Issue 63 / June 2021

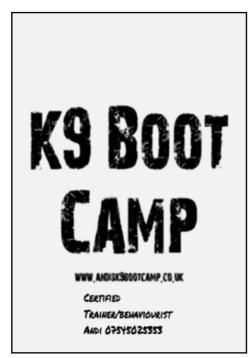
# Whitworth VALLEY NEWS



# PICK IT UP!

WHITWORTH'S SPRING CLEAN











#### MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR ELECT



Councillor Maureen Jones who will become the Mayor of Whitworth on 20th May 2021

#### Dear Residents and readers,

On 20th May I will become Mayor Of Whitworth, a year later than I expected but I now can't wait to get started. I would like to invite you all to watch my mayor-making as it will be streamed on facebook live and Youtube. I look forward to a time when restrictions are lifted and I am already making plans for a huge celebration after all we as a valley have been through as a community.

I am not Whitworth 'born and bred'. I am originally from Deal near Dover and spent 20 years of my life there. When travelling to Ireland for a cousin's wedding, I stopped in Whitworth for

the weekend. The love and atmosphere I felt in Whitworth was indescribable and the people of the community made it feel like home within a day. Five weeks later I moved to Whitworth, which was over 50 years ago! I still love the village as much now as I did when I first moved here. In the 80's I worked at Tonacliffe Primary as a cleaner and a dinner lady, then in the 90's I was the local victim support worker as I've always been passionate about helping other people.

In 2018 I was part of a team who put together the 100 year ceremony to celebrate the fallen with a weekend that was nothing but respect, praise and a room full of people who made it all the more worth. It makes me proud to be part of a community that always comes together. I have made so many really good friends in this community and I have spoken to many amazing people. Whitworth really is a great place to live.

I have been part of Whitworth Town Council for 10 years and what a wonderful 10 years it has been. I try to do right by the community and always put 100% into helping each and every one of you and I hope I make the community proud!

With best wishes,

Kfir

Councillor Maureen Jones, Mayor Elect of Whitworth



#### WHITWORTH VALE & HEALEY BRASS BAND

Unfortunately the full band has been unable to meet for rehearsals in person since March 2020, this does not mean they have not been busy. Members of the Youth and Academy bands have been holding play along sessions online every week led by their Musical Director Joe Murtagh. The senior band have been holding weekly quizzes and recently entered the "Kapitol Cory Online Band Contest". The were not placed but our Principal Cornet player Dave

Tattersall was awarded the best soloist prize for his rendition of Post Horn Gallop. The video was put together by the band's percussionist Sam Milton. All members of the band are looking forward to getting back to rehearsing together and bookings for the summer have started to come in.

For further information on Whitworth Vale & Healey Brass Band please contact the band manager Richard Milton on 07720 318903



Dave Tattersall and the band with the winning performance

#### **GUIDING IN A PANDEMIC!**

1<sup>st</sup> Whitworth Guides enjoy unit meetings, camping, community projects and water activities but 12 months ago the unit had to cease face to face meetings during the pandemic. The Guides have continued to be astounding, turning up weekly for virtual meetings alongside all the pressures of home learning and school bubble closures.

The unit has completed a range of challenge badges released by Lancashire East County to support the leaders with Guiding virtually, attended virtual camps, baked food items from around the world and continued to be involved in the local community. In November as part of Parliament Week, Councillor Dayne Powell joined the unit to talk about local government and in December the Guides arranged a socially distanced collection for the foodbank at the Lighthouse.

As restrictions continue to ease, the unit should hopefully soon be able to resume face to face Guiding; the Guides are excited to be together again but all have agreed that the opportunity to go virtual from home may suit some activities in the future.



If your daughter is interested in joining 1st Whitworth Guides, please register your interest at: https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/

Helen Kowal, Guide Leader



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#### WHITWORTH GOES WILD

Rossendale Borough Council are working alongside Whitworth Town Council, local residents and Community Interest Company, Proffitts on a project to improve play provision in Whitworth. After considering 15 sites and undertaking consultation with residents, councillors and council officials the team have now confirmed the new facility will be situated in the Spodden Valley.

The plan, funded by the local councils and Viridor Credits, involves creating an entirely new play space with a strong natural play element, very different from traditional facilities. Materials used are natural and include 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.



David McChesney from Rossendale Borough Council told us "Our aim is to provide a more natural, wild, play scape that is designed to encourage a love of play, but also a love of nature, wildlife and the outdoors more generally.

The space is being designed in a way that encourages children and families to explore the wider nature reserve and really make the most of this beautiful area."

To ensure that nature and wildlife remain protected, Lancashire Wildlife Trust ecologists are conducting biodiversity, wildlife, bat and tree surveys to ensure that nothing in the design has any negative effects on the surroundings. Infact, it is hoped that the plans will actually enhance the wildlife and natural space instead as planned works will tackle areas of overgrowth, path improvements, signage and the removal of damaging patches of Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam.

Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk says "We're so lucky to have the wonderful Spodden Valley on our doorstep and, for us, it's crucial that the play opportunity blends effortlessly into the existing environment. After everything that local families have been through over the last 12 months, it's exciting to be able to provide a facility that will allow residents of all ages, not just the children, a chance to spend more time outdoors and connect more with both other people, and with nature too."



Work is due to start on site in May, and is expected to last for approximately 12 weeks. For more information, please contact Rachael Gildert on 07875 106 084 rachael.gildert@proffittscic.com



## ENTERTAINING THE VALLEY FOR 127 YEARS UP COMING SHOWS







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#### ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

Penny Dean, an RCVS qualified Veterinary Nurse, has lived in Whitworth for over 20 years. She started her career at Wendy Lane's vets in Rochdale, where she qualified and became Head Nurse. She then married a member of the Armed Forces making a move to Germany, where she first hit upon the idea of caring for servicemen's pets whilst they were away on deployment.

The next move was to Catterick Army Barracks in North Yorkshire, where Penny was Head Nurse at Skeldale Veterinary Practice, home of James Herriot and Channel 5's The Yorkshire Vet. "Working alongside Peter and Julian was an absolute dream-helping to birth a calf on a farm one minute, then back to the surgery assisting with a Caesarian on a Pug the next. There was never a dull moment!" Penny fondly recalls.

After 17 years teaching animal nursing at Hopwood Hall College, Penny opened Premier Pet Sitters of Whitworth offering a professional and caring service to the local community. "I absolutely love my new vocation, from walking dogs around our fantastic valley, cutting a cat's nails, taking an elderly customer's dog to the vets or caring for customer's pets whilst they're away on holiday, it's such a rewarding way to spend my time"



Penny can be contacted on 07956635135 or www.facebook.com/premierpetsittersofwhitworth

#### WHITWORTH BAND CLUB

The staff and committee of the club are looking forward to welcoming members and loyal customers back from 17th May, subject to there being no diversions in Boris' road map. The staff have been furloughed through lockdown and are keen to get back to work; all are well. Though the club's closed, the lines have been cleaned weekly in line with CAMRA recommendations to ensure all beers will be in top condition when reopening.



Though the closure is clearly not what anyone wanted, it has enabled some internal maintenance and other works to be carried out behind closed doors.

Let's look forward to better days ahead. Keep an eye on the clubs Facebook pages for updates.

#### **HELLO FROM YOUR CO-OP MEMBER PIONEER**

Sam is your local Co-op Member Pioneer for the Haslingden, Waterfoot & Whitworth stores and surrounding areas.

As a Co-op Member Pioneer, her role is to build and develop connections between members of the Co-op, local community groups and colleagues within the store(s) to make our community a better place to work, play, live and learn.



Sam Smith, Member Pioneer

She works with store managers and their teams to support the Local Causes (chosen by Co-op members), local community groups and other charities. Her aim is to strengthen those relationships and encourage feedback from community groups and Co-op Members on what is important to you in your local community.



Sam would love to hear from you; let her know what's happening in the local area and how she can support you and what you're passionate about.

The best way to reach Sam is by email at samantha. smith3@coop.co.uk or telephone 07813 722196

#### THE WOMEN OF WHITWORTH PROJECT AWARDS 2021 - NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

The Women of Whitworth Project is delighted to announce that the nomination process is now open for 2021.



There are so many amazing Women in the area that have achieved so much and this should be celebrated.

Nominations can be completed here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ K2RK86G

Closing date for nominations is Friday 2 July

The Women of Whitworth Project, thewowproject2018@gmail.com











#### 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, on the Friends of Whitworth Library Group Facebook page, or contact friendsofwhitworthlibrarygroup@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

#### UNITED UTILITIES' SPINDLE TREE REPLACEMENT AT COWN RESERVOIR

Last year two spindle trees (Euonymus europaeus) were accidentally felled when United Utilities' staff were working to uncover the Yorkshire stone footpath alongside the bridleway at Cowm Reservoir in Whitworth. When local resident, Sue Neilson, reported this to the United Utilities' they agreed to replace them. Four spindles have now been planted to protect and enhance the natural environment at Cowm Reservoir.

Spindles are a sign of ancient woodlands - rare and special habitats, renowned for boosting biodiversity. They are hermaphrodites, growing to about 9m and producing

tiny white flowers with 4 petals in May and June, which are pollen-rich for insects. Aphids love to feed on the leaves, attracting a number of their predators to the area too. In autumn, spindles produce striking pink fruits with peanutshaped orange berries at the centre, which wildlife, including mice, foxes and birds, love to eat, although spindle leaves and fruit are toxic to humans.

Spindles produce a fine-grained wood, used to make skewers, toothpicks, knitting needles and spindles - hence the tree's common name. Baked and powdered, the fruits have treated head lice and mange in animals. Today spindles are used to produce high quality artists' charcoal.



Dan Crook, Terry Warburton and Darren Mitchell from UU planting the saplings with members of the Whitworth in Bloom group: Sue Neilson, Steve Haigh and Sheila Dearden



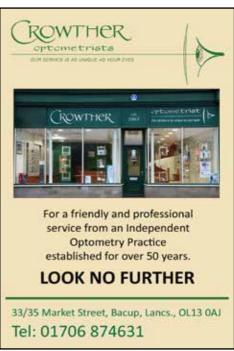












#### WHITWORTH SKYLINE WALK

There will be **no Skyline** this month – the usual May date has simply arrived too soon for the event to be safe. Consideration had been given to a date in October, but that too is most unlikely, given the shortening of the days, the dangers of mutations and a third wave of covid, and the possibility of a lot of hard work and expense suffering a late cancellation. Above all, the whole ethos of Skyline is that the community comes together in a relaxed way and has fun: forcing an event that would have to be covid-secure might turn that into a joyless, nervous sort of day – and that seems pointless. It's a shame, because there's an appetite for walking at the moment – lockdown has re-awakened our collective appreciation of our moors...but here's to 2022, fingers crossed.

In the meantime we can all enjoy the moors alone, or in our own groups, perhaps with the help of the various **walking WHITWORTH** and **strolling WHITWORTH** leaflets that are available free from the Co-op, the Post Office, Josh Law's butchers and other outlets across the valley.







#### **BACUP ROYAL COURT THEATRE GROUP AND COVID 19**

Back in 1892 a disused iron foundry "Barkers Iron Foundry" was bought by Mr. John Walters with the intention of opening a variety theatre. True to John's vision it opened as the Royal Court Theatre on the 18th of September, the theatre has welcomed the residents of Bacup and beyond for 130 years.

The theatre has had several guises over the years becoming a cinema however it has always bounced back in true showbiz style.

Who would have thought that 130 years on a global pandemic would have seen the theatre close for over 12 months? Supported by an extremely dedicated board of Directors and over 75 wonderful volunteers BRCTG is again rising from the ashes. BRCTG is a community theatre that provides professional and Amateur shows for the people of Bacup and beyond we also provide a community rehearsal space for a variety of local schools and groups. The theatre is impressively run completely by volunteers.

The theatre was successful in biding to the Cultural Recovery Fund and was awarded £50,000 this coupled with additional funding from the Lancashire Environmental Fund, local funding, a legacy and a top up from the theatre reserves has enabled the theatre to use the down time to carry out essential repairs and maintenance.



All professional and amateur shows have been rescheduled, hopefully reopening from July.

Details on the theatre and future shows can be found at www. bacuproyalcourttheatre.com

#### WHITWORTH TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

Over the last 12 months the 'TLC' have been unable to hold many of the usual events. Volunteers did manage to organise an amazing Duck Race selling more ducks than ever which brought much needed funds which will be used for future events. TLC volunteers also sold, installed and then removed over 40 Christmas trees to the length and breadth of Whitworth once again lighting up the main road adding the new Christmas lights that the Town Council and Rossendale Borough Council supplied last year. As a new and exciting rethink on the very successful Christmas Light Switch on the TLC brought the spirit of Christmas and Father Christmas to the whole of Whitworth over three evenings with the Santa Express.

Sadly, this year there will not be a Family Fun Day or Rushcart as there is still so much uncertainty with the Covid restrictions and we would never want to put any of our residents and committee members at risk.

The committee are happy to announce that they will be selling Christmas Trees again this year in addition to Ducks for the 2022 Duck Race and Father Christmas has once again agreed to visit for the Whitworth Santa Express.

We are hoping to put on an event at the Riverside in September if possible. Keep an eye on Social Media and the Town Council Website for updates. As always, a massive thank you from the TLC Team for your support of all our events.



#### WHITWORTH MUSEUM

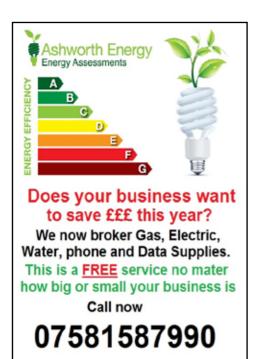
In Britain, railways have always had a very strong following and this enthusiasm remains today. At Whitworth Museum visitors regularly ask about the railway which passed through Whitworth on its way from Rochdale to Bacup. Remaining in the valley are a number of tangible reminders of those days of steam, not least the magnificent viaduct at Healey which carried the track high above the Spodden Valley floor.

Whilst a collection of period photographs is held at the museum, it nevertheless remains difficult to fully appreciate the detail of the stations along the line. A number of years ago a member of Whitworth Museum built a '00' gauge model of Whitworth Station and of Healey Viaduct. Now, thanks to Whitworth Men's Shed, this model, in storage for many years, has been transferred to the museum collection and we now seek help with its restoration to working display condition. If this project appeals to you and you feel able to offer assistance, please contact the museum on 07434 703972, your help would be appreciated.

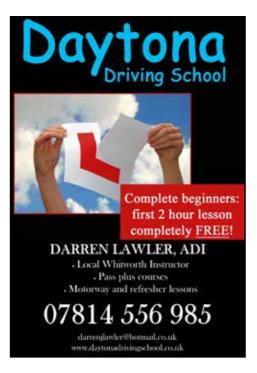
Assuming the government's lock-down easement plan remains on track, it is planned to re-open Whitworth Museum from 11.00am – 4.00pm on Saturday, 5th June 2021.

Picture of the model railway station at Whitworth

TOTAL PROPERTY.









#### ANNUAL REPORT, WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL



#### **MAYOR'S OVERVIEW**

#### Cllr Lynda Barnes, Mayor of Whitworth 2019 - 2021



This has been a very strange year for me, as Mayor. I should have handed over the reigns in May 2020. How were we to know that a pandemic would press pause on the world? I have been Mayor by name but not been able to fulfil the role as I usually would by attending events and supporting local community groups and organisations. I have hugely enjoyed chairing the meetings of the town council, even with the challenge of holding them virtually

via zoom. This has also made it possible for more members of the public to attend, I want to thank each and every one of them for their participation. I really hope residents will continue to attend our meetings and get involved with the Town Council in future.

Looking forward to the next 12 months, Councillor Maureen Jones will become Mayor and I wish her every success as hopefully the world returns to a new normal.

#### **INITIATIVES**

The Council is supported by Town Clerk Melanie Hearn, and Town Caretaker Glen Iliff. The council also contracts a Parish Lengthsman, John Leyland, for general repairs and maintenance. All three maintain healthy attendance sheets.

The Town Council sponsors the Whitworth community police car which has proved invaluable to the local constabulary. A competitive lease has been negotiated along with a partial sponsorship deal seeing RRG Rochdale contribute £500 per year.



The Town Council invested heavily in new Christmas Lights in 2020

to lift spirits during a difficult year. The Town Council's website, www.whitworth.gov. uk, is well a used asset to the Council as a one-stop-shop of Whitworth information for residents and visitors.

The Town Council-produced quarterly Whitworth Valley News magazine continues to be a very popular read. In March 2021, a special edition was produced with a 'Whitworth Happy News' activity pull out. A 'Bundles of Hope' project led by the council delivered bags full of gifts to residents of Whitworth over 76 who had been isolated due to Coronavirus.

The Town Council works in partnership with Rossendale and Lancashire Councils and other local organisations including Lancashire Police and Together Housing to provide the best possible services for the Whitworth community. To give examples, the Town Council facilitates monthly Multi-Agency meetings, where representatives of all the main agencies come together to tackle issues in the town.

The Town Council's Tourism and Leisure Committee organises a large number of events annually. The Christmas Lights Switch on was replaced with the hugely popular covid-safe Santa Express and the Duck Race was held virtually so that residents could

enjoy it from home. The Committee is currently working on all these projects again and hoping to be able to have a Family Fun day and Rushcart again in 2022. Additionally, the Town Council itself is responsible for organising Whitworth's Remembrance Sunday commemorations which were held with a virtual twist this year to keep everyone safe. All these events serve to preserve and strengthen the town's identity and provide a solid sense of community and civic pride.



Whitworth Sports Council have produced a successful set of walk leaflets to support people as they explore what Whitworth has to offer.

Whitworth in Bloom managed to put on a blooming fantastic socially-distanced display to cheer everyone up during a time of great uncertainty. The 2020 projects included planting a new community orchard. Whitworth Town Council also secured funding of almost £2000 from the Crook Hill Community Benefit Fund to provide four #2minutelitterpick stations which are located strategically around the town enabling residents to give 2 minutes to tidy up Whitworth. Their sister organisation Keep Whitworth Tidy has re-emerged with gusto recently collecting a whopping 150 bags of litter in March and 170 bags up to the middle of April.



Whitworth has been twinned with Kandel for 53 years and the friendship between the towns continues. Cllrs Aldred and Mellor are instrumental in keeping the twinning alive, and thanks are due to them for their continued work; if you wish to get involved with Town Twinning in Whitworth please contact them.

As a statutory planning consultee, the Town Council passes comments on all Whitworth applications; Rossendale Borough Council then takes these observations into account when reaching planning decisions. Since April 2020, 26 applications have been considered by the Town Council, ranging from home extensions to new developments.

#### CONCLUSION

Whitworth Town Council continues to work to the best of its ability to serve its community. The Town Council strives to be as accessible as possible, with the magazine and website facilitating communications to the community, and social media and the availability of the town clerk and councillors, along with the publicly attended council meetings, enabling a two-way communication with residents, organisations and businesses.

The Town Council works with local organisations and authorities to improve its offer and to enhance the lives of everyone in Whitworth, and to ensure that any issues or problems are monitored and dealt with swiftly. On a lighter note, the Town Council continues to provide and support a range of fun, family events and initiatives throughout the year, encouraging community spirit and togetherness. There will, as always, be challenges and opportunities presented over the year ahead, but the Town Council is well equipped to deal with both.

#### THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE 2022

Do you know a voluntary group that deserves recognition for the work it does? Why not nominate them for a national award?

Terry Hephrun, Chair of the Lancashire Panel said "In 2002, in celebration of Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee, The Queen's Golden Jubilee Award for Voluntary Service by Groups in the Community was established. Its purpose is to recognise exceptional groups who give their time freely for the benefit of others and make a real difference in the communities they serve. It is the highest honour that can be bestowed upon groups of this kind and is equivalent in status to the MBE.

"The Queen's Award not only serves to provide recognition of volunteer groups, but also demonstrates the high respect in which volunteering is held. We all know the value of voluntary effort to support communities not least in the difficult circumstances we are continuing to face in 2021.

Details on entrance criteria and the nomination process (which is a fairly straightforward online system) are available from: https://qavs.culture.gov.uk/ The closing date for nominations for the 2022 awards is 15 September 2021.



#### **CONSUMER ALERTS**

#### **Beware Doorstep Callers Offering Property Repairs and Maintenance**

A resident in Pendle reported cold callers offering to repoint ridge tiles and replace broken tiles. The job and price soon escalated to include further repair works, payment was asked for in cash, luckily the bank intervened and the Police were contacted. If you need work doing to your property Trading Standards advise to always use local known trades people, ask family and friends for recommendations and get 3 quotes. Make sure you have a full valid address and contact details prior to agreeing to any work with a trader.

Trading Standards advice is to always say no to cold callers. The Safetrader scheme can help you find a trader in your area, contact 0303 333 1111 or go to www. safetrader.org.uk

#### **Phishing Alerts**

Be on the alert for a phishing email from TV licencing that states due to outdated TV account details your account will be suspended unless you provide your date of birth, current address, telephone number and payment method. The email provides a link to 'Visit TV licencing now' and advises you to keep your details up to date to prevent cybercriminals accessing your data.

There are similar phishing scams doing the rounds including a fake Sainsbury's email stating you have been selected to participate in a gift card giveaway, an email alleging to be from Just Eat offering a £50 gift card, an email alleging to be from Yahoo asking you to upgrade 'here', a DVLA phishing email from an email address G.O.V.U.K states that the payment for your latest vehicle tax invoice failed.

Phishing emails can look as if they have come from a trustworthy entity and can make you panic into divulging personal information, often implying a service will be withdrawn or you will not be 'legal', or tempt you by the lure of a refund or a voucher. If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about, forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) at report@phishing.gov.uk.

Scams can be reported to Action Fraud, contact 0300 123 2040 or go to www. actionfraud.police.uk. Contact the Trading Standards Service via the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133





and trade customers at very competitive prices.





#### LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE! WHITWORTH'S SPRING CLEAN

A huge thank you goes out to the volunteers of all ages from Whitworth in Bloom and Keep Whitworth Tidy who have been very busy collecting the litter that has sadly accumulated during the past year. Healey Dell has been particularly affected by discarded rubbish including tyres, wheels and an assortment of iron and metal objects, all of which pose a significant danger to the environment. On one occasion alone, WiB volunteers collected 31 bags of litter and throughout March, the total count amounted to 150. To further tackle the problem, KWT coordinated a Covid

safe larger group litter-pick on April 18 and Rossendale Borough Council sent staff to support the volunteers on April 21 so there has been a concerted effort to get to grips with the problem. However, the message to people to take their litter home still needs to be reinforced! Regular litter-picks continue to be organised so if you would like to join in, please contact email keepwhitworthtidy@gmail.com or refer to the Keep Whitworth Tidy Facebook page.



On a brighter note, you will notice that various areas of the town have been planted up with spring bulbs and once these have finished, the Whitty Bloomers will be looking to place summer plants around the town. Whitworth in Bloom has entered the North West in Bloom competition again, having gained a Silver Award in 2019. If you are interested in contributing in any way to the Whitty Bloomers, please call 07904 130 206 or email whitworthinbloom@gmail.com



#### **DESIGN AN ANTI-LITTER WINDOW POSTER**

CALLING ALL BUDDING ARTISTS! Your chance to win a cash prize. Create a colourful poster to discourage people from dropping litter. Place it in your house window for everyone to see. Ask an adult to send a photo of your poster with your name, age and address by June 12 to whitworthinbloom@gmail.com. If possible ask them to share it on the Keep Whitworth Tidy and Whitworth in Bloom facebook pages too.

Then wait to hear if you have won, good luck!!

#### Terms and conditions:

- Category 1: up to 10 years; Category 2: 11-16 years; each category will have 2 cash prizes 1st prize = £10 and 2nd PRIZE = £5
- Entries must be your own work
- Open to every resident of Whitworth up to the age of 16.
- One entry per person
- Keep Whitworth Tidy and Whitworth in Bloom reserve the right to share and reproduce the winning entries
- Judges decision is final
- Prizes will be distributed in a Covid safe way in line with current government guidelines

#### PET DOG INJURED ON LITTER

Back in January, Marnie, an English Springer Spaniel, cut and virtually sliced off the pad on her paw on discarded rubbish at the side of the path in Healey Dell. The area near the Multi Use Games Area and the pump track has always been a magnet for litter. Since lockdown the problem with litter has escalated dramatically and now has resulted in someone's pet dog being seriously harmed.



In March and again in April, Whitworth Town Council carried out a joint litter pick with Rossendale Borough Council caretakers to tackle the problem but we really need your help to improve the area that you live in and keep the area safe for our children and pets. The photograph shows the painful injury that Marnie the dog sustained. The pad of her foot was sliced by broken glass and she had to have many stitches. She was still in pain for several weeks following the incident.

Please tell your friends and neighbours about the impact of litter, it doesn't just cause a mess- it causes injuries too, but together we can change this.

## WITH MINDS TURNING TO THE NORTH WEST IN BLOOM COMPETITION, IT SEEMS RIGHT TO LOOK AT THE HISTORY OF VOLUNTARY HORTICULTURE IN WHITWORTH.

Whitworth Vale Floral and Horticultural Society was established at the Halfway House in July 1874. It was established to encourage the principles of Floral and Horticultural Gardening'. At that time they held monthly shows in addition to spring and autumn ones- the old Civic Hall was buzzing with activity. There were 77 classes consisting of flowers, vegetables, fruit and plants, each one having 3 monetary prizes with 41 cups and trophies also available. The lounge was filled with children's exhibits, baking, jams and handicraft items.

In autumn 2009, the society planted the rose beds in the Memorial Garden winning a Pride in Rossendale award for their work. Following this achievement they saw potential for further improvement. The society sourced funding from lots of grants including the National Lottery to make the renovations. The refurbished gardens were opened on 20th May 2012 - a wonderful achievement for all concerned.

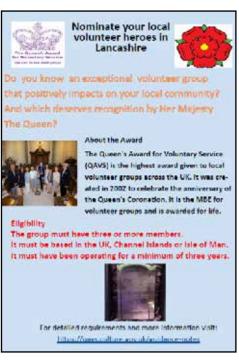


They continued to care for all the gardens until the end of 2019 when the society was wound up. This was not an easy decision after such a long history but they are hopeful that Whitworth in Bloom will take on the maintenance with help from society members who still wish to be involved. The society distributed their funds to local charities-£3634.89 was donated to the Whitworth Cancer Research committee, to finance research into cancer treatments.

It is intended that a selection of documents, photographs and memorabilia held by Anita will eventually be displayed at The Riverside. In the meantime, find out more about the history of the society on the Town Council website.

K. Anita Farrow was the Hon. Treasurer of the Whitworth horticultural Society for 34 years. She was awarded an honorary townsman award in November 2019 in acknowledgement of her service to Whitworth.







#### SHAWFORTH VILLA FOOTBALL CLUB

Shawforth Villa Football Club is based in Shawforth and run solely by volunteers. Originally, Shawforth Villa was a youth football team for the local children, managed by parents for 11 years. The team was active in a Lancashire league from 1971 until 1982 when the team had to fold due to a lack of management and training facilities. Fast forward to 2020, original right-wing striker Phil O'Dell with children; Tom and Siân collaborated to re-form the club, the process of redeveloping the team and club began July 2020.

The club is a Community Interest Company (CIC) which has a focus on social objectives to benefit the local community in some way. The CIC system also has processes to reinvest any profits made into bettering services for expansion.

As SVFC develop, services will expand to promote sports and wellbeing across Rossendale but the overall aim and slogan as

a club is to 'create a community around football'. The club historically ran as a family friendly club and only by volunteers, for the love of football and community spirit - these aspects will not be lost! For more about SVFC contact Sian: shawforthvilla@gmail.com; 07506 794 228 & @shawforthvillafc





#### **KEEP ON MOVING!**

Time is moving on and not as we once knew it. We must keep moving, we cannot be inactive, the body needs exercise.

**There is strong evidence** people who are active have lower risk of heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, some cancers, depression and dementia. If you want to stay pain-free, reduce your risk of mental illness, be able to go out and stay independent well into old age, **keep moving.** 

"As people get older and their bodies decline in function, physical activity helps to slow that decline," says Dr Nick Cavill, a health-promotion consultant.

More than ever, older adults want to stay in touch with society – their community, friends and neighbours – and being active can ensure they keep doing that, these days this might be a challenge but **Just Move! To Improve** offers an online option

for those brave enough to try chair exercise from your own home, if you would be interested in an exercise class from your own home why not try a taster session to begin? There is the hope it will flower into more than just a class, please contact **Rosemary on 07886963024** for more details.



#### NEW NAME FOR CENTRE PAYS TRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY HERO CHRISTINE

Community facility The Riverside is set to be renamed as part of a plan to refresh the facility after a long closure due to Covid. The venue, on Market Street, will be rebranded as The Ashcroft in honour of Christine Ashcroft, who passed away in 2019. Local stalwart Christine was the driving force behind the Community Leisure Association Whitworth (CLAW) board since inception and had been involved in both the leisure centre and civic hall since the early 1970s.

She was also a strong advocate for the rebuild of The Riverside after it was destroyed in an electrical blaze in 2003. Rossendale Leisure Trust, which recently took on the management of the centre, made the decision to set the facility apart from several other venues that are also called Riverside, including Rochdale Council's base, The Riverside Health Club in Rawtenstall and the town's Riverside Inn.



The new identity will allow for a fresh start for The Ashcroft, which caters for weddings and civil partnerships, conferences, christenings, funerals and corporate events, with space for up to 300 people. Roger Fulton, Chair of the Rossendale Leisure Trust Board, said they hoped the rebrand would be a deserved tribute to a much-loved member of the community.

Roger said: "Christine worked tirelessly for Whitworth and was a real driving force behind CLAW, so it feels only right that her legacy should live on in a building that is at the heart of the community. We feel our proposed new name gives the right feel for the venue and hope the community will welcome the change with open arms. We look forward to a bright new future for The Ashcroft and are delighted that Christine's hard work will always be remembered."



#### **COMMUNITY LEISURE ASSOCIATION OF WHITWORTH**

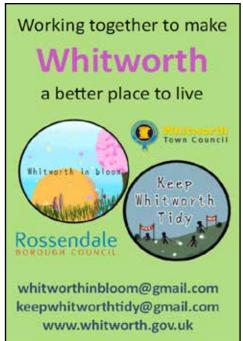
The time has come for Community Leisure Association of Whitworth (CLAW) to hand the reigns of the leisure centre and Riverside over to Rossendale Leisure Trust (RLT) Ltd to protect and preserve our facilities for future generations. For the newcomers to our village, CLAW was the local charity set up to re-open and run the Swimming baths after its closure by Rossendale Borough Council who then took on the Riverside in 2006 after the original Civic Hall building burnt down.

Retiring Trustees want to say a huge thank you to all the hundreds of Whitworth folk that have supported CLAW since its start in 2002, through two challenging decades from austerity through to Covid 19. In-between time you have partied at the Riverside: exercised at the Leisure Centre and we have loved welcoming each and every one of you through our doors.

The outlook for leisure and hospitality in Whitworth is bright and exciting, and I hope that you will give your support to RLT as generously as you gave it to us.

# WHITWORTH DOUBLE GLAZING REPAIRS ALL FOGGED UP? DRAFTS? LOCKS & HANDLES HINGES ANY DOUBLE GLAZING PROBLEM SOLVED NO VAT 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE JUST CONTACT RICHARD 07768 243081







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You're lazy ?

You don't care about this community?

You think other people should clean up after you?

# Nah! Don't be a tosser!

You brought your rubbish here Please take it home with you

Or put it in a bin

Thank you! Keep Whitworth Tidy





#### 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 1,8,12 and 21 Across, and 5 and 13 Down are locations in Whitworth – and the only clues for these are roughly where they are in the valley: 1A – south 8A – central 12A – south-west 21A – central 5D – central 13D – north

#### **CRYPTIC CLUES**

#### **REGULAR CLUES**

#### **ACROSS**

- Party? Right! When I got wedged into a teapot! (8) 9 Whirled, dyed - somewhere in there
- 10 Well-ironed compliment (7)
- 14
- Some explosive about how a situation works (7)
- 16 Squid let's go somewhat: relax (4) 19 Desert in long-ago bivalve (4)
- 20 Unwell, overweight, little Edward is doomed (3-5)

#### DOWN

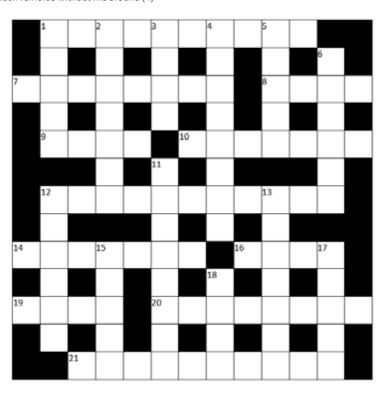
- Time to water them? (5) 2
- Backward detectives complain about wandering
- Suit shillelagh (4)
- (7) 3 4
- Belief driven from notion catalogue (8) Frankie explains an eastern road (6) 6
- 11 Little Violet gets stuck into whipped cream...her
- choice! (8)
- 12 Dessicated rubbish may bring the house down (3,3)
- `Acid? Am I? Not all the time, surely? (5) 15
- 17 Happening in level time (5)
- 18 Too much remorse without me around (4)

#### **ACROSS**

- Little rodent (8)
- 9 Small whirlpool (4)
- 10 Pay compliments; more level (7)
- 14 Energetic (7)
- 16
- Lazy; out of work (4) Cold, eastern desert (4) 19 20 Unlucky (3-5)

#### DOWN

- Not these (5)
- 2 No settled abode (7)
- 3 It has members (4)
- 4 She works for a better world (8)
- 6 Star of Up Pompeii – Francis...(6)
  - Free will (8)
- 11 12
- Problem growth in a house (3,3) Acid that's one of life's building blocks (5) 15
- 17 Occasion – maybe part of a bigger set (5)
- Surplus (4)



#### WHITWORTH & DISTRICT U3A

Whitworth u3a continues to ride the storm of the Covid-19 pandemic offering members the opportunity to meet at monthly meetings on Zoom. The flexibility of Zoom has widened the search for guest speakers, the latest speaker John Hope zooming from Newark to talk about Time Through the Ages. There is opportunity to chat afterwards using Zoom's breakout rooms.



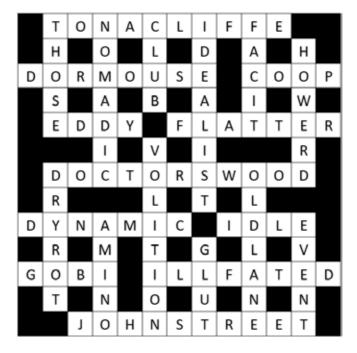
The various special interest groups have also had regular meetings on Zoom, the Flower Arranging group even managing to have practical sessions. The Walking and Photographic Groups were excited to reconvene outside activities from 29th March in socially distanced groups of six.

The bi-monthly Newsletter was launched during the first lockdown with plenty of news and photographs from the Art, Photographic and Flower Arranging Groups. The newly launched Book Club has been popular with members making book suggestions in turn, the current book being Sashenka by Simon Seabag Montefiore.

It is hoped as the roadmap out of lockdown continues that monthly meetings will resume at The Riverside from the July meeting.

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

#### TWO CROSSWORDS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!



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#### THE ROSSENDALE 60'S FESTIVAL 2021

Organisers are delighted to announce that this year's Festival will go ahead on the weekend of 10th - 12th September. This year, the Festival is being run in association with Rossendale Radio, and is planned for a number of events to be featured either via Live Broadcasts or recorded to play out later. The organisers want businesses, voluntary organisations, clubs, pubs, churches and others to start thinking of 60's themed events that they would like to stage for the Festival weekend that will bring your community together (socially distanced if required).

Now is the time to get your thinking caps on. When you have the idea, contact Pete at petesweetmore@hotmail.co.uk and he will ensure it is promoted across the region on 104.7 Rossendale Radio. The last Festival was in 2019 and hosted over 42 events across the Valley, and with over 3,000 participants, making it one of Rossendale's most prestigious events.



As a voluntary organisation, the organisers are always looking for Festival Sponsors. So If you would like to be a sponsor and have your Company's information on all the promotional materials and social media platform posts, please contact Pete Sweetmore (Festival Group Chairman) on: 07963 322966

#### WHAT'S OCCURRIN'? ROCHDALE LAUNCH

We are delighted to launch Rochdale's very own what's on guide. The aim of this new site is to create a catalogue of all the amazing live events running across our town.

Rochdale has a really vibrant arts and events sector that includes music festivals, food festivals, carnivals and live music venues to name just a few. We aim to create a platform that supports our local community and helps to not only promote but celebrate the vast array talent we have in Rochdale.

This site is be completely free and there is absolutely no charge for advertising on our site. So if you have an event to list, no matter how big or small, please get touch!

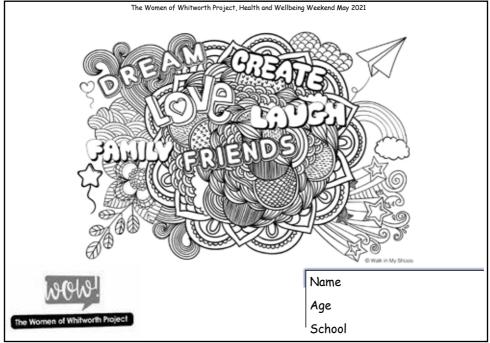
This page is the brainchild and 2nd lockdown project for the organisers who brought you Oktoberfest Rochdale and Little Glastonboro in 2019. We are proud Rochdalians and musicians ourselves and we want to do our bit to see our town thrive!

We need your help to get the word out so if you know anyone who this site might benefit please share it with them. Thanks for reading you can find out more at:

www.whatsoccurrinrochdale.co.uk







Return your entry by 25<sup>th</sup> June via email (screenshot or photo is fine) to thewowproject2018@ gmail.com or post to 640 Whitworth Road, Healey OL12 0TB

#### **PARLIAMENT WEEK 2021**

Whitworth Town Council will be holding events for parliament week again this year. They have invited local schools but want to open up the invitation to other groups too.



Parliament Week is a great opportunity to find out about democracy and also to learn what your local councillors and member of parliament does for where you live.

If you would like to join a session please get in touch with stating which day or evening would be best between 1st to 7th November. Let her know if you would prefer a virtual session or face to face if this is possible at the time and if you have any particular topics in mind.

For more information contact Melanie, Town Clerk on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk



#### LOCAL TRADES LIST

#### **CHILDREN - EDUCATION & TUITION:**

#### Childminder OFSTED registered level 3 qualified: GILL CHORLTON

Tel: 07962190667

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#### **HEALTH & WELLBEING:**

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(Market Street, Whitworth, Lancashire)

#### **HEALEY DELL HERITAGE CENTRE AND TEAROOMS**

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(Richard Lyon-Hayes) Tel: 07970 470019 rlhgasandpropertyservices@yahoo.co.uk www.rlhgas.co.uk, Gas Safe registered 531279 (33 Oak Street Shawforth)

High power pressure washing (paths & patio cleaning driveways & tarmacking, decking & cobbles, graffiti removal, garden stone walls, moss & algae removal, plus window cleaning: SEAN BRADLEY

Tel: 01706 879928 / 07773 798078 Seanbrad09@gmail.com (28 Douglas Road, Bacup)

#### Painting & Decorating: ANDREW ROBINSON

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#### JOHN LEYLAND

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Jim Mellor (Conservative): 01706 853479 07973 421145 • jim.mellor47@hotmail.com

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07532 144924

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William Calderbank (Community First):

07508 402278 • wcalderbank99@gmail.com

Maureen Jones (Community First):

07794 356610 • maureen5961@hotmail.com

Alan Neal (Community First):

07817 414721 • alanneal@rossendalebc.gov.uk

Dayne Powell (Community First):

07795 022564 • Dayne.powell@outlook.com

Stella Troughton (Independent):

07715 434272 • cllrstroughton@gmail.com

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Civil Hall, Market Street Whitworth. OL12 8DP

Contact: Melanie Hearn, The 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:** 

Election taking place May 2021

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:
Alan Neal and Dayne Powell

(See left for contact details)

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

Election taking place May 2021

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:

Jake Berry MP

0207 210 5000 (House of Commons) 01706 215547 (Constituency office)

jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk • www.jakeberry.org

#### FORTHCOMING WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Thurs 20 May (Mayor-making), Thurs 10 Jun, Thurs 24 Jun, Thurs 8 July, Thurs 22 July, Thurs 9 Sept, All meetings are open to the public and take place at 7.30pm. Meetings take place in the Council Chamber or on zoom with public joining via zoom whilst restrictions are in place. See the website for details of how to join or contact the Town Clerk.

#### **OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:**

**Community Police Officer PCSO 7356 Heidi Kirkbright:** to report a non-urgent crime or incident, please dial 101 or visit www.lancashire.police.uk/contact-us/how-do-i-report-a-crime. For emergencies only, dial 999. Report information confidentially to CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111 ◆ sign up to 'In The Know' to receive alerts around crime patterns in Whitworth stayintheknow.co.uk/LancashireTalking

Rossendale Connected: Support through pandemic • 01706 227016 • help@rossendaleconnected.org

**Lancashire County Council:** 0300 123 6701 (general enquiries) www.lancashire.gov.uk • Highways 0300 123 6780 or email highways@lancashire.gov.uk • out of hours social care emergencies 0300 123 6720

**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

**Together Housing:** 0300 555 5556 (general enquiries)

Homestart: 01706 214621 • Emma@homestartrbh.co.uk • www.home-start.org.uk

Carers Link Lancashire: 01254 387444 • info@carerslink.net • www.eastlancscarers.org.uk

Citizens Advice Rossendale: Financial, welfare and benefits advice 0300 456 2552 • www.carh.org.uk

**The Samaritans:** 01706 830999 • (Freephone) 116 123 Universal Credit: (Freephone) 0800 731 9344

**Lancashire Volunteer Partnership:** Befriending service for people who want someone to talk to www. lancsvp.org.uk • 0777 997 2114

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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