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VALLEY NEWS



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

10TH

Anniversary
Edition!



SUNDAY
17TH MAY 2015

WHITWORTH SKYLINE

2

More information inside...



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MESSAGE FROM THE ~~MAYOR~~ Clerk ³

Well now. With elections taking place and the former Deputy Mayor (who would ordinarily become Mayor) stepping down for personal reasons, at the time of going to print we don't know who our new Mayor will be. I suppose I could have left the page blank, but never wanting to miss an opportunity to stick my two penneth in...

Firstly, this edition celebrates 10 years of the Whitworth Valley News. The magazine is delivered to all homes in the Valley by Whitworth Sports Council volunteers. It is often oversubscribed for editorial contributions and there's a waiting list for advertising, so clearly it's working well as a way of spreading the good word about the wealth of talent, businesses, groups and events we have in our wonderful town.



There's a huge amount going on in Whitworth over the next couple of months – including the Skyline Walk, Sports Festival, Scarecrow Festival and Family Fun Day at the Riverside to name but a few. All these events are run by volunteers on the Sports Council and Tourism and Leisure Committee. They are constantly looking for new blood, from new Committees members to those who can give half an hour of their time to marshal processions. Please, please consider offering some time to them – these events can't happen by themselves and any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

May 2015 brings new opportunities and sad farewells for the Town Council. We say goodbye and sincere thanks to David Barnes and Marie Gibbons, both of whom have decided not to stand as councillors this time round. At the same time, we offer a warm welcome to two new councillors, Cheryl Brine and Donna Nutt, and look forward to working with them over the next four years. Councillor contact details can be found on page 7 and on the outer back cover. The year ahead will, I'm sure, be as busy and varied as always, and this job certainly keeps me on my toes. I have a 'to do' list as long as my arm and never enough time to do it in! If you have any queries about the Town Council or are looking for Whitworth-related information do contact me – if I can't help you I usually know someone who can. My contact details are on the outer back page, too.

**With very best wishes,
Karen, Town Clerk**

2015 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sun 17 May: Whitworth Skyline Walk
Sat 6 June – Sun 14 June: Sports Festival
Sat 27 June – Sun 5 July: Scarecrow Festival
Sun 5 July: Family Fun Day: Whitworth by the Sea
Sun 19 July: Brass in the Park (Memorial Gardens)
Sun 6 Sept: Rushcart**

See back outer page for dates of forthcoming town council meetings

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WHITWORTH NEWS

WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND

The bands are now preparing for a very busy summer schedule. The annual St George's concert in April was a huge success with a fantastic performance from the youth band a highlight of the evening. The band will lead Edenfield's Whit Sunday parade on Sunday 24 May, and will perform at Ramsbottom's War Weekend celebrations the following day. On 31 May it's the annual Slow Melody competition at the Riverside at 1pm, when band members compete against each other playing solo pieces; all welcome.

Other events include the Family Fun Day at the Riverside on 5 July, the Jimmy Grogan memorial concert at the Riverside on 12 July and Proms in the Park on 19 July. The band will enter Yorkshire's Hardraw Scar contest in September for the first time in almost 20 years, and are delighted and proud to have been invited to Kandel in Germany in August to participate in the 50th town twinning anniversary celebrations; the band always receives a warm welcome in our twin town. For band enquiries, if you'd like to learn an instrument or want your child to join the youth band, contact Michael Whitby on 852613; senior band rehearsals are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8pm, youth band rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7pm.



The Band processing through Whitworth.
Photo by Mike Burgess, used with kind permission

WHITWORTH VALE & HEALEY BAND CLUB

The Club is delighted to announce that you can now drink award-winning cask ales in an award-winning Club! It has just been voted Best Club in Rossendale and runner-up as Best Club in East Lancashire by The East Lancashire Branch of CAMRA. John Brierley from the Club says: "It's a great testament to the hard work put in by Stewards Gillian and June in keeping a brilliant cellar, and those on the Committee who select the fantastic ales." As part of the Club's commitment to selecting the finest cask ales they're now providing high end abv ales from selected micro-breweries and iconic ales on a guest basis. Priced at just £2.95 a pint you'll find ales of 5.0% abv and higher as well as iconic ales such as 'Old Speckled Hen' and 'Landlord' on a regular basis. The Club has introduced a new take-away service, called Open All Hours. If you fancy enjoying ales, beers and lagers in the comfort of your own home, you can now with a handy little two pint hopper. Sealed watertight for safe transit you pay whatever the price is on the pumps. All Club events are advertised on its Facebook page, and the Club is available during the day for events such as funerals and christenings, with a small meeting room also available – all free of charge to use. Contact Gillian and June on 852484 for further details.

WHITWORTH GUIDES AND SENIOR SECTION



Guides and Senior Section sell cakes to raise funds

This summer, 1st Whitworth Guides and Whitworth Senior Section will be taking part in the Rossendale Relay for Life in aid of Cancer Research UK. To start their fundraising the Guides and Senior Section held a bake sale and sold cakes, books and jewellery to the Rainbows and Brownies. They raised £38 and hope to hold other fundraising events before the Relay for Life to reach their target donation. Guides have already been washing cars and doing jobs at home to raise more funds for the total. Guides and Senior Section are looking for new members - if you have girls or young women aged 10 years or over, please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/parents.aspx for contact details and to find out more about the Guide and Senior Section programme.



WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD



Councillor Tom Aldred
(Labour)
Tel: 01706 852183
Email: atomaldred@aol.com



Councillor Lynda Barnes
(Conservative)
Tel: 01706 853635 / 07944 116385
Email: clrllyndabarnes@hotmail.co.uk



Councillor Madeline De Souza
(Independent)
Tel: 01706 853895
Email: madeline30950@btinternet.com



Councillor Jim Mellor
(Conservative)
Tel: 01706 853479 / 07973 421145
Email: jim.mellor47@btinternet.com



Councillor Donna Nutt
(Community First)
Tel: 07532 144924



Councillor Sean Serridge
(Labour)
Tel: 01706 877008 / 07947 444732
Email: seanserridge@rossendalebc.gov.uk
sean.serridge@lancashire.gov.uk

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD



Councillor Cheryl Brine
(Community First)
Tel: 07950 728890
Email: cherylbrine@rocketmail.com



Councillor David Chorlton
(Independent)
Tel: 01706 869142 / 01706 853234
Email: david@ubswitworth.co.uk



Councillor Maureen Jones
(Community First)
Tel: 07794 356610
Email: maureen5961@hotmail.com



Councillor Ian Mycock
(Labour)
Tel: 01706 632823



Councillor Karen Ruane
(Community First)
Tel: 07772 534412
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The merger has created many more opportunities including more specialist fields that our firm will be able to help you with, and ensure that we can remain on the mortgage lender panels as we are a bigger firm.

We can be contacted on the new email address **kim.march@lancslaw.co.uk** and our telephone number remains the same - **01706 854167**. Our contact details will soon appear on the Lancashire Law Limited website.

The service which we provide to you is unchanged, as are the office location and staff.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued business, and we look forward to working with you in the future.

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WHITWORTH NEWS

LANCASHIRE LOST WAYS PROJECT

Do you enjoy researching old maps? Lancashire Local Access Forum is looking for volunteers to research and identify lost public rights of way. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW) proposes that all unrecorded footpaths and bridleways cannot be recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement after 1 January 2026 and the rights over them will be lost. Lancashire Local Access Forum wants to ensure worthwhile public rights of way currently unrecorded will not be lost at the 2026 cut-off, and your help is needed to identify them.

The Lancashire Lost Ways project aims to harness the enthusiasm and local knowledge of communities to identify previously unrecorded public rights of way. Whitworth volunteers will search records for good evidence of public rights of way in the town which are not currently recorded. Those routes will then be considered for inclusion on the Definitive Map and Statement; of particular interest are those which provide missing links in the network, lead into the countryside from residential areas or bypass busy roads.

The County Council hopes that by working in partnership with the community the process to have these rights of way legally recognised and safeguarded for future generations can begin. To register your interest in this scheme please email Linda Andersen (Linda.Andersen@lancashire.gov.uk) with your name, address, email, telephone number and which town / parish you live in.

SPRINGHILL HOSPICE COUNTRY FETE

Springhill Hospice will be holding a Traditional Country Fete at Rochdale Riding Club Showground, Roch Valley Way, Rochdale, OL11 4QH on Sunday 7 June, 10am - 4pm. Entry is a £1 donation. The event features a homebake and preserve competition, dog agility trials, a hawk and owl display, donkey rides, crafts markets and stalls, Punch and Judy, traditional fun fair, free circus workshop, face-painting and ice-cream. For more information contact Springhill Hospice on 01706 649920.

*Traditional
Country Fete*



SKILL TRADERS

Skill Traders is a Calico scheme delivered by Help Direct which encourages people to exchange favours, creating a stronger community through the sharing of skills and life experiences.

People 'earn' hours by doing a favour, which they can then 'spend' on learning a new skill or having someone do a favour for them. Since February, Skill Traders volunteers have earned 85 hours carrying out things like babysitting, cooking and visiting vulnerable adults, and have spent 40 hours. Skill Traders is always looking for people with all sorts of skills, and would love to find a baker to facilitate a group in Whitworth teaching others how to bake and decorate cupcakes and a Chinese speaking person to teach a gentleman to write and speak Chinese. Additionally, if you would like to learn quilting, or already have quilting skills but would like to learn more or share your experience, why not visit the Skill Traders Quilting Group at Central Methodist, Burnley Road, Bacup on 12 and 26 May from 10am-12noon, and every fortnight thereafter? If you're interested in any of the above, or if you have a skill you could share or something you would like to learn, contact Vikki Begley on 07855 274491 / 0303 333 1039 or email skilltraders@calico.org.uk.

WHITWORTH NEWS

TACKLING LAZY DOG OWNERS

Uncollected dog mess is a problem in Whitworth and across the UK – it clogs up shoes, prams and wheelchairs, smells, and is a danger to our children's health, as they're more likely to fall or slip in it. Our Town Clerk takes more phonecalls and emails on this issue than pretty much any other. While the Town Council isn't the authority with the powers to legislate against the problem, it is nonetheless trying to tackle the problem as best it can through a number of ideas and initiatives. In addition to the spray painting of 'clear it up' signage on pavements in hot-spot areas, as detailed in the last edition of this magazine, the Town Council has produced window clings – like stickers but without the stickiness. They are being delivered to homes and businesses on the main road and in areas with problems around uncollected mess, and it is hoped that by displaying these in front windows they will act as a deterrent and embarrass the perpetrators into changing their ways. This problem is down to a relatively small number of irresponsible owners – realistically we will never eradicate the problem entirely, but with your help, the Town Council can try and make Whitworth a cleaner and better place to live.

YUK!



**Keep Whitworth
safe & clean**

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A Whitworth Town Council Initiative: www.whitworth.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE TEENAGERS CREATE NEW RELATIONSHIP APP

Here's one that may be of interest to Whitworth teenagers. Lancashire Youth Council's Sex and Relationships campaign group has been involved in developing a new smartphone app to help young people take control of their relationships, working with young people from across the world. Young people who feel they are being manipulated by their partner can get advice and support from 'stiritapp', which can be accessed via <http://stiritup.eu/>. Stiritapp uses stories and quizzes to encourage young people to think about positive ways to work their way through difficult relationships, as well as offering support and advice. It comes after studies showed that more than 4 in 10 English teenage schoolgirls reported experiencing sexual coercion, and many 13-17 year olds had also suffered physical attacks, intimidation or emotional coercion. Young people from Lancashire helped design questionnaires that were completed by 4,500 teenagers in England, Norway, Italy, Bulgaria and Cyprus. Their work was recently showcased at a Safeguarding Teenage Intimate Relationships (STIR) convention in London. The group is planning to go into schools to promote the app and is designing posters for schools, youth clubs and other places where young people can see the information.



Members of the Lancashire Youth Council with Hans Mundry from Lancashire County Council's Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service



WALKING FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE RAFT FOUNDATION

The Raft Foundation is a community group formed in 2012 to serve and support the Rossendale community. Projects to date include the provision of the largest food bank in the Valley – in 2014, the organisation delivered over 44,000 meals. To raise funds, the Raft Foundation is holding its second Walking Football tournament on Saturday 13 June at Marl Pits in Rawtenstall. Whitworth Photographic Society will be acting as the tournament's official photographers. Teams can still enter, so if anyone from Whitworth fancies having a go, visit www.raftfoundation.org for more information.

BUSINESS NEWS

NEW SHOP OPENS IN FACIT

Whitworth has just welcomed its first vape shop, specialising in the increasingly popular electronic cigarettes and personal vapourisers. The business has been set up by Judy Furtado and partner Keith Anderson who have lived in Whitworth for 31 years. Judy says: "Both myself and Keith used personal vaporisers to quit smoking a couple of years ago and have found the health and financial benefits compared to smoking amazing. As a result, we're passionate about promoting these products to others who would like to cut down on smoking or quit completely."

Vapourway stocks a wide range of e-cigarettes and personal vaporisers, accessories and e-liquids and has a Taster Bar so you can try out a range of flavours before you buy. Keith says: "We decided to open our shop in Whitworth to fill a need for local people who had to travel further afield to obtain these products. We're happy to help and offer advice to people, whether they already use e-cigarettes or vapourizers or are looking to find out more about them."

Vapourway is situated on the corner of Edward Street and Market Street, opposite UBS, and is open from Monday to Saturday. For more information please phone 01706 433741, email vapourway@yahoo.com or visit www.vapour-way.co.uk.



WHITWORTH RESIDENT STARTS UP RECRUITMENT AGENCY

Clare Greenwood, a Whitworth resident, has opened up a new business, B2B recruitment. The business is based in Rawtenstall and assists employers in getting the best staff for their business and helps candidates find the right job or apprenticeship. B2B specialises in various sectors including nurses and support workers, teachers and teaching assistants, admin support and engineering labourers. The business has been trading since January and so far business has been brisk. For more information on B2B recruitment, visit www.b2brecruitment.agency, or call 01706 551819.

THE BUTTERFLY ROOM SOARS TO NEW HEIGHTS

The Butterfly Room, located at the Fudge Factory in Facit, opened last October and has had an excellent first six months in business. Manager Racheal Biggs could not be happier; she says: "I'd like to take this opportunity, through the Valley News magazine, to thank everyone who has visited and supported The Butterfly Room. I'm delighted that we've had some fantastic reviews on Facebook, with visitors giving us 5-star ratings, and our Spa Pamper Days with afternoon tea have been hugely successful. We're also very proud to have supported a number of local fundraising events through the donation of Butterfly Room gift vouchers." Due to increasing demand for appointments, The Butterfly Room has taken on another member of staff and welcomes Natalie Broxup, a fully qualified beautician and acrylic nail technician. The Butterfly Room has some fabulous offers coming up for summer; if you'd like a price list you can email rk.biggs@hotmail.co.uk or text PRICELIST followed by your email address to 07968 116667.



WHITWORTH NEWS

WHITWORTH BY THE SEA – A DAY OF FAMILY FUN

The Family Fun Day organised by the Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee is back! On Sunday 5 July - for one day only - Whitworth will again be by the seaside! All the fun of a day at the beach will be available right



on your doorstep on the Riverside car park. There'll be lots of attractions including rides, candy floss and ice cream, and prizes for the bonniest baby, the knobbliest knees and the most glamorous granny! Our fantastic Whitworth Vale and Healey Band will be playing lots of traditional seaside tunes, and there'll be Punch and Judy, face-painting, and the announcement of the winner of the Scarecrow Festival. So get some knots in your hanky, grab your sunscreen and head for 'the beach'. Come along, bring all the family and join in with the fun of the fair – and have a glass of Grogan's Delight real ale whilst you're at it (and you never know – the sun may even shine too!). For more information, please contact the Riverside on 01706 854130.

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WHITWORTH NEWS



INSPECTOR PAUL LEIGH, LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY

"Greetings to you all; I hope the worst of the cold weather is now over and we can look forward to a beautiful Whitworth summer. With the improvement in the weather and the longer evenings this is a great time to be out in our gardens or to open the windows in our homes to let the fresh air in. However there's always the risk of someone seeing this as a potential opportunity to sneak into properties. These offences are rare and I wouldn't want to discourage people from making the most of the summer (it may not be that long!) however by taking simple precautions and remaining vigilant you can deter potential offenders and prevent the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime.



**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

Another benefit of the sunny evening is that Whitworth's young people can play out and enjoy some physical activity away from their televisions and games consoles. I would ask that parents are proactive in knowing where and what their children are doing. We've recently successfully bid for £700 to repair damage at the bowling green and replace plants. Hopefully there are young people willing to get involved in the planting over the next few months and maybe try a game of bowls. We work and live in a beautiful, safe and peaceful part of Lancashire and by pulling together as a community we can keep it that way." *For contact details for the Police, see the outer back page.*

DID YOU KNOW... that Facit Garden Centre does an amazing, tasty, great value fruit / veg boxes for a just a tenner? Actual example pictured here (thanks for the pic, Mike Burgess). Whit'oth folk have been raving and salivating over them on Facebook – pop up and see Donna to get yours, or phone her on 07532 144924.



WHITWORTH CARE TRUST SERVICES SECURED FOR FUTURE WITH PLANS FOR NEW 28 BED FACILITY

Whitworth Care Trust has received planning permission to relocate to a new site, ensuring their services for older people stay in the village. Proposals for a 28 bed, two-storey facility providing residential and nursing care have been approved. Due for completion in January 2016, the scheme will improve accommodation standards and provide extra places to ensure support is sustainable in the long term. Services will continue to be delivered at the existing Market Street site in the meantime. The news follows a recent inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) – the high quality of care delivered by staff was reflected in the report, and the service received a 'Good' rating.

Jill Webster, Care and New Business Manager, said: "We're delighted that planning permission has been granted. The new development will guarantee that residents will be able to access valuable care and support for the foreseeable future. We're also pleased with the CQC's feedback. The report confirms that our team is best placed to deliver the essential care our residents receive." Whitworth Care Trust provides residential accommodation and support services for older people. For more information, visit www.whitworthcaretrust.org.uk or call 01706 659917.

CHURCH NEWS

PALM SUNDAY DONKEY WALK

St Bartholomew's and St John the Evangelist Churches organised a walk through the streets of Whitworth behind a donkey to celebrate Palm Sunday. Starting at St Bartholomew's School and following a short service there, the group sang hymns along the way before meeting on Whitworth Medical Centre car park. Around 50 people became wet and bedraggled in the rain, but got the message across loud and clear. The donkey did not complain once...



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.

Regulars:

Sunday Services: 10.30am

Toddler Group: Mon & Wed, 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: 11am-1.00pm (2nd Sat in the month)

HALLFOLD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



Little Jazz Funk Orchestra

The Little Jazz Funk Orchestra is a full size big band based in Littleborough playing an excellent range of music from the 30s, 40s and 50s. Hallfold United Reformed Church on Hall Street is pleased to be holding a concert featuring this popular band on Saturday 15 August at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 and are available from Mr Furness on 01706 344894. Tea and coffee will be served but if required please bring your own bottle. The Church is also holding its annual Vintage Tea Party on Saturday 20 June between 3pm and 5pm. The cost of this event is £5 and includes an afternoon tea of sandwiches and homemade cakes. Morning worship at Hallfold is held each Sunday at 10.45am; everyone welcome.



**Saturday 6 –
Sunday 14 June 2015**

A celebration of Whitworth sporting activity for participants and spectators

COLOUR KEY:

	Must enter in advance
	Turn Up and Join In
	Climb Prize

No World Cup and no Olympics this year, so no excuse for not getting involved in the greatest sporting extravaganza of 2015 – Whitworth Sports Festival. Full details below, but if stuck call Jo Furtado on 853442, or go to www.whitworth-sports-council.co.uk.

■ **SAMBA DANCE** on Station Road, Facit (tel. 854960) are giving you the chance to try out lots of their classes, FREE. The classes are printed in the schedule, but those classes run at that time every week, so you can take advantage of Samba's kind offer any time in June 2015, not just during Festival.

■ The **HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS HALL GYM** usually charges new members a signing-on fee. Throughout June 2015 you won't have to pay that fee. Just turn up (Mon-Fri) after 5pm and Dawn will set up your induction.

■ **WHITWORTH WATER-SKI**, during Festival only, is offering anyone the chance to try out any of their activities at member rates. Ring 852151 for details.

Our friends at **CLAW** will once again be giving **free swim tokens** to all who take part in Festival events. They can be redeemed at the Leisure Centre on John Street at any appropriate time until July 14 (under-8s must be accompanied in the pool).

Climb ROCHDALE is, for a third consecutive year, offering prizes for many of our events. Their kindness comes in the form of vouchers allowing winners a free climbing session (kit provided) at their splendid multi-wall centre. For more info go to www.climbrochdale.com. Festival prize events are marked with the pink **Climb ROCHDALE** logo. Even if you don't win a voucher, reduced price of £3.50 applies throughout June if you show this copy of the Valley News.

ENTRY FORMS for all those events that require **PRE-ENTRY** be available this year from:

*The Riverside • The Leisure Centre (Baths) • The Sports Hall • The Library
All Whitworth Schools • Young People's Centre (515 Centre)*

Your entry form can be returned, with entry fee, to any of these places – it doesn't have to be the place you picked it up. **BUT** do please read entry forms carefully to see **WHEN** you must return them by, and please note that **different events have different deadlines**.

SAT 6 JUNE: OPENING DAY (all events at the High School, Hall Street)

12.45pm: OPENING CEREMONY (Sports hall steps): The Mayor of Whitworth will declare our Sports Festival officially open.

1pm: REBOUND (in the Sports Hall)

This is trampolining for athletes with disabilities. If this is for you, please ring Amy Taylor on 07734 488803 to book a place and make any appropriate arrangements.

1pm: FAMILY & FRIENDS 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL (on the High School field)

This was one of the highlights last year, so we're hoping for even more participants this year. The idea is that you create your own team – a squad of 7 (max.) including at least one female player, at least one veteran (40+), two under-15s, and no more than 3 males aged 16-40. (Female, vet and at least one under-15 must be on the pitch throughout.) No entry fee, but ring *in advance* to enter your team – John Leyland (854380) or Jo Furtado (07813 180748).

1pm: ROUNDEERS (on the High School field)

You can enter a team by contacting Kim Bleazard (07931760303), or you can come along as an individual/bunch of mates/family – but get there a bit early, please – and Kim will try to find you a team to play for. Male or female, any age, any level of experience – just come and have some fun.

SAT 6 JUNE: OPENING DAY (continued...)


The previous two events may come with added **tug-of-war** competition midway through the afternoon.

Also on the field, all afternoon, **MINI SPORTS** – simple, traditional, fun events for those too young to be involved in the main sports. And Rochdale **PILATES** Group will be with us too, offering anyone who wishes the chance to try out their discipline. Refreshments available throughout the afternoon. ■











SUN 7 JUNE	10am	JUNIOR FOOTBALL	Valley FC, Rawstron Street	The green-and-whites, Whitworth Juniors (under-6, -7, -8 and -9), will be taking on invited visiting clubs in our now-traditional mini-festival.
	10am	BOWLING ■ ▲	Festival Park (next to the Riverside)	This tournament is for newcomers to have a taste of the subtle art, in that organiser Joe Warburton will pair them up with more experienced partners, and give them plenty of games. You can enter by picking up an entry form at bowling clubs, or ringing Joe on 853457, or turning up ten minutes early and asking for him. Bring a packed lunch (drinks available) to commit to a few competitively relaxing hours.
	10am	SHOWJUMPING	The Arena (above the stables, Cowm Park Way – signposted)	This one is for spectators, unless Jenny's invited you to take part, of course. It's a lovely venue (unless the weather's horizontal), with refreshments available, and a real close-up view of horses and skilful riders in action. Bring a folding chair.




MON 8 JUNE	3.30pm	JUNIOR SCHOOL CRICKET ▲	High School Sports Hall, Hallfold	Tonacliffe School won the Hiram Slack trophy last year, so they'll be all out to retain it this time around. Our thanks to Paul Gallagher of Rossendale Leisure Trust for his coaching in our primary schools and for running this event.
	6pm	JUNIOR BADMINTON ■ ▲	High Sch. Sports Hall, Hallfold	Two separate tournaments, one for years 6, 7 and 8; one for years 9, 10 and 11. You don't have to be a club member to enter, but you do have to fill in a PRE-ENTRY form, or contact Paul Shiel (853115).
	7pm	POOL (Boys' night) ■	Young People's Centre, 515 Market Street	A new format this year, with tonight being a chance for all the boys, of whatever age, club members or not, to prove they are numero uno with the cue. To enter, speak to Gill Pearson, at the club, or on 853646, or turn up at 7pm on the night.
	7pm (Juniors) 8pm (adults)	THAI BOXING ■	The Stables, Station Rd, Facit OL12 8LJ	This is the club's regular training night, but tonight these are open sessions where anyone can come along and find out what this sport is all about. Just turn up at The Stables (it'll be signposted), introduce yourself to Andy Hughes, and he'll get you started. No charge, but wear shorts and a T-shirt that won't restrict your movement.
FREE Samba Dance tasters! 4.15pm Tiny Tap (3-7 yrs) / 5pm Uni-Ted Ballet (3-6 yrs) / 6pm Ballet Fusion / 6pm Bums, Legs & Turns (adult) / 7pm Old School Aerobics				


TUES 9 JUNE	9.30am	JUNIOR TAG RUGBY ▲	Valley FC, Rawstron Street	This tournament is being organised for us by Rochdale Hornets Foundation, and if it's anything like last year's it'll be a belter. Hornets will have been in our local schools doing some introductory coaching in the weeks before this, but the tournament will also feature some Rochdale schools who are rather more experienced.
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	6.45pm onward	RUNNING (TREACLE CHALLENGE) 	Cowm Reservoir	The fourth edition, and we very much hope to attract over 50 runners, as we have previously, to take on the 400-yard time-trial, from Rachel-gate to the Treacle memorial. You must be in year 6 at school or older to compete – there is no upper age limit. PRE-ENTRY essential – strictly NO ENTRY on the night.
FREE Samba Dance tasters! 5pm Street Dance (4-9yrs) / 7pm Lyrical Slow Dance (9yrs+)				




WED 10 JUNE	3.30pm	JUNIOR SCHOOL BASKETBALL 	High School Sports Hall	Who will pick up the Mollie Campbell trophy this year?
	5pm	PONY-GO-ROUND 	Cowm Reservoir	Jenny Fallon and her team invite anyone aged 4-12 the chance to ride a horse, completely free of charge, along the side of the reservoir. Just turn up, wearing old clothes and low heels: please be prepared to wait – the event can be very popular! Refreshments available.
	5.30pm	CLIMBING  	High School Sports Hall	Another turn-up-and-it's-free event. This is for adults as well as children; you don't need any experience, just a pair of trainers and the willingness to give it a go. The qualified instructors will provide helmet and harness, and will belay your climb. Climb voucher for anyone who gets to the top by two different routes.
	7pm	POOL (Girls' night)  	Young People's Centre, 515 Market Street	So, who gets to be Queen of the blue baize? This tournament is open to girls of whatever age, and you don't have to be a club member. Speak to Gill Pearson at the club or on 853646, or turn up at 7pm.
	7pm	SENIOR FELL RACE  	Scout Hut, Longacres Lane	A new place in the week for this event. Runners start on Edward Street, then run up and over Brown Wardle, and back again to finish near the cemetery gates. This is a very short fell race, and as such is doable by novices - Robbie Blezard ran it last year - but it is challenging. Minimum age for entry is 14 on the night, but 14-15 year-olds need parental signature on entry form. Whatever your age, if you fancy a go, registration is at the Scout Hut on Longacres Lane from 5.30pm, or ring Andy Lee on 344436.
	7.15pm	TABLE TENNIS  	High School Sports Hall	Tables will be available for families and others who simply want to turn up and have a go, but the stars of the High School will also take on all-comers in a mini-tournament. You can book a place in that via entry form or Mr Cawley at the High School or Jo Furtado (853442), or you can just arrive. All bats and balls provided.
FREE Samba Dance tasters! 4pm Freestyle Disco (4-9yrs) / 5pm Freestyle Disco (9yrs+) / 5.30pm Street Dance (9yrs+) / 7.30pm Adult Freestyle				

THURS 11 JUNE	3.30pm	JUNIOR SCHOOL NETBALL  	High School Sports Hall	Our thanks to Vicky Tighe for running this event. Hot favourites – the holders, Thorn School from Bacup. But can one of Whitworth's quartet spring a surprise?
	4.30pm	JUNIOR GOLF 	Lobden Golf Club	Free golf coaching <i>and a free tea!</i> And clubs are provided too. How good is that!? This is open to anyone, male or female, up to the age of 16, whether you're a complete beginner or you've sort of had a go before and want to try again. Just turn up and Kevin will see you right.




	7pm	JUNIOR FELL RACE 	Brown Wardle	A new starting line this year, and a new finish up at the Golf Club, but essentially the same route as ever, 3.5 km over Brown Wardle. Open to anyone between the ages of 7 (no younger, as of this year) and 16, with certificates and refreshments for all runners. Will we top a hundred entrants, as we did last year? And how many runners can crack the 20-minute barrier? You MUST PRE-ENTER – no entry on the night.
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FREE Samba Dance tasters! 1.30pm Teeny Boppers – Music and Song (18months+) / 4pm Samba Storm Cheerleading (9yrs+) / 7pm Zumba Dance Exercise (adults)

FRI 12 JUNE	3.30pm	BOCCIA 	High School Sports Hall	Boccia is a form of indoor boules, where the idea is to get the red/blue balls as close to the jack as possible. It can be played equally by able-bodied and disabled athletes. So, if you fancy trying it out, you can simply come along to the Sports Hall for instruction, or you can book a place by ringing Amy Taylor on 07734 488803.
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FREE Samba Dance tasters! Sorry, can't offer you anything today – all classes FULL!

SAT 13 JUNE	10am onwards	MOTORCYCLING 	Whitworth Quarry	John Whittle can't offer anything during Festival this year, as he's on the Isle of Man, but if this is a sport you're interested in, even if you've never tried it before, you can turn up at the quarry any Saturday and John will be delighted to share his passion for all things bikey with you. Just not <i>this</i> Saturday!
	10am (ladies) 11am (juniors) 12noon (mixed adults)	THAI BOXING 	The Stables, Station Rd, Facit OL12 8LJ	Another chance to try out this very different sport. No experience necessary – just turn up, suitably kitted, ask for Andy Hughes, and away you go. The Stables is near Samba Dance, off Station Road, Facit, and there will be signs and a warm welcome!
	10am	FOOTBALL (Girls)	Valley FC, Rawstron Street	The green-and-white-and-pinks, Whitworth Valley Under-11 Girls, conclude their promising first season with a mini-tournament against invited rivals.
	1pm	BOULES 	Sportsman, 464 Market Street	Turn up and join in – that simple!

FREE Samba Dance tasters! 9.15am Mini Movers Pre School Fun Dance (2yrs+) / 10.15am Uni Ted Ballet (3-6yrs)

SUN 14 JUNE	8am	SPLASH AND DASH 	Leisure Centre / Cowm Reservoir	Whitworth's own Iron Child event – 8 lengths of the pool followed by a 1.75 mile run up to the res. and round it. PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL
	2pm	CLOSING CEREMONY 	The Riverside	This is where we come together to celebrate some of the week's achievements, including the award of the Ian Clegg Legend trophy to someone who has contributed or achieved a lot during this Festival: last year, by a whisker, Robbie Blezard. There will also be a slide loop of Festival events, and photos you can order from Jim Mellor, a display by Valley Thai Boxing club, a raffle, a game of stand-up bingo and, for those of a thirsty disposition, the bar.

**TURN UP
and
JOIN IN!**

WHITWORTH SCARECROW FESTIVAL

**DON'T FORGET TO ENTER – THE DEADLINE IS FRIDAY 12 JUNE. FILL IN THIS FORM AND DROP IT IN, WITH YOUR £1, TO ANY OF THE VENUES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.
THANKS FOR TAKING PART!**

WHITWORTH SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2015

ENTRY FORM



YOUR DETAILS (all those marked with * are required):

Your name and contact details are for the organiser's use only; your address and the name of your display are the only bits of information that will be included on the Trail Map.

Your name *: _____

Your address (incl. postcode) *: _____

Your contact tel no *: _____

Your email address: _____

£1 entry fee paid: YES / NO

YOUR SCARECROW'S DETAILS:

Name of your scarecrow or scarecrow display (as it will appear on the Scarecrow Trail map) *:

Location of your scarecrow display (if different from your address as above) incl. postcode *:

THE OFFICIAL BIT: By signing this entry form and paying my £1 (non-refundable), I agree to display my scarecrow(s) between Sat 27 June and Sun 5 July. I understand that there may be people who will come and look at my creation. If I am unable to show a scarecrow I will do my best to let the organisers know before 12 June. I understand that if my scarecrow display is deemed to be inappropriate I may be asked to remove it. I understand that I may be asked to display a laminated Scarecrow Festival poster next to my display.

SIGNED: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Please return this form to one of the venues listed below by FRIDAY 12 JUNE 2015:

- Council Offices, Civic Hall, Market Street, Whitworth
- The Riverside (Civic Hall), Market Street, Whitworth
- Whitworth Post Office, Market Street, Whitworth
- UBS, 699 Market Street, Whitworth

For more information:

Please contact Karen Douglas, Town Clerk, on 01706 852018 / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

WHITWORTH NEWS

SHOP LOCAL FOOD & CRAFT FAIR CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY



On Saturday 18 July the organisers of the Shop Local Food & Craft Fairs will be celebrating its first anniversary with a meal at Berni Inn in Facit. Tickets are £15 per person and can be booked by phoning Lynn Knight on 07545 914826. The Committee will also be donating a total of £500 to be split between five local organisations. The Committee is asking the Whitworth community to vote for the group (or groups) they most feel deserve £100. For a list of the organisations and to cast your vote, visit Facebook and search for Shop Local Food And Craft Fair; votes must be cast by midnight on 13 June.

BLOOD DONATION SESSION IN WHITWORTH

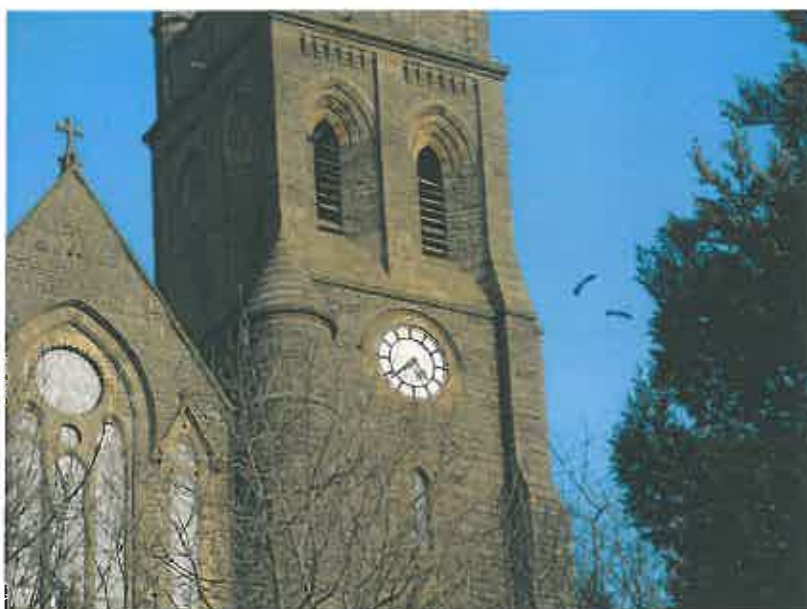
For those of you who like to donate blood, there will be donation sessions on Wednesday 27 May at the Riverside. The sessions are from 1.15pm – 3.30pm and from 5.15pm - 7.30pm. Appointments aren't always necessary, and you can always go along to find out more without giving blood on the day. For more information or to make an appointment for 27 May, please call 0300 123 23 23 or visit www.blood.co.uk.



ST JOHN'S CLOCK

Tick tock, tick tock, can you hear St John's clock...? No, has been the answer for the past few months. However, after much discussion in the PCC it was decided that something should be done about it. The clock was installed in 1969 as a gift to St John's Church by the Train family. They decided that the clock should be dedicated to Mrs Ada Train, but that this should happen whilst she was alive, not afterwards, as is normally the case. Being 45 years old, the clock mechanism couldn't be repaired, as the parts were no longer in production, so a brand new system had to be installed together with two new face centres, as the old ones were cracked and dull.

However, nothing of this nature is straightforward. Upon stripping out the old mechanism, it was found that the metal straps fastened to the church tower walls to support the clock drive shafts were completely corroded and couldn't be adjusted. New ones were required at considerable extra cost. Thankfully, the work is now complete and the trusted timepiece began turning again on 19 March. Let's hope for 45 years more timekeeping from the clock on top of the hill for the people of Whitworth. Tick tock, tick tock, tick tock!



WHITWORTH NEWS



Photo taken by Society member Kevin Duffy, used with kind permission.

WHITWORTH PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Whitworth Photographic Society is now in its fifth year and goes from strength to strength. It's a friendly and enthusiastic society that welcomes everyone from complete beginners to experienced photographers. Throughout the year it holds regular presentations, trips out and club competitions to help members improve their photography skills. The trips out are of photographic interest; visit www.whitworthphotographicsociety.org.uk for syllabus details.

Earlier this year the Society held its annual competition with Bacup Camera Club. The judge Melvin Nicholson of Preston, reviewed and commented on each of the forty digital projected images entered by both clubs, and was impressed with the quality of the entries. It was a friendly and close run battle in which Bacup emerged winners with 74 points against Whitworth's 69 points. The Society is now looking forward to its first two-way battle with Rochdale Camera Club later this year.

Whitworth Photographic Society meets on the first and third Monday of each month in the band room at The Band Club, 498 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8QW at 8pm. New members are always welcome; for more information please contact Jim Mellor on 07973 421145.

START OF A NEW SEASON AT MOORLAND

This year the Rochdale Children's Moorland Home celebrates its 120th birthday. The current team based at Nab Farm is led by Becky Allatt who, along with recreational childcare workers Danny and Stacey, provide holidays in a healthy environment for over 300 children every year. Children are selected by the local social services department and from schools in underprivileged areas, or those providing extra support for children who have learning or physical difficulties. Despite today's society of electronic games and computers, the children can't get enough of traditional, liberating free fun, playing outdoors on the swings, trampolines, slides and wooden adventure play equipment. The fresh air and exercise ensure they get plenty of enjoyment and it's surprising how many of the children never get the chance to play outdoors like this. Come bedtime, they are worn out and ready for a good night's sleep.



This year will be just as busy as the last and lots of hard work has gone into preparing the home for the 2015 season. The home is totally funded by donations, and a great deal of gratitude is owed to various trusts, legacies and grants. For more information on the home and charity, visit www.rochdalechildrensmoorlandhome.org



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Sat: 12.30pm - 8.45pm

Sun: 12.30pm - 7.30pm

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WHITWORTH NEWS

WHITWORTH VALLEY FOOTBALL CLUB

The Club's 50th season has been one of the most successful in its history. 15 teams compete in 4 different leagues and, as we go to print, the roll of honour stands at First Team (Lancashire Amateur League [LAL] Division Two Champions), Second Team (LAL Division Six Champions, and LAL 2nd 11 Cup quarter finalists), Under 19s (Tameside League Cup Winners), under 11s Girls (Burnley and Unity Cup Finalists) and under 9s and under 10s (both North Bury Juniors Football League Cup Winners). The Club thanks all team managers; without their hard work and dedication the Club couldn't deliver hundreds of hours of competitive football and coaching each year.

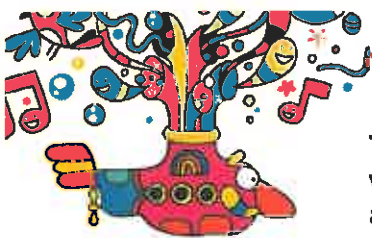


Valley's First Team; photo by Lisa McDowell, used with kind permission

As the Club grows and develops it needs more volunteers. If you're interested in helping out please contact Sam Hindley on 07971 833047 or e-mail whitworthvalley@hotmail.co.uk. Plans are afoot to:

- start a new primary aged girls football team (coaches required, training given - Jo Furtado 07813 180748);
- continue running an under 16s boys team (help to manage the team - John Leyland 07790 771368);
- develop a club website (Lisa McDowell 07873 706816);
- start a grounds maintenance group to improve and maintain the Rawstron Street site and other Whitworth pitches (John Leyland 07790 771368);
- change roles within the Club and appoint a new Treasurer (Danny O'Malley 07967 865597).

Tickets are still available for a fundraising evening on Saturday 23 May at the Riverside. Wild West theme (themed dress optional) and featuring The Jukebox Band. Tickets £30 (drinks reception, 4-course dinner, entertainment and disco). To book, contact Vanessa at Reflections on 01706 853353. Yee-hah!



THE ROSSENDALE 60'S FESTIVAL IS BACK

The Fabulous Rossendale 60's Festival is back in the Valley for its third year from 11 – 13 September. Each year, the Festival grows and new events are being added to make it bigger and better. The Festival offers numerous events that take place on different sites over a weekend, encompassing the

true spirit of the 60's. The Festival has established itself as one of the key events in the Rossendale Valley, and has to be experienced to be appreciated. The vast majority of events that took place last year have confirmed again for this year, including the hugely successful Whitstock at Rawtenstall's Whitaker museum and Scootfest at Haslingden Cricket Club. This year the Festival also sees two new major events - the famous Manchester Vintage will be holding a Vintage Market selling genuine, quality vintage clothing, and 'Rally in the Valley' is an event aimed at VW camper van owners and enthusiasts, which will be held at Marl Pits in Rawtenstall. And Berni Inn in Facit will be hosting a 'Blues' night on 12 September. For further updates on all of the exciting events, visit the Festival blog at www.rossendale60sfest.wordpress.com. Tickets are still available for the fundraising evening of entertainment on Saturday 23 May, at the Riverside. The evening has a Wild West theme (themed dress optional) and will feature The Jukebox Band. Tickets cost £30 for a drinks reception, 4-course dinner, entertainment and disco. To book, contact Vanessa at Reflections on 01706 853353. Yee-hah! If you're a business or organisation and you'd like to get involved, contact Barry Hyde at b.hyde3@ntlworld.com.

WHITWORTH NEWS

WHITWORTH SKYLINE WALK

Will you be walking the Skyline this Sunday? 330 people signed up last year, and 270+ completed all 14 miles in the most glorious of walking weather. This Sunday, May 17, is your chance to do it all again; or to join in for the first time, and, hopefully, have a great day out on the hills. If you've pre-entered you'll know the details. If you haven't, and you're reading this on Wednesday or before, you can still fill in an entry form at the Leisure Centre or the Riverside or the Sports Hall and hand over your £3. You can also enter on the day at Lobden Golf Club between 8am and 9am (NB no dogs, sorry) but it will cost you £5. Please make sure you're well kitted out – walking boots or the equivalent, waterproofs (at least to carry), and at least one layer of clothing more than you think you're going to need, because it's always cooler on the tops. The 14 miles will take you, probably, between 6 and 10 hours, so bring a snack or two, and a drink, although there will be juice/water available to you at each checkpoint (roughly every 3 miles), a burger van en route and a meal at the finish back at the Golf Club. At two of the checkpoints (3 miles and 9 miles) it's possible to drop out; so if you're not confident of the full monty you might like to consider a shorter burst of activity! Hope to see you there!



The inaugural 2014 event. Photo by Mike Burgess; used with kind permission.

GALLERY AT THE BATHS

The Gallery at the Baths continues to feature exhibitions by a variety of local groups, events and individuals. If you're quick you'll catch images of Whitworth Skyline walk 2014. Next up are:

May 15 – June 5	Whitworth Sports Festival Retrospective
June 5 – 26	St John with St Michael School
June 26 – July 17	Whitworth Sports Festival 2015
July 17 - August 7	St Bartholomew's School
August 7 – 28	Family Fun Day and Scarecrows!

If you would like to exhibit at any point from September on, please contact Christine Ashcroft (01706 853012) or Jo Furtado (01706 853442 or 07813180748), or leave your name/number at the Leisure Centre desk and someone will get back to you.

WHITWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY - THE HIDDEN SHOE

The term 'Deliberately Concealed Garments' describes items of clothing, often belonging to children, that have been deliberately hidden within the structure or fabric of a building. Evidence suggests this practice dates back to the Middle Ages but the reason for doing so is unknown. Whitworth Museum has such an object in the form of a child's shoe which is believed to date from the late 18th Century. The shoe was uncovered by local builders during a restoration project on a house in Taylor Street, Whitworth. Discovery of these objects, although not uncommon, is nevertheless historically significant. The condition of the article at time of concealment is thought to have some relevance but the reasoning behind this is not known. The museum's exhibit is clearly well-worn and the inner sole, whether by accident or design, has been fractured. The hand welted construction, used from c.1500 onwards, helps in dating the item although without the use of advanced techniques complete accuracy is not possible. This item and many others can be seen at Whitworth Museum in North Street; admission is free and the museum is open throughout the year on Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm and on Saturdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm.



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ANNUAL REPORT, WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

MAYOR'S OVERVIEW

Time certainly flies when you're having fun – I can scarcely believe that it's twelve months since the last Annual Parish meeting. As Mayor and Mayoress, Susan and I have had a wonderful, fulfilling, privileged time – we've been invited to well over 100 events in Whitworth and further afield and have managed to get to all but a handful of them. Personal highlights include the Sports Festival last June and November's Remembrance commemorations – our Festival of Remembrance concert sold out and I was astonished and humbled by the numbers who paid their respects on Remembrance Sunday. I've also hugely enjoyed chairing meetings of the town council, and I thank the members of the public who have attended our meetings to raise issues or concerns.

The Town Council continues to be at the fore of a variety of initiatives, and many are detailed here; it provides a dedicated service to the town whilst staying within its limited budget. It is through prudent financial management and much discussion and research that the Council has again managed to keep its precept at the same level, with a 0% increase for the fifth year running. Over and above core duties, the Town Council works alongside other councils and agency organisations, and with residents and businesses, to get the best for Whitworth and its residents. The Town Council often leads on these discussions and our Clerk facilitates numerous meetings throughout the year. The Town Council also upholds the rights and values of the town in its role as a pressure group and a sounding board for local opinion.

2015 has been an election year for the Town Council, with all 12 seats available. As it turned out, 12 candidates were nominated and so the election was uncontested. We say a fond farewell and offer grateful thanks to David Barnes and Marie Gibbons, who decided not to stand again this time. We also extend a warm welcome to new councillors Cheryl Brine and Donna Nutt and look forward to working with them.

Over and above the Town Council, our wonderful community rallies around to make sure that there are events and initiatives taking place throughout the year. There are many organisations and charities that work tirelessly, many on a voluntary basis, to improve Whitworth and make it a great place to live. It never ceases to amaze me how a relatively small town can have so much taking place within it, and so many devoted, hard working members of the community. We have an enviable amount and variety of sporting and leisure activities available all year round; the Tourism and Leisure Committee and Sports Council both produce events and festivals, working with other local organisations, often on a voluntary basis. We're also very fortunate to have such an active voluntary sector in our town, and the Town Council sends sincere thanks to everyone who strives to make Whitworth a better place to live.

Because of the elections we are, as I write, unsure of who will become Mayor from May 2015, however I am sure that whichever councillor takes on the role will do a thorough and professional job. In the months ahead, the Town Council will make the best of its opportunities and strengths and work its way through any challenges. The Town Council's staff and councillors, as always, remain fully committed and look forward to the year to come.

INITIATIVES

The Council is supported by Town Clerk Karen Douglas, who works 30 hours a week. The Council also contracts Parish Lengthsman, John Leyland, for general repairs and maintenance, including attending to Public Rights of Way, mending footpaths and undertaking a multitude of jobs in and around the town. The Council employs a full-time Town Caretaker, Glen Liff, a position funded in part by Rossendale Borough Council. Glen litter-picks targeted sites the length and breadth of the town, and reports issues to the Clerk. All three maintain healthy attendance sheets and have been employed by the council for between 8 and 12 years – a testament to their professionalism and commitment.

The Town Council's website, www.whitworth.gov.uk, aims to be a one-stop-shop for Whitworth information for residents and visitors, and is updated by the Town Clerk. The Town Council also makes use of social media; its Facebook page is regularly contributed to.

The Horticultural Society continues to do a wonderful job ensuring the town looks its blooming best, tending to flowerbeds and the planter boxes provided by Northern Joinery Ltd. The Society works proactively with all the councils, and is financially supported in part by the Town Council.

The Town Council-produced quarterly Whitworth Valley News magazine continues to be a popular read, featuring editorial contributions and 62 paying advertisers. It involves a significant amount of work for the Clerk but is very well received and ensures all in Whitworth are up-to-date with town news and developments. A change in printing contract has seen the costs of producing the magazine drop significantly, and it is delivered to all homes by Sports Council volunteers.

The Town Council contributes towards the fight against crime with the continued sponsorship of the Whitworth community police car, which has proved invaluable to the local constabulary, and which the Town Council recently resolved to support for a further three-year period.

The Town Council works in partnership with Rossendale and Lancashire Councils and other local organisations including Lancashire Police and Green Vale Homes to get the best possible services for Whitworth. For example, the Town Council facilitates monthly multi-agency meetings, when

representatives of all the main agencies come together to tackle town issues. The Town Council takes a proactive approach to tackling litter and uncollected dog-mess issues, supporting legislative work undertaken by the Borough Council, issuing letters to residents around particular 'grot-spot' areas, and launching two new initiatives this year – a pavement stencil in hot spot areas (in partnership with the Borough Council) and window stickers issued to homes and businesses requesting people pick up their dog mess.

The Tourism and Leisure Committee, featuring councillor and non-councillor members, organises or part-organises a large number of events – this past year's offer has included the Rushcart, Christmas Lights Switch On, New Year's Duck Race, St George Celebrations, Family Fun Day and the Whitworth Calendar. The Committee is working on all these projects again, plus the fifth Whitworth Scarecrow Festival which takes place in June. The Town Council itself organises Whitworth's Remembrance Sunday commemorations and the Community Carol Service. All these events serve to preserve and strengthen the town's identity and support a sense of community and civic pride. Comprising town councillors and representatives of local sporting organisations, the Whitworth Sports Council continues to flourish, with plans for the 2015 Sports Festival well underway.

Since 2007, Whitworth Town Council has held Quality Status, a nationally recognised quality benchmark. This has been replaced by the Local Council Award Scheme. It encourages progression by including three award levels: Foundation, Quality and Quality Gold – Whitworth Town Council has successfully achieved the Foundation level and is now working towards its Quality level.

TOWN TWINNING

Whitworth has been twinned with Kandel for almost 49 years now - in July 2014 a Whitworth delegation visited Germany for seven days, staying with Kandel families and enjoying a programme of activities. A Kandel delegation will visit Whitworth later this year. Cllrs Aldred and Mellor are instrumental in keeping the twinning alive, and thanks are due to them; if you wish to get involved with Town Twinning please contact them.

CIVIC EVENTS

2014's municipal year began with Mayor-Making at the Riverside, followed by Civic Sunday at St Anselm's Church. Rev Father Frank Thorpe has acted as Mayoral Chaplain this year and many thanks are offered to him. As always, the Remembrance Sunday commemorations were extremely well attended, as was the schools Armistice day event in November and the Festival of Remembrance organised by the Town Council, the Riverside and the Mayors of Rossendale and Whitworth. The Community Carol Service at the Riverside was led by Hallfold UR Church and was very

popular; the junior band did a great job accompanying the carols and a joyful time was had by all. The Civic Dinner and Dance last month was a successful evening; over £500 was raised for the Mayor's Charity Fund, food provided by Lords the Caterers and entertainment was from the Whitworth Vale & Healey Band.

PLANNING

As a statutory planning consultee, the Town Council passes comment on all Whitworth applications; Rossendale Borough Council takes these observations into account when reaching planning decisions. Since April 2014, 26 applications have been considered by the Town Council. The Town Council is also consulted on Highways proposals and other consultations which relate to or affect the Whitworth area.

CONCLUSION

Whitworth Town Council continues to work to the best of its ability to serve its community. The quality of the council is monitored and ratified through the benchmark council awards scheme, and the feedback from the community is overwhelmingly positive. The Town Council strives to be accessible; the magazine, website and social media use facilitate communications with the community, and the town clerk and councillors' availability, alongside publicly attended council meetings, enable communication in person. The Town Council works with local organisations and authorities to improve its offer and to enhance the lives of everyone in Whitworth, striving to monitor and deal with issues or problems swiftly. It is always looking for innovative ideas to tackle problems, and initiatives such as the support of the Whitworth police car and the partnership working with Rossendale Council on controlling dog mess and making a real and positive difference to daily lives. The Town Council also continues to provide and support a range of fun, family events throughout the year, encouraging community spirit and togetherness. There will be challenges and opportunities presented over the year ahead, but the Town Council is well equipped to deal with both.




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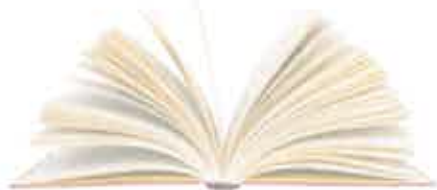
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WHITWORTH NEWS

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 'BUY A BULB' CAMPAIGN



The Tourism and Leisure Committee is the first to admit that the Christmas Lights weren't looking at their best last year. The Town Council and Rossendale Borough Council have agreed to purchase new lights for the trees in the Memorial Gardens, which will go a long way to making things look shinier and brighter. However, we want to go one step further, and we need the community's help. The Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee and CLAW have launched a 'Buy a Christmas Bulb' appeal, with the aim of improving the Christmas lights display in the town and giving it more of a 'wow' factor. Initially, we're raising funds to replace the very tired looking street lighting column displays, but the hope is that we might be able to raise enough money to extend the display to other parts of Whitworth, too. If you'd like to make a donation to the appeal, there's a minimum donation of £5; contact Lisa at the Riverside on 01706 854130 / email riverside-whitworth@zen.co.uk for more information.

Additionally, we're currently costing up the price of the trees bracketed on to buildings, which looked so lovely along the main road when they were introduced a good number of years ago. Once the brackets are in place it will just be a case of replacing the tree each year so the cost should be minimal. If you live, or if you have a business, on the main road and you'd be interested in having a tree on your house, phone Karen at the Town Council on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk and we'll keep in touch with you.

CANCER RESEARCH, WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

It's been a busy few months for the local group. A fundraising meal at Annabella's in March raised £450, and sincere thanks are offered to Karl and Ann for their hospitality and generosity. The annual Songs of Praise at Christ Church Healey was another huge success with £620 being donated on the evening; a huge thanks to those who attended and organised. The annual golf tournament was held at Lobden on 10 May, and more details of the monies raised from this will be given in the next edition. The Committee has been invited to visit the new research unit at the Christie in June, when they will be able to see in action some of the equipment that the funds raised have purchased; all down to the generosity of Whitworth residents. The Nostalgia evening which was well received last year will take place at Greenbrook House on Thursday 14 May; please contact anyone on numbers below for tickets. If you have any suggestions for fundraising events, would like to attend fundraising dinners or other events or sponsor anyone, please contact Michael Whitby on 01706 852613 or Joyce and Arnold Ashworth on 01706 343424.

TOWN COUNCIL WORKS WITH PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO ENCOURAGE INTEREST IN DEMOCRACY

Councils across the UK have been contacted by Sir Peter Luff MP, Commons Chair of the Speakers' Advisory Group for the 2015 Anniversaries. To coincide with the 800th anniversary of sealing of Magna Carta ('The Great Charter') on 15 June 1215, the Houses of Parliament are asking the nation to take a moment to celebrate and reflect on those rights which are often taken for granted but which people throughout history have campaigned to make happen or fought to preserve. On 15 June (or a date close to it) pupils from each of the four Whitworth primary schools have been invited to visit the offices of Whitworth Town Council. They will have the opportunity to meet town councillors, explore the council chamber and even sit in on a 'mock' council meeting, acting out roles as councillors and members of the public.

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SCHOOL REPORT

ST JOHN WITH ST MICHAEL PRIMARY

The children from year 5 attended the Mayor of Whitworth's breakfast morning at Shawforth Chapel in late April. They took orders, recited poetry, sang and they performed an amazing African Dance song. They also helped to serve toast, clear pots away and the even helped with the washing up! The children really enjoyed the morning and spoke to local councillors and the local residents, building great community cohesion links.



WHITWORTH COMMUNITY HIGH OPEN FOR STUDY DURING HOLIDAYS

Easter time revision classes at Whitworth Community High School saw 80 of the 96 GCSE students attending at least one session in the holiday. 13 GCSE subjects had additional revision classes and teachers were delighted with the commitment shown by students. Students and teachers will also be coming into school over the May half term break for final examination practice. Headteacher Gill Middlemas says: "We had very positive feedback regarding the additional staff support and the impact this has had on our young people in terms of confidence and GCSE preparation." Besides the extra holiday study, the school has introduced additional lessons every Wednesday. Mrs Middlemas says: "Students responded well to this new initiative and welcomed having a chunk of time to complete Music compositions, finalise Performing Arts and Drama performances, focus on Art and Textiles or Resistant Materials coursework and to prepare for written examinations. Each Wednesday a different subject takes priority and students are advised in advance which subject to attend. This is in addition to the sessions already running after school during the rest of the week." As Year 11 students complete their GCSEs and prepare to leave, the school prepares to welcome a full cohort of young people into Year 7 in September, many of whom will attend the Summer School in July.



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

During Lent the children and families of Our Lady and St Anselm's supported a range of charities: St Joseph's Penny, CAFOD and Comic Relief. A grand total of over one thousand pounds was raised for these charities, and the school thanks all pupils for their kindness and support. On 21 April, the school celebrated the Feast Day of St Anselm. The Year Two children confidently helped to lead the whole school

Mass, reading psalms, prayers and singing hymns. Each class then had the opportunity to spend some time away from normal lessons on the giant inflatable assault course and dodgeball arena. The sun was shining and the whole school enjoyed the 'Krypton Factor' challenge. At lunchtime, the school kitchen prepared a delicious whole school picnic including sandwiches, pizza, sausage rolls, salad and crisps, and a wonderful day was enjoyed by all. The Friends of Our Lady and St Anselm's will be holding their annual summer fair on the Saturday 27 June; stalls will include choco-lotto, jumble jars, bottle tombola, face painting and hook-a-duck. The fair runs from 11am until 1pm and everyone in the community is welcome.

LOCAL TRADES LIST

CHILDREN - EDUCATION & TUITION:

Childminder, OFSTED registered: VIKKI MEGRAM
Full and part time spaces.
15-hour funded places available.
tel: 01706 630956/vikkimegram@talktalk.net
(77 Hall Fold, Whitworth, OL12 8TT)

Personal Tutor – English, Maths, Law & Sociology:
MARGARET HOWARTH
tel: 07710 579764/margaret5593@live.co.uk
(32 Tong Lane, Whitworth, OL12 8BE)

Private Tuition, all ages: Dr ADAM ANDREW
Qualified teacher with 10 years' experience.
Science and maths specialist.
tel: 01706 630956/adamandrew@talktalk.net
(77 Hall Fold, Whitworth, OL12 8TT)

HEALTH & WELLBEING:

Acupuncture & Massage Therapy:
VALLEY ACUPUNCTURE (Louise Crewe BSc MBAcc)
tel: 01706 759896/07903 851856
lc@valleyacupuncture.co.uk
www.valleyacupuncture.co.uk
(217 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8TF)

PROPERTY SERVICES:

All electrical, heating, plumbing & bathroom works (NICEIC approved - Gas Safe registered):
C & N GAS & ELECTRICAL
tel: 07896 198095
(28 Waingap View, Whitworth, OL12 8QD)

Building & Maintenance:
NORWEST PROPERTY SERVICES (Vincent Stringer)
tel: 07817 519628
(28 Tonacliffe Road, Whitworth, OL12 8SS)

Property Maintenance Central Heating & Boiler Replacements (Gas Safe Registered):
JIM MELLOR PROPERTY SERVICES
tel: 01706 854777/07973 421145
(35 Knowsley Crescent, Shawforth, OL12 8HR)

Double Glazing Repairs:
MANCHESTER DOUBLE GLAZING REPAIRS
Whitworth-based, 30 years' experience, no callout charge.
Locks, handles, hinges, sealed units, drafts, leaks.
tel: Richard on 07768 243081/richard@mdgr.org

Electrical maintenance & installation for home & business: PDB ELECTRICAL
tel: 01706 860840 - 07740 825536
pdbelectrical@yahoo.co.uk
(20 Ainsdale Drive, Whitworth, OL12 8QB)

Gas Engineer (servicing, installs & repairs, kitchens & bathrooms):
RLH GAS & PROPERTY SERVICES (Richard Lyon-Hayes)
tel: 07970 470019
rlhgasandpropertyservices@yahoo.co.uk
www.rlhgas.co.uk
(33 Oak Street, Shawforth, OL12 8NP)

High Power Pressure Washing (paths & patio cleaning, driveways & tarmac, decking & cobbles, graffiti removal, garden stone walls, moss & algae removal), plus window cleaning: SEAN BRADLEY
tel: 01706 879928/07773 798078
seanbrad09@gmail.com
(19 Douglas Road, Bacup, OL13 9PR)

Painting & Decorating: ANDREW ROBINSON
tel: 01706 639709/07967 203484
(4 Meadow Head Avenue, Whitworth, OL12 8TH)

Plastering Services: M CREWE PLASTERING
tel: 01706 759896/07932 986666
(217 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8TF)

Plumbing & Heating - LPG (Gas Safe Reg.): PHIL JONES
tel: 07976 886926/philip.jones1@btinternet.com
(4 The Hedgerows, Whitworth, OL12 8AW)

Window Cleaning - Pure Water Fed Cleaning System (hard-to-reach windows)-UPVC Cleaning: JOHN LEYLAND
tel: 01706 854380/07790 771368
(7 Daniel Street, Whitworth, OL12 8BX)

Window & UPVC Cleaning - Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Jet Washing: OPENREACH
tel: 0800 612 7679/openreach-wcs@tiscali.co.uk
www.openreach-wcs.co.uk
(15 Westgate, Whitworth, OL12 8UW)

Whitworth Town Council produces this community magazine, which is distributed to 3,600 homes and businesses in Whitworth 4 times a year. Editorial is carried free of charge; advertising rates can be provided upon request.

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

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

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t: 01706 852018 / e: info@whitworth.gov.uk

USEFUL CONTACTS

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS:

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD:

Tom Aldred (Labour): 01706 852183

atomaldred@aol.com

Lynda Barnes (Conservative): 01706 853635

07944 116385 • clrllyndabarnes@hotmail.co.uk

Madeline De Souza (Independent): 01706 853895

madeline30950@btinternet.com

Jim Mellor (Conservative): 01706 853479 • 07973 421145

jim.mellor47@btinternet.com

Donna Nutt (Community First): 07532 144924

Sean Serridge (Labour): 01706 877008 • 07947 444732

seanserridge@rossendalebc.gov.uk

sean.serridge@lancashire.gov.uk

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:

Cheryl Brine (Community First): 07950 728890

cherylbrine@rocketmail.com

David Chorlton (Independent): 01706 869142

01706 853234 • david@ubswitworth.co.uk

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

FORTHCOMING WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Thurs 11 June, Thurs 25 June, Thurs 9 July, Thurs 23 July, Thurs 10 Sept.

All meetings taken place in the Council Chamber at the Riverside; all members of the public are welcome.

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES:

Civic Hall, Market Street

Whitworth, OL12 8DP

Contact: **Karen Douglas**, Town Clerk

tel: 01706 852018

email: info@whitworth.gov.uk

www.whitworth.gov.uk

Office hours: Mon – Fri, 9am – 2.30pm

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD:

Madeline De Souza (see left for contact details);

second councillor known after elections on 7 May

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:

Alan Neal (see left for contact details);

second councillor known after elections on 7 May

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

Sean Serridge

(see left for details)

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:

Will be known after elections on 7 May –

check www.whitworth.gov.uk for details

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:

Community Police Officers (PC 424 Vinny Hopkins and PCSO 7356 Heidi Kirkbright): to speak to Vinny or Heidi, or to report a non-urgent crime or incident, please dial 101. For emergencies only, dial 999.

Green Vale Homes: 0300 555 5556 (general enquiries) • 01706 836318 (Michele Heys, Whitworth Officer)

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

Home-Start Rossendale: 01706 214621 • coordinator@homestartrossendale.co.uk • www.home-start.org.uk

Honorary Alderman Eileen Kershaw: 01706 344661

Lancashire County Council: 0300 123 6701 (general enquiries) • Highways 0300 123 6780 or email

highways@lancashire.gov.uk • out of hours social care emergencies (5pm – 8.45am) 0300 123 6720

www.lancashire.gov.uk

Rossendale Borough Council: 01706 217777 (general enquiries) • 0300 222 5944 (revenues and benefits enquiries)

0300 222 5946 (out of hours emergencies) • www.rossendale.gov.uk

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

DROP-IN SURGERY (STAN THE VAN):

STAN the Van visits the Riverside small car park from 9.30am – 12.30pm, and Wallbank Drive (opposite Wallbank Stores)

from 1.30pm – 4pm, on the following Wednesdays: 3 June, 24 June, 15 July, 5 Aug, 26 Aug, 16 Sept.