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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



The Mayor thanking staff at Whitworth Leisure Centre after her pool party fundraiser.

Dear Residents and readers,

During my three months in office I have been kept very busy. I attended several events including the opening of Sunnyside Day Care Centre, the Healey Care 10 mile walk to celebrate their 25 years in the valley, I have also attended a meal and afternoon tea in aid of the Rossendale Mayoral Charity, I'm also looking forward to the WOW awards this month. In August, I attended Springhill Garden Celebration and even got invited to celebrate Ethel's 100th birthday at Sunnybank!

I look forward to attending many more events as things start to open up again and we start to find the 'new normal'. I look forward to meeting you on my travels in the coming months – do come and say hello if you see me.

I have managed to fit in a charity fundraiser already too. The Mayor's Charity Pool Party was a splashing success 'raising £75 for my charity fund'. The children delighted in being able to explore the pool with floats and toys and without the confines of a pod. I have plans for other events too such as something in October so do keep an eye for more details. I do hope you are able to come, all the funds raised will go back into Whitworth organisations.

I want to offer my sincere thanks to James Mellor, more commonly known as Jim senior! After service in public life since 1991, he has decided to hang up his hat and spend more time with his family. I also want to thank John Leyland who has left his post as the lengthsman which he did for over 20 years. Both of these departures have left vacancies to be filled, read more about that on page 7.

I am looking forward to the Tourism and Leisure Committee 60s family music festival on Sunday 12th September at the Ashcroft.

Another fundraiser I have on the horizon is a Mayor's Charity fundraising concert with Sean Ruane and friends. Sean is an international opera singer and it promises to be a fantastic evening. Save the date for Saturday 16th October at 6pm and watch out for more details as they are released.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maureen Jones'.

Cllr Maureen Jones, Mayor of Whitworth

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If you want to bake your own cookies but don't want the stress or kitchen mess, you can choose your own flavour of cookie dough stick that is ready to bake. There are also Just Bake It Boxes, which are a dough stick and decorating kit and are perfect for children and adults to enjoy.

If you simply want to enjoy cookies, try the newest addition to the Just Bake range- baked cookie boxes, sold in boxes of 10 for standard and boxes of 6 for loaded sandwich.

All are available to order at www.justbakeuk.co.uk
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WHITWORTH RECEIVES SHARE OF WELCOME BACK FUND FOR HIGH STREETS

The Welcome Back Fund is providing councils with a share of money from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to support the safe return to high streets and help build back better from the pandemic. This funding builds on the Reopening High Street Safely Fund (RHSSF) allocated to councils in 2020 and forms part of the wider support the government is providing to communities and businesses.



Retail and hospitality have been hit especially hard during the various lockdowns but as restrictions start to ease, and measures are brought in to kick start the economy, local business owners and the council are keen to make our high streets welcoming and safe places to visit.



One of the participating businesses displaying their hanging baskets.

The fund has provided 70 beautiful, locally sourced, hanging baskets to brighten up the main shopping areas. In addition the funding will support a family friendly 60s music festival on Sunday 12th September 2021 with local stalls selling goods, inflatables, hot food and bar and a fantastic musical line-up including 60s sensation, The Dakotas, Beatles tribute- 'the Threetles', Lareena Mitchell as Dusty Springfield among others.

The Council is encouraging people to stay local and support their local shops and businesses and to keep safe.

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PARISH LENGTHSPERSON VACANCY

An unusual vacancy has arisen in Whitworth for a Parish Lengthsperson. The purpose of the role is to keep the "length" of Whitworth neat and tidy. The hours are 7.5 hours per week on average but the actual hours can be mutually agreed with the Town Clerk and can be flexible to fit the needs of the person and the position. The post is paid at living wage and training will be provided as necessary to help the role be completed. The ideal candidate will live in the local area and have suitable transport.



This is a varied post which includes, but is not limited to, maintaining Town Council property, fixing fencing and stiles, carrying out emergency repairs, cleaning noticeboards, watering and maintaining flower beds, grass cutting and strimming of vegetation, litter control, leaf clearance and cleaning out of blocked gullies, conservation projects and schemes within the community, liase with the local community, farmers, landowners and official organisations to enable works to be carried out effectively and with the necessary consent.

Job description and person specification can be found on the Whitworth Town Council website. Please send CV and covering letter explaining your suitability for the post to Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk info@whitworth.gov.uk or by post to The Council Office, The Ashcroft (Civic Hall), Market Street, Whitworth OL12 8DP. Closing date for applications is Wednesday 8th September at 2.30pm. Interviews will be held week commencing 13th September.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

The retirement of Jim Mellor has left a vacancy on the Town Council. If you are interested in serving as a Parish Councillor representing the Facit and Shawforth ward, please write to the Town Clerk, include your CV and a brief explanation of why you are interested in joining the Town Council. The Council meets twice a month except during August. If you would like to know more about the role, please contact the Clerk. The closing date for written submissions of interest is Wednesday 1st September 2021.

Candidates will be invited to speak at the Town Council meeting to be held on Thursday 9th September after which a vote by Councillors will take place. Full details of the process can be found in the co-option procedure available on our website home page.

Qualifications to be a Councillor

A person is qualified to be elected and to be a Councillor if they are a British, Commonwealth, Irish or European Union citizen and on the relevant day (that is, the day of nomination or election) they are 18 or over.

In addition, the person must meet at least one of the following criteria

- (1) on the relevant day and thereafter they continue to be on the electoral register for the parish, or
- (2) during the whole of the twelve months before that day they have owned or tenanted land or premises in the parish, or
- (3) during the whole of the twelve months before that day their principal or only place of work has been in the parish, or
- (4) during the whole of the twelve months before that day they have resided in the parish or within three miles of it.

Except for qualification (1), these qualifications then continue for the full term of office, until the next ordinary elections.

Certain people are disqualified from standing, and these include paid officers (including the Clerks) of the council, bankrupts and those subject to recent sentences of imprisonment.

JIM MELLOR RETIRES FROM TOWN COUNCIL AFTER LONG SERVICE



James (Jim) Mellor has been a valued member of Whitworth Town Council since 1991. During this time he has served as Mayor on three occasions, supported many local charities and organisations and represented the views of local residents. He has been instrumental in Whitworth Sports Council and Town Twinning Committee of which he is chairman.

The pandemic has caused Jim to reevaluate and decide it is time to step back and let somebody else get involved, allowing him more time to spend with his family.

TOWN CARETAKER CELEBRATES 15 YEARS SERVICE



On 2nd July, Glen Illif had been our Town Caretaker for 15 years. Members of the council wanted to recognise this achievement with a celebration cookie and some giant balloons.

Glen's work doesn't go unrecognised, and this was clear by the comments on the facebook post with residents thanking Glen and posting what a great job he does. It can't be easy walking around picking up after everybody else and he turns in whatever the weather!

CHECK YOUR TREES FOR ASH DIEBACK DISEASE

Lancashire County Council is urging anyone with an ash tree on their property to check its health this summer to ensure it does not become a danger to themselves or others. Ash Dieback is a highly destructive disease caused by a fungus which has spread throughout the UK in recent years. It can lead to infected trees shedding branches or limbs, or potentially collapsing as the tree dies.

The county council estimates that around 127,000 ash trees next to roads throughout Lancashire will need to be regularly checked to ensure they do not pose a threat to safety. There is no cure for the disease and it is fatal in the vast majority of cases.

The county council will be contacting tree owners over the coming months if their tree is a danger to the highway, but if you have an ash tree which could be a hazard to people or property, you should get it checked out by a qualified arborist. Now that trees are in leaf is the best time to look for signs of the disease in your ash tree/s. It's important to use a properly trained and insured person to carry out work as infected trees can be particularly dangerous.



For more information on identifying ash trees and signs of the disease, permits and licences you may need, and finding a professional to undertake any work visit [Lancashire.gov.uk/ashdieback](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/ashdieback)



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HEALEY CARE LIMITED

Healey Care Ltd has not stood still for one minute in the past 12 months. With COVID restrictions HCL services have managed to successfully continue to support individuals across Whitworth and beyond.



Holt Mill day service has maintained commitment to “whole family support approach” by remaining open for individuals who live at home with their families.

A charity walk in June raised funds over £1,000 for Tor View school, service users and staff walked between 2 and 10 miles on the canal tow-paths.

Moving forward exciting news Healey Care Limited are expanding the Holt Mill Base on Llyod St with an additional group “the Hive” to focus on outdoor, educational and independence building sessions for adults with additional needs. It should be operational three days a week by Autumn 2021.



In Summer 2021 HCL will also be launching “The Link” also at Holt Mill, working in partnership with other local community services. The Link, will provide a wonderful base for many more people and groups as a meeting place and signpost for local charities and community support groups.

HCL invited Whitworth Senior Band to start practicing once again after 12 months restrictions, due the large open space Holt Mill building, a great example of community partnership working.

For any further information regards the Hive group or the Link facilities please contact Registered Manager Angela Rhodes angelarhodes.woodleigh@btconnect.com 01706 227418

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT SPRINGHILL HOSPICE

Often people can find themselves at a loose end with too much time on their hands. This could be due to the loss of a job, retirement, loss of a loved one. Volunteering is a great way to make use out of that spare time.

It gives individuals the opportunity to meet new people and learn new and exciting things. Volunteering might give you the opportunity to form genuine connections and friendships with like-minded people, all who may share similar experiences as you. As a volunteer you will be supporting your local community – you’ll be a part of it and it could be one of the most rewarding things you’ll do.



Supporting Springhill Hospice as a volunteer allows you to create a sense of belonging in an environment where you can be confident the work you’re doing is greatly appreciated and will make a real difference.

Springhill Hospice is looking for volunteers to help in their local charity shops, and at the Hospice. Their Whitworth Charity Shop in particular is looking for volunteers to help both on the shop floor, serving customers, and helping with sorting and pricing donations.

Apply to be a Springhill volunteer today by visiting <https://springhill.org.uk/how-to-apply> or contact the Hospice’s Volunteer Coordinator by calling 01706 649920.

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TOURISM & LEISURE COMMITTEE

On September 12, Whitworth Town Council's Tourism and Leisure Committee will be hosting a FREE 1960's Music Concert at the Ashcroft (Formerly the Riverside) Market Street, Whitworth OL12 8DP. There will be live music from 12 till 5pm from The Dakotas, The Threetles, The Clic and Lareena as Dusty Springfield, compared by DJ Dave Sweetmore who will play music between acts.



To ensure there will be something for everyone, there will be bouncy castles, food, and local stalls selling a variety of products. The idea behind the event is to be able to come back together as a community and we will be following guidance available to be able to hold the event safely. We will be asking people to wear masks in crowded places and sanitise.

We are able to hold this event for FREE due to funding from the Welcome Back Fund from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). Local businesses wanting to hold a stall at the event should contact gillian@hastewell.co.uk for details and to book. For more information about the event please contact Councillor David Chorlton cllrddchorlton@gmail.com or telephone 07939 218266.



SANTA EXPRESS COMES TO WHITWORTH

Following it's debut success last year, residents will be glad to know that Santa Express is back this year!! Father Christmas will be travelling through our town in a custom built sleigh between on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th December 2021. He will be sledding Broadley and Shawforth and calling at most of the residential areas on the way driving slowly to allow families to wave as he passes by. It would be impossible to cover every single street, but the volunteers have worked hard to ensure that you won't have far to go to see him drive by.

Watch out on facebook and the next magazine for a Santa Express schedule! #Whitworthsantaexpress



LIGHT UP WHITWORTH

The Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee are offering to install Christmas Trees at a subsidised cost to properties around Whitworth. To spread the festive cheer throughout the village, the Committee is hoping that you might consider displaying a Christmas tree on your property, which will provide Whitworth with a little more festive sparkle. Over the past few years the demand has grown so much that we have now had to appoint the services of the Glean Team to help erect them all. Committee Volunteers are still managing the service, the main contact being Les Hirst (07966 583401 and leshirst147@gmail.com).



This year's offer is: A 4ft to 5ft real grade 1 spruce Christmas tree plus a set of mains-powered or battery festive lights, including installation and removal for the discounted price of £40 (including VAT) per tree. People buying 2 or more trees will be charged £35 per tree. The tree would be taken away at the end of the festive season. If you would prefer white lights then please notify us and we will try to accommodate as there are a limited selection of white lights.

The aim is to install the trees before Sunday 28th November, however, this may be affected by the delivery date of the trees and weather conditions.

The fitting of mains lights will require somebody present at the property to pass the plug inside. Alternatively, the fitter will leave the plug in a waterproof bag close to the window for you to plug in yourself.

To order your tree please contact Les Hirst before Sunday 19th September 07966 583401 and leshirst147@gmail.com.

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WHITWORTH IN BLOOM ENTERS THE NORTH WEST IN BLOOM COMPETITION

By the time you read this, judges from North West In Bloom will have spent a couple of hours appraising a variety of locations in Whitworth which have been selected for their particular horticultural, environmental or community-minded development. It was difficult to choose which areas should represent Whitworth as so many sites, ranging from Healey Corner to the bicycle at Britannia via a Beasties B 'n B on Cowm Park Way, are looking so vibrant thanks to numerous hours of hard work put in by the volunteers, Whitty Bloomers, as well as residents of all ages who believe in making the local environment as litter free, colourful and welcoming as possible.

Whitworth schools have been involved in environmental issues and local businesses – too numerous to mention- have also lent support in a variety of ways eg donating items or organising water sources (gratefully received during the recent dry spell!)

Having won a Silver award in 2019, fingers are crossed for a possible upgrade this year, but whatever the outcome, if the overall effect is to make Whitworth a greener and more pleasant place to live, then everyone's a winner. Enjoy!
To find out more or to get involved, email whitworthinbloom@gmail.com or telephone 01706 852018.



WHITWORTH LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

Mondays: 1pm – 7pm
Tuesdays: 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm
Wednesdays: Closed
Thursdays: 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm
Fridays: 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm
Saturdays: 9am – 1pm

You can now browse and borrow without an appointment but may have to queue. No unaccompanied children are allowed under the age of 12. For the 'Six of the Best' collection ask our library staff for details or get in touch in the ways suggested below. You are required to wear a face covering unless you are exempt. 45-minute sessions on public computers are available on the hour on a first come first served basis. Please be ready to provide your name and contact details to support the NHS Test and Trace system.

To find out more go to www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries or email library@lancashire.gov.uk or call 0300 123 6703. Updates can be found in the library, or on the Friends of Whitworth Library Group Facebook page, or contact friendsofwhitworthlibrarygroup@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.



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If you have any legal queries, please do not hesitate to call us on 01706 854167. We are aiming to do most appointments by telephone or video conference in order to minimise the risks relating to Covid.

We have received a high number of enquiries regarding Power Of Attorneys recently. Our fees are £225 plus VAT and the registration fee of £81. Please note that we can only undertake such applications for clients who have mental capacity. Once the capacity has gone, we are unable to do such applications and a Court of Protection application is necessary instead which is significantly more expensive.

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WHITWORTH MUSEUM

Following the long lock-down, Whitworth Historical Society's Museum re-opened its doors to the public again on the 5th June 2021 and has since enjoyed a steady stream of visitors each Saturday. In addition to its collection of locally related objects, the Society maintains a large archive of photographs and documents relating to the area. Many of the documents are unique to the Whitworth collection. For specific information enquiries, it is best to contact the archivist beforehand to ensure the material is readily available when you visit. The archivist may be contacted at archive@whitworthhistoricalsociety.org.uk



Not an explosive device but a 1930's domestic pressure cooker. On display at Whitworth Museum

The Society also offers assistance with family history research projects regardless of whether the family concerned has direct links with Whitworth. Again, initial contact should be made through the archivist or by visiting the museum.

The ever popular programme of monthly talks is planned to commence in October and on the first Wednesday of each month thereafter. The 2021/22 programme can be viewed on the website. The first talk, at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 6th October, is entitled 'Gentleman Jack' the compelling story of Halifax landowner, industrialist and diarist Anne Lister.

At present, museum opening is 11.00am – 4.00pm each Saturday – no booking is necessary.

WHITWORTH & DISTRICT U3A

Members of the U3A were delighted to resume meetings at The Ashcroft in July, meeting in the main hall to enable safe distancing. When asked, the 30 members in attendance confirmed that they felt quite safe. Renewals were also due in July and members were urged to remind friends who had not yet renewed.



The speaker, Steve Herra from Southampton, gave an interesting and amusing talk on the history of the Cunard Line on Zoom. Steve, a third generation employee, took members back to the beginnings of Cunard in the 1840's when Samuel Cunard, a Canadian entrepreneur, won the contract to deliver the British royal mail to the US and Canada.

On 4th August, members are pleased to welcome back John Alker, a local Blue Badge Guide, whose talk is entitled 'Manchester in Arms'.

New members are welcome at the monthly meetings held at The Riverside on the first Wednesday of the month at 1.00 pm for an annual membership of £15 and £2 monthly meeting subs. Anyone interested may attend two meetings before joining.

A full list of speakers, contact details and interest groups, can be found on the Facebook page and website (u3asites.org.uk/whitworth).

ANOTHER TWO CROSSWORDS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

The same grid for both. The same answers for both. Two ways of getting the answers – the first set of clues are cryptic, the second set regular. The answers in both to 12 and 14 Across, and 4 and 17 Down are locations in Whitworth – and the only clues for these are roughly where they are in the valley: 12A – central 14A and 17D together – central 4D – south

Answers on page 21

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Expert!? Science!? 6, 7 and 8 escape – what a moment! (10)
- 7 Terror? Not so much. Brave, in fact (8)
- 8 Crushing defeat – path east refused (4)
- 9 Stumble in letting it rip (4)
- 10 Guts lie all over the place – very grim (7)
- 16 In same shallow net (4)
- 19 Good guy – no losing sleep in hotel (4)
- 20 Counters mixed - explain (8)
- 21 Dad's consumed in Swiss city – utterly consumed! (10)

DOWN

- 1 The Spanish? Eastern court? Choose? (5)
- 2 Left in charge of old grand entrance (7)
- 3 Animal rises to watery plant (4)
- 5 Soldier dangling under short string finds gas fitter? (5)
- 6 Reddish Eastern European loses Scotsman, gains Martian (6)
- 11 Headless bounders surround vehicles in front of church for early payments (8)
- 12 Heavy metal queen sets the pace... (6)
- 13 ...vengeful queen is 1 artist! (7)
- 15 Botanical specimens for Los Angeles muddled (5)
- 18 Big gun centred on Latin year? (4)

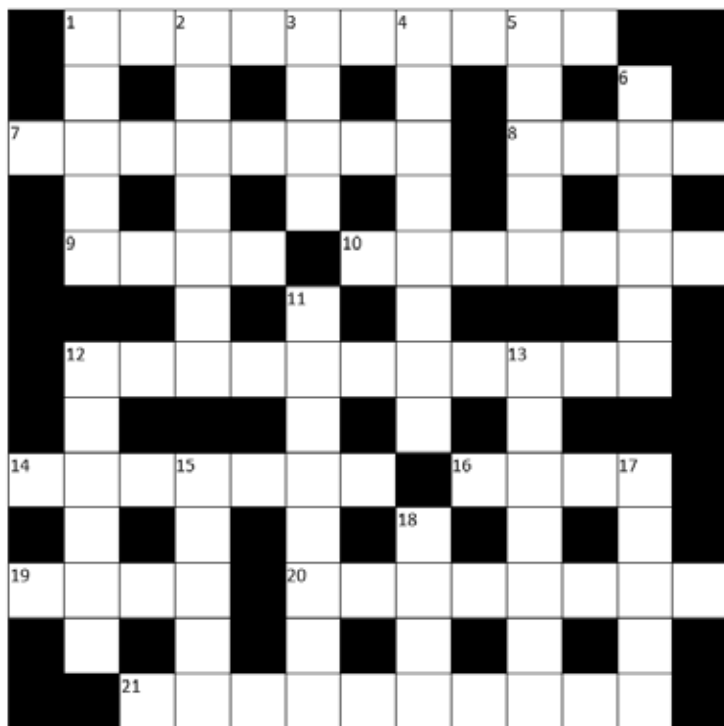
REGULAR CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Something that happens to you (10)
- 7 Not worried by anything (8)
- 8 Easy victory (4)
- 9 Journey (4)
- 10 Least good-looking? (7)
- 16 Fit together (4)
- 19 Marcus Rashford? (4)
- 20 Interpret (8)
- 21 Really, really keen (10)

DOWN

- 1 Not these (5)
- 1 Vote in (5)
- 2 Roof supported on columns for grand effect (7)
- 3 Vibrating strip in a flute (4)
- 5 Royal dog (5)
- 6 Sort of brown (6)
- 11 Goes forward (8)
- 12 Someone out in front (6)
- 13 Tragic Greek daughter (7)
- 15 Plants in a specific area (5)
- 18 AD = ____ Domini (4)



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When the guys on plant 1 at Anglo Recycling used to empty the enormous dust bags (recycling textiles creates a lot of dust) they used to put the dust into plastic bags- a dozen enormous bags a week- which we had to throw away after use. A colleague, Martin Street, had the simple idea to put the dust into a large reusable skip. Fantastic- it saves 12 plastic bags a week and pays for itself by making emptying the dust bags a lot easier and a quicker process. Rob Ellis who runs that line on the evening shift said that “it’s brilliant”!

Simon Macaulay, Chairman, commented “It was one thing to put in a recycling line to reduce carpet to landfill by 25-30 tonnes a week as we found applications for the carpet fibre the line generated for us. But I am even prouder that we are creating an environment where colleagues are all the time looking at ways to use less disposable materials”

WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND

Whitworth Vale and Healey band recently announced the passing of Euphonium player Bryan Warrington. Bryan has played with many bands across the country from Rochdale to Whitburn in Scotland.

He has been a great servant to the Whitworth Band over the years and his work with the Youth Band has been incredible. This has paid off by inspiring numerous players in their banding development, many of whom have gone on to play with top section bands and to have careers in music. He leaves a large hole in the banding world that will be hard to fill and his presence in our band will be greatly missed. We hope that his legacy of working with young players will live on for many years.



Whitworth Band started rehearsing again in May, and would like to extend their thanks to Angela Rhodes of Healey Care for the kind offer of premises at Holt Mill so we can remain covid secure.

Finally, Whitworth Band plan to restart their Academy and Youth Bands in September after an unprecedented break from playing. The organisation is really looking forward to welcoming all our young people back to continue their music making.

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WHITWORTH BAND CLUB

The Band Club has been reopened for several weeks providing table service indoors and out, and customers have followed the England team through their European Championship journey; roll on the World Cup! The club will again be providing Sky and BT sports coverage through the year.

Standard bar service resumed on 19th July. The range of beers provided is expanding also to our more normal offer. The club have recently secured cask marque accreditation again and are working towards a beer festival later in the year given no new restrictions.

As things normalise it is expected that the Sunday Quiz will be resuming so keep an eye on the notice board and Facebook for confirmation of dates.



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BERNI INN

The Berni Inn team have been rather busy recently, converting their attic space into another fabulous room to host parties.

The versatile room can now offer themed children’s parties, with the most popular one being Animal Encounters, but there are plenty more themes to choose from.

It is proving to be a firm favourite with baby showers and can accommodate up to 40 guests

For further information, or to arrange a look around contact Berni on 07918 176723



CANCER RESEARCH WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

As things slowly return to normal, plans are being made to restart fundraising events. On Sunday 12th September the Annual golf tournament will be held at Lobden Golf club. Lobden will also be the venue for a ladies afternoon tea on Sunday 26th September. Tickets are priced at £15 and available from contacts below. Hopefully by the next edition more events will have been arranged and the group with your help and contributions can return to raising the much needed support that Cancer research is in desperate need of following huge losses due to the pandemic . Its estimated around £160 million has been lost in the last year.

If you have any suggestions for fundraising events or would like to attend please contact Arnold Ashworth on 343424, Elaine Bagshaw 853935 or Michael Whitby 852613.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD ON PAGE 17



COVID CATERPILLAR

The covid caterpillar is finally now in its permanent home, the flower bed outside Whitworth Leisure Centre. Alfie and Aimee would like to say a big thank you to everybody that helped make this possible! They hope that everybody enjoys having a look at it as they pass as much as they enjoyed doing it. Thank you to Whitworth Town Council, Rossendale Leisure Trust, Aimee's helpers on the day and members of the community for the decorated rocks.

See if you can spot yours on the way past!



Aimee and Alfie installing the Covid caterpillar

WEST PENNINE COMMONERS ASSOCIATION

Whitworth is surrounded by stunning moorland, home to an array of wildlife including birds which are on the Red List (endangered) and also livestock, grazing cattle and sheep farmed in traditional ways. This helps to keep the landscape accessible for walkers, riders and legitimate moor users.



These uplands contain peat bogs, huge carbon sinks whose importance has never been greater. They are the lungs of our towns and cities and must be preserved for future generations.

Commoners are people who occupy land or property to which rights of common, predominantly grazing rights, are attached.

The West Pennine Commoners Association works hard alongside other groups to protect the moorland AKA common land from illegal activities which have damaging effects on the environment and the livelihood of hill farmers. The moorland is governed by statutory laws which are as legally binding as any other law. The three basic laws are:

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(except for farmers with rights, tending stock)
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For more information email: Westpeninecommoners@hotmail.com



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WHITWORTH GUIDES



After over a year of Zoom meetings Whitworth Guides were able to meet face-to-face at the end of May. They had a picnic tea and played a couple of games in the garden of Hallfold church. Meetings for the rest of the term had been planned to be outdoors and fingers were crossed for good weather.

So, plant pots were decorated, sunflowers planted and rocks were painted as part of the 'Whitworth covid caterpillar'. The Guides were pleased to assist Whitworth in Bloom with planting the flower bed at the top of Hall Street and then enjoyed making s'mores over tealights.

It's been a challenging year for girls and leaders, but all are looking forward to welcoming new members in September and to the relaunch of the Ranger unit for girls 14+. Extra adults are always needed and anyone interested should register their interest via the Girlguiding website.

www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved



WHITWORTH HAS A BRAND-NEW COMMUNITY GROUP! WHITWORTH INCLUSION PROJECT (WIP)

A group of local like minded, passionate individuals have come together to form a group to help raise awareness and knowledge about issues that affect those living with a disability in Whitworth. This is early days – so if you can help in anyway or fancy joining, please contact Janet Whitehead 07795 577647 / cllrjanetwhitehead@gmail.com

Hopefully, improvements will be made over the coming months and years – including the dropping of some kerbs already agreed by Lancashire County Council to happen this financial year.

It is hoped that more inclusive activities, sport and leisure will be provided in the future, especially for the children in the village. Rossendale Borough Council have agreed to a swing (yet to be sited) – let this be the start of more things to come. Funding is now being sought to be able to do more. If anyone is aware of any relevant funding pots please get in contact.

Please watch this space. Fantastic things are going to happen from this group.

WHITWORTH GOES WILD

Work on the new Whitworth play space has now started. It's a little later than planned, but the team are on site and work is due to finish mid-October. The plan, funded through Rossendale Borough Council and Viridor Credits, involves creating a new play space with a strong natural play element. Materials used are not the usual equipment sourced for play areas- instead the focus is on natural materials such as rope, wood, boulders and sensory planting schemes. The design doesn't include any wet pour or rubber surfacing to minimise any environmental impacts and keep the public space as natural as possible. To ensure that nature and wildlife remain protected, the Council are also working with Lancashire Wildlife Trust ecologists who are conducting biodiversity, wildlife, bat and tree surveys to ensure that nothing in the design has negative effects on the surroundings. In fact the plans will actually enhance the wildlife and natural space, as works will include planting, tackling areas of overgrowth, path improvements, signage and the removal of damaging patches of Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam.

For more information, visit <http://www.proffittscic.com/community-projects/whitworth-play-provision/> or contact Rachael Gildert at Proffitts (CIC) on 07875 106084 rachael.gildert@proffittscic.com



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FOLDHEAD CARE FARM (CIC)

Local young farmer Sarah Rose Rhodes has registered her local family hill farm as a “care farm”. Whilst completing her Agricultural Sciences degree, Sarah needed to explore diversity available to farming in general but also her own farming environment. Sarah realised that her farm had a lot to offer alongside her personal skills set, knowledge and including her very tame pedigree Welsh Black Cattle. Sarah registered the Farm in March 2021 with Social farms and Gardens & Thrive, setting about her business plan to open in Autumn 2021.

Within 3 weeks Sarah had taken enquiries & bookings to attend from as far away as Salford local authority. Bookings have already exceeded 50% capacity and Sarah’s first 12-month business Plan.

“It’s more than cuddling cows”, Sarah says, “there are horticultural aspects, conservation and preservation, working alongside Country Rangers and other wildlife monitoring projects. Embarking on educational environmental schemes underpinned by DEFRA and Natural England. Hedge laying and dry-stone walling. Or just fresh and freedom in our beautiful valley.”

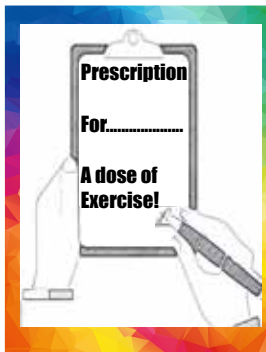


Placements and support are dependent on individual assessments should this result in an identified need a placement will be offered for the unique therapeutic and holistic benefits a care farm offers. These may include Dementia, Mental Health, Autism, youth services and all forms of human vulnerability. Development of the Care farms website and recruitment of skilled volunteers is underway.

ONLINE EXERCISE!

Online exercise is an option for those who, for whatever reason cannot get out to an exercise class. It is a fact that physical activity and exercise can help you stay healthy, energetic and independent into later life.

Did you know that many adults aged 65 and over, spend on average, 10 hours or more each day sitting or lying down, making them the most sedentary age group?



If you are looking to exercise on a one to one basis, or in a group setting and want exercise tailored specific to your health issues, or you are an older adult wanting to use exercise as a prescription, Just Move! To Improve offers an online option for those brave enough to try, chair or general exercise from your own home, if you would be interested in an exercise class from your own home, why not try a free taster session to begin with? From a Personal Trainer with GP Referral, please contact Rosemary on 07886 963024 for more details.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH, FACIT

150
YEARS

St John's Church will be 150 years old in November this year. To commemorate this occasion St Johns are planning a variety of events working alongside St John with St Michael's school and WAMDS (Whitworth Amateurs) who use the hall as their permanent base. Please join at all or some of the anniversary events, everyone is very welcome.



Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th September – Heritage Weekend in Church Hall, contact WAMDS for opening details. The church will be open to explore Saturday & Sunday from 11am to 2pm.

Sunday 31st October at 9.15am – Special Communion service to celebrate baptism, come along if you have been baptised at St John's, refreshments afterwards

Saturday 6th November at 10.30am – Coffee Morning with stalls and a mega raffle at 'The Ashcroft' (formerly The Riverside)

Sunday 7th November at 9.15am – Special Service to celebrate marriage, please come along if you were married at St John's, refreshments afterwards

Sunday 21st November at 10.30am – The Bishop of Manchester, The Right Reverend, Dr David Walker will join the special anniversary service, refreshments afterwards. Please contact via www.achurchnearyou.com if you would like to attend, as numbers will be limited. Details about our Bishop can be found on www.manchester.anglican.org

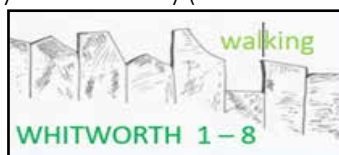
Saturday 11th December at 10.30am – 'Carols at the Co-op', come and sing Christmas carols with members of St John's and St Bartholomew's churches.

OUR Church is YOUR church, come along and help us celebrate.

WALKING WHITWORTH

Whitworth Sports Council's walking leaflets are now available, free, in lots of shops and other businesses across Whitworth – though you may have difficulty just now getting hold of the yellow pack: hoping to reprint soon. Many people have found solace in walking during the covid period when so many other activities have been unavailable: the idea of all these leaflets (8 different ones in each WW pack and 12 Strolls) is to help people to develop a pleasure in walking by varying their routes and taking a peek into areas of Whitworth's wonderful landscape that they might not previously have considered. All but one of the 36 walks are circular, but they vary in difficulty – the yellow ones are short, and as flat as can be managed in our valley! The green and the red are walks that will fit comfortably into a half-day (or a summer evening) for average walkers.

The blue ones are a bit more challenging. All are also downloadable from www.whitworth_sports_council.co.uk.



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01706 852183 • atomaldred@aol.com

Lynda Barnes (Conservative):

07944 116385 • lyndabarnes@rossendalebc.gov.uk

Donna Nutt (Community First):

07532 144924

Janet Whitehead (Independent):

07795 577647 • cllrjanetwhitehead@gmail.com

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HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:

David Chorlton (Independent):

07939 218266 • cllrddchorlton@gmail.com

William Calderbank (Community First):

07508 402278 • wcalderbank99@gmail.com

Maureen Jones (Community First):

07794 356610 • maureen5961@hotmail.com

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WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES:

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FORTHCOMING WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Thurs 9 Sept, Thurs 23 Sept, Thurs 7 Oct, Thurs 21 Oct, Thurs 4 Nov, Thurs 18 Nov, Thurs 2 Dec

All meetings are open to the public and take place at 7.30pm. Meetings take place in the Council Chamber at 7.30pm. See the website for details or contact the Town Clerk.

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:

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Rossendale Borough Council: 01706 217777 (council tax, bin collections and other services) • 0300 222 5944 (revenues and benefits) 0300 222 5946 (out of hours emergencies) • www.rossendale.gov.uk

The Lighthouse Community Foodshare: 551-553 Market Street Whitworth Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday between 10am and 3pm by appointment only • lighthousefoodshare@gmail.com • 07922 951 096

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Although we have made every effort to make sure the content is up to date, due to changing restrictions imposed by the government there could be changes to services advertised and opening of businesses and other amenities.

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