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Sunday 22 November 2015 5.30pm for a 6.00pm switch on  
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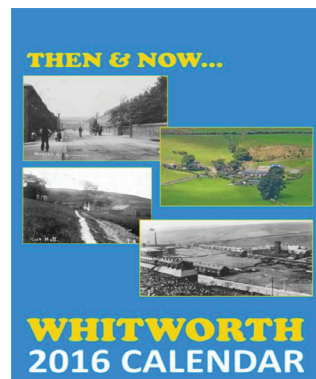
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# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



I can't believe that six months have passed since I became Mayor. David and I with the support of our family have, so far, carried out over 60 engagements including The Rushcart – which as usual was a huge success, Civic Sunday in October and my first charity event. I would like to say a huge thank-you to all who attended and supported these events. As a family we have really enjoyed attending the local Christmas fairs including Springhill Hospice, Our Lady and St Anselms and St John with St Michael's. This coming week, David and I will be attending Whitworth High School for their GCSE Presentation Evening to present prizes to former year 11 pupils. It is an honour to be asked to these evenings where our local youth have an opportunity to have their achievements recognised by the school, their parents and the wider community.



The Mayor of Whitworth, Councillor Lynda Barnes, and family – husband David, daughter Vickie and granddaughter Charlotte

As you read this our Remembrance Sunday commemoration will have taken place, this event always brings out the best in Whitworth people who come along to these functions in large numbers and I am fiercely proud of everyone who attended.

As we look forward to our Christmas lights switch on (22nd November), Community Carol Service (14th December) and the New Years day Duck Race (1st January) all that remains for me to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous 2016.

With all best wishes

Councillor Lynda Barnes, Mayor of Whitworth



## New Year's Day Duck Race

Friday 1 January 2016, 1pm  
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## POTTY ABOUT PAINT-A-POT!

**Paint-a-Pot is going from strength to strength, and Paul and Julie are delighted with how the business is developing.** Paint-a-Pot can be hired for parties, covering all ages and abilities, and held in a location of your choice – recent events include children's birthday parties, large family groups, community groups and over 60s groups. Birthday parties cost £80 for a minimum of 8 people, and £8 per person thereafter. Paint-a-Pot also hosts regular adult events at Berni Inn at the Fudge Factory; the next event is likely to be during half-term in the New Year, date still to be confirmed. And, to accommodate those away during half-term, there will be an extra Thursday evening date.

The Paint-a-Pot studio is open weekly on Thursdays and Fridays, 10am til 3pm (half-term weeks Tuesday til Friday), with Saturdays by appointment. For more details, please contact Paul Sanders on 07411 018244 or Julie Sanders on 07411 043981 or visit [www.paint-a-pot-and-more.co.uk](http://www.paint-a-pot-and-more.co.uk).

## KEEP WHITWORTH TIDY

**The Keep Whitworth Tidy group was set up in May 2015 and has to date held three successful litter picks, which has accumulated 83 bags of rubbish so far.** It is run by local volunteers of all ages from 4 years up. The picks are usually held monthly on a Sunday morning from 10am till 11am. The areas are decided by need and accessibility depending on the time of the year and all equipment is provided. Many members have enjoyed the community spirit and working out in the fresh air. If you think you would like to join up the next arranged pick dates are as follows:

Sunday 15th November 2015 (Meet at Porky's Pit Stop at 10am)

Sunday 17th January 2016

Sunday 28th February 2016

Sunday 20th March 2016

Please see the Facebook group 'Keep Whitworth Tidy' for more details and locations. You can also contact the group through the 'LitterAction' website [www.litteraction.org.uk](http://www.litteraction.org.uk)

Everyone welcome, hopefully see you soon.



Some volunteers at the last litter pick, photograph used with kind permission of Gillian Hastewell



# WHITWORTH NEWS



## WHITWORTH SPORTS FESTIVAL

**Next year's Whitworth Sports Festival will run from Saturday June 11 to Sunday June 19.** It will feature plenty of old favourites, but if there's an event you'd like to have in there, please call Jo Furtado on 853442 or 07813 180 748. However, bear in mind that the individual events that make up Festival are not all organised by one person, or even a committee. They are organised by lots of different groups and individuals volunteering their own interests and expertise. The festival is then co-ordinated, publicised and supported by Jo and the Sport's Council. Wouldn't it be good to have some more Festival events aimed at older youths and adults? And remember: events don't have to be competitive – they can fun events focusing on participation or simply awareness-raising. Several of our events wouldn't be possible without volunteers prepared to marshal, wield a stopwatch or hand out refreshments: any offers of help would be greatly appreciated.



Photos by Jim Mellor, used with kind permission

## KEEPING SAFE AND ACCESSING SERVICES IN WINTER WEATHER

**The Town Council works alongside Rossendale Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, Green Vale Homes, Help Direct, the NHS and the emergency services to keep people safe and maintain services in the event of severe winter weather.**

Here are some useful contacts to keep to hand during the cold weather.

**GENERAL ADVICE AND INFORMATION:** Help Direct  
Tel: 0303 333 1111 Monday – Friday, 7.30am – 6pm  
and Saturdays 9am – 1pm (1p per minute from a  
landline; mobiles may vary).  
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[www.helpdirect.org.uk](http://www.helpdirect.org.uk)

**GRITTING / GRIT BINS:** Lancashire County Council  
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Email: [highways@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@lancashire.gov.uk)  
[www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk) or [www.twitter.com/lancashirecc](https://twitter.com/lancashirecc)

**REFUSE COLLECTIONS:** Rossendale Borough Council  
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[www.rossendale.gov.uk](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk) or [www.twitter.com/rossendalebc](https://twitter.com/rossendalebc)

### OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

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

Finally, don't forget: if you have an elderly or vulnerable person living close to you, please check on them during the cold winter months – it really can make a huge difference. Thank you.



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## WHITWORTH SKYLINE WALK

The Whitworth Skyline walk will take place on Sunday 15 May, starting as ever from Lobden Golf Club, and finishing there, 14 miles later, with a free meal and a chance to buy some liquid refreshment. For the 300+ who walked this year and last it will be a different challenge this time around, as the walk will be anti-clockwise. If you've never done it before, full details will appear in the March Issue of Whitworth Valley News. If you're no walker but you'd like to help out by marshalling contact Jo Furtado (01706 853442 or 07813 180748) particularly if you have a 4x4 and would be prepared to deploy for half a day in the back of beyond.



Photo from the 2015 Skyline walk by Jim Mellor, used with kind permission

## PITCHES UPDATE - WHITWORTH VALLEY FOOTBALL CLUB AND WHITWORTH SPORTS COUNCIL

**As WVN goes to press we are uncertain of the future of pitches in the Valley.**

The consultation on pitches ended in September and there was a massive amount of support opposing the proposed house build on the pitches at John Street and Rawstron Street.

Rossendale Council are awaiting the recommendations of a Pitch Strategy report that is expected to completed at the end of October, so we will know more then.

The 'Keep Our Pitches' demonstration at John Street captured the strength of feeling in the Valley. Many thanks to all of you for all of your support writing letters, completing consultation forms and signing petitions.

Although there is uncertainty we are looking forward and planning for the future. There are several developments that we want to keep you updated on;

The pitch at Leavengreave is in the process of transferring to Whitworth Sports Council under a fifty year lease arrangement. One of the conditions of the lease is that we need to have brought the area back into use within five years. When the lease is signed we will be in a position to look at funding opportunities to improve and develop the site. Initially we will need to secure the area, then we can look at options for drainage and developing facilities.

If you have an ideas about what you would like to see on the site or would like to be involved in the Leavengreave project email us on:- [projectleavengreave@gmail.com](mailto:projectleavengreave@gmail.com).

There is a twenty five year lease for the pitch at Rawstron Street that Whitworth Valley Football Club have signed over the last two weeks. This will ensure that we can apply for funding to make improvements to the ground. We have had financial support from the Co-Operative group and Tesco over the last eighteen months to help develop and improve the changing rooms and also lot of work done by trade professionals giving their time to help upgrade the site. A new kitchen has been added, new toilets and showers have been installed and the changing rooms have been redecorated and revamped. We are currently looking at funding opportunities for replacement of the metal railings surrounding the pitch and installation of some windows and doors in the changing rooms.

# WHITWORTH NEWS

## WHITWORTH SWIMMING CLUB

**Whitworth Swimming Club has enjoyed a productive few months with an even busier period planned up to the Christmas break.**

In April, the club completed a successful distance night campaign using a new format that straddled both Tuesday and Wednesday night's over a two week period. The approach ensured lanes were less busy and allowed children more time to swim greater distances.

In June, a number of club members participated in the annual Junior Splash n Dash. The event was enjoyed by all.

The Kandel Exchange in August was a superb success and everyone involved had an excellent experience of Kandel culture and participating in a range of activities and entertainment. The club looks forward to 2016 and welcoming visitors to England and celebrating the 50th year of the Town Twinning scheme.

On the 8th November, the club held a very successful annual gala at the leisure centre. The competition was intense as was the cheering from parents and family. On Sunday 13th December, the club will be holding its family party and medal celebration at the Riverside. If you would like to donate a raffle prize, please leave at the pool for Whitworth Swimming Club.

[www.whitworthswimmingclub.com](http://www.whitworthswimmingclub.com)

## WHITWORTH'S OFFICIAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON

**The official switching on of Whitworth's Christmas Lights takes place on Sunday 22 November at The Riverside.** Doors open at 5.30pm for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie for the adults, with kid's refreshments also available. Then, at 6pm, the Whitworth Vale and Healey Youth Band will lead everyone in a sing-a-long of Christmas songs and we will also have the debut performance of the Whitworth Community Choir. The lights will be switched on by the Mayor of Whitworth, accompanied by the winners of the schools colouring competition. And there may even be an appearance from a certain gentleman all dressed in red...! This is a free event (small charge for refreshments), and all are welcome.



The man in a red suit at last years Christmas Lights Switch On, photograph used with kind permission of Mike Burgess

# WHITWORTH NEWS



## A NOTE FROM THE NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD INSPECTOR

**Inspector Steve Rides has recently taken over the post of Neighbourhood Inspector at Rossendale, replacing Paul Leigh, who has been temporarily seconded away from Rossendale.** He joined Greater Manchester Police in 1998 and has worked in a number of different areas including Wigan, Bury, North Manchester and Manchester City Centre. He transferred to Lancashire Constabulary in September 2007 and has worked mainly in the East of the County in Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale. He has previous Neighbourhood Policing experience having been the Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant for Nelson and Brierfield, and Burnley.



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New Neighbourhood Police Inspector  
Steve Rides, used with his kind

Steve has worked at Headquarters on the 'Sustaining Excellence Team' which involved looking at efficiency savings and was the Divisional Response Inspector at East Division in charge of one of the Immediate Response teams servicing 999 calls across, Blackburn, Burnley and Pendle prior to taking up this latest position.

Inspector Steve Rides says "I am really looking forward to working with the Police Team at Rossendale, with a view to providing the best quality of service to the community and addressing any risk and threat issues within the area". If you wish to contact Steve then please email [steve.rides@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:steve.rides@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)

## WHITWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

**Whitworth Neighbourhood Forum meets three times a year as an informal community meeting to allow networking and information sharing and agreed action points.** The meetings are chaired by a Borough Councillor and informal minutes are usually taken. Whitworth residents are welcome to attend and the next meeting is on Monday 18 January 2016, 6.30pm at Shawforth Chapel.

From September 2015 the Neighbourhood Forum meeting also includes a half hour slot for people to raise issues with their County Councillors that they have been unable to resolve through other means.

Neighbourhood Forums can give grants of up to £500 to local community groups that can provide added value to the residents of the Borough. The work that the grants will fund must fit in with or complement the priorities identified by the Neighbourhood Forums.

For more information about Whitworth Neighbourhood Forum, contact Alison Wilkins – 01706 252593 / [alisonwilkins@rossendalebc.gov.uk](mailto:alisonwilkins@rossendalebc.gov.uk)

## THE ROSSENDALE BEFRIENDING SERVICE

**The Rossendale Befriending Service arranges for Volunteer Befrienders to visit Rossendale Hospice patients or people aged 75 or over who are registered with a Rossendale G.P.** They provide a bit of company and can, if desired, accompany the Befriendee to a local interest group, coffee morning, luncheon club or appointment. Volunteer Befrienders maintain regular contact with Sharon Rowland, the Befriending Coordinator, so that any additional needs can be identified. Sharon holds a monthly Befriending Drop-in at Whitworth Library from 2.15pm to 3.15pm on the 2nd Friday of each month - the next dates are 11 September and 9 October. The project is funded by the Clinical Commissioning Group with the aim of reducing loneliness and social isolation. If you would like more information about this and other Rossendale Hospice services or volunteer opportunities, Sharon can be contacted on 01706 253648, 07528 753085 or at [sharon.rowland@rossendalehospice.org](mailto:sharon.rowland@rossendalehospice.org).



# WHITWORTH NEWS



## WHITWORTH YOUNG PEOPLE'S CENTRE

The centre is now well into their Winter programme taking part in local and district events with the youth service and celebrating another successful year collecting trophies! Whitworth is home to some very talented young people with ideas and creativity to be proud of. Wednesday's are now a project night and currently members are completing a first aid course, gaining an increased knowledge of the dangers of using drugs and alcohol and also bonfire and firework safety. The club also offers support and guidance to young people with college, school, careers and CV writing as well as offering emotional support. Plans are also in full swing for the annual Christmas party.

New members are always welcome to the centre from the age of 12-19 (25 SEN).

The clubs opening times are Monday 7-9.30pm, Wednesday 7-9.30pm and Fridays 6-8.30pm. If you feel the youth club is for you or know someone who may wish to attend then the staff in the centre will give you a very warm welcome, come and say hello!

For more information about what the club has to offer please contact Gill Pearson 01706 853646 during opening times or email gill.pearson@lancashire.gov.uk



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# WHITWORTH NEWS

## CANCER RESEARCH – WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

**Lobden Golf club came up trumps again when they raised £865 at their golf tournament in September.** The committee would like to thank them again for their ongoing support as they are now on the brink of achieving their target for this year of £12,000. The annual sponsored walk with Whitworth band was held on 11th October as the magazine went to press the final amount raised was still to be announced. The committee would like to thank the people of Whitworth for their continued support; since the group was first formed in the early 60's over £300,000 has been raised which is a remarkable achievement.

Forthcoming events:

Fundraising meal at The Berni Inn on 19th November at 8pm (tickets £15)

Coffee morning with mince pies and carols at Greenbrook House 28th November at 10am

Annual Carol Concert with Whitworth Vale and Healey Bands 6th December at 7.30pm (tickets £7)

If you would like to attend any events, have any ideas for fund raising or want more information about the work of the group please contact Michael Whitby (01706 852613) or Joyce and Arnold Ashworth (01706 343424).

## WHITWORTH VALE & HEALEY BAND

The band came 4th in the recent contest at Hardraw Scar contest a result that probably didn't recognise an excellent performance. Some members of the band spent 2 weeks performing in the 'Brassed Off' play at the Curtain Theatre Rochdale. The production was well received by all who attended and was sold out for the full 2 weeks. The Heartbeat concert at the Riverside was again a huge success and over £1000 was raised for the charity.

Christmas is now looming and both bands have between them over 20 engagements. Local events include :

Sun 22 Nov: Christmas lights switch on at the Riverside 5.30pm (youth band)

Wed 2 Dec: Christmas concert at Christ Church Healey 7pm (youth and senior bands)

Sun 6 Dec: Cancer Research Carol Concert at the Riverside 7.30pm (youth band)

Mon 14 Dec: Community Carol Concert at the Riverside 7pm (youth band)

Sat 19 Dec: Carols at Co-op & Tesco 10am to 2pm (youth and senior bands)

Sun 20 Dec: Carols at the Band club 2pm Both bands (youth and senior bands)

It is with sadness that the band heard the news of the death of Derek Robinson, former band member and Veterans band member, at the end of October. For many years Derek was a member of the famous Black Dyke Mills Band and was well respected throughout the banding world.

For event enquiries, how to book the band and details of how your child can learn to play an instrument or join the band, please ring Michael Whitby on 01706 852613.

## FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

*Sun 22 Nov: Christmas Lights Switch On*

*Mon 14 Dec: Community Carol Service*

*Fri 1 Jan 2016: New Year's Day Duck Race*

*Sun 24 Apr 2016: St George's Day*

*See back outer page for dates of forthcoming town council meetings*

# WHITWORTH NEWS



## CROOK HILL COMMUNITY FUND NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS!



**PARTNERSHIPS FOR RENEWABLES**

A CARBON TRUST ENTERPRISE

In October 2015, Partnerships for Renewables completed the construction of eleven wind turbines at Crook Hill. The owners of the site, Crook Hill Properties Ltd will donate £35,000 each year to the Fund for the operational life of the project which is expected to be 20 – 25 years. Groups with worthwhile local projects can now apply for amounts between £250 and £10,000.

Community projects located within a 5km radius of the wind farm will be eligible for funding, and a panel of local people will decide which applications the Fund should support. There will be a single application round each year.

The Fund is being administered by national grant-making charity GrantScape. Local groups are encouraged to apply through the GrantScape website [www.grantscape.org.uk](http://www.grantscape.org.uk). If your project needs funding, the first application deadline is Wednesday, 24th February 2016. The first round of decisions will be made by the end of April 2016.

If you have a project you would like to discuss or you need more information, please contact Liz Payne at GrantScape on 07963 987653 or email [liz.payne@grantscape.org.uk](mailto:liz.payne@grantscape.org.uk).

## JUST MOVE TO IMPROVE!

It is nearly that time of the year when you want to look your best for anywhere that calls for dressing up. Get your body into shape at Shawforth Chapel, Tuesday's and Thursday's at 9.15am. The fitness class already has success stories from people who have been inspired to lose weight and even giving up smoking in a bid to be healthier. High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT), tabata, medleys and many other types of circuit training involving intervals are offered in the classes. HIIT gets rid of body fat more efficiently, even 2 hours after the class! There's additional toning for those problem areas; belly, butt and thighs. After you melt away the fat, sculpt those muscles into that body you will be happy with. Exercises are for beginners to advanced, any age, all shapes and sizes are welcome so you won't feel intimidated.

Most importantly, exercise prevents degenerative diseases, such as high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes to name a few. It's all about being more active, remember: Just Move! To Improve. For more information contact Rosemary Thompson (07886 963024)

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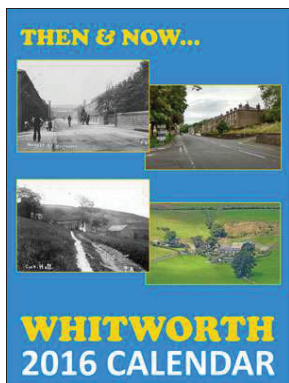
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# WHITWORTH NEWS



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Official Whitworth Calendar 2016

## OFFICIAL WHITWORTH CALENDAR 2016

Now in its sixth year, the official Whitworth calendar remains a popular purchase. Previous editions have been delivered to delighted ex-pats across the world, and numerous copies are hanging in the kitchens of homes around Whitworth. For the 2016 edition, the Tourism and Leisure Committee has returned to the format of the best-selling version back in 2011 - the 'then and now' format. The new calendar sees a selection of archive photos from all around the town alongside current snaps of the same location, with information on each setting. The photos and information provide a fascinating delve into Whitworth's yesteryear, and the calendar is well worth the £5 cost. The calendar is available to purchase from a number of outlets in the town - the Riverside, Post Office, UBS, Jan's Butty Shop and Top Shop. For more information, please contact the Town Council on 01706 852018 / email [info@whitworth.gov.uk](mailto:info@whitworth.gov.uk).



## New Year's Day Duck Race

**Friday 1 January 2016, 1pm**  
Cwm Reservoir, Whitworth, OL12 8BE  
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**Whitworth's official...**

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON!



**Sunday 22 November 2015**  
**5.30pm for a 6.00pm switch on**  
**The Riverside (Whitworth Civic Hall)**  
**Free event, all welcome** (small charge for refreshments)



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- The Mayor of Whitworth
- Whitworth Community Choir
- Refreshments, including mince pies and mulled wine
- Howard Wilkinson Photography: have a festive family photo!
- Christmas songs galore with Whitworth Vale & Healey Youth Band
- A certain 'man in red'!



For more information, contact Melanie Hearn, Whitworth Town Clerk:  
Tel: 01706 852018 / [info@whitworth.gov.uk](mailto:info@whitworth.gov.uk) / [www.whitworth.gov.uk](http://www.whitworth.gov.uk)



# WHITWORTH NEWS

## BAND CLUB EVENTS

**The 3rd annual beer festival took place over the Rushcart weekend in September and was a great success with customers enjoying a range of fine ales at bargain prices.**

Regular Saturday night concerts are staged to suit all musical tastes; coming up are Idol Frets on 21st November, and Bernard Cromarty on 29th November.

The Club have several events planned in the run up to Christmas. On the Sunday afternoon before Christmas (20th December) the youth band and guests will be performing Carols in the Club and the Christmas draw will take place. The regular Sunday evening quiz takes place on 6th December and Karaoke on the 13th December. "Shaun's world famous simple minds quiz" is on the 27th December.

Follow the Club on Facebook for weekly updates of available ales and forthcoming entertainment. The Club is available for special events and there's a small meeting room for community groups to use, all free of charge - contact the Steward (01706 852484).

## WHITWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**As the last Vulcan took to the skies for the final time this year we remember a Whitworth man's contribution to its development.** John Keiley grew up at Fold Head Farm and brought his own family up on Fairway. His aptitude for electrical engineering led him to a career in aviation. He worked for Avro on aircraft at the leading edge of technology and was most proud of his work on the Vulcan Bomber.



John Keiley (back row third from right) pictured with Avro project team and Vulcan XA897

When the first Vulcan was delivered to the Royal Air Force it was taken for a round the world trip to showcase its advanced design. Between 9 September and 1 October 1956, XA897 flew to Australia and New Zealand accompanied by three Avro Shackletons containing ground-crew and parts to service the Vulcan. As a member of the technical team John was co-opted into the RAF as Flight Lieutenant. Controversially as the Vulcan flew back into Heathrow in poor weather it crashed killing four crew. It was a tense time for the family until they learned John was safe on a following aircraft.

John's retirement presentation in 1978 was made by the former Air Chief Marshal, Sir Harry Broadhurst who had led the Vulcan's circumnavigation.



# WHITWORTH NEWS



## A MESSAGE FROM THE MP

**2015 has been an incredibly busy year.** Back in May I was overwhelmed and to be honest, rather humbled by the election result and would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who voted for me, the hundreds of local volunteers who helped with my re-election campaign as well as the other candidates and the staff who made sure the election and the local count ran smoothly and efficiently. Whether you voted for me or not, I will continue to do my best to represent everyone who lives locally in Whitworth and the surrounding area and work hard as a local, campaigning, constituency MP.

One of the topics that many people in Whitworth have contacted me about this year has been Rossendale Council's new Local Plan. This is where the Council decide what land they want to allocate for development, housing and business use over the next few years.

My position on this is very clear. We need new homes for local people but these should be built on brownfield sites and former industrial areas, not on open green fields. For some bizarre reason the Council decided that they wanted to use the playing fields on John Street and the pitch used by Whitworth Valley Football Club at Rawstron Street as the site for 50 new houses. This was completely wrong but thanks to the hundreds of people who supported the petition started by local resident Dayne Powell I am hopeful that the Council will see sense and make sure that these football pitches are protected.

I would also like to put on record my thanks to Karen Douglas for her work as the Town Clerk here in Whitworth, she did a great job supporting the council and the local community, I am sure that everyone will make the new Clerk, Melanie Hearn very welcome and I wish her well in her new role.

I represent over 90,000 people across East Lancashire and if you need my help or want to see me at one of my regular advice surgeries please do not hesitate to get in touch. You can email me directly [jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk) or call my local office in Rossendale on 215547.

## HALLFOLD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

**Hallfold United Reformed Church will be holding their annual Christmas Tree Festival and Craft Fair on Saturday 28 November 2015 10am – 3pm.** Many of the organisations involved with the church will be contributing to the festival by decorating a themed tree. There will be stalls and refreshments and admission is free.

Also in December the church will hold its Candlelight Service, this year the service will contain Christmas music sung by the Whitworth Community Choir. Come along and start the celebration of Advent at this popular event on Tuesday 1 December at 7.30pm followed by refreshments. The church's 2016 social programme will include the folk group Bandersnatch, a duo called Taylor Rae who sing 50's and 60's songs with some blues thrown in and from over the Pennines, a fun skiffle group called The Yorkshire Tea Bags. Look out for more details in March Whitworth Valley News.

Weekly Sunday morning worship begins at 10.45am and is followed by tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat. From the very old to the very young all are included in this family service. If you have thought about starting coming to church, or returning to church, you will be more than welcome at Hallfold.



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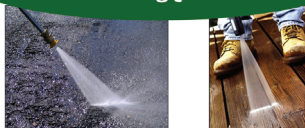
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# SCHOOLS REPORT



**The children at St John with St Michael in Shawforth have been supporting a number of charities this term.** Many thanks to everyone who donated items for Harvest, these items were generously shared between the residents of Edgemoor Close, St John's Church and The Raft Foundation – Rossendale Food Bank. The school have also been selling wrist bands to support Children in Need and numerous poppy related items on behalf of The Royal British Legion.

Thank you to the other schools in our area and Councillor Lynda Barnes who joined us as part of an Eco-School Council Cluster Group. We look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year to discuss further issues in our areas. It was also lovely of Councillor Jones and Councillor Brine to join class 3 children to discuss making our area a better place to live as part of their creative curriculum topic link on "there's no place like home".

Pre-School Stay and Play - Every Wednesday at St John with St Michael CE Primary School from 1.15pm – 3.15pm in the school hall there is an opportunity to come along with your pre-school children and meet other parents and carers, have a brew and a chat whilst there is a range of toys out for your children to play with. All are welcome and it is just £1.00 per family.

Winter fair - All are welcome to St John with St Michael CE Primary School Winter Fair on Friday 13 November from 2pm – 5pm. Stalls are available for £5.00 plus a raffle prize (01706 852614).



Bailey with one of our ripe apple trees



Lancashire Road Safety scheme

**This term we have focused on developing healthy lifestyles at Our Lady and St Anselm's.** The children have taken part in a range of activities focussing on oral hygiene, good hand washing and road safety. All children in Key Stage One have been given a challenge to record when and how long they brush their teeth for each day and so far the comments from the children have been overwhelming. I have never seen so many pearly whites! To promote good hand washing Mrs Schieder worked with each class to demonstrate the effect of not washing our hands properly, we used a special 'germ box' that could identify germs and the children found this very exciting.

You may have seen our children out and about this term in their little yellow jackets. We have been following the Lancashire Road Safety scheme, and the children have been working in their class learning about road safety and then putting their knowledge and skills to the test outside with adults to support them and guide them.

Many of our classes have been on school trips this term with visits to Brockholes, Helmshore Textile Museum, Speedwell Caverns and Pendle Hill. Next term, we will be visiting Middleton Arena for our whole school Pantomime and preparing for our Christmas productions. I expect to see lots of super stars on the stage at the Riverside on the 10th December.



Key Stage One learning about oral hygiene



# WHITWORTH NEWS



## WHITWORTH HIGH SCHOOL MATHS

Over the last few weeks, Mr Wright and Mr Cawley's year 10 class consisting of Harry Earnshaw, Lucas Brame and Tyler Smith have been studying units of measure in Maths. As part of the topic we decided to carry out a series of investigations both in and out of the classroom which took us on a trip into Healey Dell. The students were measuring the circumference of trees and calculating their age in order to find the oldest tree possible. The students spent an hour measuring trees and represented the school impeccably! The oldest tree they found was 4 metres in circumference and approximately 126 years old!

## THE TOP SHOP IS CHANGING

As many of you know the Top Shop is leaving Nisa in November and moving back to being a non-symbol group, independent store. Like many of the small businesses in the village the Top Shop has been affected by the introduction of more competition but despite this they have again been ranked as a Top 100 Independent Retailer UK and Ireland. This is for the third year running and is a testament to the high standards the staff maintain every day. It is the staff who are going to be running the shop day to day from now on but they still have access to the same range of products and will continue to try and offer the best value for money on the full range. The Top Shop will continue to fundraise for charities, having again given over £500 to local organisations this year.

There has been a local, independently owned shop on the Lloyd Street site for over 120 years and the Top Shop will try to make sure it stays this way. Please give your support to the staff in their new roles as 'managers!' as Dee and David are not around quite as much and many thanks to the loyal customers who continue to support the shop as they always have.

As always you can still get in touch via the Facebook page 'The Top Shop - Whitworth' with suggestions and comments.





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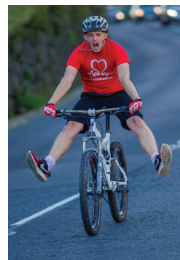
# WHITWORTH NEWS

## THANK YOU!

Gary Hancock's family and friends organised and took part in the annual charity bike ride from Blackpool to the Cock & Magpie, Whitworth on Sunday 27 September 2015. A huge thank you must go to all the local businesses who donated food & drink to keep the riders and marshals fuelled with energy and to those who provided vehicles & fuel to transport the bikes to Blackpool and for their back up support throughout the ride. Thank-you also to the marshals for their fantastic support throughout the day, making sure the riders were going in the right direction, keeping them supplied with food & drink and keeping them all motivated throughout the ride.

Thank you to the huge number of our great community that turned up at the Cock & Magpie to welcome back the riders, to the fire brigade for their support and to everyone who donated & bought from our home bake stall, had their faces painted or enjoyed the delicious ice cream that was on offer. Your support was amazing.

A massive THANK YOU must go to all the riders for their fantastic support, grit and determination to complete the ride and raised over £10,000 for the British Heart Foundation.



by kind permission of Jane Gadbois & Dennis Greenwood

## WHITWORTH COMMUNITY CHOIR

Whitworth Community Choir is firmly established in Whitworth and regularly have over thirty singers each week. As word is spreading in the community new faces attend each week to join making the choir a popular activity in the village.

Gentlemen are still in the minority to the ladies and are eagerly welcomed to the choir. Look out for appearances during the festive period as the choir have agreed to sing at a couple of local events.

If you want to be a part of the choir just turn up at rehearsals; Tuesday evenings at Shawforth Chapel 7pm -9pm. It's a great way to meet new people who share a common interest and good fun too.

For more information about the choir please contact Gill Pearson 07779 713595 or whitworthcommunitychoir@gmail.com





# WHITWORTH NEWS

## GET THE JAB = GET FLU SAFE

The annual fight against flu is underway at Whitworth Medical Centre. All eligible patients are encouraged to get a Free NHS vaccination against the virus by telephoning 01706 852238 for an appointment.

This includes people most 'at risk' from serious complications of flu such as Bronchitis and Pneumonia. You are eligible to receive a free flu jab if you:

- are 65 years of age or over
- are pregnant
- Children and Adults with an underlying health condition (particularly long-term heart or respiratory disease)
- are living in a long-stay residential care home or other long-stay care facility
- receive a carer's allowance, or you are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if you fall ill
- are a healthcare worker with direct patient contact or a social care worker.

An annual flu vaccine nasal spray is also offered to healthy children aged 2, 3 and 4 years old (on 31 August 2015).

For more information please feel free to contact the surgery.



## WHITWORTH RUSHCART ANOTHER OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

The annual Rushcart was held on Sunday 6 September in glorious late summer weather and attracted crowds of around 1,500 people over the course of the afternoon. The festivities began with a procession from North Street up to the Riverside, featuring morris dance troupes, the Whitworth Vale and Healey Bands, the Mayor of Whitworth, the Thwaites Shire Horses and dray (cart) and of course the Rushcart itself, resplendent in purple heather collected from local hills in the weeks before the event by the Whitworth Rushcart Men and pulled by the men themselves.



Whitworth Rushcart 2015, photograph used with kind permission of Mike Burgess

Following the procession, celebrations were centred on the Riverside itself. Inside was an arts and crafts fair, featuring local artisans and displays from the local Historical Society. On the car park there were rides and inflatables provided by PA Leisure, more arts and craft stalls, refreshments and performances from the various morris dance troupes, including some audience participation!

The event is organised by the towns Tourism and Leisure Committee; Committee Chairman Councillor David Chorlton said: This years Rushcart went brilliantly well, and the response that we had from the stallholders, dancers and the general public has been very positive. We were delighted to welcome a couple of new dance troupes to Whitworth, as well as our familiar favourites, and we hope we will see them again next year. It takes a year for the Committee to organise the Rushcart, and I offer my personal thanks to all who volunteer on the Committee for making the day such a success. On behalf of the Committee I would also like to thank all who helped out at the Rushcart, including our local Police, marshals, stallholders, dance troupes, and the staff at the Riverside who worked tirelessly. Special thanks as always go to Clive Morton, the heart and soul of the Rushcart, whose input is invaluable. We will debrief this event and then start to look forwards to 2016's offering.

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**LL**

We would like to thank Whitworth residents for their continued support this year and especially through the merger of the business into Lancashire Law Limited.

Our fees have remained rock bottom as always and the most competitive in the Rossendale area, which is a direct result of the local community giving us work to do.

We are always happy to help and so, if you have any queries, please drop into the office or make an appointment for our free half hour advice clinic.

**We would like to wish you a happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.**

tel: 01706 854167  
email: [kim.march@lancslaw.co.uk](mailto:kim.march@lancslaw.co.uk)  
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# WHITWORTH NEWS



Currently on display at The Gallery at the Baths are some more of Mike Burgess's splendid photos of Whitworth. The next exhibitions are:

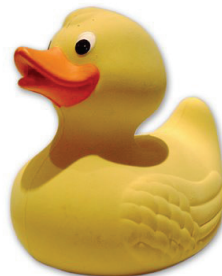
From November 20 – St Bartholomew's School  
 December 11 – Our Lady and St Anselm's School  
 January 8 – Whitworth Community High School  
 January 29 – Whitworth Photographic Society

Also, showing on the Gallery's TV during November will be Dave Greenwood's photographic of the construction of the Crook Hill wind farm.

For further information about The Gallery, particularly if you've a desire to exhibit, please contact Christine Ashcroft (01706 853012) or Jo Furtado (01706 853442 or 07813 180748).

## NEW YEAR'S DAY DUCK RACE

The annual Duck race will take place on New Year's Day 2016 at Cowm Reservoir at 1pm. The event is presented by CLAW (the Community Leisure Association of Whitworth) and the Town Council's Tourism and Leisure Committee. Ducks cost £1 each to sponsor, and the winner and two runners up will receive cash prizes! There will also be a tenner for the last duck over the line! Duck sponsor sheets are now available around the town, including at The Riverside, Council Offices, UBS and the Post Office. Come along and join the fun on the day!



Photograph from the 2013 Duck Race used with kind permission of Mike Burgess



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and St Bartholomew's Church present...**



### Whitworth Civic Carol Service

Attended by the Mayor and Consort of Whitworth,  
Councillor Lynda Barnes and Mr David Barnes

**Monday 14 December 2015, 7.00pm  
The Riverside, Whitworth**

Organised by St Bartholomew's Church  
on behalf of the Whitworth churches

Whitworth Vale & Healey Youth Band

Light refreshments after service  
(all donation proceeds to Springhill Hospice)

*Free entry - all welcome!*

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact:

Melanie Hearn, Clerk to Whitworth Town Council

tel: 01706 852018 • email: [info@whitworth.gov.uk](mailto:info@whitworth.gov.uk) • [www.whitworth.gov.uk](http://www.whitworth.gov.uk)

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# WHITWORTH NEWS

## WHITWORTH COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE

The Community Carol Service will take place on Monday 14 December, 7pm at The Riverside. The service is organised jointly by Whitworth Town Council and Whitworth Churches; this year, St Bartholomew's Church on Whitworth Rake has led on the organisation. The service will be attended by the Mayor and Consort of Whitworth, and the Whitworth Vale and Healey Youth Band will accompany the carols. The evening will also feature contributions from other members of the community. Refreshments will be provided at the end of the service, with all proceeds going to Springhill Hospice. This is a free event, and all are welcome.

## SHAWFORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Everyone is welcome at Shawforth Methodist Church.

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

### Christmas dates:

Candlelight Service (Sunday 13 December 6pm),

Christmas Eve Communion (Thursday 24 December 11.30pm)

Christmas Fair (Saturday 5th December 11am – 1pm)

### Regulars include:

Sunday Services (10.30am);

Toddler Group (Mon & Wed, 9.30am-11.30am);

Friday Drop-In (10.30am-12noon);

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

Coffee & Lunches: (11am-1.00pm 2nd Sat in the month);

exercise class (Tues and Thurs 9.15am),

Whitworth Community Choir (Tues 7pm – 9pm)

Coffee and Lunches (11am – 1pm 3rd Saturday in the month in 2016) with raffle and stalls including Anglo Social Community Project.

## HELLO FROM YOUR NEW TOWN CLERK

Since mid-September, Whitworth has had a new Town Clerk, **Melanie Hearn**. Melanie has already come to find this is a completely unique job and no two days are ever the same. Some of you will have already met Melanie at the Mayor's Civic Sunday and the Whitworth Remembrance Sunday commemorations.

Melanie is available in the Town Council office at The Riverside between the standard working hours of Monday to Friday 9am – 2.30pm. You can also contact her on 01706 852018 or email [info@whitworth.gov.uk](mailto:info@whitworth.gov.uk)



# LOCAL TRADES LIST



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lc@valleyacupuncture.co.uk

www.valleyacupuncture.co.uk

(217 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8TF)

## PROPERTY SERVICES:

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(NICEIC approved - Gas Safe registered):

#### C & N GAS & ELECTRICAL

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tel: 07817 519628

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### Gas Engineer (servicing, installs & repairs, kitchens & bathrooms):

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rlhgasandpropertyservices@yahoo.co.uk

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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

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(217 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8TF)

### Plumbing & Heating - LPG (Gas Safe Reg.): PHIL JONES

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(4 The Hedgerows, Whitworth, OL12 8AW)

### Window Cleaning - Pure Water Fed Cleaning System

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(7 Daniel Street, Whitworth, OL12 8BX)

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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.

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#### MORE INFORMATION:

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

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# USEFUL CONTACTS



## WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS:

### FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD:

**Tom Aldred** (Labour): 01706 852183  
atomaldred@aol.com

**Lynda Barnes** (Conservative): 01706 853635  
07944 116385 • cllrlyndabarnes@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 19 Nov, Thurs 3 Dec, Thurs 17 Dec, Thurs 14 Jan, Thurs 28 Jan, Thurs 11 Feb.

All meetings take place at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber at the Riverside; members of the public are welcome.

## WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES:

Civic Hall, Market Street  
Whitworth, OL12 8DP

Contact: **The Town Clerk**  
tel: 01706 852018

email: [info@whitworth.gov.uk](mailto:info@whitworth.gov.uk)  
[www.whitworth.gov.uk](http://www.whitworth.gov.uk)

Office hours: Mon – Fri, 9am – 2.30pm

## ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:

### FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD:

**Lynda Barnes** and **Madeline De Souza**  
(see left for contact details)

### HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:

**Alan Neal** and **Sean Serridge**  
(see left for contact details)

## LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

**Sean Serridge**  
(see left for details)

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:

**Jake Berry MP**  
0207 210 5000 (House of Commons)  
01706 215547 (Constituency office)  
[jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk) • [www.jakeberry.org](http://www.jakeberry.org)

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## 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](http://www.helpdirect.org.uk)

**Home-Start Rossendale:** 01706 214621 • [coordinator@homestartrossendale.co.uk](mailto:coordinator@homestartrossendale.co.uk) • [www.home-start.org.uk](http://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](mailto:highways@lancashire.gov.uk) • out of hours social care emergencies (5pm – 8.45am) 0300 123 6720 [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://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](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk)

**The Riverside (Whitworth Civic Hall):** 01706 854130 • [riverside-whitworth@zen.co.uk](mailto:riverside-whitworth@zen.co.uk) • [www.whitworthriverside.co.uk](http://www.whitworthriverside.co.uk)  
(open weekdays 10am – 3pm; closed Tuesdays)

**Whitworth Medical Centre:** 01706 852238 • [www.whitworthmedicalcentre.nhs.uk](http://www.whitworthmedicalcentre.nhs.uk)

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