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November 2023

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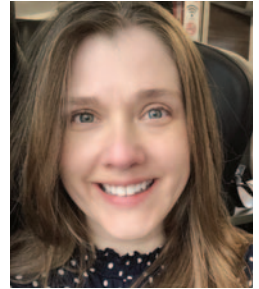
Welcome from the Editor

Woohoo! It's here! Yes, yes, it's November and it's feeling nippy. I am a big fan of this time of year and whilst I know some of you would rather be donning your summer shorts and suncream I'm much happier in cosy sweaters and gloves. I like the foggy mornings, the dew on spider webs, the crisp air and the tingling I get on my nose when it's cold.

One of the perks of the role of editor is that I get to see the articles sent in before you get to see them published in the magazine; and I have to say that I've been rather excited about what I've read. November might not be your favourite month but there's plenty to get you out of the house on these colder days and nights. From the Highworth Historical Society's talk about a chap who converted his Rolls Royce to an ambulance, various musical and arts events, Thursday afternoon Wellbeing Walks, parent and toddler groups, floral groups and, dare I say it, Christmas activities to look forward to, there's not much that can't be found here in Highworth and the surrounding areas. And who knows, you might just feel a bit of that autumn sunshine on your face.

Before I go, let me leave you with this thought: We're not meant to be alone all the time. We're social beings,

and that need to belong to something is deeply ingrained in our nature. Belonging to a group or community gives a boost to our self-esteem and a willingness to take on the world. But more than that, it can encourage a sense of safety and support, of connection and belonging, a place for learning and acceptance. We can all do something to build meaningful relationships with one another and benefit from all that brings. Why not set a goal for yourself to try something new this autumn/winter time, something that connects you more with our immediate community. Today is a good day to start.



Rachael



Celebrate
CHRISTMAS
in Highworth

Saturday 23 December, 5pm

Carols on the Podium

Free event for all the family

❁ hot chocolate and mulled wine ❁ christmas choir ❁



WHITE HORSE FOLK CLUB

**Wednesday 15th November
at 7.30pm**

***Come and see your local musicians play
and sing in St. Michael's Hall.***

***A special guest night features the multi-talented
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Is Faith Still Relevant?

In the 1960s, sociologists calculated that modern science was bound to outgrow religion. Thirty years later, the sociologist Berger declared, 'Religion has not been declining. In much of the world there has been a veritable explosion of religious faith.' The advances in science, good and useful as they can be, can never answer the deep-seated cries of humanity.

A.W Tozer once wrote: 'Science, the sweet talking goddess which but a short time ago smilingly disposed of the Bible as a trustworthy guide and took the world by the hand to lead it into a man-made millennium, has turned out to be a dragon capable of destroying that same world with a flick of her fiery tail. The Bible tells of another world too fine for the instruments of scientific research to discover. By faith we engage that world and make it ours. It is accessible to us through the blood of the everlasting covenant.'



The human being is spirit, soul and body. Bodily needs are met by material things; the soul is satisfied by intellectual attainment, but the spirit is the core of the human being which can only be satisfied by God. Our Lord Jesus promised us the Holy Spirit as a helper, guide and comforter. He purifies us and makes us loving, wise, holy and fearless in life. He is the only one who is capable of guiding and sustaining us through the complex and sometimes threatening vicissitudes of life. If you have received Christ as

Lord and Saviour and are truly born again, the Holy Spirit is your bonafide inheritance. He dwells in you. Seek to deepen your relationship with Him by persistent prayer and meditation on God's word. As the apostle Paul reminds us, be filled with the Spirit, walk in the Spirit, and be aglow with the Spirit.

*Rev. Dr. Joseph Ribeiro
Highworth Methodist Church*

Highworth Community Larder

It is only ten months since we opened the larder and we now receive regular donations of surplus food from supermarkets, local food suppliers, allotment



holders and residents of Highworth. Thank you to all of them; the fresh produce on offer during the summer has been amazing. Every week up to 100 people visit the larder and benefit from this surplus food. We are open from 8am to 11am every Tuesday at Westrop School. All are welcome to come and choose five items free of charge.

We have a very supportive group of volunteers who collect the donations and staff the larder, but as the number of collections and visitors increase we can always use more helpers. If you would like to volunteer, we would love to hear from you. If you have surplus food to donate, we have donation boxes for non-perishables in Highworth Library, Highworth Holistic Health and Visit Highworth. Perishables can be brought to the larder between 7:30am and 10am on a Tuesday or elsewhere at another time by arrangement. You can contact us through our details below.

*Sue Morison
highworthcommunitylarder@gmail.com
Facebook: @highworth community larder*

Highworth Wellbeing Walks – One Year On

We set off on our inaugural walk on a beautiful autumn day last October. One year on, the group is flourishing and we're looking for more people to join us.

Walking with like-minded people makes you feel good and it's a great way to socialise. Our walkers say:

'It motivates me to walk, and I like the company and the fresh air.' (J)

'I enjoy it because it's sociable exercise - and there are free biscuits at the end!' (M)

'It's been lovely to meet new people and to explore new areas.' (H)

We meet at The Rec car park at **2pm every Thursday afternoon**. The walks are free and there's no need to



book. If you can walk for an hour at a steady pace, why not don your walking shoes and come along?

Any questions, contact Lesley on lesley.muir@outlook.com.

Lesley Muir and Carole Clegg

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child (also known as the Shoebox Appeal) will soon be upon us. The national campaign is from Monday 13 November to Monday 20 November inclusive.

The Highworth collection centre will be based, as usual, at Highworth Methodist Church. The opening times will be from **9:30am to 1pm each weekday**, and on **Saturday and Sunday** boxes can be dropped off **between 10am to 12 noon**.



For those who may be unfamiliar with Operation Christmas Child, shoeboxes are filled with a variety of gifts which are sent to needy children around the world. From the UK last year, nearly 250,000 shoeboxes were sent to 13 countries and globally about 10 million shoeboxes were sent to over 100 countries. From Highworth, we collected 1771 shoeboxes, which was very similar to 2021. We are so grateful to everyone who donated.

Shoeboxes are filled for either a boy or girl and for age groups: two to four years, five to nine years, or ten to fourteen years. We suggest that each gift filled box contains a 'wow' item that the child will immediately love as soon as they open the box. Ideas include: A stuffed animal; deflated football and pump; toy truck;

doll (baby, Barbie etc.); or musical instruments (depending on the age group).

A personal note or photo of you or your family can also be included. Shoebox leaflets, which give full details of the gifts that can be included, are available from the drop-off points.

If you would like more information or would like to be a volunteer, then please contact Peter McAuley, Tel: 01793 764385, mcauley.peter@gmail.com.

You can also find out more about Operation Christmas Child on their website (www.samaritans-purse.org.uk).

Come and meet
Jesus

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Sunday Gathering 10:30am
Warnford School Hall SN6 7BZ
or join our livestream



Highworth Community Church

www.highworthcommunitychurch.org.uk Registered Charity 108002

Roald Dahl Celebrations at Southfield Junior School



Southfield Junior School had a scrumdiddlyumptious afternoon on Wednesday 13 September, celebrating the amazing works of Roald Dahl. We had a range of activities for the children to participate in over the course of the afternoon, including designing our own sweets for Mr Wonka, testing the rollability of fruit to see how far James' peach would travel and creating marvellous poems inspired by Shakespeare and George (George's Marvellous Medicine). The children had a wonderful afternoon with many of them going away excited to read Roald Dahl's books.

We also had the joy of welcoming our families into school to participate in the events, which made the whole afternoon even more special. It was a pleasure to see our children and their families working on the projects together and viewing the amazing work that the children had been creating.

We have more dates for events just like this one lined up in our school calendar and we are looking forward to hosting and welcoming families again for our upcoming events.

Highworth Historical Society

Gavin Faringdon was made 2nd Lord Faringdon in 1934 and was one of the wealthiest men in Britain. By 1977 most of his money had been given to good causes. Sadly he has been overshadowed by his reputation as one of the Bright Young Things. A pacifist, he converted his Rolls Royce to an ambulance for use in the Spanish civil war.

Roger Vlitos is the curator of Buscot Park and will be our speaker on 22 November with his talk entitled, Gavin Faringdon – Portrait of a Rebel Peer.

For those new to the town, we meet at St. Michael's Hall on Lechlade Road. The doors open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start. Visitors are very welcome, pay £3 cash on the door, and membership for the year, which is nine talks, is £12. There is coffee and tea, a raffle, and all our books are on sale.

If you require more details contact Chris on 01793 764811.



Ask AMS

Do you need to submit a Tax Return?

You need to submit an Income Tax return (for 2022/23) if HMRC send you a Tax Return to complete or, if you know that you have income tax or capital gains tax to pay.

However, HMRC have a list of further circumstances where a Tax Return should be prepared, including:

Your income from self-employment exceeded £1,000;
You are a company director;

You received over £2,500 in rental income. If it was between £1,000 and £2,500 you should contact HMRC;

You received more than £2,500 in other income;

You received £10,000 or more before tax from savings/investments;

You made Capital Gains in excess of £6,000;

You have received dividends in excess of £10,000;

Your taxable income exceeds £50,000 and you, or your partner, receive Child Benefit;

Your taxable income exceeds £100,000.

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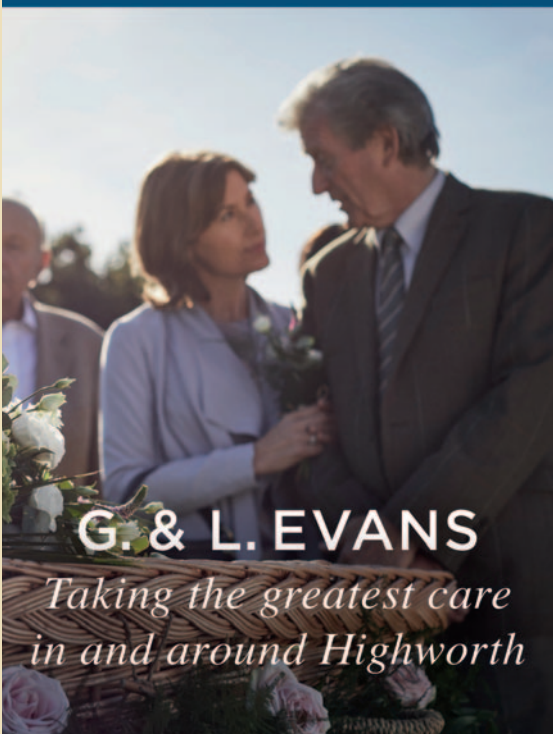
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Highworth Produce and Craft Show 2023

The Highworth Produce and Craft Show 2023 took place on Saturday 9 September at Highworth Warneford School, on what felt like the hottest day of the year! There was a wonderful turn-out despite the heat although of course certain areas were impacted as only the keenest of bakers would reluctantly add more heat to their kitchens by turning the oven on.

- Overall Show Winner:** Susanna Winters – for the second year running. Well done Susanna.
- Second Place:** April Thrush
- Third Place:** Gerry Evans
- Star Baker:** Gerry Evans
- Junior Winners:** Esme John and Lily John

Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered and participated in this annual event. If you would like to be involved in the preparations for 2024 we would love to hear from you. Can you write an article for this magazine or help us choose the categories for next year? However small a part you play your contribution would be welcomed. Please get in touch via Facebook or email.

Next year's show is planned for
Saturday 7 September 2024

aprilthrush@hotmail.com

Facebook: @highworthproduceshow

All photo credits: Professional Images @ProflImages



Esme John pictured with Mayor Keith Smith



Susanna Winters pictured with Norman Little of Highworth and District Lions Club



Gerry Evans pictured with Norman Little

SECTION WINNERS

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Vegetables | April Thrush |
| Fruit | Mr. Dovel |
| Flowers & Herbs | Sue Hooper |
| Bottled Wine, Spirits & Cordials | S. Wood |
| Preserves | Mary Swaffield |
| Craft | Maureen Sore |
| Flower Arrangement | Sue Hooper |
| Photography | Darren Pooley |
| Art | Christine Purdya |



Lily John pictured with Mayor Keith Smith

St. Michael's Flower Guild

Once again we will be decorating our beautiful church for Christmas and, as you know, flowers are becoming more and more expensive.

If you would like to sponsor an arrangement in

remembrance of a loved one and leave a card with a special message please contact me. It is a special thing to do rather than leaving flowers to blow around in the wind and rain in a cold churchyard.

Julia Bishop

01793 762807 – alanandjuliab@outlook.com

Five Reasons to Talk About Money



Talk Money Week: 6 to 10 November

From generational values to feeling embarrassed to just being British, there are all sorts of reasons why we don't like talking about money. But being

open about our finances can make a difference to a whole range of areas in our lives.

The Money and Pensions Service's annual Talk Money Week is taking place in November. To mark the occasion, we want to share five reasons why talking about money can be beneficial.

It lowers stress levels: Speaking about a problem can help to lift a weight off your mind because you're no longer carrying the burden all by yourself. What may appear to be a huge obstacle often feels more achievable once you've shared your concerns with a trusted friend or family member.

It strengthens relationships: Keeping money troubles

secret from your other half or someone you share financial responsibilities with can be damaging to your relationship. On the other hand, sharing openly as soon as things become a problem helps to build trust and unity as you can tackle it together.



It helps you access support: Discussing money worries can help you find out where there is free help available in your local community. If you're struggling in debt or need support with managing your money, visit www.moneyhelper.org.uk or see www.capuk.org to find out more about the face-to-face services Christians Against Poverty (CAP) offers.

It makes you more financially resilient: Having regular conversations about money can help you stay focused on your financial goals and gain useful skills from others.

It can impact future generations: There's so much power in speaking with your children or other young people in your family about money. Share your experiences and empower them to feel confident in managing their money. Apps like *GoHenry* are a useful tool to teach kids practical money management skills that they will inevitably use when they're older.

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. Call 0800 328 0006 for a free home visit.

Kathryn Ford
07885 579876

kathrynford@capuk.org
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Lechlade History Society

We will be hosting our AGM on **Monday 20 November** in The Memorial Hall at 7pm for a 7:30pm start. After the AGM we will be offering refreshments with wine and soft drinks followed by an entertaining talk on 'The History of Recorded Sound' by Patrick Furley – a very entertaining gentleman who will also have old recording equipment to illustrate his talk.



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Highworth Probus

Probus is a national organisation and there are lots of small to medium size groups that have set up all across the UK. Probus groups are for retired gentlemen who meet together in an informal bi-weekly gathering and are entertained by a professional speaker, or a member speaker from another club. Talks vary from global warming to the Severn Bridge, and The Buscot Ghost to Flying Concorde.



interesting talk finishing at 12pm. Invariably a number of members adjourn to the bar following the meeting for a friendly banter and welcome drink.

We are currently inviting new members who can come as a guest to two meetings before deciding to join. It is quite usual for guests to arrive and find that they already know some of the members and are immediately relaxed and enjoy the Probus club.

More details are available via our website www.highworthprobus.co.uk.

Here at Highworth Probus we meet every other Tuesday morning at 10am in the Cold Harbour pub, Blunsdon, in a comfortable room and have an

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.

News from Eastrop Infant School

Gardening Competition Winners

The children in Rabbits class at Eastrop Infant School participated in a gardening competition along with many other schools in the Swindon area. The competition was organised by Swindon Allotment and Leisure Gardening Association (SALGA) and there were several categories including; best vegetable planting; best fruit planting; best floral planting, and best special-needs gardening project. Eastrop Infant School and Rabbits class were very proud to be announced overall winners of the competition. The children really engaged with the gardening experience.

There was much excitement when new shoots appeared, surprise at the size of carrots, potatoes and



radishes as they harvested them, and eagerness to participate in jobs like watering, deadheading, and seed collecting.

Over the growing season the children harvested thirty-three bags of salad leaves which they took home for their families to enjoy. They were motivated to taste all the produce we grew and fresh peas from the pod were a big hit!



Football at Eastrop

Excitement is in the air as Eastrop Infant School proudly introduces its newest addition to the sporting world: The Little Strikers Football Team! Designed exclusively for five- and six-year-old budding football enthusiasts, this initiative aims to foster a love for the beautiful game while promoting teamwork, physical activity and personal development.

Every great journey begins with a single step and the Little Strikers are no exception. Conceived with the idea of providing young children with a safe, supportive and fun environment to explore the world of football, this team has been brought to life through the collaboration of dedicated educators and passionate parents.

We can't wait to see our youngest stars shine on the field and grow into confident, healthy individuals. Together, we'll create lifelong memories and a foundation for a lifelong love of football.

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Visit Highworth this Christmas

Visit Highworth will be holding our annual Christmas Fair on Saturday 25 November in the beautiful setting of St. Michael's Church. It will be a day celebrating all things Christmas with a market on the High Street and events in the Market Square, culminating in the Christmas lights switch-on. We are delighted to invite back some firm favourites to the craft fair as well as some new faces and we hope you can join us!

Santa is coming back to the Centre! He will be in his grotto with his helpers on **Friday 1 December** and **Saturday 2 December**. If you would like to visit and receive a small gift, tickets are £4 per child. Please contact the Centre to book. Santa looks forward to seeing you, 'Ho Ho Ho!'

Thanks to Swindon Memorials

It was with great delight that many members of the Highworth community commented on how beautiful the remembrance stone now looks as it gleams in the churchyard of St. Michael's.

This transformation is all thanks to Swindon Memorials who voluntarily cleaned the structure in September, leaving it looking as good as new. Staff members at Swindon Memorials simply wanted to 'give something back to the community' and took on the work despite it being one of the hottest days of the year. The stone now stands proudly in the ancient churchyard and its reconditioned state will only add to the poignancy of this month's remembrance service.

Many thanks to all at Swindon Memorials.



At Visit Highworth you can find unique Christmas gifts from one of our local artists and makers. From handmade felted Christmas decorations to candles, leather work, jewellery, pottery, and so much more. We also have Highworth calendars so pop in to have a look. You can find us at 7 High Street, Highworth SN6 7BE

Helen Lacey – Centre Manager
01793 764440 – info@visithighworth.co.uk
www.visithighworth.co.uk

Scouts Christmas Post

The Swindon Scouts Christmas Post will be running again this year. Stamps will be on sale in The Lighthouse Bookshop from **Monday 20 November** at the same price as last year – 35p. Full details, including the last day of posting, will be in next month's LINK magazine.

Open Gardens 2024

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!

Whilst the 2024 date for our next Open Gardens event is yet to be decided, we are always keen for new gardens to open. Perhaps you're new to Highworth or maybe you've lived here for a long time – whatever the size of your garden you would be so welcome to join us.

Money raised from the event goes to support Highworth in Bloom. This community group provides and looks after many of the flower troughs placed around the town (that is those that are not provided by the Town Council).

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

Ken and Sue Hooper
01793 764234

LITTLE TREASURES

Thursday Mornings (Farm Ties) 9:45-11am
The Hub, Highworth Community Centre, The Downers, SN6 7PG

A group for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, parents and carers for play, friendship and a healthy snack.

For more info contact Zoon Harris 07764303766

Suggested donation £2 per adult

Highworth Climate Talks

On 21 November, we will be pleased to introduce former resident Scott Hunter as he comes to talk to us about the climate crisis – the economic drivers that have pushed us into crisis and our apparent inability to be able to solve the problem. Repeated international conferences and talks have seen many fine words and promises but little action as emissions keep rising, the climate crisis intensifies, and we see the warning signs of climate breakdown.

Scott will talk for about 20 minutes followed by questions and an open discussion. Refreshments will be available. All our talks are free although donations will be appreciated to enable the talks to continue.

We meet at Highworth Methodist Church, Vicarage Lane, Highworth SN6 7AD. Limited parking is available. For more information contact Helen on 01793 861431.

South Marston Gardening Club

Monday 6 November is the Gardening Club Members' Workshop and there is therefore no speaker this month.

Our last meeting of the year ends on **Monday 4 December** with our social evening: A quiz followed by pot luck food brought in by members. Please come and join us and bring a dish to share. Tea and coffee will be served but feel free to bring something a little stronger! Prizes will be awarded to the winning quiz team so bring friends and family along!

We will meet at South Marston Village Hall, Old Vicarage Lane, South Marston SN3 4SN, **from 7:30pm to 9:30pm**. Parking is available on Old Vicarage Lane, next to the school.

£3 entry fee on the door. Optional raffle. A warm welcome awaits you.

Angela Newton
07789 068340

Facebook: @southmarstongardeningclub

Fairford and District Choral Society

On Saturday 2 December, Marysia Gorska-Saj will conduct her final concert with Fairford and District Choral Society. The choir will be going on a musical journey, singing a selection of great choruses from great oratorios from Handel back to Handel; through Bach, Vivaldi, Haydn, Mozart, Mendelssohn and Faure. The concert will be accompanied on the organ by Ian Crabbe (Marlborough College Organist) who will play appropriate organ solos between some of the choruses.



Marysia Gorska-Saj

Tickets will be available from 1 November from choir members, from Fairford Opticians (11 High Street, Fairford), or by calling 01285 713681. Tickets will also be available on the door (cash only, please) priced £15 for adults and £5 for under-18s.

Highworth Flower Club

We will meet on Thursday 2 November, 7:30pm, Warneford School, with Sally Taylor: 'Sallying Forth yet again!'

New members and visitors are very welcome to our relaxed and informal meetings spent watching a demonstrator create flower arrangements. The National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS) demonstrators are of a high standard and speak well, giving tips as they work. Just sit and enjoy the evening and you may be lucky and win one of the arrangements in the raffle.

Twice-a-year we invite a National Demonstrator. They create large, dramatic designs and often talk about their life with flowers. They may work or judge internationally, compete at Chelsea, and design national flower festivals.

Meetings are held the **first Thursday of the month**. There is easy parking and a sales table and raffle. **Doors open 7pm and we finish at 9pm.**

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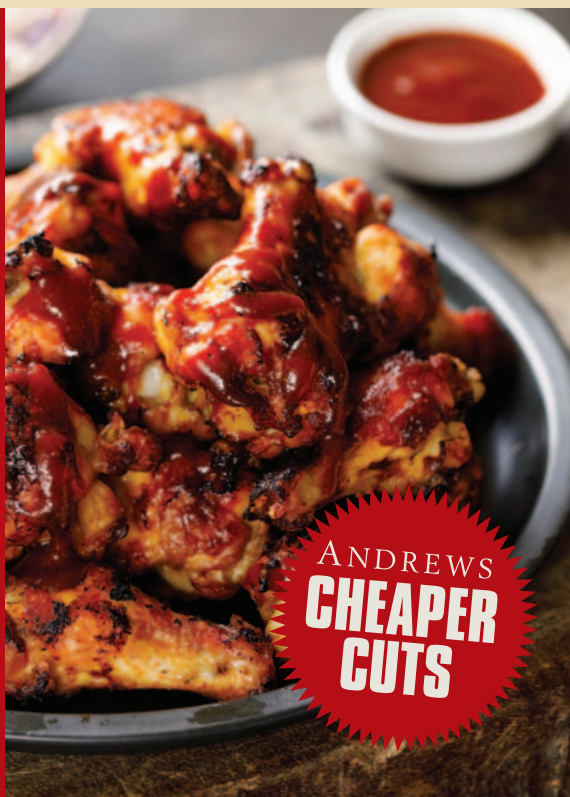
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Highworth Evening WI is 60

The delicious cake pictured, made by one of our members, was just one of the treats we enjoyed at our party to celebrate 60 years of Highworth Evening WI. We danced to '60s music, ate lovely nibbles, (remember cheese and pineapple on sticks?) and racked our brains for answers to a '60s quiz, all dressed in outfits from biker chicks to flower power.



Back at the beginning of WI life was very different but the membership have always been current and vital. For example, in 1964 the WI passed a resolution to restrict smoking in public places and this year our national resolution was for Clean Rivers, which everyone is now concerned about.

In Highworth we like to mix our serious and fun sides. Our meetings often involve an invited speaker but we also enjoy lots of events like crafting, drama, walking and, very often, eating!

In September, we had a tour of historic Highworth, learning about buildings, royal connections and one or

two ghost stories too. This was followed by a scrumptious cream tea at The Highworth.

We are active in the community and every year we support the Highworth Craft and Produce show by providing a pop-up café and we always have a stall at the annual May Day Fair. Twice a month we run Lunch Together

for people who like some company. Earlier in the summer we had a trip to Sezincote House and Gardens, and it won't be long before our Christmas Party with fun, food and entertainment. Wiltshire Federation also organise events for the County, from holiday tours to hearing Dame Floella Benjamin as a keynote speaker at our AGM, and once a year we take over the Royal Albert Hall for our National Meeting.

There is something for everyone in WI so why not come and give us a try for the start of our next 60 years? Come along to one of our meetings or call our President, Sue, for more details on 01273 764234.

ADVERTORIAL

TR Recycling: The Sensible Alternative to a Skip!

Protecting the environment is at the heart of Swindon-based TR Recycling. Cheaper than a skip and with twice the capacity, they are the obvious choice when it comes to professional waste management and removal. Because they take recycling so seriously, TR Recycling (Swindon) sort, grade, and recycle as much waste as possible at a reasonable cost with no additional licence fee.

As TR Recycling (Swindon) manager, Richard, says, 'We are playing a key role on both local and national scales to achieve increasingly demanding waste recycling and disposal goals. Recycling is an important part of all our lives if we are to improve the world we live in.'



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So next time you're having work done on your home or business property, contact TR Recycling (Swindon) for a free waste removal quote.

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News from Highworth and District Lions Club

Another month has flown by very fast for us and we are currently busy making our plans for... well, dare I say the C word or is it too early?! Anyway, between Santa and ourselves we are planning our visits so please do keep a look out for the upcoming dates and venues in the Highworth LINK Magazine.

We had a stall at the first Volunteer Expo at the Community Centre on Saturday 23 September and were blown away by how many people turned up to find out more about volunteering their time for local causes. If you were unable to make it on the day and would like to know more about volunteering with us then please do get in touch at the email address below.

As a club we would like to say a huge thank you to the Highworth LINK Magazine and Highworth Town Council for arranging such a fantastic and very popular



day. It definitely helped to raise awareness of so many local good causes in our community.

Our charity shop continues to be very popular and busy. We are very grateful to everyone who supports our shop with donations and purchases, so a big 'thank you' to you all. Our amazing shop volunteers work very hard to sort through donations, get the items out on display and keep the shop running like clockwork. Thank you to our volunteers too.

This month we have donated to the following:

- Naomi House, St Julia's, Jessie May, Dorothy House, Helen and Douglas: £300 each towards Christmas activities for their residents.
- GWH Children's ward: £300 of toys.
- Friends of ROSHNI Appeal: £600. This pays for the upkeep and any additional building expansions for a school in India.
- Penny Hooks Farm: £2,653. This farm has an adult facility for adults with severe autism. It's a safe place for people to go where they can do a wide range of activities and help with the care of animals around the farm. We will be sponsoring one of the farm's donkeys for a year and this will pay for his food, bedding and all care needs.

See you next month!

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

Highworth Community Cider Project

We will be at Highworth's Christmas Light Switch-on on Saturday 27 November.

Come and get a box of locally made cider at great prices AND support your local community. The more cider we sell, the more money we can donate to the many wonderful Highworth groups!

We are looking out for volunteers (making cider or selling it!) so come and say hello to us at the switch-on or message us on Facebook.

| | | |
|----------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 1 litre bottle | £6 | (1L= 1¾pints. £3.43 per pint!) |
| 3 litre box | £15 | (3L= 5 pints+ = £3 per pint!) |
| 5 litre box | £23 | (5L= 8¾pints = £2.50 per pint!) |
| 10 litre box | £40 | (10L= 17½ pints= £2.25 per pint!) |
| 20 litre box | £70 | (20L= 35pints+ = £2 per pint!) |



Who said there was nothing going on in Highworth?!

Spoilt for choice, whatever your age or gender, there's lots to do, for yourself and your community. Just get involved.

- 1st Highworth Scouts
- Babies 2 Bumps
- British Legion
- CAP
- Community Larder
- Community Speed Watch
- Eastrop Infant School
- Forget-Me-Not
- Free Cakes for Kids Swindon
- Friends of Pentylands
- Halo
- Highworth & District Lions
- Highworth Bellringers
- Highworth Cider Community Project
- Highworth Community Centre
- Highworth Community Partnership Group
- Highworth Community Shed
- Highworth Historical Society
- Highworth in Bloom
- Highworth LINK Magazine
- Highworth Support Group for Prospect
- Highworth Town Council
- Lunch Together WI
- Southfield Junior School
- Swindon North Scouts
- Swindon Talking News
- The Bridge Centre
- Visit Highworth
- Warneford School
- Westrop Primary School and Nursery



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Lechlade Art Society Annual Exhibition

Lechlade has been cut off from visitors and general traffic from the south due to a driver hitting the historic Halfpenny Bridge on 22 July, causing catastrophic damage. The bridge has been closed since then and the A361 has been closed to all. This has resulted in a significant fall in the number of visitors to the town which has been a bitter blow to businesses.



Lord and Lady Faringdon with Roger Jones



The Lechlade Art Society Annual Exhibition went ahead with fingers crossed for success in spite of the closed road. It was opened by the society's patron, Lord Faringdon, who always has an active interest and gives support and encouragement to the group. He and Lady Faringdon studied the exhibits and chose the piece of work worthy of the Patron's award. This went to Dennis Yeates, for the second year running, with his picture, painted in acrylics, entitled Harvest Time.

In spite of the closed road, the August bank holiday weekend saw a healthy number of people in the town for the annual Cricket Club Boot Sale, a Charity Duck

Race on the Thames and, of course, for the Annual Art Exhibition. A steady flow of people came to the exhibition to browse and buy artworks and greetings cards. In addition to the splendid display of paintings, visitors were also able to enjoy a tea or coffee accompanied by some superb cakes – works of art too!

If you would like to know more about this very active art society visit our website. Why not come along to one of the Tuesday demonstrations? You will find the programme of events on the website. The November talk is on **Tuesday 14 November, 2pm to 4pm**, on 'Animals and Birds' by Alexandra Woods.

Margaret Hing – www.lechladeartsociety.co.uk

Highworth Artists' Society

A big thank you to all those who came from near and far to visit our autumn exhibition! We really appreciate all the support from local people and businesses in advertising and visiting the exhibitions. Displaying work is very enjoyable once it is on the walls but it involves a lot of effort from a number of people, so



we are always really pleased when people come along to view the work – and even happier when it is sold!

At the time of writing we do not have figures available for visitor numbers, sales, or the winner of the autumn rose bowl for the favourite painting. Watch out for news of this in December!

However, we are pleased to announce a second 'Try Out Painting' event, to be held on **Saturday 4 November** in the Council Community Room on Gilberts Lane. Come along and try out watercolours, pastels, acrylics or oils, guided by our members.

We will be charging a small amount for this session to cover the rental of the room and some materials – no need to bring anything along unless you want to. Please see our advert and look out for local posters. Everyone is welcome!

LOCAL NEWS EVENT

Highworth Artists' Society is proud to announce our second...

Saturday morning Try Out Painting session!

Watercolours, Pastels, Acrylics, or Oils

Materials included, but bring your own if wanted

WHEN: Saturday November 4th

TIME: 10am – 1pm

WHERE: Council Community Room, Gilberts Lane, Highworth

COST: £5 to include refreshments

See you there! Email highworthartistsociety@gmail.com
or walk in on the day. Over 18s only

Highworth Community Cinema



We will be holding our AGM before the film showing in November and we aim to last no longer than 20 minutes. If you are interested in supporting our committee, email us or talk to Debbie on film night. would be most welcome.

Friday 24 November, 7:45pm
'Allelujah'
St. Michael's Hall, Lechlade

Road, Highworth SN6 7HQ.

'Allelujah' is a warm, humorous, and deeply moving

story about surviving old age starring Judi Dench, Jennifer Saunders, and Derek Jacobi. 'Allelujah' celebrates the spirit of the elderly patients whilst paying tribute to the deep humanity of the medical staff battling with limited resources and ever-growing demand.

99 mins Cert 12A – Doors open at 7:15pm

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

01793 763907

info@highworthfilms.org.uk – www.highworthfilms.org.uk

The Arts Society Upper Thames

We would welcome you to join us as a visitor to our November lecture, 'An Actor's Life', with our lecturer Tyler Butterworth from the famous theatrical family. Drawing on his own experiences as both a child and adult actor, Tyler reveals the pains and the pleasures of a career in the theatre. On the way, he reveals how props can let you down at crucial moments, how actors survive when out of work, and how to deal with stage nudity.

We will meet at Lechlade Memorial Hall on Thursday 9 November, 2pm, BUT please register first by emailing info@tasupperthames.org.uk.

Is your child due to start school in September 2024?

If the answer is yes, then we would love to invite you to one of our open mornings. Take a look at our website to see what we offer

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November, November

The fifth of November: gunpowder, treason and plot!

I can't wait for fireworks night. All the beautiful colours in the sky and the loud bangs make it more exciting!

Do you know why we have bonfire night? There was a man called Guy Fawkes and he planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament on 5 November 1605 using gun powder. However his plot was found out and he was arrested by the police so he never got to blow it up. We now celebrate this by using fireworks and bonfires on 5 November.

At the end of November, Highworth's High Street will be having a different celebration – the Christmas market and light switch-on. My sisters have joined Elias Performing Arts, so I will be looking out for them dancing this year.

Talking about Highworth... Although I do not live in Highworth, I actually do a lot of things there! I go to school daily and then visit the optician, dentist and doctor when needed. I get my hair cut at The Hideaway Hair Studio. I love the name of this salon as it's definitely hidden away! It's opposite The Wine Bar and Cabin & Cowshed Soap shop (which smells amazing), which are down a walkway in between The Old Bakery and hardware shop! I enjoy the cheesy pizza and cream profiteroles at Ciao Italian restaurant and my Dad treats us, when he's home, to a bacon bap at the Co-op cafe before school. All these things in Highworth are important to me and I am excited to see how the town will grow and change throughout my life.

Sophie Nolan

School Since September

In September I started another year at secondary school. I'm now in year 8 and enjoying it so far. I am learning German and French, and I am also cooking in DT (design and technology). The new year 7s have joined the school and they look like they are having an awesome time at their new school.

I am also a form captain. This is an exciting role. Only two people are chosen for each form and we have to explain new and upcoming improvements to the school.

Thank you for reading this month's LINK magazine. See you in December when we will get ready for Christmas.

Constance Davenport



Eco Tip from Weigh It Up

Often people worry that they can't make a difference to the climate crisis but you absolutely can. Small changes can have a big impact. Something as simple as owning a refillable water bottle will make a big impact on the UK's estimated 2.5 million tonnes of plastic waste thrown away each year. In total, some 7.7 billion plastic bottles are bought across the UK each year, resulting in substantial amounts of single-use plastic waste. If one in ten Brits refilled just once-a-week around 340 million plastic bottles a year would be saved. By reusing a plastic bottle or by buying a refillable bottle you will help cut down on that and make a difference.



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 Pilates, Yoga and other classes currently available for further information contact:
Sue Marland
01793 671421
 or email: susan.marland@gmail.com





Highworth Bowls Club

As is customary, September saw the conclusion of the various competitions and leagues and there was lots to celebrate this year at Highworth Bowls Club. In the Swindon and District Association Finals, the ladies dominated the weekend with Linda Young picking up a handful of championships. As well as winning the 2-Wood Singles, she added the Pairs with Deanne Davis, the Triples with Maggie Jordan and Jo Hicks, and finally the Fours when all four ladies combined. Meanwhile in the men's section, Shaun Hicks and Tom Pittuck came runners-up in the Pairs. In the leagues the men finished fourth in the Swindon and District Evening Rinks League whilst the ladies were just pipped at the post by Supermarine which was a big shame as the ladies had to concede a game against them earlier in the season thus forfeiting all points. Congratulations to Jo Hicks and Tom Pittuck for becoming respective Ladies' and Men's Club Champions and many thanks to Martin Biles from MB Carpentry, Jess from the Howden Group and David Hillier from Hillier Funeral Services for presenting trophies over the weekend.

The Richard James Estate Agents Club Finals weekend was played under beautiful sunny skies which meant many spectators were out to watch some quality bowling. Meanwhile, the ever popular Friday Afternoon Club Triples competition concluded with Team H coming out on top. The season finished with Fun Day for members, many of whom will now go on to play throughout the winter at one of the local indoor clubs; Fairfield, Swindon Manor and Westlecot.

We hope to welcome back existing members and

those wishing to try bowls for the first time in April when the 2024 will commence.

Christopher Davis
www.highworthbowlsclub.org

Highworth Town Ladies Football

The briefest of notes to say a big thank you to the Highworth Lions. Their unwavering sponsorship over the past five years by providing us with competition kit and training wear has been very much valued and appreciated. Thank you from all of the Highworth Town Ladies.

If anyone wishes to find out more about the Highworth Lions, be involved in their week-to-week exploits or even contribute to fundraising ideas then I'm sure they'd welcome your interest. Please do get in touch via their website.

Steve Curtis (Ladies Team Manager)
www.highworthlions.co.uk

Highworth Town Football Club

HTFC continued their excellent start to the season despite an FA Cup first-round-proper defeat to a Weymouth side three divisions above them. Two wins in the FA Vase and five in the league out of the first eight games really has revived the club after last year's struggles.

Whilst there will be plenty of games to play throughout November and early December, as Christmas approaches our festive games see the Hereford Lads Club visit Highworth on 16 December, a visit to Cinderford on the 23 December and a Boxing Day local derby at Royal Wootton Bassett before ending the year with a welcome visit from the Worcester Raiders on 30 December. Come along and support the team when you can, all support is appreciated.

Derek Lloyd
www.pitchero.com/clubs/highworthtown

Wrag Barn Golf Club

WBGC Celebrates the life of Past Captain Phil Robson.

We remembered a very special man at Wrag Barn this summer. Phil Robson was a huge part of the Wrag Barn community and we were honoured to welcome his family to celebrate his life and share anecdotal stories and memories, of which there are many. To mark the

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Halo Swim School

at Highworth Recreation Centre

Keep your little ones swimming and learning a valuable life skill by signing them up to our Halo learn to swim programme.

Group Swimming Lessons: Children can learn to swim within a friendly instructor lead group session. Lessons take place Monday-Saturday.

One to One Private Swimming Lessons: These lessons either follow the Swim England national plan or they may just be to work on specific areas of weakness for a short period.

All of our lessons are 30 minute sessions and run weekly all year around (apart from two week break at Christmas). Our Halo Swim School lessons are taken by approved Swim England qualified teachers.

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occasion, the Senior section played for the Phil Robson Trophy which was won by Des Williams. He said that he hadn't played golf at such a level for some time and felt that Phil was with him showing him the way. There was a Nearest the Pin competition on the third which was won by Roger Carter. Thanks to Oliver for providing the photographs which show Phil's wife Ann presenting the prizes and all the family sitting on Phil's memorial bench donated by the family in his memory.

Verity Manners
www.wragbarn.com

Shrivenham Cricket Club

Well, the 2023 cricket season is now well and truly over. After Blunston, our next fixture was 'Swindon 4' at Lydiard Millicent. Winning the toss we chose to field first. Swindon only managed 99 all out in the 27th over thanks to Naveed Ackram, Simon Carr and Manoj Perrera all taking three wickets for 39, 12 and three runs respectively. We scored 100 with Manoj scoring 54 runs and Simon 30 (both not out) and only lost three wickets en route to winning by seven wickets.

Away again the following week at 'Goatacre 3', we again won the toss and elected to field. On their small ground they amassed 247 runs in 45 overs losing nine wickets, four of which were thanks to our very own Jason Yearwood in 40 runs. A daunting total to chase down particularly after losing Manoj in the first over, but our batsmen knuckled down to the task and got to 248 (Adam Woods 54 runs and Jerry Francis 42) in the 42nd over with six wickets lost. Another win, but by four wickets this time.

And so to our final match at home against Swindon Super Strikers. Winning the toss yet again, we invited our visitors to bat first. This they did and batting steadily they set a target of 209 for nine with Simon

Carr bowling four for 40 runs. At the 30 overs each stage in our respective batting stints they had made 120 runs and had lost three wickets; we'd accumulated 118 runs with the same wicket loss so it was neck and neck. At the 35 overs point they were ahead 152-6 and we were 130-4. Alas we could not prevail and were all out for 165 runs in the 43rd over to lose by 41 runs.

Sadly we finished third in our league with the top place evading us. A shame to fail at the last hurdle but the league is not won or lost on the last game, it is cumulative! We should learn from our missed opportunities and rash actions when we could not even score 73! Last month we had the Players' Awards Evening at the Pavilion whilst on **11 November** we have the Vice-Presidents' Dinner at The Crown in Shrivenham with our AGM scheduled for February next year.

Julian Stevens
www.shrivenham.play-cricket.com/home

What's On in the Off Season?

As the seasons change so do outdoor sports. Cricket creases are traded for indoor nets, croquet lawns are rested and running tracks cease to hold races and become oval floodlit theatres used solely for training. But as some sports enter a state of preparational stasis to see out the worst of the weather, other sports get into their stride and flourish. Wherever your sport is in its annual cycle, we'd love to hear about it.



If your sport can't be active, then opportunities present themselves to repair or renew equipment, recruit new members, procure funding or sponsorship, plan for the next season and, the most fun part, socialising. Just because there's an absence of physical perspiration, it doesn't mean a lack of mental perspiration. Anyone involved in the organisational side of sport knows that often the 'off season' can be as busy as the 'on season'. Whatever you're up to this winter, please do keep us in mind and get in touch. A Christmas party karaoke night can be just as enjoyable to read about as a last gasp victory. We might have to censor the photographs though...

Jason Daniels
jcdsport12@gmail.com

Highworth Town Walking Football Club

On Sunday 17 September our Over-50s and Over-60s both played their last round of games in the Wiltshire League for this year. The 50s played five games, winning three, drawing one and losing one to finish runners-up. On the same day the 60s finished their round of games with four wins and one loss. Despite beating Swindon A who became Champions, Highworth also ended the season as runners-up just like the 50s. Overall some great performances from both squads.

From January 2024 the Thursday and Sunday sessions will become Pay and Play sessions, meaning anyone over the age of 50 is welcome to come and play. Payment per session will be £4, payable by credit/debit card only, no cash, direct to the Grange Sports Centre. 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 meet on **Sundays, 11am to 12pm**, all at Grange Leisure in Stratton with a **Friday session, 11:30am to 12:30pm** at the Highworth Rec. We are always looking for new players to come and join our friendly recreational sessions so please get in touch for more information.

Graham Seeley

highworthwfc@outlook.com – 07769 703702

Croquet Club

SCC's Chairman's Plate competition came to its conclusion with eight players, who had qualified from four round robin groups, competing in a knock out format. Steve Hares, Garry Douel, Alan Chippendale and Tony Tomlin progressed into the semi-finals having overcome quarter final opponents before Steve and Alan went through to the final. The competition was based on the 'advantage' handicap system so, due to his lower handicap, Steve began the final on minus two hoops. Alan played solidly throughout giving Steve little opportunity to pull back the deficit. Steve did his utmost to overpower his opponent but Alan



Alan (left) and Steve (right) with competition organiser Tony Tomlin

consistently played excellent, very accurate recovery shots over several fiercely contested hoops. Alan clinched victory with a most impressive jump shot over one of Steve's balls and straight through the hoop. He was then presented with the Chairman's Plate by competition organiser Tony Tomlin.

Beverly Briggs

www.swindoncroquetclub.org.uk

Shrivenham Park Golf Club

September was a busy month for us at Shrivenham Park Golf Club as we juggled charity fundraising, bidding fond farewells and, of course, playing some golf. First off was the hosting of a Macmillan Coffee Morning and table top sale. We're delighted to report we raised £150. Adi then kindly held his annual birthday competition for all players. As so many teams took part it was a shot-gun start — thanks Adi. The ladies' team played away at Radley and enjoyed the interesting and good conditioned course. There was great hospitality and a superb summer-style meal after the game which the Radley ladies, enjoying home advantage, won out 2-1.

The winning of the Sunday Medal in September fell to Tracy whilst Denise took the Thursday Medal and, along with it, our heartfelt gratitude for all her work as one of the main bar stewards as she now hangs up her ice tongs and enjoys her retirement. John Wellstead won September's Senior Medal whilst Paul Warneford claimed September's Men's Medal.

The men have played their home round for the Daily Mail Competition and scored 40 Stableford points. They'll be represented by N. and L. Goodwin and we wish them every success in the knock-out rounds. The Pairs Multiplier event was won by R. Spencer, whilst in the Senior Captain's Cup Nigel Burton scored 38 points and claimed top spot.

Events for Christmas are well in hand, social coffee and chat sessions have now begun their winter schedule and meet between **10am and midday on Fridays**. We will have a talk from Impact Community on **17 November** and on **1 December** we have our Christmas Entertainment Morning where we listen and sing along to music provided by Graham Wiltshire, a keyboard player of traditional music, and Tony Crabtree and the St. Andrews hand bell ringers. Wear your party hats! Please do come along and enjoy these sessions; Shrivenham Park Golf Club welcomes all. Time now to play more golf.

Carole Lee

www.shrivenhampark.co.uk



Is your child due to start Year 3 in September 2024?

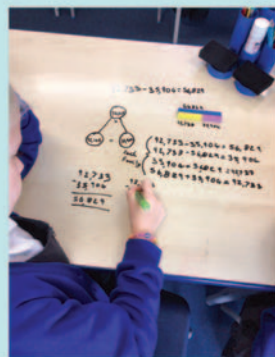
If the answer is YES, then we would love to invite you to look around our school.

We are a caring, nurturing school with high aspirations for all children. Dedicated, enthusiastic and skilful staff enable all children to reach their full potential.

Take a look at our website for an overview: www.southfieldjuniorsch.co.uk/



At Southfield, we believe that all learning should be purposeful, engaging and should develop inquisitive minds.



We have spaces in all year groups for this academic year. Please come and see what we can offer!

For all enquiries or to book a tour, please contact the school office

01793 762210 or email admin@southfield-jun.swindon.sch.uk

Neighbourhood Plan 2

It has been some time since we updated you on the Neighbourhood Plan, but it has been a busy time with a lot of work happening in the background and good progress being made.

The committee have been working hard to pull all the public consultations and surveys together and to identify the objectives that have come out of the public engagement. This has enabled us to understand what policies the Neighbourhood Plan 2 should include. Some existing policies from the old plan have been retained and strengthened to ensure they are effective, and some new policies have been identified. These policies will help to shape the town going forward. If you would like to see a summary of results of the public workshops, they are available on the Highworth Town Council website.

Due to a successful application for grant funding, we have been able to engage a professional design company to work with us to publish a design code document and housing needs assessment. The design code document supports the new Neighbourhood Plan and details what any new development will need to look like to ensure it complements its surroundings. The housing needs assessment identifies the sort of housing and size of properties needed for the future.

We are very close to a completed draft of the new Neighbourhood Plan and will be engaging with Swindon Borough Council imminently to check the plan meets national policy, aligns with the current Swindon Borough Council plan, and meets certain criteria. Once the draft Neighbourhood Plan has been verified we will move

on to pre-consultation stage with all residents, known as regulation 14. This gives everyone the opportunity to review the plan and make comments. When we know more on timings we will let you know, so watch this space!

Thanks for all your support to date.

Councillor Julie Murphy
Chairperson, Neighbourhood Plan Committee



News from Highworth's Mayor



'Highworth is a small town with a big heart!' someone said to me the other day. I could not agree more. I felt unqualified and so was reluctant to be your mayor originally, but now I am finding it a most wonderful experience.

In early September I was invited by April Thrush to present the prizes at the Produce Show. What a wonderful array of flowers, fruit and vegetables, preserves and cakes! Such skilled gardeners, cooks, bakers and flower arrangers we have in this small town. Thank you April and your hard working team for letting me share.

Next, I must mention the Volunteer Expo. A day when 31 different organisations, yes 31, congregated in the Community Centre to seek volunteers. An inspired event dreamt up and organised by Rachael, the LINK editor, with support from a small team. Thank you.

'The Bells! The Bells! ...the tintinnabulation that so musically wells...' (Edgar Allan Poe). Michaelmas, 29 September is the Feast of Michael and all Angels. This year our bellringers gave it a wonderful celebratory peal. What was wonderful about this peal? Here I quote:

'A peal is the 'gold standard' change ringing performance during which the bells are rung continuously in over 5000 different sequences, without visual aids, typically taking three hours.'

Wow. Beat that!

Thank you Rob and team for that remarkable performance which I listened to half a mile away from my house!

I am often reminded by colleagues that I live in the 'dead centre' of Highworth! It is true our constant companion, Charles Fox (Charlie, we call him), a plumber and glazier who died in the mid-18th Century, lies beneath our bedroom window and is a reminder of the ageless spirit of Highworth. Sadly, he is also blamed for those unexplained mishaps around our home.

*Keith Smith
Mayor of Highworth*

HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN MAYOR & CHAIRMAN

Keith Smith, Flat 35, High Street SN6 7AQ
07836 382827 keith.smith@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

DEPUTY MAYOR & VICE-CHAIRMAN

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sweisinger@swindon.gov.uk

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3 Gilberts Lane, Highworth SN6 7FB
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THE ROTARY CLUB OF SWINDON NORTH AND THAMESDOWN

Presents **The Television Game Show**

In aid of the Olive Tree Café – Located in Manor Garden Centre, Swindon, SN2 2QJ

A key objective of the cafe is to help and support people recovering from mental illness or at risk of suffering mental illness by providing them with positive, work-related opportunities, towards taking them a step nearer to the world of work in a Café open to the public.



Have you ever sat in front of the TV yelling in frustration at game show contestants who have the answers on the tip of their tongue but under the pressure of the occasion simply cannot spit their answers out? If so and in the comfort of your armchair you may well have felt that you could have done far better.

Well, here is your chance to prove yourself in our fun packed evening. Form a team of 6 players and compete against all the other teams of 6 present as we play out your favourite TV game shows on the big screen – Games such as *CATCHPHRASE*, *NAME THAT TUNE*, *A QUESTION OF SPORT* and the all-time favourite, *WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?*

There will be prizes galore: spot prizes, incidental prizes, random prizes, runner up prizes and the overall winning team on the evening will go on to play *GET THE ADS* as featured on Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway to win potentially 16 prizes including the cash laden treasure chest.

Date: Friday 24th November

Venue: Swindon Town Football Club
in LEGENDS room

Meal: Ploughman's supper

Licensed Bar: Fully stocked pay bar

Ticket price: £20:00 pp

Doors open: 6:00pm for 6:45pm start

Dress code: Elegant casual

Carriages: 10:00pm

CONTACTS: To book your tickets –

email: rotaryswindonnorth@gmail.com or visit

website: www.rotaryswindonnorth.org.uk

Telephone: Bob Humphries 0758 432 0727

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Saturday 25th November

10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm

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Frames optional @£5 extra

Enquires/Booking:

lisaeverycloud@aol.com

Santa in the Centre

Santa will be taking time out of his busy schedule to Visit Highworth!

He will be in his grotto on

Friday 1st December

1pm – 5pm

Saturday 2nd December

10am – 2:30pm

£4 per Child

including Christmas Gift.

Contact Visit Highworth to book

7 High Street

Highworth

SN6 7BE

info@visithighworth.co.uk

01793 764440

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Update from Justin Tomlinson

Highworth has always had a fantastic community spirit and that was very much on display at the recent Highworth Volunteer Expo. I very much enjoyed the opportunity to meet with the different groups and to thank them for what they are doing in our local community. Time and time again I spoke to members of the local community who were giving up time to help others. Stalls included: Highworth and District Lions; Highworth Town Council; Visit Highworth; Highworth LINK Magazine; Community Speed Watch; the local schools and various community groups including Forget-Me-Not Café; Highworth Bellringers and Highworth Community Larder. I have already got quite a few follow-up visits booked in!

I have no doubt many local residents will have benefited from signing up to one of the groups either



Highworth's mayor, Keith Smith, with Justin Tomlinson MP and representatives of the Forget-Me-Not Café.

as a user or volunteer. The team who pulled this together did a brilliant job showcasing the very best of Highworth and I thank them for their time and dedication.



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



3-5/11/2023

4 years have passed, we miss you every day.

Lindsay, Mark, Ben & Lucy xxxx

5/10/2023

Eric Ryder – Remembering a dearly loved Dad and Bamp on his 98th Birthday. Loved always.

Love Janice & Pas, Louisa, Chris, Pep, Amy & Carina xxxx

26/11/2023

Joy Ackling – 9 years since we heard your voice and saw your smile. Love and miss you more than words can say.

Love Ian, Sue & Family. Gary, Bev & family. Kim, Jeff, Conor, Kerry, Andrew xxxx

26/11/2023

Joyce Ryder – Missing a dearly loved Mum and Nan on her 95th Birthday. Loved and remembered every day.

Love Janice & Pas, Louisa & Chris, Pep, Amy & Carina xxxxx

26/11/2023

Maureen Trollope – forever in our hearts and missed every day. John, Sara, Paul, Danny, Becky & grandchildren x

29/11/2023

Missing you Brian Moody – A dear husband and father – unforgettable. Love Christine, Dawn, Simon, Emily, Alfie,

Katie and Harry xxx

Floodlighting forms are available from the Lighthouse Bookshop or the Church website at www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk/floodlighting. Your dedication will appear in this magazine.

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: Friday 27 October for the joint December 2023/January 2024 publication.

CHURCHES

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 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 we love and miss

Brian Cox John Harris Olive Goodall

We congratulate on their marriage

Shanice Syles and Alex Jones

Praying for the roads in the town

5 November Stranks Close and Stroma Way

12 November Swanborough and Swindon Road



REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

Sunday 12th November

10am St Leonard's, Blunsdon

10am St Michael's, Highworth

The service will be live streamed on YouTube

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

10.15am St John the Baptist, Hannington

Big Highworth Charity Coffee Morning & Sale
Saturday 18 November 2023
10.30am to 12pm
£2 for a cup & cake
Charity Sale to raise funds
Highworth Methodist Church
Raising funds for the following charities
UET Highworth Community Fished

HIGHWORTH FORGET ME NOT CAFE WELCOMES **BRIAN SLADE**
WEDNESDAY 22ND NOV 2023 2-4PM
HIGHWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE
THE DORMERS SN6 7PQ
forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com
or Ruth 07970 543423

19 November Swindon Street and Turnpike Road

26 November Vicarage Lane and Vorda Road

St. Leonard's Parish Church Stanton Fitzwarren

5 November Morning Praise, 9:30am

12 November Remembrance Sunday, 11am
Everyone is welcome, including children, at a short Act of Remembrance at the war memorial. This will be followed by a quiet reflective service for anyone who wishes to attend.

19 November Team Service, St. Leonard's, 10am

26 November Holy Communion, 9:30am

Stanton coffee morning will be on **Wednesday 15 November** at Stanton House Hotel. We meet at 10:30am for coffee and a chat before our speaker begins at 11am. We usually finish by 12pm.

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

There may be changes to this schedule. Please go to www.stantonchurch.info for updates.

Highworth Methodist Church
Christmas BAZAAR
Saturday, November 11th
9.30am - 12.30pm
All the usual stalls
Refreshments served

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USEFUL CONTACTS

LOCAL CONTACTS

EMERGENCY

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Police, Fire, Ambulance | Emergency 999 |
| Gas | Emergency 0800 111999 |
| Electricity | Emergency 105 |
| Water | Emergency 0800 3169 800 |

NON-EMERGENCY

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Police | Non-Emergency 101 |
| NHS | Non-Emergency 111 |
| Pest Control | Non-Emergency 07789 781151 |

BUSES

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

COLLEGES

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

LAW & ORDER

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

COUNCILS

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

FIRE SAFETY

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Home fire safety check | 0800 389 7849 |
|------------------------|---------------|

DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS

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

LIBRARY

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Highworth Library | 01793 463500 |
|-------------------|--------------|

RECREATION

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Highworth Rec | 01793 762602 |
|---------------|--------------|

PHARMACIES

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

PRESCHOOL/NURSERY

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

SCHOOLS

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

TAXIS

| | |
|-------|--------------|
| Veezu | 01793 701701 |
|-------|--------------|

TRAINS

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

OTHER SERVICES

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

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