

Issue 71 / Summer 2023

Whitworth

VALLEY NEWS



PRODUCED BY
Whitworth
Town Council



**WHITWORTH'S
PLANS FOR THE
CORONATION**

**WHITWORTH
TOWN COUNCIL'S
ANNUAL REPORT**



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Whitworth Residents and Friends,

On Thursday 18th May 2023, I will have the very great honour and privilege of becoming Mayor of our town for the first time. I will be joined by my wife Glen, as Mayoress, a local girl born at home right here in Whitworth. We are very excited to represent our beautiful town and fantastic community and we can't wait to get the Mayoral year underway.

The plans for my year of office are still at an early stage but I hope we can find some events that have something that will encourage inclusion for all our residents. I am particularly keen to help promote Whitworth as both a great place to live and also a great place to do business. I would like to take this opportunity to ask any local businesses, schools, clubs or associations to let me know their plans. I would be very happy to attend and lend my support for the benefit of the community. Please contact our hard-working Town Clerk in the first instance.

We will of course be trying to raise funds for the Mayor's Charity Fund. We haven't as yet decided which groups will benefit from this, but there are many worthwhile causes in Whitworth, mostly run by an army of volunteers. Where would we be without such good-hearted people?

As your Mayor and Mayoress for 2023/24, we look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the next 12 months.

With Best Wishes,

Councillor Mike Royds, Mayor of Whitworth



UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL'S TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

... are now taking orders for brackets for their annual Christmas Trees.

With a small, limited number of brackets available and the very precious time of volunteers to fit them, orders need to be in by the end of June for the brackets to be fitted in July. Once they're gone, they're gone!

Prices remain at £25 per bracket. Please email lesthirst147@gmail.com or phone the council offices on 01706 852018 to order one. Look out for updates in later editions of the Whitworth Valley News for details of how to order your Christmas trees and thanks to everyone who has purchased one in the past. All proceeds go towards planning future events.



WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL – DOG FOULING

We are having an increasing number of complaints about dog fouling in our town. Not only is this unpleasant to see everywhere it does present with public health issues too. There are signs all around our town reminding people to please pick up after their dogs. Toxocariasis is an infection transmitted from animals to humans caused by the parasitic roundworms commonly found in the intestines of dogs and cats. Toxocara eggs are shed in infected animals faeces and pose a real danger especially to children who often rub their eyes and put fingers into their mouths. Toxocariasis can lead to blindness.

There are many responsible dog owners in Whitworth who also find this behaviour reprehensible. Dogs are habitual, therefore there is a high possibility that you witnessing the same dog fouling the same place daily. If any members of the public witness someone's dog fouling and their owners do not pick up after them, please report them to Rossendale Borough Council.

If this is outside your home or areas that are frequented by the public, you can call RBC and ask them to come and clean it up.

Report to fine, report to clean up, one way or another we can work together to stamp out this abhorrent act and irresponsible dog ownership in our town.

Please report on R.B.C. website and fill in the online form. All reports are treated in the strictest of confidence. Providing location, time and person, if known, is helpful. Fixed penalty notices will be issued to anyone found guilty of allowing their dog to foul a public place. https://www.rossendale.gov.uk/forms/form/10322/en/report_dog_fouling or search for dog fouling on the Rossendale Borough Council website. Thank you.



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Model shown is MY23 Yaris Cross Design 1.5 VEE-i Auto 170D £26,605 including optional Metallic paint at £815. Prices correct at time of being published. Terms and conditions apply. Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km): combined 54.6 (5.2) - 62.8 (4.3). Combined CO₂ 117-102 g/km. Hybrid electric vehicle. Figures obtained using a combination of battery power and fuel. Figures are provided for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption, CO₂ and/or equivalent all-electric range figures with other cars tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results. Fuel consumption, CO₂ produced, and equivalent all-electric range can vary significantly depending on a number of factors, including the accessories fitted (post-registration), driving style, conditions, speed and vehicle load. All models and grades are certified according to the World Harmonised Light Vehicle Test Procedure (WLTP). All mpg and CO₂ figures quoted are full WLTP figures. More information can be found by visiting www.vehicle-certification-agency.gov.uk/fcd/wltp.asp

KING CHARLES III CORONATION



At the time of this edition of the Whitworth Valley News going to press, the Coronation of King Charles III had not yet taken place. However, by the time you are reading this, all the celebrations will have taken place.

There are many events planned to take place in Whitworth over the bank holiday weekend including:

- a youth event at Youth Valley Vibe
- a celebration event for carers organised by Stronger Together at Sunnyside Care Community Hub
- a Coronation Floral display by Whitworth in Bloom
- a social evening with band at Whitworth Vale and Healey Club
- a free, family event at The Ashcroft in collaboration with Whitworth Town Council and our Tourism and Leisure Committee
- an afternoon tea for older residents at Riddiough Court



As well as numerous street parties across the town. Please email in any photographs of your events for inclusion in the next edition to info@whitworth.gov.uk

Pictured is the Coronation Spider. Local resident David has truly brightened people's day by adorning the spider with bunting and a crown and we thank him for his efforts in helping to make Whitworth a great place to live.

WHITWORTH IN BLOOM

With a generous grant from Rossendale Borough Council's King's Coronation Event fund, the Bloomers have been able to decorate various areas of the town.

Perennials have been planted in the previously overgrown area outside the Co-op, the bicycle at Britannia has been brightened up and the bottom tier of the fountain planter at Healey Corner has been refilled with regal colours. From one end of Whitworth to the other, the Coronation has been marked with a floral tribute.



KNIT AND NATTER

The very talented members of Whitworth Library's Knit & Natter have produced their own knitted tribute to the Coronation which is currently on display at the library.

The group meet on Mondays between 2pm and 4pm and are a friendly group. Any residents wanting to join them would be made very welcome.

Coronation Wordsearch

R B U C N S C P A L A C E S P J B T
U I R A Z O P E I K T I V Y W A U H
C G B K I N G Q L C R O W N G O N R
W E S T M I N S T E R A B B E Y T O
A C A R R I A G E L B Y Q R K O I N
I C T A W W O Q Y V E R K E V V N E
Y Y A Q U E E N Q B K O A Y M V G M
Y Z M Z W I N D S O R G M T T J Y U
H K U W B U C K I N G H A M I O P D
C A S T L E U C O R O N A T I O N M
Q B Q A Z F I I R O Y A L P N H N G
S T R E E T P A R T Y O V H R E C S

Can YOU discover the missing words?

CORONATION

KING

QUEEN

CROWN

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

ROYAL

CELEBRATION

WINDSOR

STREET PARTY

CASTLE

BUCKINGHAM

CARRIAGE

THRONE

BUNTING

PALACE



WHITWORTH COMMUNITY CHOIR

Whitworth Community Choir are still going!! Although they admit it's been hard recovering from the pandemic.

They have received a much-needed boost from the Crook Hill Windfarm project which has helped cover outgoings and purchase new music plus a PA system to use in performances.



In 2023 the choir plan to get out there and showcase the choir to encourage new members to join with a larger plan to perform more. It's much more than a singing group: the choir provides a fantastic way to meet new people, make new friends and feel a real sense of community and camaraderie.

They always welcome new (and old) members, especially men!!

They rehearse every Tuesday at Shawforth Chapel from 7pm (They are a community choir and not a church choir). If you want any more info or a chat about it contact Gill Pearson on 07779 713595 or email whitworthcommunitychoir@gmail.com

FIND GLASSES YOU WILL LOVE TO WEAR!



Crowther Optometrists isn't just any normal opticians. They offer a tailored service to each patient and know how important it is to help you find eyewear that not only gives you great vision but that you love to wear.

Their eyewear styling consultants are trained to help you find your perfect pair. By looking at your face shape, colour type and discovering your style personality they will be able to select frames that will make you look and feel great. One of the basic principles of eyewear styling is the importance of colour. Colour can have a huge impact on how we look, how we feel and how others perceive us. When we get it right, it transforms our look.

They also offer a bespoke made to order service, so if you can't find your perfect eyewear then they will help you design it. With Lindberg's extensive customisation options there are no limits to what can be created.

So, if you are looking for something a little bit different or would like help in knowing what eyewear suits you, get in contact with their fab team.

WHITWORTH COMMUNITY GALLERIES

Whitworth Community Galleries exist to allow local community groups, photographers and (within limits and with reservations) artists to showcase their activities and their creativity. Exhibitors are able to show their work, for free, in two community spaces, at the Leisure Centre and the Library. The work usually remains on display for 3 weeks at each venue. If you might be interested in exhibiting but want a clearer idea of what's on offer, why not pop in to the venues.


At the moment in the Leisure Centre you'll be able to see, somewhat ironically, an exhibition entitled "What's going on in the Library?" This will be followed on June 9 by an exhibition of work by the pupils of Our Lady and St Anselm School; and on June 30 by artwork with a coronation theme by pupils of St John with St Michael School. At the Library the current exhibition shows the work of the Whitworth in Bloom volunteers, with the U3A Photography group taking over on June 9, OLSA on June 30, and SJSM on July 21.

For further details/discussion please contact Jo Furtado 07813180748 or jofurtado@hotmail.co.uk



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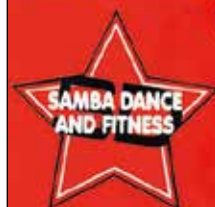
Lightyear

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WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND CLUB



Delighted to announce that the Band Club were awarded **Rossendale Club of the Year** by CAMRA. As area winners we were then judged against other clubs and voted **East Lancashire Club of the Year**. CAMRA will now judge the club against others in the West Pennine Region and if we win that the club will go forward to the National Finals.

A successful time for both club and band with the Band being recently crowned North West Area 2nd Section Champions.

The Healey quiz team who base themselves at the club have just won the Rochdale quiz league; congratulations to them also.

We hope you were all in the club to celebrate the Coronation with music and food on Saturday 6th May.

Quizzes continue every other Sunday evening which are free to enter.

The clubs Twitter, Facebook, and webpages provide updates on events and current beers on tap, including any one-off changes to opening times for live football on TV, both SKY and BT being available. Remember the club now opens at 5pm on Fridays and 3pm on Saturdays.



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CANCER RESEARCH - WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

The Committee would like to thank everyone in the village for their continued support.

As no article was submitted in March edition here is an update on events. The first carol concert with Whitworth Band since the Pandemic took place at the Ashcroft in December and raised £725.

A fundraising meal at the Rose and Bowl in March was attended by over 70 people and raised a record amount for one of these events £1,006. Thanks to all who attended, donated prizes, purchased raffle tickets and took part in the auctions. Thanks also to Christine and Gordon and John and Carol from Rose and Bowl for their support and generosity.



The annual Songs of Praise will be taking place at Christ Church Healey on Friday 19th May and on the 25th May a fundraising meal at the Pepe Nero takes place, reports to follow.

The annual golf tournament takes place at Lobden on Sunday 25th June. Any enquiries please contact below.

The group are always on the lookout for new members and new ideas for fundraising. If you want to suggest an event or donate or ask any questions again contact any of named below.

If you would like to know more about the work of the group, help raise money through sponsorship ideas, make a donation or attend any events, please contact Michael Whitby 852613 or Elaine Bagshaw 853935 or Arnold Ashworth 343424.

WHITWORTH MUSEUM

Following extended closure, Whitworth Museum is again open to the public. However, during the closure staff continued to handle the many enquiries regularly received not only from local residents but also from many corners of the world.

One recent enquiry, from Australia, concerned a family once resident in Whitworth well before 1750. Investigations suggest that over 100 members of the extended family are buried at the former Hallfold graveyard in Hall Street. One particular branch of the family lived at the hamlet of Cowclough and in 1841 lost three children, all under 4 years old, within just one week. Unfortunately, we do not know the cause.

Closer to home, one correspondent asked the former whereabouts of the Warpers Arms. This pub, then known as a beer house, was at the junction of Market Street and North Street and almost certainly took its name from its proximity to the former textile processor Matthew Stuttard & Son, who amongst other things, were warp sizers servicing the local weaving trade. Although no longer recognisable as such, the former pub building can still be seen and was, until relatively recently, a Chinese takeaway.

Whitworth Museum is open each Saturday 11am - 4pm.

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL AWARDS

Whitworth has an amazing array of people who dedicate their time and commitment to making the town a better place to live. Town Councillors were pleased to receive so many nomination for their annual awards this year and this year voted to award the following two individuals for their unique contributions.

THE MAYOR OF WHITWORTH'S YOUNG ACHIEVER AWARD

Danielle Halford has been training at the Waterski Academy at Cowm reservoir since 2017 and has won every British Girls title annually since 2018 when she won the under 12s. She is an ever present in the British Junior Team and has competed in 5 European Championships and 2 Worlds.

She continues to put Whitworth on "the map" as it gets mentioned in the newspaper articles and Waterski Webcasts that she appears in. This year Dani is working towards gaining her coaching and Driving qualifications and we all wish her the greatest success with this.



kind permission given for photo by The Waterski Academy

DR ALAN MORRIS AWARD

Kath Proctor was given this award for her contribution to the community. She always went above and beyond for every service user, their families and staff members whilst the lead manager at Millgate House. She worked there for 16 years until leaving to become a full time carer for a family member.

She has now set up a much needed carers support group called Stronger Together (every Monday at Sunnyside 11am-2pm) together with fellow unpaid carer Angela to listen, give advice and share experiences.

STRONGER TOGETHER

We are a new voluntary group for unpaid carers we are two ladies called Angela & Kath who are both unpaid carers, we feel there is no support in our area so decided to set up this new group. We know the daily struggles that carers face and would like to provide support where we can. We are here to listen, give advice, share experiences or simply just join us for a cuppa.

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

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



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A SAFE PORT IN A STORM

Before completing her term as Mayor, Cllr Janet Whitehead visited the Lighthouse Community Foodshare who have joined the Safer Rossendale scheme. The scheme's mantra is "Pop In, Call Home, Call Support, Feel safer" and is aimed at people out & about who feel at risk or don't have a working or charged phone with them to call for support. The Lighthouse is passionate about helping those in need and is delighted to participate in a community scheme which shares their ethos.



A community service like the Food Share can't exist without supporters. A key supporter of the Lighthouse are Thrum Hall Methodist Church who enable the use of the building, and themselves contribute several thousand pounds each year towards the running costs. These include repairs, insurance, and the ever-increasing cost of utilities. Rossendale Borough Council too, have given generous grants in the past. Support like this, together with the fact that the Lighthouse pride themselves that nobody in the organisation is paid, enable them to use every penny of public donations towards providing the service.

Opening hours are Tuesday & Thursday 10am-4pm, Saturday 10am-3pm.
For an appointment or to ask about volunteering: Tel or text 07922951096



WHITWORTH'S GARDEN GANG!



a greenhouse, tools, seeds and compost. Now the group is branching out into vegetable growing and learning about self-sufficiency using different methods of planting.

The Whitworth Library Children's Gardening Group (aka The Garden Gang) has been meeting for the past year on Saturday mornings from 10:30-11:30. They started their horticultural activities by growing sunflowers and since then have developed into year-round gardeners, planting summer bedding plants and spring bulbs in the garden and boxes outside the library. They have also grown herbs and propagated succulents, learning about the different growing environments. This has been facilitated by a generous grant from Whitworth Community Partnership which has helped provide

In bad weather, the Garden Gang enjoy nature based crafts such as making suncatchers and decorating pots. With so much interest and enthusiasm from the staff and children alike, there's a definite feeling that future successful gardeners are being nurtured.

Why not pop in and see for yourself everything that is being created?

WHY WON'T "EWE" STAY PUT?

In light of the current exposure on social media regarding livestock roaming the valley, West Pennine Commoners Association feel the need to address some of the comments which have been made.

A general comment seems to be, "It's never been as bad as this in all the time I've lived here.". Perhaps the following observation will help.

Many years ago, the moor was well fenced. It was the accepted custom that landowners fenced against the moor and the only way onto the main road was through moor gates which were ALWAYS kept shut. Landowners fenced against the moor with a six-foot-high wall or a stock proof fence to keep animals on the moorland.

When housing development began in the valley, farmland became housing estates, and nobody maintained the walls and fences. Some walls were lowered so residents could enjoy the views; thus they were no longer stock proof. Cattle grids replaced gates and the Highways Department don't keep on top of their repair. People bought farms who weren't farmers and refused to shut the gates allowing stock to stray - one resident refused on the grounds that they would "get their shoes dirty!"

Yes, farmers are responsible for their livestock and the maintenance of their own fences. They are not however deemed negligent if stock strays from the moor aka common land as it is the legal responsibility of the landowner whose land adjoins the moor to maintain a stock proof barrier. It is ILLEGAL to erect a new boundary on the moor.

Farmers also deal with the ever-increasing numbers of the public on the moorland. Some of them treat the moorland as a giant playground and forget that this is the farmers' place of work, the place where they produce your food.

Off-lead dogs not under close control cause endless problems. Over the last six months farmers have dealt with MORE THAN A DOZEN cases of sheep worrying. Some sheep were killed, and others had to be euthanised.

IT IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT TO KEEP ALL DOGS ON A SHORT LEAD OF NO MORE THAN TWO METRES BETWEEN 1st March and 31st July to protect ground nesting birds and livestock with young. DOGS ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO BE ON A LEAD AT ALL TIMES NEAR LIVESTOCK. This applies to all access land i.e. the moorland at all times.



Illegal off-road vehicles cause irreparable damage to the landscape, erosion to the grazing which pushes the livestock further afield, they cause disruption when the farmer is going about his working day and recently off-road bikers threatened to stab a farmer who was on the moor with his school-age daughters attending to his sheep.

Fences are regularly damaged - over a period of eighteen months a local farmer has repaired his fence thirty-two times.

Upland farmers work extremely hard in all weathers proudly producing environmentally friendly grass-fed beef and lamb in the harshest of environments that will not sustain any other form of food production. Their grazing animals contribute to maintaining the beautiful landscapes for legitimate users to enjoy.

While the general public seek to remind farmers of their legal obligations related to the welfare of their livestock it is only right that they are aware of their own when enjoying the vast open moorland that is managed by farmers who have been custodians of this landscape for generations.

THE ASHCROFT CORPORATE ROOM HIRE

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WHITWORTH & DISTRICT U3A

Membership of the u3a is made up of retired and semi-retired people from the Whitworth area who wish to continue learning, make new friends and have fun. Monthly meetings are held at Hallfold United Reformed Church Hall Whitworth, on the first Wednesday of the month from 1.15pm for refreshments and notices followed by a monthly speaker.



On Wednesday 3rd May the speaker was Mel Latham from Holly Cottage talking about preserves and chutneys using local Cheshire produce. June will be u3a's very own Paula Bradbury, 'On the Buses' - her adventures around the country using her bus pass. In July Brian Topping will be speaking on "The life of a customs officer".

U3a's Ukulele group have had their first time playing in public at Riddiough Court coffee morning and Barley View Care Home.

New members are welcome for an annual membership of £15 and £2 monthly meeting subs. Anyone interested may attend two meetings before joining. A full list of speakers, interest groups and contact details can be found on the FB page and website u3asites.org.uk/whitworth.

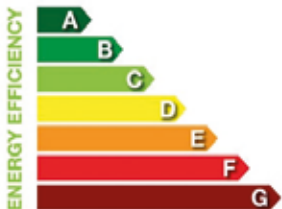
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and is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.

We are able to offer 15 hours and 30 hours provision from the
term after your child's third birthday. The 15 hours can be taken
over 5 morning sessions or 5 afternoon sessions.

If you are a working parent you may be entitled to 30 hours free
childcare. You can check this by visiting www.gov.uk '30 hours
eligibility'. If you are eligible for the 30 hours you can apply for
a Nursery place.

The Nursery is an outstanding environment and is very popular.
If you would like to have a look around the Nursery and school,
please contact the school directly to book an appointment.



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



MAYOR'S OVERVIEW

Cllr Janet Whitehead, Mayor of Whitworth 2022 - 2023

What a wonderful year I have had as your Mayor. It has certainly been a busy one with Jubilee celebrations, the sad passing of our Queen Elizabeth and the coronation of our new King! I have been very busy representing you and Whitworth. I have met some lovely people, attending almost 40 events, from judging bake offs at St Barts primary school, giving out awards for some very talented pupils at Whitworth High School to dancing at a Ceilidh at Hebden Royd and attending Blackburn Cathedral. I even completed a Fire Walk for Springhill Hospice, not to mention all the civic dinners visiting other Mayors in their hometowns.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me by attending or giving raffle prizes and donations for my fundraising events this year – Afternoon Teas, Over 50s Xmas party, quiz night, curry night etc. We have certainly been busy and should have managed to raise almost £5000, to give out to our local charities and community groups. I couldn't have done it without my little group of friends organising me and the events! So, I would like to thank them for all they have done this year. I can honestly say I have learned a lot this year and enjoyed representing you – the great people of Whitworth. I will continue to support you all I can as a Town and Rossendale Councillor.

INITIATIVES

The Council is supported by **Town Clerk** Rachel Hodson, who works 30 hours a week as standard. The Council also employs a **Parish Lengthsman**, Derrick Jones, for general repairs and maintenance, including attending to Public Rights of Way, mending footpaths, fences and stiles and undertaking a multitude of jobs in and around the town. The Council also employ a full-time **Town Caretaker** position which is funded in part by Rossendale Borough Council. Glen Iloff, our Town Caretaker, litter-picks targeted sites the length and breadth of the town, and reports issues and problems to the Clerk. All three maintain healthy attendance sheets – a testament to their professionalism and commitment to the town.

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

Whitworth in Bloom managed to continue to put on a blooming fantastic display. They added to the **Beasties BnB** and planted blackcurrant bushes on Cowm Park Way North. They have continued to tidy up the Garden of Remembrance at Whitworth Cemetery and have planted apple and fruit trees at the **community orchard** at



Britannia. They have also planted apple trees at Healey Corner covering both ends of our beautiful town.

The Town Council-produced quarterly **Whitworth Valley News** magazine continues to be a very popular read, receiving editorial contributions from a wide variety of organisations and featuring 31 paying advertisers. It involves a significant amount of work for the Clerk but is very well received and ensures all in Whitworth are up to date with town news and developments. It is hand-delivered to all households by the Sports Council volunteers.

The Town Council contributes towards the fight against crime with the continued sponsorship of the **Whitworth community police car**, which has proved invaluable to the local constabulary. This has been made possible by generous sponsorship towards the cost provided by **RRG Toyota Rochdale**.

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 continues to take a pro-active approach to tackling the issue of litter and uncollected dog-mess, supporting the legislative work undertaken by the Borough Council, issuing further letters to residents around particular 'grot-spot' areas and supporting volunteers by providing litter picking equipment.

The Town Council's **Tourism and Leisure Committee**, featuring councillor and non-

councillor members, organises or part-organises many events annually – this past year's offers include the Rushcart, Santa Express, New Year's Duck Race and a celebration of the Kings Coronation in partnership with The Ashcroft. Additionally, the Town Council itself is responsible for organising Whitworth's Remembrance Sunday commemorations and the Community Carol Service. All these events serve to preserve and strengthen the town's identity and provide a solid sense of community and civic pride.

Comprising town councillors and representatives of local sporting organisations, the **Whitworth Sports Council** continues to flourish, and plans for the 2023 annual Skyline walk were well underway at time of printing.

TOWN TWINNING

Whitworth has been twinned with Kandel for over 54 years and the friendship between the towns continues. Cllr Aldred and the rest of the committee 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. A delegation from Kandel will be arriving in late June and Whitworth Town Council hope that they all enjoy their visit here.

PLANNING

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 2022, **27 applications** have been considered by the

Town Council, ranging from home extensions to tree preservation orders. The Town Council is also consulted on Highways proposals and other consultations which relate to or affect the Whitworth area.

CONCLUSION

Whitworth Town Council continues to work to the best of its ability to serve its community. The quality of the council is monitored and ratified through the benchmark council awards scheme, and the feedback from the community is overwhelmingly positive.

The Town Council strives to be 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. It is always

looking for innovative ideas to tackle problems, and initiatives such as the support of the Whitworth police car and the partnership working with Rossendale Council on controlling dog mess are making a real and positive difference to daily lives.

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.



Whitworth
Town Council



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WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BRASS BAND

Whitworth band have had a very successful start to 2023. Sunday 26th February saw the start of their contesting year at the North West Regional Area Championships held in Blackpool, winning the second section contest. As a result of this the band have been invited to play at the National Finals held in Cheltenham in September.

Their next contest is on Sunday 21st May in Buxton, where they are currently third section champions and will be competing in the second section.



Whitworth band will be performing a concert at Hallfold United Reformed Church on Sunday 25th June during the afternoon. Keep your eyes open for advertising in the band club and local social media.

The band continues the involvement with local primary school music tuition. Having recently finished a term at Britannia Primary school they are about to start a term at St.Bartholomew's CE Primary school. Whitworth band continue to support children wanting to learn a brass instrument.

If you wish to book the band or require additional information regarding the Academy and Youth bands, please ring Michael Whitby on 852613 or call into the band club between 6.30-8pm on a Wednesday.

FELL RACES

Although there will be no Sports Festival this year, two of Whitworth's fell races will still be happening in June.

The **Senior Fell Race** will start, as usual, from Edward Street at 7.30pm on Wednesday June 14 – 101 runners last year, an amazing turnout, and a grand spectacle.

On the following day, starting near Lobden Golf Club, 8-16-year-olds are invited to take part in the **Junior Fell Race** round and back over Brown Wardle, an event first staged in 1983. For this one you need to fill in an entry form in advance: they'll be available, with full details of the race, from many of Whitworth's shops, and schools, and the Leisure Centre.

WE NEED DELIVERERS!

The **Whitworth Valley News** needs deliverers...obviously!

The current deliverers, about 30 of us, are mostly happy to continue, knowing that their 4-times-a-year efforts help out the Sports Council in its activities. But for every edition of the WVN there are some who cannot make it because of injury or illness, holidays or work commitments, and some volunteers regularly take on more than one round.

If you'd consider becoming a deliverer, but would like more details, please contact Town Clerk Rachel Hodson, or Jo Furtado (07813180748). Either of us will bite your hand off, and find you a round to suit.

CROSSWORDS – CRYPTIC OR STANDARD! WITH THE SAME ANSWERS!
YES – AGAIN!

CRYPTIC CLUES

(Clues to clues to get you started? 8, 9 and 10 across, and 1 down, are probably the most straightforward. And it'll help to read 16 across and 18 down letter by letter.)

ACROSS

- 1 Loud loud little sheep shouts rudely at worker (10)
- 7 Girls take a short while first to produce treacly substance (8)
- 8 Curiously vile covering (4)
- 9 Weak person is dead? Rest in peace (4)
- 10 Body odour, large, fat – gets in the way (7)
- 12 Twisted red Cur trees came up again (11)
- 14 Girl climbs on one vehicle to build another? (7)
- 16 Into car identification? So dry! (4)
- 19 Germany comes between two first persons – wise beings from a galaxy far far away (4)
- 20 Stew, anon stew! You could use this to cut it (5,3)
- 21 Tricky...Goal! Yes! Cop Houdini's skill! (10)

DOWN

- 1 Food left in very wet spot (5)
- 2 Current current information, like trees (7)
- 3 Request from boy: "Do sharks do this?" (4)
- 4 Stalwart subjects take on south-west and become equal-op sycophants (8)
- 5 Inapplicable woman in senior service? (5)
- 6 Ulster has backward shared bedroom – well, it's a variation (6)
- 11 Alien in camera gets confused – is it jam first or on top? (5,3)
- 12 You! Muddled two-word sign you knew we were talking about you... a dozen words later are you getting warmer? (6)
- 13 Hill above North American city? (7)
- 15 Ride the waves up a false identity? (5)
- 17 Reverse artificial intelligence to change cow-juice into reminder system? (5)
- 18 Reverse act – sundown hides it (4)

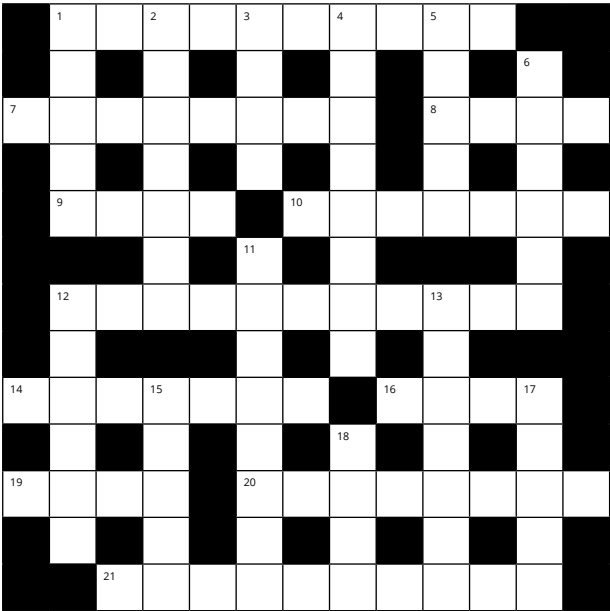
REGULAR CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Showy (10)
- 7 Syrup obtained from raw treacle (8)
- 8 Face covering (4)
- 9 "Bit" of water (4)
- 10 Obstruction to prevent entry (7)
- 12 Risen again (11)
- 14 Mobile home? (7)
- 16 Really really dry (4)
- 19 Sci-fi wise knight (4)
- 20 Tool for precision carpentry (8)
- 21 Art of getting free (10)

DOWN

- 1 Noah's is famous! (5)
- 2 Trees (7)
- 3 Laze in sunshine? (4)
- 4 Females who always agree with their boss? (8)
- 5 Adjective applied to some boats/crew (5)
- 6 A musical Variation (6)
- 11 Delicious little meal associated with Cornwall (and Devon tries to claim it too!) (8)
- 12 Someone who does what you're doing now (6)
- 13 Canada's largest city (7)
- 15 Assumed name (5)
- 17 It helps to keep you organised (5)
- 18 Reverse an action (4)



CARING FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE - WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL



Sadly, this is a message we must reiterate every year. We are well into the season of lambing, calving and foaling and those of us who roam the local moors will be well aware of the season we are in and perhaps the issues that have concerned local graziers and farmers for many years, namely the worrying of sheep.

The CRoW Act 2000 states that ALL DOG WALKERS must keep their dogs on a short lead of 2 meters between the 1st March and 31st of July and at ALL TIMES in the vicinity of livestock throughout the year. To protect livestock and

ground nesting birds, lapwing, curlew, merlin and snipe. Graziers have the RIGHT in LAW to close the high ground entirely.

Every year there are an alarming number of very sad and preventable incidents involving ewes and lambs, caused by dogs off their leads, worrying the sheep. Sheep worrying causes immense distress to these defenceless animals which are often left in a dreadful, bloody state which results in the humane destruction of the pregnant ewes. Besides the egregious act of sheep worrying, graziers are having to deal with the separation of ewes from their lambs, caused by dogs off their lead and running wildly on the moors in the vicinity of them. This is incredibly distressing and damaging to both animals. Let us not forget that this impacts our commoners and farmers livelihoods too. The common land is managed land and their place of work.

There has never been so much disturbance of livestock, maiming and killing of animals and it is all preventable, by simply ensuring that dog ownership is always responsible where livestock are grazing and complying fully with the CRoW Act 2000.

Please, always be a responsible dog owner and keep your dog on a lead at ALL times around livestock. Thank you.

NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS OPEN AT WHITWORTH HIGH

Following £17.6 million in investment through the Government's School Rebuilding Programme, Whitworth Community High School has just opened its brand-new school buildings.

The new buildings include a two and three storey main teaching block with classrooms, a main hall, specialist technology spaces, entrance plaza and parking.

"As a School Governor I know how hard staff, students and construction teams have worked to deliver a new building for Whitworth High. The school was the first in the country to benefit from investment through this scheme which has delivered new, modern, eco-friendly facilities fit for teaching and learning in the 21st century," said Councillor Scott Smith.

Jake Berry MP added, "Whitworth High is one of three secondary schools in Rossendale benefitting from millions in funding to transform buildings and create modern educational environments where our young people can excel.

"Scott and I are regularly out and about across Whitworth holding our street surgeries. If we've missed you and you have an issue you'd like our help with please get in touch either by email at jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk or via phone on 01706 215547."

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SAVING THE PUBLIC PATH NETWORK – MESSAGE FROM LCC PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY MANAGER DAVID GOODE

In 2000 the Government introduced a cut-off date for adding paths to the Definitive Map (the legal record of public rights of way).

In Wales the cut-off has been scrapped but it is expected to take effect in England in 2031. Ancient ways which have fallen out of use can no longer be recorded on the evidence of pre-1949 maps and documents. However, short cuts and ginnels now come into public use can be added if the later evidence exists. Regulations yet to be published will tell us what happens to paths which existed before 1949 and are still in use today.

Any ways recorded on the County Council's list of maintainable streets, Definitive Map Modification Orders not yet confirmed, duly-made applications and certain anomalies will probably be exempted from being extinguished by the cut-off but we cannot be certain until we have the Regulations.

However, the message is simple; if you know a public path which is not currently on the Definitive Map, please ask LCC. Then gather some evidence of the public rights and make an application ASAP. You don't need to prove it conclusively, just provide some evidence although obviously the more evidence you have, the better.



2023 WHITWORTH RUSHCART

Sun 3 Sept

MARSHALS NEEDED:
Can you spare an hour on Sunday 3rd September? We need adults to man closed side streets during the procession. You will get to watch the procession go by whilst marshaling.

Contact David for more details
clrdchorlton@gmail.com or
07939 218 266

MORE INFO: 01706 852018 WWW.WHITWORTH.GOV.UK

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WHITWORTH POOL OPEN TO ALL



It is six months since swimmers were able to get back into Whitworth Pool after leaks were repaired.

Last June, Rossendale Leisure Trust discovered there was a serious problem when a bill for £57,000 for water was received from United Utilities.

The pool was immediately closed and investigations began to determine the leak, or leaks, but initially there was no evidence either inside or outside the premises where the water was escaping.

Facilities Manager Mark Kay said: “A lot of people don’t realise just how much water there is in a swimming pool - there is around 75,000 gallons. If the water drops by 1cm, that is 500 gallons of water.

“The pool is a significant size of water so there is always some wastage through evaporation but not as much as what we had.”

Leisure Trust staff were kept on to keep the gym open and while the pool was out of use, the trust refurbished the interior and resurfaced the side of the pool.

Mark said: “We really appreciate the support and interest people have shown in the pool and we know how much it means to them. The main thing is that it is back open and we have isolated and repaired the problem.”

ROSSENDALE METHODIST CHURCH IN SHAWFORTH



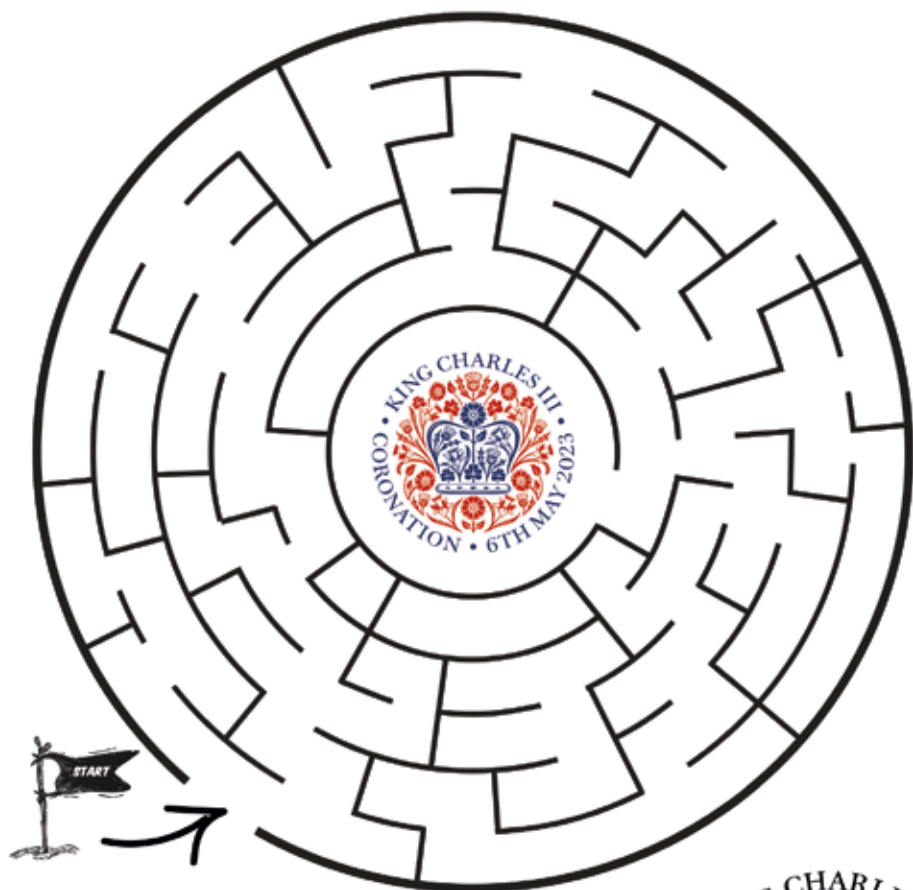
- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Sundays | 10.30am Sunday Services All welcome and stay for a brew afterwards |
| Mondays | 9.30am-11.15am Toddler Group |
| Tuesdays | 7pm-9pm Whitworth Community Choir Rehearsals |
| Thursdays | 11.15-12noon Little Bookworms booking details https://little-bookworms.class4kids.co.uk
Last Thursday in month 8pm Model Flying Club |
| Fridays | 10.30am-12.00 Friday Community Drop in Tea/ Coffee & Toast (and a natter) all welcome |
| Saturdays | Seasonal Coffee & Lunches. Look out for information |

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Whitworth Library, right at the heart of the community, where you'll always get a warm Whitworth welcome. Check out these activities at the library for everyone to enjoy. All are FREE unless stated.

Mondays

10:00 – 10:45 **Fitsteps** Upbeat dance exercises with Jan (£3.50)
11:00 – 11:45 **Pilates** Improve your strength, posture and balance with Jan (£6.50)
14:00 – 16:00 **£8.00 for both above classes.** Contact Jan Jenkins Fitness on 07939 087122
Knit and Natter Bring your knitting and enjoy a brew and good conversation.

Tuesdays

10:00 – 12:00 **Scrabble Club** Great company and good fun – why not join us?
14:00 – 15:00 **Storytime and More!** Stories and themed activities (18 months - 5 years)
15:00 – 17:00 **U3A Wellbeing** 1st Tuesday of month - 07762 757925 (Sheila) for info

Wednesdays

10:30 – 11:30 **Rossendale Children and Family Wellbeing Session** for children aged 0-5 yrs
12:00 – 13:30 **Meditation and Wellbeing** Contact Sheila Daly for details (07762 757925)
19:00 – 20:30 **Line dancing** Contact Sheila Daly for details (07762 757925)
19:00 – 20:30 **Yoga, Pilates and Relaxation** Contact Sheila Daly for details (07762 757925)

Thursdays

09:30 – 10:30 **Learn My Way** Get online – start your digital journey today!
10:00 – 11:30 **Shared Reading Group** All welcome!
10:00 – 12:00 **U3A Family History** on last Thursday of month. T. 07790192120 (Jean) for info
13:30 – 15:30 **U3A Art Group** 1st Thursday of month. T. 07800 820096 (Lindsay) for info
14:00 – 15:00 **U3A Creative Writing** 1st Thursday of month. T. 07903 570008 (Kay) for info
14:00 – 15:30 **U3A Flower Arranging** 3rd Thursday of month. T. 07411 520771 (Nina) for info

Fridays

10:15 – 11:00 **Baby Bounce and Rhyme** (birth to 3 yrs.)

Saturdays

10:30 – 12:30 **Lego Club** (for all ages)
10:30 – 11:30 **Gardening Gang** (for children of all ages)

... and newspapers and books, including audio and large print. There's information on a whole host of topics. The library also offers the warm welcome scheme to help with the cost of living. Drop in for a cuppa and a welcome from the friendly library team. You can brush up your digital skills on the public computers, with free Wi-Fi and also print and photocopy too.

If you, a relative, or someone you care for, can't get to the library, the team can bring the library home to you, via the Home Library Service. Get in touch by calling 0300 123 6703 and ask to be put through to Whitworth Library, or email: whitworth.library@lancashire.gov.uk

Follow the library or the Friends of Whitworth Library Group Facebook page, for news about events. You can also contact friendsofwhitworthlibrarygroup@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

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Town Council. It is distributed to 3,900 properties in
Whitworth four times a year.

Editorial content is carried free of charge; advertising
rates can be provided upon request.

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

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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

see pg 22
for the puzzle





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YOU CAN CONTACT HIM ON 2973@LANCASHIRE.POLICE.UK**

**ALTERNATIVELY CONTACT COMMUNITY PCSO 7356 HEIDI KIRKBRIGHT
07970 970878 OR 7356@LANCASHIRE.POLICE.UK**

**ADDITIONALLY YOU CAN 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 DIAL 999**

Lancashire County Council:

0300 123 6701 (general enquiries)

www.lancashire.gov.uk

Highways 0300 123 6780

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 22 5946 (out of hours emergencies)

www.rossendale.gov.uk

The Lighthouse Community Foodshare:

551-553 Market Street, Whitworth

Tuesday & Thursday (10am-4pm)

Sat (10am-3pm) by appointment only

lighthousefoodshare@gmail.com

07922 951 096

Together Housing:

0300 555 5556 (general enquiries)

Homestart:

01706 214621

emma@homestarttrbh.co.uk

www.home-start.org.uk

Carers Link Lancashire:

01254 387444

info@carereslink.net

www.eastlancscareres.org.uk

Citizens Advice Rossendale:

Financial, welfare and benefits advice

0300 456 2552

www.carh.org.uk

The Samaritans:

01706 830999

(Freephone) 0800 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

07779 972114

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD

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

David Chorlton (Independent): 07939 218266 • clldrchorlton@gmail.com

Kim Olaolu (Independent): 07434 034784 • cllrkimolaolu@gmail.com

Sarah Rhodes (Independent): 07891 269998 • clrsarahrhodes@whitworth.gov.uk

Janet Whitehead (Independent): 07795 577647 • cllrjanetwhitehead@whitworth.gov.uk

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD

Gareth Baron (Independent): 07773 307669 • cllrbaron@gmail.com

Robbie Blezard (Community First): 07506 609226 • r.blezard@outlook.com

Alan Neal (Community First): 07817 414721 • alanneal@rossendalebc.gov.uk

Dayne Powell (Community First): 07557 561803 • Dayne.powell@outlook.com

Mike Royds (Community First): 07811 994458 • clrmikeroysd@outlook.com

Michael Whitworth (Community First): 07850 910321 • clrmikewhitworth@gmail.com

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

The Ashcroft, Market Street Whitworth, OL12 8DP

Contact: Rachel Hodson, Town Clerk

Tel: 01706 852018 • Email: info@whitworth.gov.uk • www.whitworth.gov.uk

Office hours: Mon–Fri 9.30am–2pm

FORTHCOMING WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Thursday 22nd June, Thursday 20th July and Thursday 7th September

All meetings are open to the public and
take place at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber.

See the website for details or contact the Town Clerk.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD

Scott Smith and Janet Whitehead

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD

Dayne Powell and Alan Neal

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Councillor Scott Smith

Scott.Smith2@lancashire.gov.uk

07891 695962

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Jake Berry MP

0207 210 5000 (House of Commons)

01706 215547 (Constituency office)

jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk

www.jakeberry.org