



THE MAGAZINE FOR THE WHITWORTH COMMUNITY, PRODUCED BY WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL



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IN THIS EDITION:

Band Academy... Business News... Golf at Lobden... Keeping Safe this Winter... Whitworth Dates for your Diary... School Report... Churches info... Historical Society and Museum... Shop Local events... useful contact details... Local Trades List... Band news... Message from the Mayor... news from our community organisations... and much more!

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Well it's now been six months since Susan and I took over the office of Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth and what a busy time it has been. One of the events we were privileged to attend was the launch of the Springhill Hospice 2015 calendar; this was made all the more special because a member of the Whitworth Photographic Society (of which I am Chairman) managed to bag the March and October pages with his photos. Springhill Hospice is one of the organisations which will be a recipient of any money that the Mayor's Charity Fund raises, and Sue and I were pleased to attend the Hospice's 25th Anniversary Ball at Rochdale Town Hall. Nearer to home we have attended many functions in Whitworth, one of which was the annual Rushcart; it was a great success with more and more people attending than ever before, making it a great day out, and I give thanks to the Tourism and Leisure Committee for their efforts.



The Mayor and Mayoress at One Night of Abba; photo by Bob Srinivas

Other highlights include the bikers from the Red Lion returning from their fundraising bike ride from Blackpool; the send off of the people from the Cock and Magpie who did the Three Peaks fundraising challenge; presenting the trophy to the winner of the Spodden Bowling knockout competition; a coffee afternoon at Greenbrook House for the MacMillan nurses; officially opening the Butterfly Room at the Fudge Factory, and too many more to mention. By the time you read this, our Festival of Remembrance Concert to commemorate the beginning of WW1 will have taken place and also Remembrance Sunday; these events always bring out the best in Whitworth people, who come along to these functions in large numbers, and I am fiercely proud of everyone who attended. Our Charity event, One Night of Abba, was well attended and we raised £1,200 for my charity fund - a big thank you is extended to all who attended and contributed prizes for the auction and raffle.

Susan and I have thoroughly enjoyed our first six months and we are looking forward to the next. We would like to invite you all to attend the events taking place in our wonderful town in the coming weeks. Finally, Susan and I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

With all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Mellor".

Councillor Jim Mellor, Mayor of Whitworth



This community magazine is produced by Whitworth Town Council. It is distributed to Whitworth homes and businesses four times a year. Editorial content is free of charge; advertising rates can be provided upon request.

DISCLAIMER: Whitworth Town Council cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of any information provided for submission by outside organisations, the content of adverts within the magazine, or the quality of services offered by advertisers.

MORE INFO: Karen Douglas, Town Clerk (tel: 01706 852018 / email: info@whitworth.gov.uk)

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WHITWORTH BAND INVESTS IN THE FUTURE WITH ITS VERY OWN BAND ACADEMY

Whitworth Vale and Healey Band has run a successful youth programme for years, with many youth band players going on to play in the senior band. Now this commitment has gone one step further with the formation of the Whitworth Band Academy, providing Whitworth primary school children with the opportunity to learn to play a brass instrument, supported by members of the Whitworth Band organisation. At the end of ten weeks the Youth Band plays alongside the Band Academy students in a concert for parents and friends. The first school to benefit was St Bartholomew's CE Primary, where the academy was hugely successful, and in September the academy moved to Our Lady and St Anselm's RC Primary.

This considerable investment into Whitworth's young people has been part funded by donations the band received in memory of former Whitworth Vale and Healey Band president, Jimmy Grogan. Jimmy - Honorary Townsman and former Mayor of Rossendale and Whitworth and a band champion - had a real passion for the youth band's development. The Academy is run by Aaron Wolfe and Owen Garbutt, both graduates of Salford University that grew up in Whitworth and benefited from playing in the Youth and Senior Bands. They are keen to help the band to develop similar opportunities for today's schoolchildren.

WHITWORTH TABLETOP GAMES



Photo by Mike Burgess, used with kind permission

Whitworth Tabletop Games is a new fortnightly club, held on Sunday afternoons, for all ages with the aim of providing the opportunity to be involved in all aspects of the tabletop gaming hobby. This includes playing the game and providing advice on painting and collecting miniatures. The main games played are Warhammer and Warhammer 40,000, a fantasy sci-fi combat game; X-Wing, a miniatures game where you can recreate battles from the popular Star Wars franchise; and Deadman's Hand, where you can revisit the old west in a fun skirmish game, as well as traditional board and card games. For more information please phone 01706 854491 or go to www.facebook.com/whitworthtgc. The next events will take place on Sunday 16 and Sunday 30 November 12pm – 3pm at Whitworth Scout Hut.

SHAWFORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Everyone is welcome at Shawforth Methodist Church.

To hire the Chapel, or a room in it, please contact Christine on 01706 854172.

8 November: **Christmas Fair with Christmas Dinner** and various stalls

Watch out for the **Friday Cinema Nights:** 28 Nov & 19 Dec

See page 13 for list of Christmas services

Plus, regulars:

Sunday Services: 10.30am

Toddler Group Wed & Fri: 9.30am-11.30am

Friday Drop In: 10.30am-12noon - why not call in for a brew and toast and a chat?

Ladies Group: 7.30pm (last Tues in the month)

Coffee & Lunches: 11.00am-1.00pm (2nd Sat in the month)

WHITWORTH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL: 50TH ANNIVERSARY



In 2015 Whitworth Community High School will be 50 years old! The school wants to commemorate this milestone in its history in a number of ways, including creating a display of photographs and memorabilia from the school's early days – and would like to ask anyone who was a student or member of staff when the school opened in 1965 to get in touch and to perhaps let the school borrow any photographs or interesting items they may have kept from that era. They are keen to involve colleagues from the 1960s in helping with the celebrations, which will include a Coffee Morning and tour in the week beginning Monday 12 January 2015. Please contact Mrs Banham at the school on 01706 343218 / email: i.banham@whitworth.lancs.sch.uk.

KEEPING SAFE AND ACCESSING SERVICES IN WINTER WEATHER

The Town Council works alongside Rossendale Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, Green Vale Homes, Help Direct, the NHS and the emergency services to keep people safe and maintain services in the event of severe winter weather. Here are some useful contacts to keep to hand. And don't forget: if you have an elderly or vulnerable person living close to you, please check on them during the cold winter months – it really can make a huge difference. Thank you.



Photo by Mike Burgess, used with kind permission

GENERAL ADVICE AND INFORMATION: Help Direct

Tel: 0303 333 1111 Monday – Friday, 7.30am – 6pm and Saturdays 9am – 1pm (1p per minute from a landline; mobiles may vary).

Email: enquiries@helpdirect.org.uk

www.helpdirect.org.uk

GRITTING / GRIT BINS: Lancashire County Council

Tel: 0300 123 6780

Email: highways@lancashire.gov.uk

www.lancashire.gov.uk or [www.twitter.com/lancashirecc](https://twitter.com/lancashirecc)

REFUSE COLLECTIONS: Rossendale Borough Council

Tel: 01706 878660 (refuse collection service)

Email: refuse@rossendalebc.gov.uk

www.rossendale.gov.uk or [www.twitter.com/rossendalebc](https://twitter.com/rossendalebc)

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- Green Vale Homes: tel 0300 555 5556, email enquiries@greenvalehomes.co.uk or visit www.greenvalehomes.co.uk
- Whitworth Town Council: see contact details on outer back page
- Visit www.direct.gov.uk and search for 'Keep Warm Keep Well'
- Local weather and traffic reports on BBC Radio Lancashire (95.5FM and 103.9FM)

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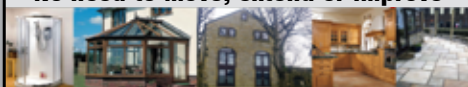
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WHITWORTH LIBRARY

As the nights draw in, Whitworth Library will be holding a number of free, fun events and activities through the autumn and winter for adults and children, including....

For Children:

- Stories and crafts suitable for pre-school children every Tuesday at 2.15pm and Friday at 10am.
- Bedtime Stories on the second Monday of the month (next one: 8 Dec): stories, singing, milk and toast – your children can come in their pyjamas and go home ready for bed!

For Adults:

- Knit and Knatter group every Monday at 2pm: meet to discuss crafting, knitting and sewing over a cuppa and a biscuit.
- Scrabble Club every Tuesday from 10am.
- ALSO: Poetry and Prose Slam, Friday 19 December, 2pm: every Christmas the Library holds this event, where Library users and staff bring along and share their favourite poetry and prose. Cake, mulled wine and fun provided.

Other events to be announced in due course. To find out more, pop along to the Library on Lloyd Street, phone 0300 123 6703, email whitworth.library@lancashire.gov.uk or visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries.

“IS THERE NOT MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?”

If this is a question you find yourself asking then consider going along to Anglo Family at 6pm on Monday 12 January. The company is hosting the renowned Alpha course - an introduction to Christianity. They welcome you to join this introductory meal - with no further commitment unless you want it. Over 3 million people have attended this course, aimed at non-churchgoers in the UK and overseas, and this course is a collaboration between most of the Whitworth churches. Simon Macaulay from the Anglo Family group says: “We’ve been having regular meetings for Anglo’s Christian group led by local Ministers for a couple of years now, and I’m delighted that Rev Carolyn White (Halford United Reformed Church) together with Rev Lyn Woodall (St Bartholomew’s / St John’s) and Rev Helen Johnson (The Lighthouse) have agreed to lead most of the sessions. However, they insist that I also get involved in presenting; the great thing about this course is that it’s different to church and is aimed at discussing the big issues for those who are interested but may not go to church. I didn’t go to church out of choice until my 30s, but attending an Alpha course changed my life and I really want others to share the fantastic impact that course had on my life.” If you want to know more, call Simon on 01706 853513 or visit www.WhitworthAlpha.org.uk.



THE BUTTERFLY ROOM FLIES HIGH WITH GREAT REVIEWS



The Mayor and Mayoress with Racheal Biggs at The Butterfly Room's official opening

The Butterfly Room, based at the Fudge Factory in Facit, opened in mid-October and has been doing great business - and garnering fantastic reviews - ever since. The Butterfly Room is a Beauty Spa which offers all elements of beauty nails, waxing, massage, tanning and specialises in acrylic design and facial skincare using the brand new British brand, Katherine Daniels. It also has a resident sports therapist and Aesthetics nurse for Botox and fillers. The Butterfly Room is open 6 days a week and Spa days can be arranged on request, where you can have the Spa to yourself and an afternoon tea. Racheal Biggs of The Butterfly Room says: "Kathryn and myself have

been simply overwhelmed with the response and support from Whitworth residents so far, and delighted that we have been rated as a 5-star salon online. We aim to ensure that everyone's visit to the salon is a relaxing one, and would welcome enquiries as well as actual bookings. We'd also like to thank the Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth for coming along and officially opening the Butterfly Room – we never did get to wax the Mayor's chest though..." For more information and to book an appointment, contact The Butterfly Room on 07968 116667 or 07521 527494, or visit www.facebook.com/thebutterflyroomwhitworth. See advert on page 15.

THE GALLERY AT THE BATHS

If you're quick you might just catch Mike Burgess's Views of Whitworth exhibition at The Gallery at the Baths. After Mike come:

November 21: Shawforth in the 60s

December 12: Our Lady and St Anselm's School

January 9: Whitworth Photographic Society

January 30 2015: Tonacliffe School

February 20: Whitworth Community High School

If you would like to exhibit, please contact Christine Ashcroft (01706 853012) or Jo Furtado (01706 853442 or 07813 180748), who would be delighted to hear from you whether you represent a community group or are an artist or photographer in your own right.

CHOIR OPPORTUNITY FOR FESTIVE EVENT

The Whitworth Community Carol Service this year, the programme for which is compiled by Churches Together in the Whitworth Valley, will feature a community choir. Thrum Hall Methodist Community Choir has agreed to take part and would like to invite members of the Whitworth community to sing and join them for this

special festive occasion. If you would like to take part, practice sessions are to be held on Monday 24 November, Monday 1 December and Monday 8 December at 7pm at Thrum Hall Methodist Church, Thrum Hall Lane, Rochdale. No special singing skills are required (just simple 2-part singing), only your enthusiasm! Just turn up on the night; all are welcome. For more information, please contact Rev Helen Johnson on 01706 646566.





THE TOP SHOP TOPS SHOP LIST

Dee and David at The Top Shop, at the top of Lloyd Street, have once again been listed as a Top 100 Independent Retailer. The Independent Achiever's Academy Award is given each year and decided by industry experts; it covers stores of all sizes from the whole of the UK and Ireland. This is the second year running the shop has made the list, and is one of only 5 stores from the whole Nisa network to do so. The award comes on the back of the shop being featured in several trade publications over the last eighteen months. This, along with being one of only 6 'best in sector' stores for Nisa and invitations to participate in National conferences on independent retail, all adds up to show that David and Dee's little corner shop is recognised as one of the best in the country. The Top Shop is open Monday – Saturday 8am – 9.30pm, and Sunday 10am – 8pm; contact David and Dee on 01706 853466. See advert, opposite.

ROUTES AROUND ROSSENDALE

The 'Routes around Rossendale' project was developed and managed by Proffitts in Spring 2014.

The project provides a series of way marked circular loop paths to explore the Rossendale Valley from Waterfoot to Shawforth. The loop paths are designed for beginner to intermediate walkers and range from urban roads to the country tracks of the Pennine Bridleway and Mary Towneley Loop. All loop paths start and end at a main car park and always bring users back to the main arterial road that cuts through the heart of the valley. The project, funded by Natural England's Paths For Communities scheme and by Lancashire Environmental Fund, has also ensured a new 1km section of off road multi user path (running from Blackwood Road to Rakehead Lane in Stacksteads) has been implemented – providing yet another piece of the ambitious Valley of Stone Greenway (off-road multi user routes from Rochdale to Rawtenstall). This new route forms part of Loop 5 in the walk leaflet. The leaflets are available from tourist spots locally around Rossendale or online at:

<http://www.visitrossendale.com/things-to-do/routes-around-rossendale.html>. For further information, please contact Proffitts – Investing in Communities on 01706 223700 or email communities@proffittscic.com.



WHITWORTH CHURCHES: CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Here's a list of the Christmas church services (in alphabetical order by church) for all of the churches in Whitworth. You would be made most welcome at any of these services.

Hallfold United Reformed Church

See article on page 29

More information: Rev Carolyn White
(01706 641161)

Parish of Saint Mary and Saint Anselm (Bacup and Whitworth)

Christmas Eve Mass (24 Dec) 5.30pm at St Mary's, Bacup, and 11.30pm at St Anselm's, Whitworth
Christmas Day Mass (25 Dec) 10am at St Anselm's, Whitworth

More information: Rev Father Frank Thorpe
(01706 853562)

Shawforth Methodist Church

Sun 14 Dec, 6pm: Candlelight Service
Wed 24 Dec, 11.30pm: Christmas Eve Communion Service

Advent Group on the four Fridays before Christmas, 9.30am – 10.15am

More information: Rev Janice Trimble
(01706 560297)

St Bartholomew's Church

Sun 14 Dec, 3pm: traditional Carol Service of Lessons and Carols

Wed 24 Dec, 11.30pm: Midnight Mass

More information: Rev Lyn Woodall (01706 853931)

St John the Evangelist, Facit

Sun 21 Dec, 6.30pm: Christingle Service

Wed 24 Dec, 5pm: St John's Crib Service

More information: Rev Lyn Woodall (01706 853931)

Whitworth Methodist (The Lighthouse)

Thurs 18 Dec, 8am – 10am: Prayer Breakfast (prayers for the community at Christmas; drop in any time for a free breakfast and share in the prayers)

Sun 21 Dec, 4pm: Carol Service

More information: Rev Helen Johnson
(01706 646566)

Whitworth Shop Local Food & Craft Fairs

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Saturday 10 January

Saturday 14 February

Saturday 14 March

Saturday 11 April

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NEW HEALTH, RELAXATION AND FITNESS OPPORTUNITY IN WHITWORTH

Fresh from travelling oceans aboard 5-star cruise ships working with an international clientele, Personal Trainer, Sports Therapist and native Rossendalian Stephen Claxon is coming to Whitworth in partnership with The Riverside, offering massage, injury rehabilitation, postural analysis, nutritional advice and plans, personal training, detoxification advice and Yoga. He will be available for home visits as well as appointments at The Riverside. Stephen has spent his working life dedicated to the education of sport and exercise and has a Bachelors degree in Physics and Sports Science and a Masters in Sports Therapy, as well as qualifications in personal training, sports coaching, Yoga and Pilates. He says: "I believe exercise and therapeutics are essential for health and wellbeing. We complain about being stressed and struggle to maintain our health and weight, but often do nothing about it. My expertise and knowledge can help you reach your goals."

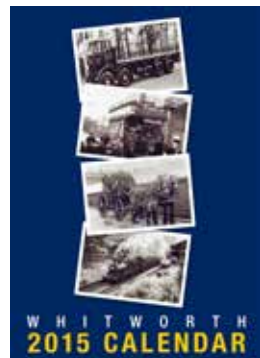
While massage services are clearly one to one, Stephen encourages small groups for personal training, so if you and friends are looking to get fit together this could be the perfect opportunity. Additionally, Stephen's FamilyFit plan encourages families to have fun while keeping fit.

For more information, contact Stephen: tel 07754 411478 / email stephencloxon@hotmail.co.uk / Facebook [stephencloxonhealthandfitness](https://www.facebook.com/stephencloxonhealthandfitness) / Twitter @StephenClaxon.



WHITWORTH 2015 CALENDAR BUY YOURS NOW!

What better present for a friend or loved one than a fabulous, all-colour, official, buy-it-before-we-run-out 2015 Whitworth calendar? Featuring photos of archive transport in the town, the calendar has been compiled and is being sold by the Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee, with all proceeds being ploughed back into tourism and leisure events in the town. Priced at £5 the calendar is on sale at the Riverside, UBS, Post Office (thanks Glynn!), Jan's Butty Shop (thanks Jan!) and the Town Council office, and will also be for sale at council and committee events. For more information, please contact Karen Douglas at Whitworth Town Council on 01706 852018 / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.



WHITWORTH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Make a note of the following Whitworth events and meetings, presented by Whitworth Town Council, the Mayor of Whitworth or the Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee:

Sun 23 Nov: Whitworth Christmas Lights Switch On
Mon 15 Dec: Community Carol Service at The Riverside
Thurs 1 Jan 2015: New Year's Day Duck Race at Cowm Reservoir
Sat 18 Apr: Whitworth Dinner and Dance
Sat 19 Apr: St George Celebrations (see photo below, taken by Mike Burgess and used with kind permission)
Sat 27 June – Sun 5 July: Scarecrow Festival
Sun 5 July: Family Fun Day

Whitworth Town Council meetings (7.30pm, Council Chamber at the Riverside – all welcome):

Thursday 20 November
Thursday 4 December
Thursday 18 December
Thursday 15 January 2015
Thursday 29 January
Thursday 12 February
Thursday 26 February

For more details on all these events and meetings, please visit www.whitworth.gov.uk or contact Karen Douglas, Town Clerk on 01706 852018 / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.





WHITWORTH'S OFFICIAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

The official switching on of Whitworth's Christmas Lights takes place on Sunday 23 November at The Riverside. Doors open at 5.30pm for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie for the adults, with kid's refreshments also available. Then, at 6pm, the Whitworth Vale and Healey Youth Band will lead everyone in a sing-a-long of Christmas songs. The lights will be switched on by the Mayors of Whitworth and Rossendale, accompanied by the winners of the schools colouring competition. And there may even be an appearance from a certain gentleman all dressed in red...! This is a free event (small charge for refreshments), and all are welcome.



WHITWORTH COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE

The Community Carol Service will take place on Monday 15 December, 7pm at The Riverside.

The service is organised jointly by Whitworth Town Council and Churches Together; this year, Hallfold United Reformed Church has led on the organisation of the service. The service will be attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth, and the Whitworth Vale and Healey Youth Band will accompany the carols. The evening will also feature contributions from other members of the community. Refreshments will be provided at the end of the service, with all proceeds going to Springhill Hospice. This is a free event, and all are welcome.



NEW YEAR'S DAY DUCK RACE

The annual and hugely popular Duck Race will take place on New Year's Day 2015 at Cowm Reservoir at 1pm. The event is presented by CLAW (the Community Leisure Association of Whitworth) and the Town Council's Tourism and Leisure Committee. Ducks cost £1 each to sponsor, with cash prizes for the first, second and third ducks over the line of £75, £50 and £25 – there's even a fiver for the last duck to finish! Duck sponsor sheets are now available around the town, including at The Riverside, Council Offices, UBS and the Post Office. Come along and join the fun on the day!



Photo by Mike Burgess, used with kind permission

FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE CONCERT AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

On Sunday 2 November, Whitworth Town Council, CLAW, Rossendale Borough Council and Whitworth Vale and Healey Brass Band held a Festival of Remembrance concert to commemorate the outbreak of World War One. The outstanding concert, held at the Riverside, was hosted by the Mayors and Mayoresses of Rossendale and Whitworth and was attended by around 200 people. Master of Ceremonies, Peter Ruane, artfully led the audience on a musical and lyrical journey through the tunes, hymns and poems of the era. Whitworth Vale and Healey Senior Band, under the musical director of John Binns, played a wide selection of pieces throughout the evening, receiving a standing ovation, and the Veterans in Communities Choir, directed by Peter Webster, presented a collection of beautiful songs and poems. Clive Morton read a number of poems, and band member Stuart Russell read 'In Flanders Fields'. In the foyer, Whitworth Historical Society and Museum provided a display of artefacts from the era. Over £1,000 was raised on the evening, which was split between the Royal British Legion and Veterans in Communities. Thanks are offered to all those who organised such a special evening, including Mike Whitby from Whitworth Vale and Healey Band for his hours of preparation.



GREEN VALE HOMES GARDENING COMPETITION RESULTS

The Mayor of Rossendale, Councillor Tom Aldred, was the V.I.P. as Green Vale Homes honoured the winners at its annual garden competition that was held at The Riverside in Whitworth, with over 100 tenants attending the event. Jack Martin from Rawtenstall was the Gardener of the Year and also picked up the Senior citizen and Floral Borders category prizes as well. Fellow Rawtenstall residents Myra Ashworth (Containers and Hanging Display category) and Freda Kay (Newcomer) were also among the prize winners. Edna Winstanley, from Haslingden, was the winner in the community corner category and Christopher Murphy was the winner in the fruit and vegetable category. The evening was a great success and everyone enjoyed the buffet, quiz and raffle – there was also a top tips section where tenants shared their knowledge and experience for the benefit of other gardeners attending the evening.



HELP DIRECT



Help Direct is a sign posting service, offering information, support and guidance around matters concerning Home and Garden, Managing Finances, Mobility and Transport, Learning and Leisure, Volunteering and much more. Working with a wide range of organisations, community groups, charities and local councils, Help Direct offers a stress-free way to get the help and support you need to ease your situation. Help Direct holds regular drop-in sessions throughout Rossendale supporting local residents; Whitworth dates are as follows:\

1st Wednesday, 12 noon – 2pm: Sunnysbank Day Centre, Market Street, Whitworth
2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 9am – 1pm: Whitworth Children's Centre, Hall Street, Whitworth
For more information, phone Help Direct on 0303 333 1111 or email Tracy Wheatley at twheatley@calico.helpdirectlancs.org.uk.

SKILL TRADERS



Skill Traders is a Calico scheme being delivered by Help Direct; it is centred on the act of exchanging favours, helping to create a stronger community by encouraging people to share their skills and life experiences. 'A favour for a favour', if you like. Skill Traders is keen to involve as many people as possible - whether it's something as simple as walking a dog or something more complex such as sharing computer skills, everyone has a skill they can share. For more information please contact Tracy Wheatley on 07792 215175 or twheatley@calico.helpdirectlancs.org.uk.

BIKE RIDE RAISES THOUSANDS IN MEMORY OF ISLA

On Sunday 24 August, 30 or so friends from the Whitworth Valley cycled 50 miles from Blackpool Tower back to the Red Lion in memory of Isla Joan Connolly. Isla passed away aged just 12 weeks on 5 June 2014 after being diagnosed with a heart condition (PVOD) in April. Isla's parents, David and Jo, spent the first 6 weeks in Ronald McDonald House whilst Isla was cared for at Alder Hey Hospital. If it wasn't for this excellent charity, David and Jo would not have been able to spend precious time with their daughter. Once home from hospital the local Children's Hospice, Derian House, provided support for the whole family. Ronald McDonald House, Alder Hey Children's Charity and Derian House are just three of the many charities that provided support throughout Isla's life and beyond. Jo says: "This is our time to give a little something back and with a little help from our friends we have raised around £6k thus giving each charity around £2k each. Massive thanks go to Ste and Jane Butterworth from the Red Lion for the organisation of this event, all riders who took part, all who sponsored and all those that provided fabulous raffle prizes. Once again we have been blessed with true community spirit through the hub of the village, 'Our Local'." There will be a presentation at The Red Lion on Friday 28 November at 6.30pm for each of the charities; please do go along and show your support.



The Mayor and Mayoress congratulate the riders



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WHITWORTH SWIMMING CLUB

On Sunday 19 October, Whitworth Swimming Club held the annual gala at Whitworth Leisure Centre. With over 84 entries it was one of the busiest the club has seen for a number of years.

The atmosphere was electric as parents, carers and children cheered and clapped every swimmer in each heat races and the finals. The ever popular mum's race saw 9 entries this year culminating in a very competitive final where Michelle Ashcroft clinched the gold. The dad's race this year was very fast with Neil Ashcroft grabbing the gold in a record time. Whitworth Swimming Club would like to thank all the kids and parents who participated, the parents and relatives who cheers and supported the children, the swimming teachers, assistants and volunteers for giving up a Sunday afternoon and Hayden from Whitworth Leisure Centre who went the extra mile to keep the pool open so the races could be finished. The Club is now looking forward to the family party and gala medal presentation on the 30 November at the Riverside from 1pm to 4pm, featuring a disco, games and a mega raffle with prizes donated from local businesses and supporters. For more information about the Club, please see www.whitworthswimmingclub.com.

WHITWORTH YOUNG PEOPLE'S CENTRE

The centre in Whitworth has responded to calls from residents in the area to provide services for young people at weekends – as of 10 October 2014, Whitworth Young People's Centre is also now open on Fridays! The staff provide somewhere for young people to go, offering help and advice as well as activities and events for young people to participate in.

The centre is quickly building an excellent reputation for the services it provides; this was borne out when the centre won The Dragon's Den event in July, organised by Rossendale Borough Council with the aim of raising alcohol awareness in young people. The winning campaign will soon be rolled out across the borough, well worth looking out for. If you know of any young people who would like to attend the centre, or would like more information, please contact Gill Pearson on 01706 853646 during open hours. You will be given a warm welcome by the staff, and the best hot chocolate in the village!

New opening times:

Mondays, 7pm – 9.30pm:	12-19 years (25 years SEN)
Wednesdays, 7pm – 9.30pm:	12-16 years
Fridays, 6pm – 8.30pm:	12-19 years



The Dragon's Den event winners, with the Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth and Gill Pearson (second left)

INSPECTOR PAUL LEIGH

“As the end of the year approaches, it is always good to look back and reflect on the previous twelve months. In terms of policing there has been a significant restructure in the way Lancashire Constabulary operates. The borough of Rossendale is now part of the East Lancashire policing Division overseen by Chief Superintendent Chris Bithell. However, the delivery of local policing has remained unchanged and the Chief Constable has committed to maintaining neighbourhood policing within Rossendale. The face of neighbourhood policing in Whitworth remains PC Vinny Hopkins and PCSO Heidi Kirkbright; they have attended numerous events within Whitworth and Shawforth to build relationships with local people and to understand community concerns as well as carrying out regular patrols. I witnessed the Rushcart event in September and was amazed to see the huge number of local people who attended. This year I also attended the Remembrance Sunday commemorations at Whitworth Cenotaph representing the constabulary in remembering the fallen men and women of Whitworth. These events demonstrate that Whitworth is a strong and vibrant community with excellent facilities and wonderful people. I look forward to 2015 and to continuing to keep Whitworth a safe and secure place to live.”



To contact PC Vinny Hopkins or PCSO Heidi Kirkbright, please phone 101, or email Vincent.Hopkins@lancashire.pnn.police.uk or Heidi.Kirkbright@lancashire.pnn.police.uk.

WHITWORTH VALLEY FC UNDER 11s GIRLS

Whitworth Valley FC's newest team, the under-11 girls, have made a solid start to their inaugural season, with two wins, a defeat and two hard-fought draws in their opening five games. The team's tastefully unique kit is sponsored by Samba Dance and Fitness, whose generosity is greatly appreciated - and some of the girls' fitness is down to the fact that several of them dance regularly at Samba. Here's a photo of the girls in all their Samba splendour. Back row, from the left: generous sponsor Sam Clarke from Samba Dance and Fitness, Coach Andy Wilson, Denika Connolly, Jessica Turner, Millie Wilson, Lucy Stringer, Maisie Bagshaw, Head Coach Bobby Twiddy, Manager Jo Furtado. Front row from the left: Maisie Leach, Caitlin Furtado, Megan Stanbridge, Molly Platt, Jaye Bingham, Maizie Harnett.



Photo by Lisa McDowell, used with kind permission

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OUR LADY AND ST ANSELM'S R.C. PRIMARY

The children were welcomed back to school on 3 September, with an especially warm greeting extended to the 22 new reception children and families.

The school has benefitted from an extensive development of the top playground which now includes a beautiful stage, shop and café. The school thanks the Friends of OLSA who have made a great contribution to this project. On Monday 22 September the children were amazed as they entered school, as the playground came alive with "We're off to see the wizard"; as they moved indoors they were shocked at the transformation that had taken place. Whitworth certainly transformed into Kansas and the Land of Oz! for this theme week. The children spent the week developing their writing skills and produced some wonderful examples which are now on display around the school. Year five and six pupils helped prepare the Harvest Mass and many pupils attended church on 5 October. All pupils demonstrated an act of kindness by bringing tins, packets and bottles into school and, following the service, staff delivered parcels to some of the elderly members of the Parish. Staff and pupils of Our Lady and St Anselm's R.C. Primary wishes the community of Whitworth a Happy and Holy Christmas.



ST JOHN WITH ST MICHAEL CE PRIMARY

The children of St John with St Michael CE Primary in Shawforth worked hard to organise a World War Week (Monday 20 - Thursday 23 October). They looked at various areas including The Home Front, Make do and Mend and also the differences in the Armed Forces over periods of time. They were very lucky to have so many people from within the community to help them: Mike Burgess (photographic display), Whitworth Museum, Mr Lovegrove (vehicles), Shawforth Chapel (boxes to make shelters), 'Don't Forget Collette', a wartime songstress, and the community group Veterans In Communities, Rossendale which has set up a four-year partnership with the Eco-School Council with the intention of creating a lasting memorial to World War One.



Jack Sunderland (pictured here), a member of St John's Church, Facit and St Bartholomew's Church, Whitworth has been a school governor for over 50 years. To commemorate this Jack attended a service of thanksgiving for Governors of Church of England Schools at Manchester Cathedral, where he was greeted by the Bishop of Leeds. St John with St Michael CE Primary would like to express its gratitude for all the hard work and dedication that Mr Sunderland has given the school during his many years as a Governor.

**See page 7 for details of
Whitworth Community High School's
50th anniversary commemorations!**

WHITWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM: PRIVATE ROLAND FARROW

As a young man, Roland Farrow was employed as a joiner and lived with his parents at 3 Princess Street, Whitworth, but just two days after his nineteenth birthday on 10 December 1915 he enlisted in the Lancashire Fusiliers.

Following military training, Roland found himself travelling to France and the battlefields of the Western Front. During the Battle of the Somme (1 July - 18 November 1916) Roland suffered the loss of his left leg and hip and underwent several field operations before being transferred back to 'Blighty' and into the Edmonton Military Hospital. Fortunately by that stage prosthetics were reasonably well developed and Roland was fitted with an artificial limb at the Queen Mary Convalescent Auxiliary Hospital, Roehampton. After a long convalescence period, Roland was discharged from military service on 10 January 1918. Unable to return to his former trade, Roland opened a greengrocer's shop on Market Street, Whitworth where he was later joined by his wife Evelyn and eventually by their son Geoffrey. A pair of crutches, originally issued to Roland in France following his injuries in 1916, are on display at the Whitworth Museum. Whitworth Museum on North Street is open to visitors throughout the year on Saturdays 2pm - 4pm and on Tuesday evenings 7.30pm - 9.30pm; other times by appointment.



Private Roland Farrow
of the Lancashire Fusiliers

HALLFOLD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Hallfold United Reformed Church on Hall Street is coming to the end of its programme of social and religious events for 2014 but there are, nevertheless, several more seasonal events taking place during late November and December. On Saturday 29 November, the annual Christmas Tree Festival will take place between 10am and 2pm, during which many organisations connected with Hallfold will each be displaying a themed Christmas tree. Tuesday 2 December at 7.30pm is the popular Candlelight Service which will be followed by mince pies, sherry and tea/coffee. The Brownies and Rainbows hold their Christingle Service on Monday 8 December at 6.30pm. Other services over the festive period include: Lessons and Carols at 10.45am on Sunday 14 December, Junior Church Christmas Festival at 10.45am on Sunday 21 December, Christmas Eve Service at 11.30pm and Christmas Day worship at 10.30am. Everyone is invited to all of these events and to the morning services at 10.45am each Sunday throughout the year - a warm welcome is assured. As in previous years, Hallfold intends to hold another busy programme of events for 2015. Please check future editions of this magazine and public notice boards for details of forthcoming social functions.



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POTTY ABOUT PAINT-A-POT!

Paint-a-Pot is going from strength to strength, and Paul and Julie are delighted with how the business is developing.

In addition to the studio opening hours they've undertaken 12 external events in recent months and are looking forward to many more. Paint-a-Pot can be hired for parties, covering all ages and abilities, and held in a location of your choice – recent events include children's birthday parties, large family groups, community groups and over 60s groups. Birthday parties cost £80 for a minimum of 8 people, and £8 per person thereafter. The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides also enjoyed a visit from Paint-a-Pot, and many a pot was painted at the Rushcart in September. They also support the Stroke Association through pot painting activities. Paint-a-Pot also hosts regular adult events at Berni Inn at the Fudge Factory; the next event is likely to be during half-term in the New Year, date still to be confirmed. And, to accommodate those away during half-term, there will be an extra Thursday evening date.



The Paint-a-Pot studio is open weekly on Thursdays and Fridays, 10am til 4pm (half-term weeks Tuesday til Friday), with Saturdays by appointment. For more details, please contact Paul Sanders on 07411 018244 or Julie Sanders on 07411 043981 or visit www.paint-a-pot-and-more.co.uk. See advert on page 9.

CANCER RESEARCH – WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

The Committee thanks everyone in the village for their continued support. A golf tournament at Lobden in September raised £1,200, and a nostalgia evening at Greenbrook House raised £235 and will now become an annual event. The success of these events has enabled the Committee to reach their target of £10,000 for this year's piece of equipment with 3 months to spare - an outstanding achievement. The sponsored walk scheduled for October has been deferred until Sunday 28 December; those who want to walk off the turkey and pud whilst raising some funds are more than welcome to join in, please ring one of the numbers at the bottom of this article for more details.

The Cancer Research Carol Concert with Whitworth Senior and Youth Bands takes place on Sunday 7 December at The Riverside; tickets are £7 and available from The Riverside on 854130 or any of the Committee on the numbers below. Hopefully at this event the Committee will be handing over a £10,000 cheque to Christie Hospital to purchase the cell culture unit which was the target item for this year. Should anyone wish to attend any events or make enquiries about the work of the Committee, please contact Joyce and Arnold Ashworth on 343424 or Michael Whitby on 852613.

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WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND

The Band is preparing for the usual busy Christmas schedule which starts on Sunday 23 November when the youth band play at the Christmas Lights Switch On. Other local events include:

Sunday 7 December, 7.30pm

The Riverside: Cancer Research Carol Concert
with Whitworth Senior and Youth bands;

Sunday 15 December, 7.00pm

The Riverside: Community Carol Service
(Town Council / Churches Together);

Wednesday 17 December, 7.00pm

Greenbrook House Carol Concert;

Sunday 21 December, 2.00pm

Band Club: Carol Concert.

The band will also be taking to the streets to play carols, and will be playing at Asda Rochdale on Saturday 13 December and Whitworth Co-op on Saturday 20 December.

The contest season begins again in the New Year with the Mineworkers Contest at Skegness on 17 January. The band is always on the lookout for new players; senior band rehearsals take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays evenings at 8pm and youth band rehearsals and tuition take place on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. The Youth Academy scheme, in which the band goes into Whitworth schools offering instruments and tuition, is proving a huge success with Our Lady and St Anselm Primary the latest school to benefit. For any band enquiries please contact Michael Whitby (01706 852613).

WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND CLUB

Firstly the Club thanks all those who have supported Club events recently; it's been a busy time with a member's night featuring 'Franklyn', the annual Oompah Night, Idol Frets and the regular Quiz and Karaoke Nights. The Club's Second Annual Beer Festival as part of the village Rushcart event was a fantastic weekend with some superb ales on show, one or two of which were simply excellent brews. Nine breweries had ales featured at the event and thanks go out to all who supported the event – the Club hopes to build on this year's success at next year's event. The Club has an extensive series of events planned for the Festive period; visit its Facebook page for further information. All upcoming events as well as the guest ale provisions are posted on it on a weekly basis, so there's no excuse not to be in the know! Finally the Club is available during the day for events such as funerals and christenings, and a small meeting room is also available – all free of charge; contact the Stewards on 852484 for more details.

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Karen Douglas on 01706 852018 / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.
There is a charge of £20 + VAT, which covers a years' worth of magazines
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USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS:

FACIT AND SHAWFORTH WARD:

Tom Aldred (Labour) - 01706 852183 /
atomaldred@aol.com

Lynda Barnes (Conservative) - 01706 853635 /
07944 116385 / clirlyndabarnes@hotmail.co.uk

David Chorlton (Independent) - 01706 869142 /
01706 853234 / david@ubswitworth.co.uk

Madeline De Souza (Independent) - 01706 853895 /
madeline30950@btinternet.com

Jim Mellor (Conservative) - 01706 853479 / 07973 421145
/ jim.mellor47@btinternet.com

Sean Serridge (Labour) - 01706 877008 / 07947 444732
/ seanserridge@rossendalebc.gov.uk

HEALEY AND WHITWORTH WARD:

David Barnes (Conservative) - 01706 853635 /
07901 608787 / davidwbarnes@hotmail.com

Marie Gibbons (Conservative) - 01706 854295

Maureen Jones (Community First) - 07794 356610 /
maureen5961@hotmail.com

Ian Mycock (Labour) - 01706 632823

Karen Ruane (Community First) - 07772 534412 /
kriane@outlook.com

Alan Neal (Community First) - 07817 414721 /
alanneal@rossendalebc.gov.uk

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

Civic Hall, Market Street,

Whitworth, OL12 8DP

Contact: **Karen Douglas, Town Clerk**

Tel / Fax: 01706 852018

Email: info@whitworth.gov.uk

www.whitworth.gov.uk

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ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:

FACIT AND SHAWFORTH WARD:

Tom Aldred and Madeline De Souza

(see left for contact details)

HEALEY AND WHITWORTH WARD:

Alan Neal and Sean Serridge

(see left for contact details)

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR (WHITWORTH AND BACUP)

Sean Serridge: 01706 877008 / 07947 444732

email: sean.serridge@lancashire.gov.uk

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT (ROSSENDALE AND DARWEN)

Jake Berry MP - Tel: 020 7219 5000 (House of Commons) / 01706 215547 (Constituency Office)

Email: jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk / www.jakeberry.org

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:

Honorary Alderman Eileen Kershaw: 01706 344661

Community Police Officers PC424 Vinny Hopkins and PCSO7356 Heidi Kirkbright:

To speak to Vinny or Heidi, or to report a crime or incident, phone 101. For emergencies only, dial 999.

Rossendale Borough Council: 01706 217777 (general enquiries) / www.rossendale.gov.uk

Out of hours emergencies: 0845 300 6478

Lancashire County Council: 0300 123 6701 (general enquiries) / www.lancashire.gov.uk

Out of hours emergency numbers: Social Care 0300 123 6720 (5pm-8:45am) / Highways 0300 123 6780

/ email.highways@lancashire.gov.uk

Green Vale Homes: 0300 555 5556 (general enquiries) / 01706 836318

(Michele Bleasdale, Whitworth officer)

The Riverside (Whitworth Civic Hall): 01706 854130 / riverside-whitworth@zen.co.uk /

www.whitworthriverside.co.uk

Whitworth Medical Centre: 01706 852238 / www.whitworthmedicalcentre.nhs.uk

Help Direct: 0303 333 1010 / www.helpdirect.org.uk

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