HighworthLINK

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





sales@lightingbug.co.uk | 01793 616018 www.lightingbug.co.uk Unit 16 Westmead Ind. Est. Swindon, SN5 7YT



sliding door wardrobes

- Over 30 years experience
- Made to measure wardrobes
- Bespoke interiors and bedroom furniture
- Large range of designs and styles
- Call for a FREE, no obligation, quotation

Visit your local showroom in Coleshill, by appointment

Call David on 01793 861584

www.superglidewardrobes.co.uk

10% OFF When you mention the Highworth Link Magazine



EDITORIAL

Welcome from the Editor

It's officially springtime! Does that gladden your heart? Warmer weather and more daylight hours should put a spring in your step. (See what I did there?) I've really been enjoying the beautiful displays around Highworth planted by Highworth In Bloom and I'm so grateful to all your volunteers for adding these small but significant touches to our town, not to mention all the lovely gardens we have around the place. You really are a talented bunch, and I've been loving all the daffodils and hyacinths in particular.



Hopefully these milder days are coaxing you out of your front door to walk and perhaps meet with friends. And if you're wanting to meet new people there's certainly enough good news in this month's issue to encourage you out and about. How about venturing out on the Scarecrow Trail? This popular annual event is such fun. Or there are clubs to attend and groups who are always needing volunteers. You could use the longer days to make a real difference to your community whilst also making a difference to your own health and wellbeing. Why not try?

The arrival of spring signals nature's rebirth. The trees are starting to green up, flowers are blooming and we're beginning to see some winter migrant birds returning. For my beautiful mother-in-law, it's the traditional time for a spring clean. To be fair, her spring cleaning begins on 2 January, and even in her late-80s saw her dusting behind the wardrobes, cleaning out all her kitchen drawers and cupboards and removing every pair of curtains for washing. Sadly, I have to confess I'm not so diligent, and yet there's something about spring which makes us seek a fresh start.

I hope you're able to spring into action and enjoy this month's issue!

achael

Front Cover image: Congerdesign from Pixelbay

APRIL MEMORY CAFE

NUMBER BINGO

Wednesday 24th April 2-4pm Highworth Community Centre

LOVE TO MOVE COMES TO THE CAFE

Let's discover the benefits of moving our bodies and engaging our brains with fun interaction and familiar music & win some prizes too!

For more info call Ruth 07970 543423 or email forgetmenot.highworthegmail.com

www.highworthlink.co.uk

BINGO

14 7 2

A Time to Celebrate

Easter was very early this year and celebrated right at the end of March. As we begin the month of April we continue with all sorts of other celebrations.

The first day of April is often seen as All Fools Day and the second of April marks the beginning of World Autism Acceptance Week – this is important to me as I have several people in my family who are on the autistic spectrum.

Easter, at its heart, is about a new start: The time of the year when we celebrate Jesus rising from death to bring new life to all who put their trust in Him. Jesus described our new start as being 'born again' or 'born from above'; a spiritual birth. This resonates with me as a dancing teacher as I often say to my classes 'take it from the top' meaning start again from the beginning.

A few days ago, I celebrated my first baptism in St. Michael's Church by welcoming the lovely Evelyn Adeline into the church family as she begins her journey of faith, marking a new start with her parents and friends.

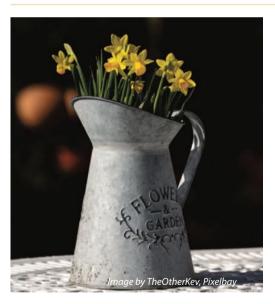
All of us at some point in our lives look back and wonder if we would have done things differently. We wish that we could begin again. The new start promised by Jesus is not just a dream that you wish for but has real substance –



a real hope. For every Christian it is a reality.

Contact me if you want to know more about this new start that's worth celebrating by emailing me at rector@stmichaelschurch.com.

Rev. Phil Goodey Rector of Highworth and Broad Blunsdon



Highworth Flower Club Springs Forth

On Thursday 4 April, 7:30pm, at Highworth Warneford School, Pam Lewis will delight us with her talk 'The World Awaits the Sound of Spring'.

Pam is a firm favourite of the club and she will bring a breath of spring with her flowers and foliage from her amazing garden. As a skilled blacksmith she often arranges in her own unique containers.

We hope you will join us in the school hall. Doors will open at 7pm with plenty of space in the school grounds for parking. Visitors are welcome at a cost of £5.

> Shirley Dalton-Morris T: 07798 817249 (Michele) W: www.highworthflowerclub.co.uk

To advertise in The Highworth Link contact

deb.hodgson@tiscali.co.uk or visit www.highworthlink.co.uk

Swindon Guide Dogs

We are holding a Great British Classics Night at The Crown Inn, Stratton SN3 4NL on Monday 15 April from 7pm (last orders at 9pm). The price is £9 for a main course with £5 of this going to Swindon Guide Dogs.

To book a table call The Crown on 01793 827530 or email thecrownstratton@gmail.com.

Please book early as this is a very popular event.



Supermarine Bowls Club Open Day

Editor: I was thrilled to be invited to chat with some of the team who run the Supermarine Bowls Club and ask them a few questions.

What can you tell our readers about the Club?

Supermarine Bowls Club, 'The Friendly Bowls Club', can trace its origins back to 1947 under the name of Vickers Sports & Social Club. Our name changed to Supermarine in 1985 when the Club



fun. We are always looking for new members, young or not-so-young, but we specifically welcome couples, new to the game, who want to participate in a sport together. Bowls is a game where males and females can compete on an equal footing.

moved to its present home. The clubhouse and the green are owned and maintained by members and we endeavour to make everyone feel welcomed.

Whether you are looking for a place to hone your line in competitive play, or a friendly and relaxing environment to give bowls a try, Supermarine has something for everyone.

When and where do you meet?

We meet at the Club on Supermarine Road, South Marston SN3 4BZ at various times depending on our fixtures.

Our club runs regular competitive fixtures for men, women, and mixed bowling in Club, District, and County matches. In addition, we play a number of friendly fixtures for those just looking to have some



How can LINK readers find out more about the Club?

We are holding an Open Day on **Sunday 12 May** where we will be offering free coaching sessions, practice sessions, target competition, and the opportunity to watch existing members play in our inaugural Mr. and Mrs. Supermarine Doubles Trophy. During the day refreshments will be available including beer supplied by Cotswold Lakes Brew Co.

More information is available on the website www.supermarinebowlsclub.co.uk.

If you are unable to make the Open Day we welcome new members to join us on **Friday evenings throughout the summer from 6pm.** No need to book, just turn up – bowls are available but please wear flat shoes.

Scouts Fundraising

This is a reminder that the Scarecrow Trail runs from **29 March (a day earlier than originally advertised) until 14 April.** We also have our annual quiz on **12 April.** The details for both events were in last month's issue of LINK Magazine but if you have any queries please contact david.roblin@highworthscouts.org.uk.

Debt Help Centre to Celebrate Ten Years



In May a free local debt advice service is celebrating a decade of helping many people and their families in Highworth and the surrounding area to sort out their finances.

Highworth Churches Together launched the Debt Centre in partnership with UK debt and budgeting help charity Christians

Against Poverty (CAP) in May 2014. While it celebrates ten years of delivering free debt help this year, the team has no plans to stop as the need for its services continues.

Claire Titcombe, Debt Centre Manager, said, 'Looking back at when we opened, we knew there was a need in the area but we were just blown away by how <u>much</u> we were needed. Energy prices and food bills are increasing – it costs so much to just buy the basics these days. So many people, even many who may have just managed before, are now struggling and we know our service is so vital'.

christians against poverty

CAP

'During the last decade we've been privileged to see over 200 households make appointments to be helped through unmanageable debt, hope restored, family relationships saved and lives changed for the better.'

Claire said, 'With our amazing team being local, they're able to provide a free, face-to-

face service with practical help such as food or fuel top-ups if needed, or a link to a food bank, as well as emotional support and encouragement. This is all backed up by our expert debt advice teams at CAP's head office. We want everyone else who may still be struggling to know that we are here to help them completely free of charge too.'

If you are struggling with your finances, you can find out more about what services CAP offers in your area by visiting www.capuk.org/help or calling 0800 328 0006 free of charge. You can also contact Claire directly to chat about CAP at clairetitcombe@capuk.org.

Play Prospect Hospice Spring Raffle

Be in with a chance of winning up to £3,000 in cash prizes. First prize – £2,000, Second prize – £500, Third prize – £250, plus five prizes of £50.

Raffle tickets are now on sale at just £1 each in Prospect Hospice charity shops or on our website at www.prospecthospice.net/raffle

To advertise in The Highworth Link contact

deb.hodgson@tiscali.co.uk or visit www.highworthlink.co.uk For those who are returning their tickets by post, the deadline for these reaching Prospect Hospice is Friday 19 April, with online entries closing on Wednesday 24 April. The draw will take place on **Friday 26 April 2024** and the winner will be contacted by the Prospect Hospice team. The money raised from the sale of spring raffle tickets goes directly to the hospice to help fund free end of life care for local people and support for their families.



25% OFF EVERYTHING

Only available until stocks last

Orafrio

4a Market Place Faringdon SN77HL Tel. 01367 244615 Tue-Sat 10-3pm

Ask AMS What are shares and dividends in a company?

Most Companies are 'limited' by shares, and ownership of the Company is represented by the number of shares held by shareholders. e.g. 20 of 100 shares = ownership of 20% of the Company. Typically, in shareholder meetings, one share = one vote. Shares also give the owner a share of the value of the Company when it is sold or wound up. Profits are paid out of the Company as dividends to shareholders when proposed by the Directors in proportion to shares held.

Directors proposing a dividend, should draft a 'Minute', and pay out the dividends to the shareholders: then they should issue a dividend voucher to each shareholder. For most small Companies, an accountant is consulted regarding the tax efficient split of shares between directors and their partners/spouses to ensure that minimum tax is paid.



Years

1923 - 2023



Hillier 100 Funeral Service Your Local Family Run Funeral Service

- Independent and Family Run
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Funeral Plans Available
- Comfortable Arrangement Room

Info@hillierfs.co.uk 01793 764337





7 Lechlade Road, Highworth, Swindon SN6 7HF





I have been in the Health and Holistic industry for over 40 years and have a passion for learning. After studying for the past 35 years to increase my knowledge of the science of the body and have gained qualifications in the therapies listed opposite.

I held a clinic for over 25 years alongside a group of practitioners that started one of the first Natural Health centres in the country, The Health Hydro, Milton Road, Swindon.

I am qualified and an insured member of the Federation of Holistic Therapies (FHT) for further information contact info@fht.org.uk

I am now retailing my popular Hand Creams once again. Some of you may recognise the aroma as I sold these in the little shop in Coleshill in the past.

The Dragonflies Therapies, 'Natural Hand Therapy' is a combination of natural ingredients that really help nourish your skin and can be beneficial for all parts of the body, especially dry, cracked skin on feet and hands.

Available from Visit Highworth Information, Craft Centre & Museum.

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT, CONTACT CATHIE: 07812 934361 • cathie@dragonfliestherapies.com 17 High Street (rear access), Highworth SN6 7AG www.dragonfliestherapies.co.uk

- Aromatherapy
- Reflexology
- Hot Stones Therapy
- Swedish massage
- Warm Bamboo Massage
- System Balancing using Kinesiology techniques
- Nutritional advice and food sensitivity
- Thermal Auricular Ear Candling
- The Bowen Technique
- Indian Head Massage and Chakra Balancing using natural crystals
- Foot treatments and Facials using Tropics' natural, 100% certified organic and vegan skincare products

Dragonflies will be open for visitors during Bank Holiday weekend on **Saturday May 4th** to celebrate being in business for 5 years. Please feel free to pop in and say hello **between 11 and 1** for a glass of bubbly and a complimentary hand massage with Dragonflies own brand of Hand Therapy Cream and pick up a **voucher offering 10% off treatments**.







Upper Thames and Ridgeway National Trust Association

With the confirmation of one or two items, the programme for our organisation for 2024 is now complete. We will go on one holiday to Pembroke in June, we will go on seven day trips to various National Trust properties and we will meet together to hear from six speakers on a variety of subjects in a variety of places.

Additionally, we have identified some mornings when we meet simply to drink coffee and talk amongst ourselves. Anyone out there who wishes to join us will be most welcome to all of our events.

Various members of our committee organise these events but a starting point to make enquiries is our secretary Derrick Beer on 01793 762070. We would love to see you.

Phil Eagle



Highworth Climate Talks

On 22 February, Jamie Carr of Blacklands Organics came to talk to a packed audience about what a sustainable food system may look like. Jamie explained that the key challenges facing farmers are climate change and the biodiversity crisis. Traditional farming methods are exacerbating both in the drive for efficiency and greater profit.

People spend an average of 8% of their income on food, which is the lowest it has ever been, but still over 8.4 million people in the UK are in food poverty. Some 95% of food sold comes from a supermarket and 60% is classed as 'ultra processed', which means it contains ingredients that you wouldn't have in your kitchen cupboard. The UK only grows about 50% of the food eaten here but we could grow 80%, which would reduce imports and the distance food travels before it is eaten.

The discussion groups saw three main themes emerging:

- We all need better education around food: Where it comes from; how it is grown; how it is processed, and what damage occurs to the environment during production.
- 2. People need more access to land for food growing. New housing developments should all have allotments available. The role of community allotments was discussed where groups of people take over a plot and share work and knowledge. Garden Share schemes used to be popular.
- 3. Local growers need more support and people need a closer relationship with their local growers to gain access to locally produced fresh food with a comunity workforce at peak times. This would enable growers to make a better living and give better access to local, high quality food for everyone.

Please note: Highworth Community Larder is open 8-11am each Tuesday at Westrop School and offers surplus food to anyone to prevent the food going to waste.

Volunteers Needed at NT Buscot and Coleshill Estate

- History tour guides for Home Farm
 Coleshill will be opening more often this
 year to give guided walks during the
 week to make good use of what we
 have developed. Being part of a group
 of volunteers gives plenty of flexibility
 to suit you.
- River and Wetlands Guardians Guardians will carry out water quality testing and monitoring and be the eyes and ears for the River Cole at the new Riverlands Project at Coleshill.
- Welcome and events volunteers
 Volunteers will support the Welcome
 Team at Badbury, White Horse Hill and
 Coleshill. This is a visitor-facing role, talking with
 members of the public about our places.
- Guides for Ashdown House
 Ashdown House is only open on Wednesday and
 Saturday afternoons, from April to October.

All roles have plenty of flexibility and training. Sign up for volunteer roles at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/volunteer

In other news, in the coming months we will be asking

Highworth Historical Society Talks

Spring is really here. Time to start enjoying walks and excursions.

On **Wednesday 24 April** we welcome back Bill King for the second part of his talk. 'A walk along the Thames Path'. This time we will be looking at the section from Oxford to Pangbourne. It follows the widening river as it passes through the beautiful Thames Valley.

Come and hear about the natural history and the ways that the river has influenced British history.

For those new to the town, we meet at St. Michael's Hall on Lechlade Road. The doors open at 7pm and the talk starts at 7:30pm. Visitors are always welcome for a charge of £3 – cash please.

If you need more information contact Chris on 01793 764811.

Chris Suter



Photograph 'Butterfly on Flower' by Martin Trewhella



National Trust what our communities want. We would like to hear your thoughts about what's on offer at your local National Trust and to share what we are doing. We want to know how we can best serve our local communities and we can't do that without your help.

Follow us on Facebook for the latest news.





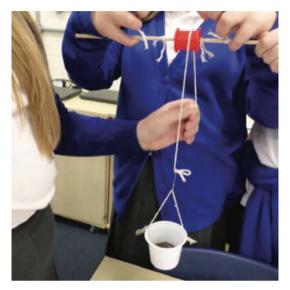
St Michael's Church Room (Behind the Church) 2nd Wednesday of every month 2.00 - 4.00pm



Hello Spring Time

There is no better time to sell your home, why not give us a call Tel: 01793 861663 e.sales@samuelmiles.co.uk

Southfield Junior School Champions Science



Year 5 are enjoying their 'Forces' science topic and have been investigating how different mechanisms, forces and friction act on one another and other objects.

Here is a short report from some of our Year 5 children and their Science Ambassadors to explain a little more.

Forces are split into two types; pushes and pulls. Our favourite experiments were the levers and pulleys (a test to see how easy it was to lift a load) and also the parachute experiment. This was a timed test of how quickly parachutes hit the floor depending on their size and the air resistance that pushed on the parachute. Gravity also played an important part in these experiments.





Eco Tip from Weigh It Up

At Weigh It Up we absolutely love Nancy Birtwhistle's green living hints and tips. One of our favourites is about stains on clothes. If your clothes have fruit juice, food stains, or grass stains, soak them overnight in a bowl of cold water with white vinegar – one-part vinegar to three-parts water. This should lift the stain easily.

Swindon / Avebury / Bourton T: 01793 329898 M: 07737 505243 Swindon / Avebury / Bourton Me run classes for all standards of swimmers from 4 to 12 years old at our venues in Swindon, Avebury and Bourton. We run classes for all standards of swimmers from 4 to 12 years old at our venues in Swindon, Avebury and Bourton. We follow the Swim England Learn to Swim and Reward Programme Stages 1-7 including Distance Awards. This progressive, structured approach means that we can build on children's progress to teach strokes and develop their all round water skills and confidence. We have been successfully teaching 4-12 year olds for over 15 years and have a wealth of experience of supporting children with different needs and swimming backgrounds including learning and physical disabilities. www.swimstars.org.uk

Nieve, Jessica, Canon and Tyler



Garrards Limited, joinery company specialising in manufacture, supply and installation of bespoke highquality joinery.

With over 20 years experience, Garrards Limited welcome the opportunity to undertake a bespoke, tailored service – designed and built specifically to suit the home and lifestyle of each client, bringing your ideas to life.

07854 509887 peter@garrardsltd.co.uk www.garrardsltd.co.uk









RES

No call out charge

All Plumbing & Heating

- Repairs, Maintenance
- Upgrades
- Bathroom Installations

Call or email today to discuss your needs and receive a free estimate!

01793 764815 07711 327585 enquiries@rowlandsenergysolutions.co.uk www.rowlandsenergysolutions.co.uk **Highworth SN6 7AU**

home stairlifts

Would a stairlift make your life easier

DID YOU KNOW ...

You can rent or buy a stairlift from us to suit most stair cases. We are a local company, with over 20 years' of experience in the industry.

Would you like to know more? Please call us on 07517 392118 or email us at info@home-stairlifts.co.uk

www.home-stairlifts.co.uk

Isis Chimney Care

Brush and vac chimney sweep Certificates issued Fully insured Bird guards supplied and fitted Solid fuel appliances installed

> Call Ali Swainston : 07729 834 864

www.isischimneycare.co.uk

Registered with Hetas

Accredited by:

www.guildofmasterchimneysweeps.co.uk



07790 377595

info@heritagebr.co.uk



Sarah Watch

& Andy Carter

32 High Street,

Highworth, SN6 7AQ

Dandelion Makina money make sense for you

- Investments, Pensions & Inheritance Tax planning
- Mortgages / Remortgages*/ Equity Release
- Life Insurance / Income Protection

Will writing and LPAs (via a separate Company) name may be repossessed if you do not keep up nems on your mortgage. There will be a fee of £300 afront for mortgage advice, £995 for Equity Release. E: office@dandelionfinancial.co.uk

01793 765153 W: www.dandelionfinancial.co.uk





Down to Earth

Garden Maintenance Ltd Grass Cutting, Planting, Landscaping, Tree surgery. Paths & Patios laid. Fences & Walls put up & repaired Hedges planted & pruned Mowers sharpened & Serviced. Rubbish removed. No Job Too Small: Free Ouotes & Estimates

PHONE GORDON & EMMA WHITE

(01285) 810445 or (07971) 668912



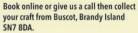
Office: 01793 354079

Mobile: 07947 993784

Small electric powered boats and cruisers for 2-4 hours. Larger electric and motor cruisers



for full day hire, holidays and short breaks.



No experience needed, we give you instruction before you depart.

For Boat Hire information visit our website book online, phone

or drop us an email. For Boat Sales.

Moorings, Marine Email: info@cotswoldboat.co.uk Services and Winter Storage contact Web: www.cotswoldboat.co.uk the office



Highworth Forget-Me-Not Funding Assured

As we enter our fourth year, we want to say a big thank you for the community support we have received over the last three years and want to thank everyone who has helped raise funds for us and made donations.

We are hugely pleased to announce that Wiltshire Community Fund have given the Forget-Me-Not café a grant

of £5,000 to cover the next two years' running costs of the monthly café at the Community Centre, the



weekly drop-in café at the Council Room, and the twice-monthly dementia friendly choir at St. Michael's Church.

Wiltshire Community Foundation

WCF is an independent charity that exists to tackle disadvantage and to

strengthen local communities by inspiring philanthropy and supporting the voluntary sector.

We are also very fortunate to have been given a £2,000



donation by Wincanton who provide logistics to B&Q. Wincanton gave great practical support and materials last year to help set up the dementiafriendly allotment in Park Avenue. This monetary donation will enable us to enhance the facilities and also support the planting and management of the allotment. Additionally, we continue to develop our choir provision and this money will allow us to support

any extra projects or activities in the future.

Our aims and values are to enhance the lives of others in our community and within the groups and projects that we run and we are extremely grateful to WCF and Wincanton for this valuable support.

In other news, we celebrated our fourth anniversary at our February café which was attended by over 60 people. We would like to thank Dumbledart's Bakery in Highworth who kindly provided another awesome cake, allowing us to celebrate in style.

> T: 07970 543423 (Ruth) E: forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com

Highworth Prepares to Hit the Airwaves

Around 50 leaders of voluntary groups, along with several interested individuals, crowded into a small room in Highworth's community centre on the evening of 21 February to learn about plans for a community radio programme focused on Highworth.

Deanne Rose, town clerk, gave an excellent presentation outlining the opportunity for Highworth to have its own monthly programme on Swindon 105.5FM and encouraged those present to consider how they could be involved as plans move forward.

Opportunities include recording and editing of sections for the programmes, promotion of forthcoming events, and planning programme content.

There was a lively Q and A discussion as Deanne, supported by Rachael Laing Smith, editor of



Highworth's LINK Magazine, answered questions to provide more detail and explore issues raised.

Deanne said, 'I'm thrilled that so many people came to hear about our plans for the radio programme and

showed real enthusiasm as we move forward. The heart of Highworth demonstrates itself in the way that people support and care for one another, and this radio programme is another opportunity for groups to work together whilst telling the world how fabulous Highworth really is!'

The current working party (made

up of representatives from Visit Highworth, Highworth Town Council and Highworth's LINK Magazine) is engaging with Shirley Ludford, station manager of Swindon 105.5FM, to provide training on recording and editing. A competition has been launched in Warneford School to create a logo for the programme.

Warneford School Charity Day

As a school community, we raised over £700 for our four chosen charities: CLIC Sargent; CALM; The Bearded Fisherman, and Winston's Wish. We hosted several successful events that were widely enjoyed by the students and staff.

Friday 9 February was a reverse non-uniform day where several staff came dressed in school uniform for the day. Some followed the dress code whilst others channelled their rebellious side and wore piercings, hoodies and trainers. Apart from the teachers paying for reversed non-uniform, the students also paid to come in non-uniform. This was a popular event and was loved by everyone at Warneford! All the students found the teachers' dress code really amusing and it was a great way to end the school term.

As a House, Hamptons also reached out to parents in the community asking for contributions to the local food bank; many parents and pupils generously donated items throughout the week. In the coming weeks we will be going to local Highworth food banks and distributing all our donated items.

> Another event we hosted was a Valentine's Day bake sale where pupils baked all sorts of goods to sell at break and lunch on Friday. Lots of people from all Houses baked cakes and cookies and



purchased other students' bakes. From the work of our bake sale alone, Hampton House made a massive £80. Thank you to the fantastic pupils who contributed their time and hard work to support our charities – this is greatly appreciated.

As a school body, Charity Days are so well received because they bring together all the pupils and the staff at Warneford. All the money we raise, from the efforts of every staff member and pupil, will be given to our four charities in the hope of making a difference. We would like to thank all parents, pupils, and staff for supporting our chosen activities.

> Florence Wiliams, Harry Etchells and Libby King Hampton House Captains



This month our drum roll announcement at Wrag Barn is that we have completed the refurbishment of our clubhouse. The two upstairs function rooms have been given a makeover by local firm Bench Mark who were responsible for the huge improvement of our Spike Bar. We are grateful for their professional but friendly approach and the fact that they are local is a real bonus. What was once dated and rather busy decor is now a calm and convivial space for parties, conferences and celebrations of life events. The views from our function rooms have always been stunning and now the light and airy interiors enhance the experience with the added benefit of air conditioning in the summer and efficient heating in the winter

Bar

Vrad

HAG BA

The ground floor Spike Bar was completed last spring and has proved to be very popular with our members and local walkers, who enjoy a cafe style menu in comfortable surroundings inside in the winter and on the terrace overlooking the 18th green in the summer. For anyone wanting to catch the latest sporting activities we have two large screen televisions showing all that Sky Sports has to offer.

It would be disingenuous not to mention Nick and Newman Floyd of IBMC Ltd who are members of Wrag Barn and were equally professional and efficient in the refurbishment of the downstairs changing rooms.

Everyone is welcome at Wrag Barn, you don't have to be a golfer to enjoy our social events or enjoy a coffee and lunch in the Spike Bar. We have been proud to witness many life events such as weddings, christenings and celebration of a life and one of the added bonuses is that parking is free. To find our more, please visit our website www.wragbarn.com or telephone 01793 861327.

Wrag Barn Golf Club Shrivenham Rd, Highworth SN6 7QQ Tel: 01793 861327



Lechlade Annual Vintage Rally and Country Show

From 4 to 6 May we will be holding the Tenth Annual Vintage Rally and Country Show at Langley Farm, Langley Lane, Clanfield OX18 2RZ. The event will commence at 10am each day.

Attractions include: classic cars – classic motorcycles – commercial vehicles – collections – miniature steam– tractors – model tent – classic caravans – fun fair – bouncy castle – animal sanctuary – bees – and much more.

Mini Ring events:

Saturday: Fun Dogs Show and Britannia Majorettes.

Sunday: Food Fairies for Street Dogs and Cats; 'Fun Dogs Show'.

Monday: Food Fairies for Street Dogs and Cats 'Fun Dogs Show' and Highworth Silver Band.

Boot sales – trade stands – craft marquee – refreshments – raffle and tombola all days

Free car parking and public camping is available for £17 per night (includes free entry to the Rally). Prebooking is essential and available from our website.

£6 for adults. £4 concessions. Under-16's can enter free with a paying adult.

T: 01993 843221 (please leave a message) E: info@lechladecollectorsclub.co.uk W: lechladecollectorsclub.co.uk Find us on Facebook

Highworth Methodist Church to Celebrate Anniversary

Highworth Methodist Church is planning several events to celebrate our 60th Anniversary of worshipping at the current site in Vicarage Lane. One of the events to be held in the church during the weekend of 14 and 15 December is an Angel Festival.

The church will be open for the community to visit and view the displays and throughout the weekend refreshments will be available. We also hope to have live music and a table for simple crafts for the children.

Schools, churches and community groups have been invited to take part in this exciting celebration by

making a display of angels using crafts of their choice.

Whilst December may seem months away, angels from individual crafters are also very welcome and we appreciate that some items could take months to prepare. Please get in touch if you'd like more details. We ask that any angels made are kept safe until the event and all angels will be returned to their makers. Look out for further details in the Highworth LINK Magazine later in the year with information of when angels may be brought to the church for displaying.

> Angel Festival Group Highworth Methodist Church

New Memorials Renovations Additional Inscriptions Email info@mjsly.co.uk Memorial Studio: 33 Morley Street, Swindon, Wiltshire. SN1 1SG Telephone 01793 511008 Open by appointment only Monday to Saturday *and evenings* Workshop and Studio: Pelham Court, London Road, Marlborough, Wiltshire. SN8 2AG Telephone 01672 516797

THE HIGHWORTH CLINIC

R.B.POPE B.Sc.(OST), D.O., M.A.O. C.S.OPENSHAW D.B.Ch. M.P.S.Pract

Qualified Practitioners, Treating Physical, Muscular & Chiropody Problems.

For Appointments Tel (01793) 763752 First Floor, 15 Sheep St. Highworth SN6 7AA

We Care Because You Care

Do you know someone who may have difficulty remembering things? Do you care for a family member, friend or neighbour? Have they been diagnosed with a specific condition?

It may be worth getting checked by a doctor as this can give access to preventative care and also support.

Are you aware that there is a wealth of local support available?

Swindon Carer Centre can provide assistance with some benefit applications, carers support and advice at www.swindoncarers.org.uk.

Do you enjoy watching films, going to the theatre, concerts or watching football matches? You may be able to get free essential companion places for a

nominal fee. Visit www.ceacard.co.uk for cinemas and www.accesscard.online for other venues.

The Swindon Dementia Action Alliance wants to create a community in Swindon that realises the aspirations of people living with dementia to live normal lives in a supportive, caring environment. Their website provides a point of reference for businesses and families to access resources. Take a look at www.swindondaa.org.uk.

For further signposting and for information about the support groups we run locally please contact the team at Highworth Forget-Me-Not Café.

E: forgetmenot.highworth@gmail.com T: 07970 543423 (Ruth) T: 07340 526797 (Ian)

See Something New with Visit Highworth



If you have visitors who would like to learn more about the rich and varied history of our wonderful town, why not consider signing

up to one of our guided town tours? Highworthians can join us too. We also take out larger groups, so if you are a member of a society or club who would like a tour let us know.

Now that spring is here it is time to join Neil George for a guided 'Wildlife Walk with a

Camera'. Neil, from Neil George Photography, is a wildlife photographer with over forty years'

experience. He is an avid wildlife spotter and has a vast knowledge of wildlife, both native to and visiting the



Support with trauma, anxiety, depression, life transitions, domestic abuse, family difficulties and other issues.

> Call 0773 309 3765 email teresaudell@icloud.com



British Isles. Come with your camera for advice on wildlife photography or simply come and see what you can spot. Contact the Centre for more information or to book.

Don't forget to visit our arts and crafts centre which supports over 40 local artists and makers and offers high quality handmade items, many of which were made right here in Highworth. We have new pieces arriving all the time so if you are looking for that special gift or a treat just for you, pop in. You'll find us on the High Street.

> Helen Lacey, Centre Manager E: info@visithighworth.co.uk T: 01793 764440 W: www.visithighworth.co.uk

HIGHWORTH & DISTRICT LION CLUBS	PRICE LIST —			
	LASHESNAILLash Lift and Tint£35Gel ManicureLash Lift and Tint Top andBIAB (Builder Gel)Bottom Lash£40BIAB with Gel Polis	£25 Manicure £30		
CHARITY SHOP in Newburgh Place	Lash Lift £10 Gel Extensions BROWS Gel / BIAB Toes Brow Wax £8 Soak Off Brow Tint £10 Nail Art	£35 / £40 £25 / £30 £10 £5		
<i>Open: Tues - Fri 9.00am - 4.00pm</i> <i>Sat 9.00am - 1.00pm</i> Help us to help others by donating your	Henna Brows inc. Wax £30 Includes To Brow Lamination Ombré / Powder E	£30 SEMI PERMANENT MAKEUP Includes Top Up Ombré / Powder Brows £300		
good quality unwanted items of Clothing, Bric-a-brac, Toys and small items of Furniture.	(inc. Wax and Tint) £30 PIERCINGS Hair Strokes (by m. Combination Brow Nose - Single Ear - Eyebrow - Dermal - Lip - Nipple - Belly £30 Lip Blush	•		
Call: 01793 766800 during shop hours Charity Namber 288090	Children's Ears · Pair of Ears £40 Skye Close, Highworth Control of Sage Beauty O Sage Seauty	ebeauty_nm		

Subscribe to a healthy smile with Bupa Smile Plan

Cover regular check-ups and hygiene appointments with bite-sized monthly payments*

Dental

Care

Bupa

Call Bupa Dental Care Highworth on 01793 762 231 or email Highworth@bupadentalcare.co.uk

*Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Payments are collected by monthly Direct Debit. Bupa Dental Care is a trading name of Oasis Dental Care Limited, Registered in England and Wales no: 00478122. Registered officer Bupa Dental Care Variage Office Park. Old Gloureeter Resol Humbrook, Profil United Villadom BSI6 1999



Scan for more

information



Forests, Books and Grandparents at Westrop Primary School

Forest School

Last term in Westrop Forest School the weather was extremely cold and wet but the children showed great resilience by building fantastic shelters, making bird feeders and cooking on the campfire.

Hedgehog class made cowboy and cowgirl stew on the campfire which was deeelicious!

Barn Owl class made bird feeders from recycled materials. It has been amazing to see how many different varieties of birds come into the Forest School area to use the bird feeders the children have made.

Grandparents Tea Party

On 7 February children in Westrop's KS1 choir sang at their first performance of the year for the grandparents of children in Years 3 to 6. The school council helped to serve cakes and refreshments while the choir entertained the audience. The grandparents commented on the friendly Westrop School Council Reading Ambassadors

Book Club

Last term the Reading Ambassadors held a Year 5 and 6 Book Club. This is the first one in a series and it is called 'Pages & Co: Tilly and The Book Wanderers'. The book is about a girl who can go and make friends with characters she finds in books

Most of the Reading Ambassadors would recommend the book to people who like reading adventure books. Book Club is about getting together, having fun and doing activities. We have been doing it with Deb Tremlin who used to be the librarian at Highworth Warneford School.

atmosphere and helpful students, and were very impressed with the singing!

Donations of over £240 were raised at this event so on behalf of Westrop staff we would like to thank everyone who attended the tea party.

Highworth Camera Club Stargazers

Highworth Camera Club welcomed Damian O'Hara from Swindon Stargazers to its February meeting. Damian gave us an interesting insight into astrophotography, from using mobile phones to large dedicated telescopic units. Damian took us through technical aspects of photographing the night sky and showed us amazing images of planets and galaxies near and far, explaining how different filters allow gases to show as colours on the images. Who knew the night sky is so colourful!

Club monthly competitions gave the members a good range of images to view and vote for favourites. The Club runs three competitions most months: Prints (a set subject and open for any subject), and a digital competition. Members' images can be seen on the club website www.highworthcameraclub.com. There is also a display of pictures in the window of the Physiotherapists shop in the High Street.

If you have an interest in photography you are welcome to come along to our meetings, which are held the **second Tuesday of every month** in the Highworth Community Centre, The Dormers SN6 7PQ. Swindon Stargazers also hold regular meetings in Liddington Village Hall on the second Friday of the month; new members are welcome. See their website for more details: www.swindonstargazers.com







HERITAGE TREE CARE Professional Tree Surgeons

Comprehensive Service Qualified Staff Fully Insured

- ✓ Pruning and Shaping
- Felling and Remov
- Hedge Cutting
- ✓ Stump Grinding
- ✓ Tree Planting

Free quotations and advice Call Ian Walding (N.C.Hort/N.D. Arb

01793 790210



Email: ian@heritage-treecare.co.uk www.heritage-treecare.co.uk

Discover a new world of safe, expert care from Home Instead

The amazing care you are looking for – in the comfort, familiarity and privacy of your own home.

We all want to continue to enjoy a fulfilled life. Even in older age. And that's where the experts at Home Instead can help.

Our award winning range of care services provides you with the constant reassurance that there is care and companionship in the home, every day.

All our care is tailormade for each person's current situation: helping out, giving personal assistance, providing real companionship. And it is always delivered by expertly trained people who also have a deep-down desire to care for others.

Whatever questions about care you might have, we have lots of answers to discuss with you. Contact us today to find out more how Home Instead can help you and your loved one enjoy a more fulfilled life.

Contact us today on 01793 988526 email: admin.swindon@homeinstead.co.uk www.homeinstead.co.uk/swindon/contact-us



Home Instead. To us, it's personal

Outstanding

CareQuality Commission

ARTS

Last in the Season for Highworth Community Cinema

Highworth Community Cinema's current season comes to an end this month. We will then be spending the summer putting together the programme for the new season commencing in September. If there is a film you would like to see, please send us an email with your suggestions for our consideration.

April's film, 'The Fabelmans', is a semi-autobiographical story loosely based on Steven Spielberg's adolescence and first years as a filmmaker, and will be shown on **Friday 26 April, 7:45pm**, at St. Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, Highworth SN6 7HQ.

The plot is told through an original story of the fictional Sammy Fabelman, a young aspiring filmmaker who explores how the power of films can help him see the truth about his dysfunctional family and those



around him. Growing up in post-World War II era Arizona, young Sammy aspires to become a filmmaker as he reaches adolescence but soon discovers a shattering family secret and explores how the power of films can help him see the truth. Part memoir, part ode to the power of the movies, 'The Fabelmans' finds Steven Spielberg digging at the family roots that helped make him a beloved filmmaker – and proves he hasn't lost his magic touch.

Cert 12A. Doors open 7:15pm. There is no membership fee and admission is £6 on the door. 50p for tea/coffee and biscuits.

> T: 01793 763907 E: highworthfilms@gmail.com W: www.highworthfilms.org.uk

The Arts Society Upper Thames

We would be pleased to welcome you as a visitor to our April lecture on 'The Arts of Paula Rego' with our lecturer Helen Oakden.

Many adore her art, few understand it. Rego's confusing and confrontational paintings mix fairy stories with the socio-political context of her family and her homeland. Helen Oakden will talk about Rego's life, the history of Salazar's rule in Portugal, and delve into detail into works from every period of Rego's life.

Helen is based in London and has previously worked for the Royal Academy and National Gallery, as well as leading specialised art history courses across Italy.

We will meet at Lechlade Memorial Hall on **Thursday 11 April**, **2pm**, BUT please register first at info@tasupperthames.org.uk.



- Children will benefit greatly learning through play and become confident, curious and self-motivated to learn.
- Highly qualified staff team with a wealth of experience Government Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year old
- We offer dedicated early years wrap around care from 8.00am to 5.00pm

----- If you would like to know more about us or arrange a visit please contact us

Contact: Westrop Primary & Nursery School Telephone: 01793 762897 Email: nursery@westrop.swindon.sch.uk Website: www.westropprimaryschool.co.uk

Never accept average.

If your accountant hasn't stepped up, maybe it's time for you to walk.

01793 380375 www.thenumbercrunchers.cloud



ACCOUNTS BOOKKEEPING TAX BUSINESS ADVICE

ARTS

Socks

Here we live comfy and safe in our drawer, Which pair will John choose today, we are not sure. 'He hasn't worn us for days,' say the reds 'We feel neglected – and there, that's said!'

Our blue and green pairs are still in the wash Getting excited during the splish, splash and splosh! Then up they'll hang to dry for a stretch, Along he'll come later for them now to fetch.

He's going out tonight To entertain, with magic and sleight, This can be fun as they gather above, People enjoying the tricks and magic that they love.

He seems to favour the reds and the blues, Us others feel disappointed when not in his shoes. Perhaps in time he'll come around And wear us too so we feel needed and proud.

When holidays are coming, we look forward to that, Suitcases out as they start to pack. But if the weather is very hot, It's bare feet and sandals and then we're forgot.

But safely home in our favourite drawer, We know John will be wearing us soon, that's for sure. We long to be useful and comfy in shoes, And hope that we reds, greens and blues will be the next pair that he'll choose.

John Williams



2024 Spring Exhibition

Saturday April 20th -Saturday April 27th 10am – 4pm every day

Highworth Artists' Society are proud to announce their 2024 Spring exhibition!

An exciting display of new work from our established and newer members in a variety of media.

Venue: Council Office Community Room, Gilberts Lane, Highworth SN6 3FB

Refreshments available, all visitors welcome

We're supporting



National | World Autism Acceptance Week 2 - 8 April 2024

World Autism **Acceptance** Week

CHARITY & FUNDRAISING

Celebrations and Thanks from Highworth & District Lions Club

Our 50th anniversary is fast approaching and we are looking forward to celebrating with our supporters and those in the community whom we support. If you would like to join us on 25 May at Wrag Barn, you need to be quick to book your place. Email me to ensure we have space for you.

Our charity shop has been incredibly busy since we opened up after our Christmas break. We are seeing so many amazing donations coming in and being snapped up straight away! If you have any donations please drop them into us anytime during our opening hours: 9am to 4pm Tuesday to Friday, and 9am to 1pm on Saturday.

Our amazing shop volunteers have been working extremely hard in the shop. Thank you for all your hard

work to keep the shop running so smoothly. We still have a few vacancies for volunteers in our shop, so please email me if you are interested and would like to know more.

We also have some exciting events coming up within Highworth. Please follow us on Facebook to find out more!

Here are some of our recent donations:

- Wiltshire Air Ambulance: £1500
- St Julia's House Wish List Project: £500
- Blunsdon Community Shop £600

Melanie Davenport, Secretary E: secretaryhighworthlions @gmail.com

To advertise in The Highworth Link contact



deb.hodgson@tiscali.co.uk or visit www.highworthlink.co.uk



An Evening with

RICHARD DIGANCE

Saturday 20th April 2024 7.30 pm at Highworth Community Centre The Dormers, Highworth SN6 7PE

Tickets: £15 per person available from Joan Webb, Tel: 01793 762853, joan.webb4@hotmail.co.uk or Highworth Visitors Centre, 7 High Street, Highworth

> Bar available All proceeds to British Heart Foundation



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.

www.haloleisure.org.uk



thalo

ANDREWS

Traditional Meal Ideas

HOT POT

Lancashire Hot Pot consists of lamb, onion and vegetables, topped with sliced potatoes and slowly baked at a low heat.

Food to go

AVAILABLE AT BOTH HIGH STREET SHOPS HIGHWORTH 01793 762085 MARLBOROUGH 01672 519915 SIMPLY SEARCH THE MEAL TITLE ONLINE FOR 100'S OF GREAT RECIPES

NNNAAA

Easter

Why do we have Easter Eggs?

There are lots of eggs during Easter because eggs represent new life and rebirth. The first chocolate eggs in England were produced in 1873 by J.S. Fry. Before that people would celebrate with actual eggs instead of tasty chocolate.

What Easter traditions have people celebrated over the years?

Easter has been going on for thousands of years. In the Medieval era eggs were not eaten during Lent but would be eaten on Easter Sunday (as a little Easter treat). During Tudor times, people would exchange eggs but also had a certain time when they would not eat eggs. During Victorian times, people would go on egg hunts, send cards to loved ones, and decorated their houses with bright flowers.

What are the Easter traditions of other countries?

In France you can enjoy egg hunts, chocolate eggs and rabbits, Easter feasts, a big egg toss (where everyone throws eggs at each other) and Easter markets. In Germany, Easter trees, painting eggs, baking (and eating) cakes, Easter bonfires, and egg hunts are celebrated traditions. The USA has egg hunts, parades, hot-cross buns, cards, chocolate eggs, and bunnies. Australia celebrates Easter a bit differently with an Easter bilby instead of a bunny – but they still have egg hunts and chocolate.

However you celebrated Easter, I hope it was lots of fun! Have a great April and I'll see you next month!

Constance Davenport

National Stress Awareness Month

Do you know that April is the Stress Awareness Month?

Reports say that people have felt more stressed since the COVID-19 restrictions and people admit to feeling more anxious and depressed than usual.

The main reason is because of the stress caused by lockdown with people still feeling isolated and disconnected from others or experiencing a lack of motivation.

Here are some tips to help if you're feeling stressed:



Practice mindfulness. You can find help with this online.



Be outside with nature. You can go for a walk or sit and enjoy a beautiful view.

Good night's sleep. If you struggling getting to sleep, try listening to an audiobook or calm music.



Make time for fun and laughter. Talk to family and friends.

Get some good exercise. Calm yoga or heartpumping running.



Spend less time on screens. Put your phone away and go for a walk, make a puzzle or play a board game!

I hope these suggestions are helpful.

Take care.

Sophie Nolan









Would you like an Eye Test at Home?



As a local family run mobile optician, VisionVisit can *come to you* for your eye test. Our fully qualified optometrist uses the latest eye test equipment to give you a precise prescription and thorough health assessment. Not only that, but the test is free with no call out, if you are covered by the NHS. We have a wide range of glasses, from budget to designer, delivered and fitted in your own home.



So if you struggle to get to your local optician or would just prefer a test within the comfort of your own home, call us now or visit our website for more details.

www.visionvisit.co.uk 01793 232 588



For all your vehicle sales and servicing needs



- Best choice of new Subarus in the UK with guaranteed best offers
- Great selection of many makes & models of pre-owned cars to fit most budgets
- S Excellent part exchange values given
- Low rate finance available
- Dealers for Dodge & RAM trucks

- All makes and model servicing from £179
- 😤 All makes MOT'd from £54.85
- Air Conditioning re-gas
- 🛎 Professional valeting
- Collection and delivery service
- Expert engine diagnostics

View our full range of cars and book your service/MOT at www.simpsons-cars.com

☐ 01793 767000
 ⊕ www.simpsons-cars.com
 ⊠ info@simpsons-cars.com



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



Swindon and District Motorcycle Club

One month on from January's Klindt Trial, Valentine's weekend saw the bikes back again, this time for the Brian Freegard Trial. With the high water levels only two days prior causing some initial concern, the irrigation work evident really helped things get back to normal in time.

44 Riders gathered for the briefing at the end of the old station platform and then headed off down the railway line to pick up the first of ten sections. Whist the water had abated, the banks were slippy enough to see plenty of fish-tailing as revs were needed to combat steep, wet ascents.

Section four was the most compelling, as the advanced riders dropped down into Bydemill Brook, made a 90° turn to hop over a willow tree limb, before another 90° turn lined them up for the exit – a skilful blast up the 45° embankment with exposed tree roots creating the devil's own ladder.

In contrast to the weather preceding the day, the riders were treated to beautifully bright and crisp conditions in which to complete their four laps and find their champions. Besting others in their respective categories, Jacob Young, Stephen Oram, Martyn Wilmore, Martin Goodall, Gordon Pusey, and Thomas Plank took home the spoils.

The club will be busy hosting other events in the coming months but will return to the railway line in July for the Wooster Trial; a perfect opportunity for anyone wanting to combine a Sunday morning stroll with an appreciation of skilful motorsport. All dates and events can be found on the club's website.

> Jason Daniels W: www.sdmcc.org.uk

Shrivenham Cricket Club (Est 1854) with a runs-ma

Our AGM was held on Valentine's evening (of all days) and it was well supported, but not by many players. There were a few new names added to the committee, with a new Vice Captain elected, namely Manor Perera, in place of Simon Carr. Our weekly net sessions have now begun at Pinewood School, Bourton, on **Wednesday evenings**, commencing at 8pm.

During the 2023 season we played 14 out of 18 games winning nine and losing four, with one abandoned because of the weather. We finished third out of ten teams in Wiltshire's County Cricket League (Division 6)



with a runs-made-to-wickets-taken ratio of 23.24 (our opponents were 16.80).

Our season begins on **Saturday 4 May** against Goatacre 3 away and our first home match is against Chippenham 4. If you fancy having a go, then join us at indoor nets on a **Wednesday**. Highworth once had a cricket team and we always had two fixtures against them on a Sunday. When Highworth's cricket club folded, we did not hear from anyone still wanting to play; where did they all go?

> Julian Stevens W: www.wccl.org.uk



SPORT

Highworth Running Club



Depending on when you read this in April, there may still be time to get involved in the town's annual springtime running race. Starting at **11am on Sunday 7 April**, the heroes of Highworth will

Photograph courtesy of Aar whittington

disappear along Shrivenham Road, turn down Fresden Lane and head back to the town to enjoy the dizzying heights of Eastrop Hill before finding the finish on Warneford School's playing fields.

Refreshments will be available for runners and spectators alike, with all entrants receiving a race memento for their efforts. The club would love to have you join us. Please arrive in time to register and warm up.

Jason Daniels W: www.highworthrunningclub.co.uk

Highworth Bowls Club

During last season it was apparent that the green edges needed repair, but having seen some of the quotes from professional companies which we just could not afford the green maintenance team decided that they would complete the work themselves. To start, we needed a turf cutter to complete the initial cutting to a uniform depth of 40mm to ensure we took as much root growth as possible to promote best recovery when we replace the turf. We cut three rows of 12 inches to make certain we captured the very start of the collapse on the green edge. We were unable to roll the turf due to the sandy nature of the green; turfs needed to be slid onto a board before moving, and then slid off to avoid the turf breaking. We

removed the old rotten wood and prepared to install the new composite board and infilled with 80/20 mix (sand/soil) to bring the level up to the composite board. We then replaced the turf with care using the boards to make sure the pieces did not break, and once turf had been laid we continued to fill the gaps by seeding and top dressing. A huge credit to the working party of Bob Wilson,



John Tomkins, John Jordan, Shaun Hicks, Phil Lane, Kevin Brown, Kieron Pollock, Al Cummings, Colin Aldridge, John Spencer, and Neil Biles. Without their commitment this could never have been achieved within the two days. Thanks also to Martin Biles (Decking Specialist) for his support in providing the large amount of composite decking needed to complete the repair.

> Kevin Brown W: www.highworthbowlsclub.org



Highworth Town Walking Football

Congratulations to our Over-65's who finished top of the Thames Valley Walking Football League's Division 2 at their first attempt! After all 20 games, they lost only two, drew three and won 15. A great performance from the whole squad, most of whom were there on the final round of games in February to collect the trophy.

If you are interested in playing competitive or social walking football, men's sessions are held on **Thursdays and Sundays 11am to 12pm** both 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 interested please contact me for more details.

> Graham Seeley M: 07769 703702 E: highworthwfc@outlook.com W: www.highworthwfc.com

Wrag Barn Golf Club

Wrag Barn Ladies raise money for the Highworth Community Larder. Finding new ways to raise money for local charities and good causes seems to come easily to the ladies section at Wrag Barn and the instructions for the competition to raise produce for the Highworth Community Larder were on the club app as follows:

- 18 Hole Leap-Year Competition.
- Organised by past Captains in aid of the 'Highworth Community Larder'.
- No entry fee, just bring non-perishable food donations to the value of £2.50 prior to the competition.
- This is a fun competition, just sign up and enjoy!

On the day, the format allowed for an extra shot every fourth hole, with scorecards handed to Molly and Pam for collation. Once all rounds were completed, prizes were presented in the Spike Bar.

Recipients of their well won prizes were: First - Sue



Pritchard (39 points), Second – Jan Le Cheminant (36 pts), Third – Suzanne Hunt (34 pts), Fourth – Molly Barby (33 pts), Fifth – Sarah North (32 pts), Sixth – Sue Dodd (31 pts) and Seventh – Ross Cliff (30 pts on count-back). All went very well indeed thanks to the efforts of past Captains. Please do check out our website for more information about the club and its events.

Verity Manners W: www.wragbarn.com

Shrivenham Park Golf Club

Unusual happenings at the club: Course flooding! This has unfortunately meant the course has been closed on some days – most unusual. We pride ourselves on always being open, even when other courses are closed, so the management do apologise for this. At the time of writing, we haven't learnt how to control the weather despite some folk saying *'it never rains on a golf course'* and it certainly has been a year for the waterproofs. Please always check the internet or 'phone us if in doubt. With Easter now behind us the weather will be warming up with sunny weeks lying ahead, surely.

However, there have been competitions held at the club this winter for the brave. In early February, Paul Foster and Dave Hutton took the Winter Stableford with 42 and 39 points respectively, before Nick Goodwin (37 points) and Chris Spicer (35 points) did the same in late February.

The new club year officially starts this month after Danny Spicer and I will have played the first shots off the first tee on Palm Sunday as part of the Captain's 'Drive-in'. Also this month, the Social Putters will resume their afternoon sessions, and the first is the annual Parkies Pals competition starting at **2pm on 12 April.** There is a £3 fee with a raffle, donation box, and trophies for both the best putting scores. Tea is also provided. Do come and enjoy the afternoon.

Junior coaching has proved difficult so far this year due to the poor weather, however it is hoped that a more regular pattern can now be sustained with dates this month planned for **13**, **20**, **and 27 April**, with lessons starting at 10am for £5 a lesson. Please meet by the putting green ten minutes prior. There will be a Junior Open competition in the summer. Pease text me for more details. SPGC welcomes all to come and enjoy the great outdoor game.

Lastly but not leastly, another one of our events that has been extremely well attended and appreciated is our Sunday Lunches. One, two, or three courses are on the menu each time, with takeaway options also available. Please get in contact to find out the dates these are running each month. Courtesy and thanks to Richard and the catering/bar steward team.

Carole Lee T: 01793 784 853 M :07467 657 964 W: www.shrivenhampark.co.uk

Highworth's Premier Hire Venue

F-**C** HIGHWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Family Gatherings Wedding Receptions • Conferences Club and Society Meetings • etc...



Details of our wide and varied activities are on our website

www.highworthCommunityCentre.Co.uk

01793 765408

and leave a message

bookings@highworthCommunityCentre.Co.uk

HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL





Highworth Town Council recently adopted the telephone kiosk on Grove Hill. We are pleased to report we have been gifted a life saving defibrillator from The British Heart Foundation and Harman Electrical very kindly installed it in the telephone kiosk free of charge!



COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

Our Community Litter Pick on Sunday 4th February was a great success, thank you to all those who volunteered their time.

If you would like to join us on the first SUNDAY of the month, meet the team outside the council offices at 10am.

The next few dates are as follows: SUNDAY 3RD MARCH 2024 SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 2024 SUNDAY 5TH MAY 2024







SATURDAY 4TH MAY 2024 10AM TILL 4PM

Come along and join us for some carnival fun. The High Street will be closed to all traffic whilst we host our May Day Event



over 60 independent stalls Licensed Bar Food Outlets Children's Entertainment Live Music Face Painting Farm Animals Morris Men Balloon Artist



REPRESENTATIVES

News from Highworth's Mayor



February was a lean month for mayoral activities. The only official visit was to celebrate the first anniversary of Highworth Larder by cutting their birthday cake. Serving an average of 80+ clients per month, with a record

Tuesday of 106, is an incredible achievement over such a short time and it benefits all the residents of Highworth who choose to use it.

The story does not end there. Whilst at the celebration I met a family of helpers: Mum, Dad, and their two daughters, Mary and Marcia (not their real names). Mary is aged around 7 and Marcia aged 10. I had a lovely chat with the girls who I have seen before at Southfields School. They are obviously keen to help and I thank their parents for encouraging them.

On the following Sunday, the same family were there again helping with the first Highworth litter pick of 2024. It was a delight to see them and I applaud their enthusiasm to give back to the community that nurtures them. What fantastic future ambassadors they are!

My day did not end there. In the afternoon of the litter pick I went to the Community Centre. Who was there at the Book Club but Mary and Marcia, along with mum! Having a considerable supply of nearly new children's books, I invited the Book Club members to help themselves. The rule was, 'Take as many books as you like, but you must pass them on to your friend or to your school when you have finished with them.' Marcia, I noticed, had collected an armful. Why? She said, 'I have picked these out for my friend because I know she likes them.' Another simple but unselfish act.

Their parents must be so proud of their children and their unselfish attitude.

I know I am.

Keith Smith Mayor

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

Anthony Houghton, 40 The Dormers, Highworth, Swindon SN6 7NZ 01793 266473 Mob: 07880 793062 anthony.houghton@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Simon Apps, Ambar Cottage, 12 Swindon Road, Highworth SN6 7SL 07850 468095 simon.apps@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Gemma Dennis, 34 Sevenfields, Highworth, Swindon SN6 7NF 07743 859874 gemma.dennis@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

lan Durin-Duffy, 78A Westrop, Highworth, Swindon SN6 7HJ 07821 937159 ian.durninduffy@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Nick Gardiner, 12 Coffin Close, Westrop SN6 7HA 01793 226337 nick.gardiner@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Lesley Gow, 23 Queens Avenue, Highworth, Swindon SN6 7BA 07840 273750 lesley.gow@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Fraser Haines, 222 Windrush, Highworth, Swindon SN6 7EE 01793 861109 Mob: 07939 032451 fraser.haines@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Natalie Key, 30 The Willows, Highworth, Swindon SN6 7PG 07971 485359 natalie.key@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Julie Murphy, Rosedene, Inglesham SN6 7RA 07803 602568 julie.murphy@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Paul Newton-Smith, 41 The Dormers SN6 7NZ 07939 467907 paul.newton-smith@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Graeme Olley, 97 Eastrop SN6 7PP Work: 01793 763700 graeme.olley@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

> Kenneth Saunders, 343 Windrush SN6 7EF 01793 763071 Mob: 07968 640136 ken.saunders@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Steve Weisinger, 8 Barra Close SN6 7HX 01793 764668 Mob: 07791 122843 sweisinger@swindon.gov.uk

Richard Williams, 7 Park Avenue SN6 7AW 07789 781151 richard.williams@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Nick Gardiner, 12 Coffin Close, Westrop SN6 7HA 01793 226337 Mob: 07392 871243 Ngardiner3@swindon.gov.uk Vijay Manro, 38 The Dormers SN6 7NZ

07545 429367 vmanro3@swindon.gov.uk

Steve Weisinger, 8 Barra Close SN6 7HX 01793 764668 Mob: 07791 122843 sweisinger@swindon.gov.uk

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

CHURCHES

St. Michael's Church Highworth

The church is open daily for private prayer.

10:15am Sunday Service

We meet in church and stream live at *www.twitch.tv/stmichaelshighworth* or on YouTube by searching St. Michael's Church Highworth.

Morning Worship is held on the **first, third and fifth Sundays of the month**. Holy Communion is held on the **second and fourth Sundays of the month**.

8:45am Holy Communion On the first Sunday of the month.

10:15am Midweek Communion On the **third Wednesday of each month**, from 11am. Coffee and cake will be served from 10:15am.

Prayers

Tuesday Prayers are held every Tuesday morning at 9am.

Friday Blessings are held every Friday morning at 9:15am.

Prayer Hour is held in the Church Room at 8pm on the second and fourth Mondays of the month.

Concerts in St Andrew's Shrivenham

Saturday 20th April 2024 7:30pm A Variety Concert

In celebration of St George's Day, Featuring an array of local talent. More details to follow

Tickets available on 'Eventbrite' or available from the Shrivenham Post Office

St Andrew's Church, Church Walk, Shrivenham SN6 8AQ www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

Please check our website for more information about this month's activities and email our office if you have any questions.

Floodlighting forms are available from St. Michael's Church office, Vicarage Lane, or the Church website at www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk/floodlighting. Your dedication will appear in this magazine.

All submissions to the Church Office by Friday 29 March for the May 2024 publication.

E: office@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk W: www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

St. Leonard's Parish Church Stanton Fitzwarren

Sunday 7 April	Morning Praise, 9:30am
Sunday 14 April	Family service (Doubting Thomas), 11am
Sunday 21 April	Team Service at St.Leonard's, 10am
Sunday 28 April	Holy Communion, 9:30am (followed by our Annual Parochial Church meeting to elect Church wardens and PCC)

Stanton Coffee morning will be on **Wednesday 17 April** at Stanton House Hotel. We will meet at 10:30am for coffee and a chat before our speaker tells us about Pattern Church. We aim to be finished by 12 noon.

The church building will be open on every Wednesday in school term time from 10am to 4pm, or 'phone 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 programme. Please go to www.stantonchurch.info for updates.

IAN NICKELS PLASTERING All work inside/outside • RENDERING • COVING • CEILINGS • WALLS

SKIMMING INSURANCE WORK Over 40 years' experience – apprentice serviced For all your plastering needs

IanNickels66@hotmail.com • Tel: 07790 273725

To advertise in The Highworth Link contact

deb.hodgson@tiscali.co.uk or visit www.highworthlink.co.uk



Apprenticeship Served Advanced City & Guilds Qualified Free Estimates Call (01793) 764983



Millbrook House, Westrop, Highworth SN6 7QH leenewsonelectrical@yahoo.com 07860 622122

www.highworthlink.co.uk

robertbowles86@vahoo.com

07713 857957

01793 762 929

Gas I Electricity I Water I BUSES Stagecoach Swindon Thamesdown Transport 01793 Dial-a-Ride 01793	Emergency Emergency Emergency Emergency	999 Po 0800 111999 NH	DN-EMERGEN lice IS st Control	Non-Emergency 10 Non-Emergency 11	-
Gas Electricity El	Emergency Emergency Emergency	0800 111999 NH 105 Pe	IS	Non-Emergency 11	1
Electricity Water BUSES Stagecoach Swindon 01793 Thamesdown Transport 01793 Dial-a-Ride 01793	Emergency Emergency	105 Pe			-
Electricity Water BUSES Stagecoach Swindon 01793 Thamesdown Transport 01793 Dial-a-Ride 01793	Emergency Emergency		st Control		789 781151
WaterIBUSESStagecoach Swindon01793Thamesdown Transport01793Dial-a-Ride01793	Emergency			tion Energency •	/ 0/ / 0/ / 0/
Stagecoach Swindon01793Thamesdown Transport01793Dial-a-Ride01793					
Thamesdown Transport01793Dial-a-Ride01793		DOCTORS AND HOSPITALS		SCHOOLS	
Dial-a-Ride 01793	3 521415	Highworth Surgery	01793 762218	Eastrop Infants	01793 763772
biar a filac	3 428400	Elm Tree Surgery, (Shrivenham)	01793 782207	Southfield Junior	01793 762210
Community Transport 01793		Great Western Hospital	01793 604020	Westrop Primary	01793 762897
	3 617828	LIBRARY		Warneford Secondary	01793 762426
Traveline 0871.2	200 2233		01702 462500	,	
COLLEGES	' '	Highworth Library	01793 463500	TAXIS	
Cirencester College 01285	5 640994	RECREATION		Veezu	01793 701701
New College 0808	172 4445	Highworth Rec	01793 762602	TRAINS	
Swindon College 01793	3 491591	PHARMACIES		National Rail Enguiries	03457 484950
LAW & ORDER		Highworth Pharmacy	01793 762220	Great Western Railways	03457 000125
		Home Farm Pharmacy	01793 861392	Disabled and Assisted Travel	08001 971329
11		Jones Graham Pharmacy	01755 001552		
		(Shrivenham)	01793 783336	OTHER SERVICES	
COUNCILC		·		Citizens Advice Bureau	08444 994114
COUNCILS		PRESCHOOL/NURSERY		Trading Standards (business)	0207 830 6000
	2 4 6 2 2 2 2	Eastrop Nursery	01793 763772	Trading Standards (consumers)	
	a	Westrop Nursery	01793 762897	Alcohol and Drug Service	01793 695405
		Westgate Nursery		Pest Control	08000 988652
FIRE SAFETY		School & Crêche	01793 861268	Samaritans	01793 537373
Home fire safety check 0800		South Marston Pre-school	01793 823379	Women's Refuge	01793 610610

Highworth LINK magazine Published under the auspices of Highworth Churches Together.

Publishers: The Leadership of Highworth Churches Together

Editor: Rachael Laing Smith E: editor@highworthlink.co.uk

Production: Simon French T: 07716 197236

E: highworthlink72@gmail.com

Advertising: Debbie Hodgson E: advertising@highworthlink.co.uk

Highworth Distribution: Clive Hall T: 07801 365282 E: clive7045@btinternet.com

Peter Croton T: 01793 762025

Villages Distribution: Keith Ratcliffe T: 01793 861122

Treasurer: Terry Williams

Highworth Link, c/o The Bridge Centre, 8a Sheep Street, Highworth SN6 7AA Highworth LINK magazine is published monthly except in January and August.

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

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

Contributions:

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

Email is preferred; otherwise deliver to The Bridge Centre.

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

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

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

Deadlines:

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



COMPANY

Relax in style

... in a bathroom you've always dreamed of.

No matter what style you prefer we can help create the perfect space for you to relax and enjoy after a busy day.

Contact us for more information 01367 235989 info@lavenderbathrooms.co.uk



12 Months Interest Free Finance Option...

...on all boiler installs!

Helping spread the cost of a new boiler with our finance options. We are accredited Worcester Bosch and Alpha Boiler installers with hundreds of happy customers. Check out our 5* Google Reviews!

For more information, contact us now on ...

01367 252807 info@purpleplumbingpeople.co.uk

*Subject to finance checks and our T&Cs

www.highworthlink.co.uk

ORCESTER

BOSCH

Accredited Installer



We Install A Wide Range Of Inspiring Products To Suit Your Every Need





Windows • Doors • Roofline (Fascia, Soffit & Guttering) Conservatories • Conservatory Roofs • Bifold Doors Cladding • Secondary Glazing

No Gimmicks - Just Honest Prices



f



Request your free quote today! 01793 727 668 info@wiltshirewindows.co.uk

www.wiltshirewindows.co.uk

YOUR LOCAL, GENUINE, FAMILY RUN COMPANY

Coming Soon - Showroom Opening!