the two video's labelled Testimony.

Before becoming a priest I worked in IT when it was in its infancy; I still love technology but my IT skills are a little rusty.



Phil and Sandra Goodey

I have a few other unusual hobbies, one of which is teaching period dancing from the 17th and 18th Centuries and another is Lego. I have a large collection of Lego models, some of which date back to the early 1970s. I am looking forward to working with the Broad Blunsdon Lego group when I get settled in.

I have reached that age when my memory isn't quite working as it should. I'm told that three things happen when you get older: you lose your memory... and I can't remember what the other two are. I really struggle with trying to remember people's names so please don't be offended if it takes me some time to get to know who you are.

I have a very simple vision which I believe God has given to me: **To help everyone see that being a Christian is not about going to church but being church wherever we are.** I hope you will join me in exploring what this will mean for us as we start a new journey together.

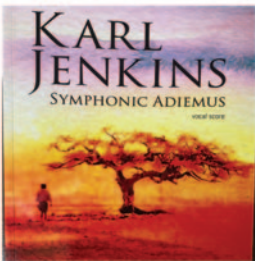
(By the way if you want to know the difference between a Vicar and a Rector, get in touch and I will happily explain over a coffee.)

God Bless.

Phil Goodey

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## New Community Choir for Highworth

The new Highworth with Shrivenham Good Afternoon Community Choir began in August. Over 40 people attended the first rehearsal to meet the choir leader, Jessie Thompson, and the founder of the Good Afternoon Choirs, former Swindonian Grenville Jones, was also there to welcome everyone.

This new mixed-voice community choir meets every Wednesday at Highworth Community Centre (Room 8) from 1pm to 3pm. For anyone attending for the first time there is no charge.



Jessie said, 'We had a lovely group of people for our first session and I am sure more people will come along in the weeks ahead. Our repertoire is varied with popular songs, folk songs and much more. No previous singing experience is necessary as the Good Afternoon Choirs are based on friendship, fun and supporting local organisations with fundraising concerts.'

'We will soon be planning ahead for a Christmas concert and our first main concert next spring. If you love to sing, come along and meet the choir.'

## South Marston Gardening Club

On Monday 2 October Harriet Rycroft will talk to us about Planting Pots for Winter Interest and Spring Joy. The talk will include slides followed by a demonstration on creating container plantings which last from September to May using bulbs, perennials, shrubs and bedding plants.

Harriet was head gardener at Whichford Pottery and is now a freelance gardener, speaker and writer. She appeared on Gardeners World in April this year and has released a new book, Pots. Harriet will bring copies available at a reduced rate of £10 instead of RRP £12.99.

We meet at South Marston Village Hall, 7:30pm to 9:30pm, and parking is available on Old Vicarage Lane, next to the school.

£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.

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



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## October Events with Forget Me Not

Join us for our Friendship Fridays group this month in St. Michael's Church on 6 October at 10:15am and St. Michael's Church Rooms on 13 October with a Bring and Share lunch before the Mary Lou Revue. For the remainder of the month you'll find us in our regular home in the Council Rooms on Gilbert's Lane.

The Love to Move group will meet on 11 October, 1:45pm to 3:15pm in Highworth Community Centre.

*Ruth Coughlin*  
[forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com](mailto:forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com)  
07970 543423

### Thanks from Thursday Kitchen

A big thank you to everyone who helped with Thursday Kitchen over the summer holidays.

We could not have run this without amazing support from everyone, both financially and on the day.

## Swindon Guide Dogs

We are holding a Charity Christmas Coffee Morning at The Crown, Stratton, SN3 4NL on **Saturday 25 November** from 10am to 12noon.

A slice of cake and a coffee for just £5. No need to book.



### Eco Tip from Weigh It Up

Have you ever looked at your cleaning products and seen those big red symbols telling you how bad they are for the environment and your skin?! There are plenty of eco alternatives available that do the job just as well and chances are you've got some of them at home too.

White vinegar can be used to clean windows, remove limescale from taps and kettles, and to clean your kitchen or bathroom tiles. Bicarbonate of soda (bicarb) can be used to remove stubborn marks on pans, to clean your oven or get off tough limescale when mixed into a paste with a little water. Mixed with white vinegar it can even unblock drains. Adding it to your washing machine will get your whites whiter!!

And if your wooden chopping board is starting to smell of chopped onions and garlic sprinkle it with salt, rub it in and leave for 15 minutes, and then use half a lemon to rub all over in small circles before rinsing away.

**Big Highworth presents**  
James Williams in concert for Christmas  
St Michael's Church Highworth  
Friday 1 December 2023  
7.30pm - 10.45pm  
Doors open from 6.45pm  
Tickets **£22** each  
Bar & Raffle

*Raising funds for these charities*

Highworth Community Centre, UET, Highworth Community Centre, Highworth Community Shed

This is not a church run event

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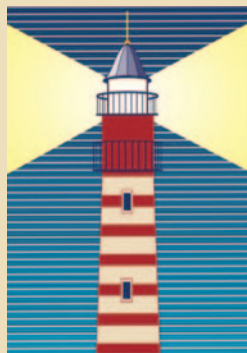
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## Alec Ernest Woodbridge

1 January 1932 to 19 June 2023

Alec was born in Highworth and lived in the town until his death, aged 91. He was the fifth child of a family of six born to Ernest George (master saddler) and Sarah Ann Woodbridge.

At the age of seven he joined St. Michael's Church choir and sang with them for the next 22 years. Alec loved all kinds of music and began piano lessons as a boy. He used his talent to play toe-tapping dance music in concerts and dances throughout his years in the youth fellowship and continued playing keyboards until the last year of his life.

Alec was always good at figure work and mathematical problems and he used these skills in accountancy with his first job being at the Oriental Matting Co. on Brewery Street. As a young man, he was also good at sport, particularly playing football and cricket for Highworth Town as well as football for Coleshill and Ashbury. He also loved table tennis and badminton

and later in life took up cribbage and dominoes.

It was a great sadness to Alec that his mother died when he just 17. Following National Service with the RAF he returned to Highworth and married Peggy. Together they took on the tenancy of The Red Lion pub in Sheep Street (no longer used as a pub) and soon they were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Sarah. Tragically, Sarah died aged just two years and this sadly led to ill health for Alec and the breakdown of the marriage.

Following Alec's death, his sister Beryl found a book of poetry which Alec had written. In 1969 he had noted these short lines:

*'Anglo Saxon, Agricultural, Residential Market Town.  
Commanding views of Vale and Down.  
Antiquity bounded by a modern face  
A pleasant and attractive place.'*

## Lechlade Gardening Club

We will meet on **Wednesday 11 October, 7:30 pm** in Lechlade Memorial Hall, where **Philip Aubrey (ex-director of Birmingham Botanical Gardens)** will talk to us about labour saving design, tools and techniques.

Our usual meetings are held on the **second Wednesday of the month** at 7:30pm in the New Memorial Hall Lechlade. Membership is £5 per person per annum, after which it is £2 to attend each meeting or £3 for visitors, who are always most welcome. Membership also entitles you to 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 01369 252286 or speak to any member of the committee.

*Barbara McNaught*

### Stepping Through Time with the Mary Lou Revue

## SWINDON DANCE

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A **FREE** performance event for Memory Cafe members & carers



**Friday 13th October**

Please arrive for 1.15pm.  
Performance starts 1.30pm  
finish approx 2.45pm

Refreshments will be provided

[Register your attendance here \(non Highworth members only\)](#)

**Taking place at: St. Michael's Church, Highworth, Swindon, SN6 7NA**  
Entry to the church can be accessed from the Highstreet through the Archway, opposite Archway vets.

**FREE PARKING** is available in town at Brewery Street, Priory Green  
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Arts Council England logo, Mary Lou Revue logo, People Dancing logo, and Swindon Dance logo.

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## Lighting Bug Celebrates an illuminating 20 years in the spotlight

**Joanne Savill joined the family business in 2016; she's proudly taken on the role of running the showroom, which was opened by her mum Brenda Savill in 2003. Since then a lot has changed but one thing remains the same – the promise of a friendly greeting and quality lighting to suit everyone's budget.**

*"My family have been in lighting for many years and we're the only lighting shop in Swindon," said Brenda. "I'm the second generation and my daughter is the third. My brother also runs a lighting shop in Milton Keynes. When I think back to 20 years ago, I remember that we worked our socks off. It took us quite a long time to find somewhere that was suitable as we needed the parking space.*

*We have customers who come from all over the UK because they can park for free outside the shop and we will carry purchases to the car for them. Our success has also been about customer service and accessibility. It is about having fittings and lights that will meet everyone's budget. You can come here and find lights for hundreds of pounds, and lights for £9.99".*

*"We have gone over to LED so that we're more efficient and it helps people save money," Joanne added.*

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## News from Highworth and District Lions Club



Melanie Davenport delivers food to Swindon Food Bank

We hope everyone has enjoyed their summer; we have definitely enjoyed our summer activities.

We helped at the Wiltshire Disabled Games in August and, as always, we

had a great day helping out with some of the organising on the day as well as noting down the placements of the competitors in each race. We are proud to be just one of the local Lions Clubs that volunteer at these games and help make it the best it can be.

Our car boot sale in August went ahead thanks to the weather being kind to us and at the time of writing we hope our final car boot sale will go ahead in September.

Our charity shop was extremely busy over the summer and we are grateful to all of our customers who support us with their purchases as well as all of the amazing donations that are brought into our shop. We are still looking for volunteers for the shop so please email us on the email address below if you would like any more information or if you have a few hours spare.

We have donated:

- A new kit for the Highworth Town Youth Football Club – £500
- School uniform to a local family (through Highworth CAP) – Up to £150
- To the Swindon Food Bank – £300 (food items)
- To Lions Club International Water and Eye Aid Projects – £600
- The Highworth Community Larder Project – £200 (towards new tables)
- St. Leonard's Blunsdon Community Lego Club – £200 (towards Lego)

Melanie Davenport • Highworth and District Lions Club  
secretaryhighworthlions@gmail.com

## Highworth & District Lions Club Christmas Vouchers 2023

This year, the Lions Club will again offer Christmas Vouchers to residents in the Highworth & District Lions Club area. To receive a voucher, you must be over 66 years of age. One voucher per household.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this completed form to The Lions Charity Shop, Newburgh Place before **Wednesday 08 November 2023**. The number of vouchers is limited and Highworth & District Lions Club Charity Trust Fund (285690) reserves the right to close this offer early.





**The HALF**

Visit Highworth's first Highworth Art and Literature Festival in August was a great success. We launched the event with Mayor Keith Smith pulling the first pint of the Postmistress ale brewed by Hop Kettle Brewing Company especially for the festival.

Friday night was the art exhibition preview evening in St. Michael's Church. Saturday was a full day of literary events. We had a workshop with Steve Antony, talks and story time with Neil Griffiths, and we finished with In Conversation with Jasper Fforde. We would like to thank the bell ringers for the quarter peel on Saturday morning to start events, Highworth Amateur Dramatic Society for their performances, and St. Michael's Flower Guild for the beautiful flower displays in the church.

Thanks also to Highworth Camera Club who captured the day for us. Well done to the winners of the school competitions and the 50 Word Story. Most of all, thank you to everyone who came along to the festival and we look forward to doing it all again next year!



Image Credit: Highworth Camera Club





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## Highworth Community Cinema

This October we will be showing a British biographical film, *The Lost King*, directed by Stephen Frears and based on the 2013 book, *The King's Grave: The Search for Richard III*.

**Friday 27 October, 7:45pm** (doors open at 7:15pm).  
St Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, Highworth SN6 7HQ.

In 2012, having been lost for over 500 years, the remains of King Richard III were discovered beneath a car park in Leicester. The search had been orchestrated by an amateur historian, Philippa Langley, whose unrelenting research had been met with incomprehension by her friends and family and with scepticism by experts and academics. *The Lost King* is the life-affirming true story of a woman who refused to be ignored and who took on the country's most eminent historians, forcing them to think again about one of the most controversial kings in England's history.

108 minutes, Cert 12A.

01793 763907  
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## Highworth Artists' Society



Coming soon! Highworth Artists' Society's 2023 Autumn Exhibition, Saturday 7 October to Saturday 14 October, in the Community Room, Highworth Council Offices, Gilbert's Lane, Highworth.



This is a great opportunity for early Christmas shopping or to buy a unique piece of art for your home! As usual we will have a varied selection of art available to buy as well as cards and refreshments for visitors. We love seeing all visitors and will be open each day from 10am to 4pm to welcome you.

On **Saturday 4 November** we will also be holding a second taster day, in a safe and relaxed atmosphere, for anyone who wants to try painting. Save the date and look out next month for further information on how to access this popular event.

## The Arts Society Upper Thames

You are welcome to join us as a visitor at our October Lecture titled 'Agatha Christie: Queen of Crime', with our lecturer Jane Tapley from the Theatre Royal Bath.

Agatha Christie is undoubtedly the world's greatest crime writer. She still sells over four million copies of her books each year and there is a continual demand for new adaptations to be made of her work. She led a sheltered and privileged life in her native Torquay, which was not dissimilar to that of characters she invented.

Hear more of this and of other mysteries in her life on **Thursday 12 October, 2pm**, at Lechlade Memorial Hall.

Please register first before attending at [www.info@tasupperthames.org.uk](http://www.info@tasupperthames.org.uk).

### THE PONYTAIL FINAL

*The ponytail final of twenty-three  
Saw the end of a wonderful dream,  
For the game would eventually be lost  
By a brave and talented team.*

*For the fans and players alike  
So it was to be  
At the ponytail final  
In a stadium, in old Sydney.*

*David Holden*

### ROOTS

*We need to cherish our roots  
Guard the person we are.  
Some memories will fade  
Age and eyes start to dim  
Full bags of spirit and hope slowly  
Empty on our journey.  
Life's smells can be mixed with  
Sweet, pungent, acrid odours  
The land we tread can be soft  
Hard, bumpy and uneven*

*John Williams*

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# Highworth Methodist Church



## What's on in October?



**Every Saturday  
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10.30 – 12 noon  
Coffee and cake



**Sunday Morning Worship @ 10.30am**

1<sup>st</sup> Café Church – It's a Beautiful Day!  
8<sup>th</sup> R. Dowling  
15<sup>th</sup> Rev J. Ribeiro  
22<sup>nd</sup> R. Phoenix-Stone  
29<sup>th</sup> Rev Deverell

Refreshments served

**Tuesday Afternoon Communion 3<sup>rd</sup>@2pm**

**Every Friday**  
9.30-11.15 am



**Craft Group**

Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>  
10am-1pm



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Website:  
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**3Cs – Coffee, cake & Chat**

Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup>  
2.30pm



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Church Website  
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## SUNDAY SERVICE

8.45am Holy Communion (1st)  
10.15am Morning Worship  
(1st, 3rd, 5th)  
Holy Communion (2nd, 4th)

The 10.15am service is live streamed  
on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@stmichaelschurchhighworth9643>

## PRAYERS

8pm Monday in the  
Church Room (2nd, 4th)  
9am Tuesday in Church  
9.15am Friday Blessings in Church

**HIGHWORTH FORGET ME NOT CHOIR**

This month October 6th & 22nd  
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## Holidays and Planes

During August I spent a week in Tenerife with my family where I had so much fun swimming in pools, going to the beach and eating lots of fancy food.

On the final day we took the shuttle bus to the airport. As we were about to queue up to put our bags on the conveyor belt at check-in we were told the plane wasn't ready to take us home. Fortunately we only had to wait for an hour before we could go through security so we got some food and waited for our plane. However, even after waiting, our flight was cancelled and we had to spend 48-hours in an interesting hotel (where our room was not the best). Finally, we boarded the plane for home and I am super happy to be back.

I loved staying in Tenerife, but I am even happier to be back in Highworth – just in time for going back to school.

Have an excellent October and I'll see you in November!

*Constance Davenport*

Hi Highworth! Sorry I missed September's edition but I had a full-on summer of fun. Did the holidays go as quickly for you as they did for me?

By the time you read this my second year at secondary school will be in full swing. I cannot believe how quickly Year 7 flew. It was both fun and exhausting. I was lucky enough to go on school trips such as Bristol Space Museum, The Royal Albert Hall, a West End show, as well as a trip to France! I did not expect to do all those things in my first year of secondary school. I hope there is lots to look forward to in this new year of learning.

October half term and lots of Halloween fun is not far away now. Have you got a fancy dress outfit in mind? Will you carve a pumpkin?

*Did you know that:*

1. A pumpkin is a fruit? (I thought it was a vegetable.)
2. Pumpkins take 90 to 120 days to grow after the seeds are planted.
3. You can get three to five pumpkins per plant, depending on the variety.
4. The word pumpkin comes from the Greek word, 'pepon' meaning 'a large melon'.
5. Pumpkins are 90% water.

I think I am going to look up some pumpkin recipes this autumn – maybe I'll try pumpkin soup!

See you later alligator!

*Sophie Nolan*

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## Swindon and District Motorcycle Club

On a warm and bright August morning – yes there was at least one of those – almost 70 motorcycles were unloaded, fired up and pointed towards the first of ten sections that lay ahead of them down at the old railway station in Hannington for the Wooster Trial. With competitors categorised in classes of either ability or age, each section asked something slightly different of its riders depending on their class but always asked them to try and complete it without putting a foot down. Easier said than done! Once between the flags their skills were truly tested by tree roots, baited by brickwork and mocked by muddy banks as they fought to keep themselves and their bikes balanced. After four rounds of each section, those with the lowest number of 'dabs' had the biggest smiles and loaded their bikes victorious. In the introductory Green Class, Pete Haines handed in the best scorecard with only a single penalty point, Christopher Wickham topped the A Class with 23 penalty points, and Joshua Martin circulated unchallenged in the Youth A Class with 41 penalty points. However, the AB Class, B Class and C Class winners couldn't be separated as two in each Class resisted a single penalty point on the day leaving Jolyon



Noel Ashman enjoying the brook

and Stefan Walters (daughter and father), Jason Clifford and Adrian Steele, and Graham Harris and David Stanley taking the spoils for these categories respectively. With a range of motorcycles ridden from old to new, petrol to electric it was a treat to spectate. The bikes will be back on **Sunday 29 October** for the Jack Croston Trial, so if you're a fan of motorsport you'd be hard pushed to spend a better morning anywhere else.

[www.sdmcc.org.uk](http://www.sdmcc.org.uk)  
Jason Daniels



(L-R): Clive Smith (Captain), Terry Clements, Steve Williams, Martin Briggs, Terry Theobald and Beverly Briggs

## Swindon Croquet Club

Swindon Croquet Club's Handicap team overcame Worcester Norton Croquet Club in the final league match of the season with an impressive 12.5 to 7.5 home victory. The first round of games was shared, then Swindon played solidly, including crucially winning all four doubles games, to pull ahead over the second and third rounds to lead 8-6 at the lunch break. Many games were fiercely contested but Swindon held firm and gradually increased their advantage. Swindon's Clive Smith and Martin Briggs were Players of the Match, both winning all four of their games. They were strongly supported by the rest of the team with every player contributing to the overall victorious score-line. Team Captain Clive Smith said, 'It's great to finish the season with a deserved victory. The team, throughout 2023, has competed well against some very strong sides and, along with some new players, the prospects for next year look very exciting.'

[www.swindoncroquetclub.org.uk](http://www.swindoncroquetclub.org.uk)  
Beverly Briggs



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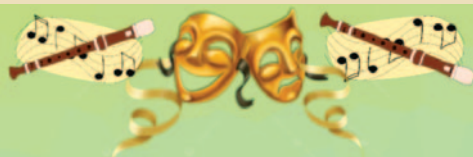
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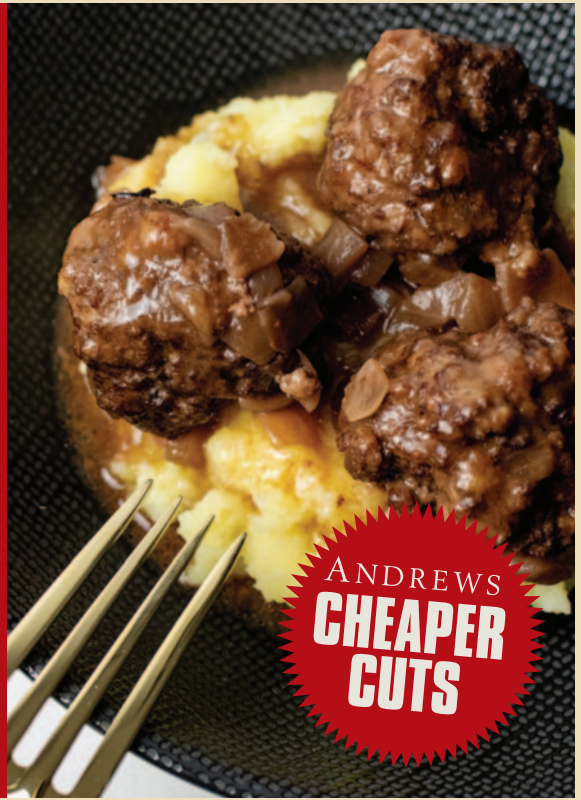
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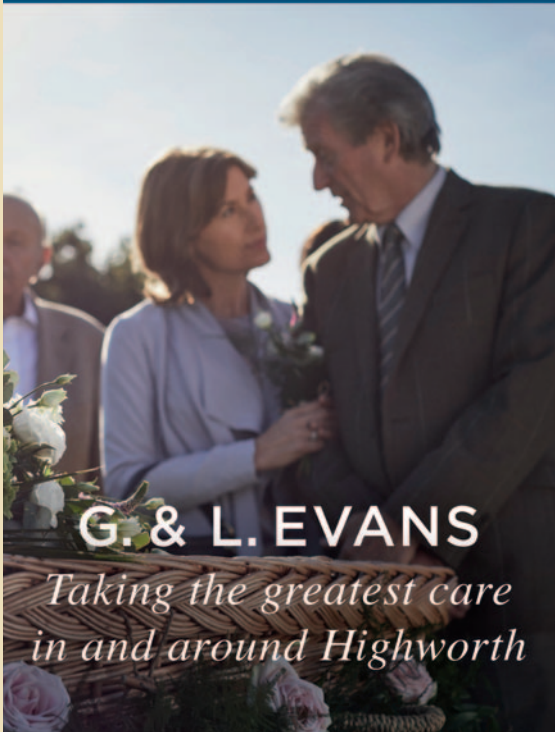
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## Wrag Barn Golf Club

Junior Week at Wrag Barn is a nine-day extravaganza of golf, friendships, highs and lows.

There is an inscription from Rudyard Kipling's poem 'If' above the entryway to Centre Court at the All England Lawn Tennis Club which reads, *'If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster, and treat those two impostors just the same...'* which sums up the emotional challenges of playing sport at any level and would be equally appropriate on the wall at Wrag Barn. The friendships formed and mutual support amongst the Junior Section is testimony to the value of Junior Week and competitions run throughout the year. The whole nine days are run by volunteers Alan Kavanagh and Brian Drane who employ the services of our golf pros, club staff and marshals, and are supported by the parents of our Juniors and Cadets. Paul Drinkwater is well known for his ball spotting skills! The group is split into two sections according to ability and the pathway begins in Cadet 1, progressing to Cadet 2 and then the Junior Section.

There is a programme of theory, coaching and competitions which runs throughout the week. Some competitions are with other sections of the club such as the Seniors and the Ladies, others are within the Juniors and Cadets only, culminating in the Championships. Sometimes the best memories are made in the most informal moments and overhearing the banter and laughter is heartwarming in this digital age. The last entry in the Junior Week calendar is Presentation Night and the achievements of the previous year and Junior Week are marked with the presentation of trophies.

All the Juniors who had represented Wrag Barn during the previous year

were presented with medals. Then Junior Captain Ollie made an awesome speech and presented his award of Player of the Year to Ittai Sibanda. None of this would happen without the team of volunteers and supporters which was summed up in a letter from the parent of one of our Junior golfers.

*Hi Alan, Brian and All Junior Golfers/Parents at Wrag Barn*  
*On behalf of all parents a MASSIVE THANK YOU TO ALAN & BRIAN for their year-long dedication to the Juniors and Cadets at Wrag Barn. We are so lucky to belong to a club where Junior Golf is promoted and nurtured (so thanks also to the ownership and management at 'Wrag').*  
*The presentations last night were fantastic; warmth, humour and great organisation all on display. Well done to our A/B dynamic duo! Also well done to our Junior Capt. Ollie Webb, who demonstrated dignity and maturity in his execution of the role this year (great speech too!).*  
*Wishing everyone all well for the rest of the season and long into their future years of Junior Golf at Wrag Barn.*  
*Best Wishes, Phil T.*

[www.wragbarn.com](http://www.wragbarn.com)  
 Verity Manners



## Highworth Bowls Club

With the season drawing to a close (at the time of writing) the Club can look back at a very positive season of League bowls. In the Swindon and District League the men can be proud of a fourth place finish in their first season back in Division 1, whilst the ladies are in contention for the title of their Evening League with only a few results to come before the final table is declared.

In the Afternoon Swindon and District League the top honours go to the Men's B team who secured promotion to Division 4 by finishing as runners-up to a very strong Ramsbury side in Division 5. Congratulations to Captain Ian Dandy and his squad. Meanwhile the A team who finished second last year in Division 1 dropped one place this year but can still be very proud of their third place finish under the Captaincy of Chris Mussen.

At the other end of the League structure the C team improved throughout their Division 6 season as several new members gained in confidence and skill. Captain Gordon Pearce can look forward to a stronger showing next season. The Ladies' afternoon team enjoyed their season but struggled to pick up the wins; however Captain Josie Etherington was very happy with the support she had throughout the season.

After a very tough Wiltshire League campaign the often inexperienced Highworth team avoided relegation at the eleventh hour with a last gasp 14-0

win at home to relegation rivals Haydon Wick, thus condemning them to relegation by just three points. Highworth can look forward to another year of long Wednesday evening drives to the likes of Salisbury and Spencer Moulton (Bradford-on-Avon). News next month on County, Swindon and District and Club competitions.

*www.highworthbowlsclub.org*  
*Christopher Davis*

## Highworth Town Walking Football Club

Our Over-65s played their first tournament on 29 August at Bisham Sports Centre. This was a three touch competition which was new to us all, but despite this we managed to draw 2-2 in our first game and follow that up with two 1-0 wins and a 2-0 win to top our group. Sadly, in a very close semi-final against Aylesbury, we lost 1-0 although there was a distinct amount of running (allegedly) by the person who scored their winning goal. Aylesbury went on to win the final 2-0. Overall, an excellent performance by everyone and the defence were outstanding protecting me making my first (and probably last) appearance in goal – I don't profess to be a goalkeeper!

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, 11am to 12pm, all at Grange Leisure in Stratton with a Friday session between 11:30am to 12:30pm at the

Highworth Rec. We are always looking for new players to come and join our friendly recreational sessions. If you are interested please contact me for more details.

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



*Battling in Bisham*

## Highworth Town Football Club

HTFC started the season in complete contrast to last season; three wins a draw and a defeat, against pre-season favourites Corsham Town in the league, was added to by two FA Cup wins resulting in a trip to Okehampton in early September, and a win in the FA Vase, as well as having lifted the whole club.

Things are looking up! Visit us at the SaveOnTyres Stadium or follow us on social media to keep up with what's going on.

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

## Shrivenham Park Golf Club

Golf is full of surprises! Good scores, unexpected wonderful scores and amazing scenery, but on a recent Oxfordshire match outing to Harleyford a player wouldn't necessarily expect to encounter lions up and around a tree! This was on the way to the car park. Wonderful sculptor works are found all around Harleyford course near Marlow. Unfortunately they didn't help the away team's result as Oxfordshire lost to Buckinghamshire. A very tricky course, but pleasant scenery!

Back at Shrivenham, golf has been played on amazing fairways and greens this summer and everyone who has played has been thrilled with the standard of the course. Thanks go to our successful green keeping team. The following competitions reflect the conditions; many handicaps have tumbled. Well done to the players who achieved them.

The August Medal for the men was won by Malc Walker with a nett 70, whilst the Senior men played the August Stableford where Dave Youngs came first with 37 points, hotly pursued by Nigel Burton with 36 points. Both the ladies and the men played for their own Albert Taylor Trophies and winning on count back in the Men's Senior section was Kenneth Janes from Dave Bannister, both on 38 points. Whilst in the Men's section Paul Foster scored a creditable 40 points, Steve Durham 39 points, and



Martin Boas and Ryan Moore 38 points. The winner for the Ladies' was Denise Shurmer. Denise also won the Ladies August Medal.

The ladies played the Brian Bird 'Birdie' Trophy and this was won by Carole Lee. It was won on countback as no less than three players had the same result – Carole, Kaye and Pam. Perhaps the lowest score came in the Tom Barnes Trophy when Tony Barrett scored a nett 63, six shots below par (Chris Spicer achieved a nett 64). The Senior Pairs Knockout final was a brotherly affair between the Bugden brothers with Norman and Robin winning against Gordon Bugden and Richard Charles 4/3.

This has been a good year for Junior golf at Shrivenham Park and the first Junior Open, certainly since 2004, was held. Although there were only eight players from three other clubs besides ours, the calibre of play was amazing! Handicap indexes ranged from 5 to 54! Clubs represented were Broome Manor, Drayton Park and Wrag Barn. Home knowledge and higher handicaps helped on the day with Laurence and Corie, both home players, amassing many Stableford points and lowering their handicaps through it to much lower ones. Third place went to one of the girls from Drayton Park. The following week the Fun Week for Juniors was held and proved very worthwhile. Here's to more successes in the coming months.

Do look on the club website and come and visit us if you haven't already. Much hospitality and fun await.

[www.shrivenhampark.co.uk](http://www.shrivenhampark.co.uk)  
Carole Lee



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Highworth Town Council (cash and card payments)

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



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## News from Highworth's Mayor



**What a fascinating time it is being Mayor!**

I joined a Highworth Town Tour event with members from the Fairford and Lechlade Business Club. After living on the High Street for over 30 years I still learned new facts, at the same time forging new local contacts.

Hearing about the phenomenal fundraising activities locally and the aid they distribute worldwide at the 49th Charter Celebration of Highworth and District Lions was truly jaw-dropping.

I listened to Petite Messe Solonelle by Rossini, sung by Highworth Choral Society. The singers gave a splendid performance of this glorious mass, with their Cum Sancto Spiritu a highlight of the evening. Highworth can be proud of such talent.

On to the Elias Performing Arts end of term show called Dreams performed to a packed audience, many of them families from Highworth. 120 performers from three years old to aged 20 gave wonderful performances of dance and singing. The choreography was awesome and the principal dancers were so skilled and vibrant it took your breath away.

My final July visit was to the Civic Service held in Trowbridge.

The first ever Highworth Arts and Literature Festival kept me busy. I was invited to pull the first pints of the festival ale called Postmistress in both the Wine Bar and The Highworth. That was fun! On the Friday I attended the opening of the Arts Exhibition in St Michael's Church. Over 60 guests saw some wonderful pictures and sculptures. Special guests were the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Ms. Shirley Ludford and the Rt. Hon. Justin Tomlinson MP. The literature festival on Saturday welcomed the local author Jasper Fforde. I was honoured to take him to lunch at The Highworth where ardent fans questioned him about his many books. A very successful first festival. Well done the organisers.

More next month.

*Keith Smith  
Mayor*

## HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### TOWN MAYOR & CHAIRMAN

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07836 382827 [keith.smith@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:keith.smith@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk)

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# REPRESENTATIVES

## Update from Justin Tomlinson

I have been actively supporting the fantastic Save Highworth Golf Course team as we rightly seek for the land to be transferred to local community ownership and not developed for housing.

In the May local elections Swindon Council changed from Conservative control to Labour so all the previous Council's commitments had to be reviewed. It was with much relief the new Labour Council indicated they expect to maintain the position of transferring the land to community ownership. Negotiations around costs and plans are still needed.

Highworth is set to expand by more than 1000 homes over a five-year period when it already has more than its fair share of new housing. Protecting this vital open space is essential. As the Save Highworth Golf Course group and Highworth Town Council work on their draft proposals for the site, I continue to fully support their efforts.

I recently joined the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust for a walking tour, looking to learn the lessons of the Tadpole Garden Village nature park. This land was gifted as natural habitat to offset the impact of the new housing development, something I was proud to



secure back in 2008. This is beneficial to the environment and provides vital open space for the community to enjoy. This is the future of development, either as part of a development or using alternative sites to improve the overall natural habitat/biodiversity. This provides an obvious model for the former Golf Course with significant funding available where we work jointly with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

Alongside the potential to expand the sports provision and transform the former club shop to a café, this shows that an exciting, sustainable future can be secured.

Swindon Council still need to formally transfer the site, something which is likely to have cross-party support. Your local Borough Councillors and I will formally press that this is done quickly with a 99-year lease at £1 peppercorn rent. This is key to securing relevant grants and partnerships.

I am in awe of the fantastic work that has been done to lead this campaign, making sure the whole community is fully engaged. The work of the group, the town councillors and the excellent town clerk, Deanne Rose, has been first-class.

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St Michael's Church  
Highworth

SATURDAY MORNING  
@ ST MICHAEL'S

7TH OCTOBER  
10AM-12PM

## 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 9am (note new time) 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.

### We remember those who love and miss

Colin David Scott                      Alec Woodbridge  
Terence George Flinders              Sadie Robertson  
Tracey Simpson

### We welcome in Holy Baptism

Willow Miles

### Praying for the roads in the town

**1 October**    Sevenfields and Sheep Street  
**8 October**    Shrivenham Road and Skye Close  
**15 October**   Spa Close and Squires Court  
**22 October**   St Michael's Avenue and Stapleton Close  
**29 October**   Station Road and Stonefield Drive

## St. Leonard's Parish Church Stanton Fitzwarren

**1 October**    Morning Praise, 9:30am  
**8 October**    Family Service, Harvest Celebration, 11am  
**15 October**   Team Service at South Marston, 10am  
**22 October**   Holy Communion, 9:30am  
**29 October**   Team Service, 10am

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

Please note there may be changes to this programme. Go to [www.stantonchurch.info](http://www.stantonchurch.info) for updates.



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



2/10/2023

*Julie Page, three years have passed still the tears have not.  
Love and miss you every second of every day.  
Eternal Love, Ray xxx*

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: 29th September 2023 for the November 2023 publication.



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## LOCAL CONTACTS

### EMERGENCY

<b>Police, Fire, Ambulance</b>	<b>Emergency 999</b>
<b>Gas</b>	<b>Emergency 0800 111999</b>
<b>Electricity</b>	<b>Emergency 105</b>
<b>Water</b>	<b>Emergency 0800 3169 800</b>

### NON-EMERGENCY

<b>Police</b>	<b>Non-Emergency 101</b>
<b>NHS</b>	<b>Non-Emergency 111</b>
<b>Pest Control</b>	<b>Non-Emergency 07789 781151</b>

### BUSES

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

### COLLEGES

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

### LAW & ORDER

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

### COUNCILS

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

### FIRE SAFETY

Home fire safety check	0800 389 7849
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### DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS

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

### LIBRARY

Highworth Library	01793 463500
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### RECREATION

Highworth Rec	01793 762602
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### PHARMACIES

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

### PRESCHOOL/NURSERY

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

### SCHOOLS

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

### TAXIS

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### TRAINS

National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
Great Western Railways	03457 000125
Disabled and Assisted Travel	08001 971329

### OTHER SERVICES

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

## LINK magazine

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

Email is preferred; otherwise deliver to The Lighthouse Bookshop.

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

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#### Deadlines:

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



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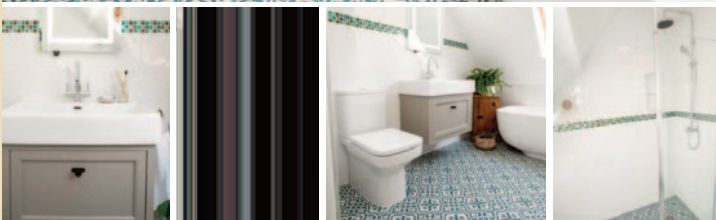
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