

Issue 70 / Spring 2023

# Whitworth

## VALLEY NEWS



PRODUCED BY  
**Whitworth**  
Town Council

UPDATES FROM  
WHITWORTH TOURISM  
& LEISURE COMMITTEE

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WHITWORTH TOWN  
COUNCIL PRECEPT

FOCUS ON  
LOCAL BUSINESS  
INTERVIEW WITH  
SAMBA DANCE

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SPRING FLOWER  
EXTRAVAGANZA AT  
THE ASHWORTH



**BUSINESS UPDATES**

**MAYOR'S MESSAGE**

**LOCAL NEWS**



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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.



**ROSSENDALE LAW**  
SOLICITORS

# WHITWORTH DOUBLE GLAZING REPAIRS

## ALL FOGGED UP?

## DRAUGHTS?

## LOCKS & HANDLES

## HINGES

ANY DOUBLE GLAZING PROBLEM SOLVED

NO VAT

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

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# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

**Dear residents and readers,**

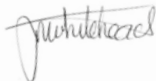
May I start by wishing you all a Happy New Year. I have had a busy few months leading up to this, which will be my last Mayoral address. In November, I was blown away by the turn out for the Remembrance Day celebrations, and Rossendale Business awards which recognise those who have gone above and beyond for our community. I also attended the GCSE awards for Whitworth High School celebrating the achievements of our very talented young people of Whitworth.

I had the pleasure of hosting an Over 50's Christmas party in December, at The Ashcroft, which raised over £1000 for the Mayoral Charity Fund. Thanks to BCH Ltd for sponsoring the event, Josh Laws Butcher/Bakers for supplying the lovely buffet, and the individuals and local businesses who kindly donated raffle prizes. I also enjoyed hosting Whitworth Town Council's Community Carol Service, it was lovely to see the hall filled with local residents and other dignitaries. I had the pleasure of attending local Christmas fairs, wreath making and The Whitworth Vale and Healey Band carol concert too.

Thank you to everyone who has supported my charity this year. So far, I have raised over £2000 which will be shared between local groups who work with our young people in Whitworth at the end of my Mayoral year in May 2023.

Looking forward to the next few months, I am planning an Afternoon Tea at Lobden Golf Club on Sunday, 12th March and my Civic Dinner on Saturday, 22nd April. This will be my last official duty as Mayor before I hand over the chains to the new Mayor of Whitworth, Councillor Mike Royds. I hope to see you all there.

With all best wishes



Councillor Janet Whitehead, Mayor of Whitworth



CLlr Janet Whitehead, Mayor of Whitworth with Angela Brierley, Lisa McDowell, Cath Broxup, Karin Tweedale and Tina Dobell at The Mayor's Over 50s Christmas party



## AFTERNOON TEA

In aid of the Mayor of Whitworth's Charity Fund

**SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023**

**LOBDEN GOLF CLUB, WHITWORTH**

For More Details contact Janet on 07795 577647





## Mayor of Whitworth's Civic Dinner

**Saturday 22nd April 2023**

At The Ashcroft, Whitworth

3 Course Dinner and entertainment from the Mash Up Men

# 2023 - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sunday 7th May**  
Charles III Coronation Commemorations

**Sunday 3rd September**  
The Rushcart

**Sunday 12th Nov**  
Remembrance Sunday Commemorations

**Monday 11th December**  
Community Carol Service

**Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December**  
Santa Express

**Monday 1st January 2024**  
Annual New Year's Day Duck Race

## WAINGAP WOODS

Whitworth Town Council are pleased to announce the appointment of two local contractors who are going to work at Waingap Woods. They will commence work at the site as soon as the weather permits. The perimeter fence at Waingap woods is going to be replaced with new stock fencing. The approximate size of the area is 300 metres so it is a large undertaking. We are also replacing the gates at the car park entrance site with new and improved galvanized steel gates which will be stock proof. There is also a galvanized steel, stock proof gate being fitted on the opposite side of the perimeter fence to fully secure the site. This should ensure the area stays safe and immovable for many years to come.

We are also working to enhance and make safe the footpath and play equipment at what is colloquially known as the Trim Trail at Waingap Woods. We will achieve this by replacing the warped, decked footpath with a new and improved rot proof subframe and walkway. We are going to address the flooding which occurs under the two pieces of play equipment with appropriate drainage, making them accessible all year round.

We would like to thank the people of Whitworth for their patience, and we hope that these much needed improvements will be welcomed by everyone.

### Bus Pass Scheme

Eligibility Criteria  
Age 16-18 yrs  
Not in Education Employment or Training  
Young Parent or Young Carer



Every Tuesday  
11am-12pm and  
1pm-2pm at The Ashcroft  
Whitworth


Contact Jo Riding 07939 372 418  
joanne.riding@lancashire.gov.uk

 [www.facebook.com/rossendaleyouthzone](https://www.facebook.com/rossendaleyouthzone)


**Lancashire**  
County Council



The Electoral Commission



No ID? You can apply for free voter ID  
Find out more at  
[electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](https://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID)  
or call 0800 328 0280







**BRGS SIXTH FORM**  
Creating independent learners

## Open Event

Wednesday 9th November, 6-8pm

**Creating independent learners**

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[www.brgs.org.uk/sixth-form](http://www.brgs.org.uk/sixth-form)




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# THE ASHCROFT MANFORD'S COMEDY CLUB

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SHOW STARTS: 8PM



Features 4 top comedians chosen by Jason Manford

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[WWW.MANFORDSCOMEDYCLUB.COM](http://WWW.MANFORDSCOMEDYCLUB.COM)



# WHITWORTH

## TOURISM & LEISURE COMMITTEE

### WREATH MAKING

The TLC had another fabulous turn out for this year's Wreath Making. Both sessions were well attended, some fabulous wreaths were made and everyone enjoyed the mulled wine. Thanks to everyone who bought a ticket!

### CHRISTMAS TREES

This year we sold almost 70 Christmas trees which were installed the length and breadth of Whitworth. Once again, the trees lit up Whitworth and brought Christmas here. With the trees at either end of the village, the one at Moss Side Street and the ever-growing number of lights on the main road in the Village, Whitworth really looks magical at Christmas not just for the people live here but for visitors and people passing through. A special thank you to Les Hurst and Steve Parker who work so hard to make this event work.

### SANTA EXPRESS

Our 3rd year of running the Santa Express was the most challenging and the coldest. Saturday night went as smoothly as possible. Despite the ice on some of the roads stopping Santa reaching everyone on that night's route, the TLC still had a fabulous time. Sadly, the weather took a turn for the worse on Sunday and the TLC had to postpone the Santa Express and rerun it on the Wednesday instead. The weather was a little warmer by then and Santa and his Elves were able to visit the rest of the village, making lots of children (and grown-ups!) very happy. A big thank you to Steve and Linda Parker for the use of their Army Truck and also to Father Christmas for taking time out from his incredibly busy pre-Christmas schedule to come and visit Whitworth.

### THE WORLD FAMOUS WHITWORTH DUCK RACE 2023

As ever the TLC like to kick off the beginning of the year with our New Year's Day Duck Race which is still growing as an event. This year we released nearly 2500 yellow ducks down the overflow from Cowm Reservoir, raising money to fund all the events we run in Whitworth every year. This year, as with previous years, lots of the public took time to watch the race and buy ducks on the day. Due to the heavy rain over Christmas, there was a lot more water in the reservoir which meant that the race was over very quickly. Much to the amusement of the crowds, one of our team nearly lost a welly and ended up with a very wet sock while looking for the last duck who was sheltering at the side of the river. All ducks were safely recaptured and are currently in training for 2024.

### UP AND COMING EVENTS FOR 2024

This year instead of running the Family Fun Day in July, we are working with the Ashcroft and Rossendale Leisure Trust to host a music event in the carpark at the Ashcroft to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. As always, the TLC will have stalls, rides, face painters, and food. There will be stalls inside the hall as well and the Ashcroft Bar will be open for refreshments. The event will be a free event for all the family, and everyone is welcome to attend. The event will take place on Sunday 7th May 2024 and more details will be announced once everything is confirmed.



**DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?**

# How to become a councillor



## Why become a councillor?

There are many reasons why you may decide to become a councillor:

- To make a difference to your community
- To represent the views of local people
- To pursue political beliefs

## How do I qualify?

There are three basic qualifications to stand for election, which are, that on the day of nomination, you must be:

- 18 years of age or over
- A British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any member state of the European Union
- Registered to vote in your local area or have lived or worked there for at least 12 months prior to election

## I'd like to become a councillor. What do I do next?

You will need to obtain a nomination pack from the Elections Office and be proposed and seconded by electors of the ward in which you are standing for election.

When completing your nomination, please note:

- The people supporting your nomination must not have signed a nomination for any other candidate.

## Useful Contacts

External contacts which may be useful for you to find out further information:

- Local Government Association (LGA)  
[www.lga.gov.uk](http://www.lga.gov.uk)
- Levelling Up, Housing and Communities  
[www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)
- Directgov—public services all in one place  
[www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)
- Electoral Commission  
[www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)

Rossendale Borough Council Elections Office:  
Elections Manager

Email: [elections@rossendalebc.gov.uk](mailto:elections@rossendalebc.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01706-252445/46

Address: Elections Office Rossendale Borough Council The Business Centre Futures Park  
Bacup Rossendale OL13 0BB

Switchboard: 01706 217777

Website: [www.rossendale.gov.uk](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk)

Further information on becoming a councillor can be found by visiting our website.





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## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

Every English town or parish must hold an Annual Meeting of the Parish for electors registered in the area. This year, Whitworth's Annual Meeting of the Parish takes place on Thursday 11th May at 7:30pm, at The Ashcroft.

The meeting will be quorate (legal) if just two electors are present. Although chaired by the Mayor, this is not a council meeting. It is a meeting for all Whitworth people to get an overview of what is currently happening in the town, looking at the work of various organisations serving Whitworth, and offering electors the opportunity to raise queries and make observations. It is usually over within the hour or so, so why not come along, everyone is welcome. See you there!

For more information, contact Rachel Hodson, Town Clerk on 01706 852018 or email [info@whitworth.gov.uk](mailto:info@whitworth.gov.uk)

## WHITWORTH COMMUNITY GALLERIES

Whitworth Community Galleries have hosted some lovely exhibitions lately. Currently showing at the Leisure Centre are photos chronicling the continuing hard work of the Whitworth in Bloom volunteers; to be followed (on Feb. 24) by artwork from St John with St Michael School; then (on March 17) artwork created by the children of St Bartholomew's School; and (on April 4) the U3A Photography Group take centre stage... and that'll be a treat if last year's sensational exhibition is anything to go by.

Meanwhile, at the other gallery space, in the Library, Tonacliffe School are displaying their artistic talents, with St Bart's (on Feb. 24) and St John with St Michael (March 17) to follow. From April 4 the Library will host an exhibition of photographs celebrating last year's Skyline 7 community walk.

If you have an idea for an exhibition, whether as an individual artist or as a representative of a local organisation, please contact Jo Furtado on 07813180748 or [jofurtado@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jofurtado@hotmail.co.uk) to discuss details.

**Lancashire**  
County Council

**Rosendale Targeted Youth Service**

**ROSSENDALE DETACHED TEAM  
MOBILE UNIT**

CALL IN FOR A WARM DRINK &  
A CHAT WITH YOUTH WORKERS

**Whitworth Area**

**Thursday Evenings**  
**7:00-8:45pm**

- ARTS & CRAFTS
- QUIZZES
- PROJECT WORK
- INFORMATION & ADVICE
- SPORTS
- TRIPS

Contact Jo Riding 07939372418

More with [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/rossendaleyouthzone) [www.facebook.com/rossendaleyouthzone](https://www.facebook.com/rossendaleyouthzone)

**RSPCA COFFEE MORNING**

Cakes - Coffee - Tombola - Raffle

Local Stalls from Local Business too!

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
10:30am - 1pm  
Holt Mill Day Centre, Lloyd Street  
Everyone is welcome to come!

**Healey Care Ltd.**

## WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT 2023/2024

**Whitworth Town Council has this year set a net budget of £60,384. The Council has worked hard to keep the increase in precept to a minimum, which has been difficult in the current financial climate.**

This past year has seen some pressures on finances and significant increases in costs, but some decent savings have been made in various areas of the budget to off-set this and the Town Council's wise investments are providing a healthy dividend.

The Council is facing tough times in the next few years due to rising costs in the current economic climate, so we strive to increase income and reduce spending wherever possible. Expenditure includes salaries for the Town Clerk (30 hours), our full-time Whitworth Town Caretaker, who makes a significant impact on the town's cleanliness, and our Parish Lengthsman, who tackles repairs and general maintenance around the town and opening of the toilets at weekends.

The Town Council utilises social media and their website to encourage a two-way dialogue with the community. The Valley News magazine, produced quarterly, continues to be hugely popular, and the Council's Tourism and Leisure Committee has a variety of leisure and cultural events planned for the year ahead. The Town Council continues to promote Whitworth as a great place to live, and lobbies hard for the best possible services for the town. It is at the forefront of tackling crime through the sponsorship of the Police Community Support Vehicle and facilitates monthly multi-agency meetings attended by all the local agencies.

To conclude, the Town Council continues to be proud of its achievements and looks forward to working with and for the people of Whitworth during the forthcoming financial year.

	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22
Employee's (Town Clerk / Town Caretaker)	£ 57,728	£ 54,812	£ 54,400
Parish Lengthsman (salary / materials)	£ 4,500	£ 4,500	£ 6,000
Administrative Expenses	£ 11,100	£ 13,260	£ 11,970
Statutory and Civic Events / Expenses	£ 5,820	£ 4,380	£ 8,665
Audit Fee	£ 400	£ 400	£ 500
Training / Member Expenses	£ 650	£ 450	£ 450
Insurance	£ 1,600	£ 1,477	£ 1,477
Grants to Outside Bodies	£ 2,000	£ 500	£ 1,000
Special Projects	£ 9,368	£ 7,077	£ 5,100
Street Floral Displays	£ 600	£ 600	£ 600
Whitworth Valley News Magazine	£ 1,500	£ 1,000	£ 1,100
Investment Income	-£ 19,000	-£ 18,000	-£ 19,500
LCC / RBC devolved funding	-£ 16,882	-£ 13,126	-£ 11,950
Other income	£ -	£ -	-£ 1,400
From Reserves	£ -	£ -	-£ 1,617
Contingencies	£ 1,000	£ 1,000	£ 1,000
<b>COST OF TOWN COUNCIL LEVY (£)</b>	<b>£ 60,384</b>	<b>£ 58,330</b>	<b>£ 57,795</b>
RBC Council Tax Support Grant	£ -	£ -	£ 2,000
<b>Net Precept</b>	<b>£ 60,384</b>	<b>£ 58,330</b>	<b>£ 55,750</b>
Number of band 'D' equivalent units	2,225	2,171	2,160
<b>Council Tax per band 'D' property (£p)</b>	<b>£ 27.14</b>	<b>£ 26.87</b>	<b>£ 25.81</b>
Percentage increase per band 'D' property	1.0%	4.1%	0.0%
Actual increase per band 'D' property	£ 0.27	£ 1.06	£ -



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## Barley View



### Specialist Dementia Care Home

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- ✓ 14 en-suite rooms
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- ✓ Light assisted guidance
- ✓ Dedicated activities co-ordinator
- ✓ Communal areas
- ✓ Outside space & garden
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# A THANK YOU FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE FOODSHARE



A wave of extraordinary generosity was experienced by the Lighthouse at the end of last year. To begin with, most of our local churches and schools, plus others from Healey, Rochdale & Norden, donated their Harvest Festival collections to the Lighthouse which was a huge boost to their stock levels. But that wasn't all...

Thanks to a suggestion from Councillor Sarah Rhodes the Lighthouse put a Christmas 'Reverse Advent Calendar' in the Valley Magazine which resulted in nearly 90 Advent collections being given and that was an even larger quantity of stock. But there was more...

Dunelm Rochdale launched a Christmas 'Delivering Joy' campaign and their amazing staff and customers donated 110 bags of gifts for the Lighthouse to share among its clients. And there was still more...

There was also a stream of casual donations of money and food, plus our local butchers, Joshua Law, again supplied and shared the cost of turkey meat. The combination of these acts of generosity enabled the Lighthouse to ensure well over 200 people had food and gifts at Christmas. Considering many more folk are feeling the pinch the Lighthouse was extremely proud of its supporters for responding in such a way. All you need to do to change someone's world for the better is care.

Lighthouse opening hours are Tuesday 10am-4pm, Thursday & Saturday 10am-3pm

For an appointment or to ask about volunteering Tel or text: 07922 951 096

## WEST PENNINE COMMONERS ASSOCIATION

Outcomes of meeting held to discuss a joint solution to the motor bike problem on common land. Below is information on our group regarding this issue.

<b>MISSION</b> To create a viable coordinated group with the purpose of improving the situation, which will be the vehicle for changing moorland destruction	
<b>STRATEGIC AREA OF FOCUS</b> First main issue of the group to consolidate efforts to control motor bike incursion	
<b>STRENGTHS</b> Properly constituted organised association Law of common, the law is on our side Serious claim for protection of the moor as our economy depends upon it We have information on where groups gather to unload bikes and can pinpoint them with names of some people Here in Whitworth, there is a legal designated venue	<b>WEAKNESSES</b> Various points of entry to moorland Lack of support Adjoining landowners not fulfilling duty of care Biker ID (Helmets & No number plate) No traceability
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b> Exchange information and ideas for us to focus jointly on a means of control Use of social media/website Where ID is possible Action Plan Use every opportunity to publicise/educate on the Law of Common	<b>THREATS</b> Apathy Aggression Lack of coordinated effort People in authority not keeping their word
<b>VISION</b> To raise awareness To cooperate between ourselves To concentrate on known sites of entry with signage. A clear statement ITS ILLEGAL The endeavour with help, to prosecute	<b>CORE VALUES</b> Putting farmers, wildlife, the quarry and the legal off-road venue first Honesty and transparency High ethical standards Responsibility and accountability

# PROSPECTUS

## STUBBYLEE COMMUNITY GREENHOUSES COURSES

Stubblee Community Greenhouses, Stubblee Lane, Bacup, OL13 0DD

### MENTAL HEALTH - delivered in our teaching rooms

Positive Steps	Group work focusing upon how to look after your emotional wellbeing. Each week we'll have a different focus about wellbeing promotion, we will be exploring new skills and have a particular focus on the Menopause and peri menopause. (All participants need to be a registered patient of Inwell, Waterfoot, Whitworth or Ilkley Medical Practices)	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2:00 - 4:00pm 7 sessions	
Regulating Emotions	An inspiring session looking at how to manage the peaks and troughs of our emotional lives to benefit our well being.	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 10:00-12:00 1 session	FREE
Mental Health Toolkit	An essential guide to help understand, manage and improve your mental health. Develop new skills and resources to use in daily life.	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 10:00-12:00 1 session	FREE

### HORTICULTURE - delivered in the site greenhouses

Propagation Horticulture	Join our team to learn how to propagate plants including how and when to take cuttings, collect and store seeds, sowing and division. An enjoyable, practical session open to all.	Wednesday Afternoons 1:30 - 3:30pm	Weekly from 11 <sup>th</sup> January. FREE
Growing for Pleasure	For novice gardeners, a gentle and enjoyable session every Friday afternoon. Activities include seed collection, drying herbs and flowers, bulb planting and wreath making.	Friday Afternoons 1:30 - 3:30pm	Weekly from 13 <sup>th</sup> January FREE

### COMMUNITY

Introductory Tours to Stubblee Community Greenhouses Meet in the Stables Cafe Courtyard	A comprehensive tour of all our facilities, activities, volunteering opportunities and social prescribing support for anyone living in the locality. An excellent opportunity to learn about what we do and how to access our activities, courses and volunteering. Open to all.	Thursdays 26 <sup>th</sup> January 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Mornings 10-12:30   FREE
Mad About Books Teaching Room	A monthly book group, where we'll read a book and then discuss it together in a friendly, supportive and creative environment. Places are limited so please book early!	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month starting 2 <sup>nd</sup> February.	10:30-12:30   FREE

### CREATIVE

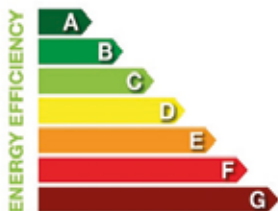
Creative Writing	Poetry and Prose. Writing is an inexpensive way to be creative. You only need a pen, a paper, an idea, and yourself. If necessary, pen and paper can be provided but don't forget yourself.	Wednesdays from 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Weekly FREE
The Event Space		Mornings: 10:30 - 12:30	
Blacksmith Workshop	An innovative, fun and creative introductory workshop for people wanting to learn the basics of working with metal with our in-house Master Blacksmith. Open to all over 18.	Weekly from 8 <sup>th</sup> February 11:00-2:00pm	Thursdays 6 weeks  FREE
Art Workshop	Relaunching our very popular Art sessions in our newly refurbished studio space, this course will cover techniques including an introduction to ceramics by creating decorative clay pieces, drop spinning and a folded book project. A wonderful opportunity to explore and enjoy your creativity in a beautiful setting. Places are	Wednesday Afternoons 1:30- 3:30 From 9 <sup>th</sup> February	FREE
Craft Workshop	An opportunity to join a sociable group every Thursday afternoon. All aspects of craft, ceramics and working with different techniques to create beautiful things. Places are limited so please book early.	Thursday mornings 10:00 - 12:00 From 18 <sup>th</sup> February.	FREE

### UP AND ACTIVE COURSES

Weight Management	Janet Jenkins from Up and Active Rosendale is providing a drop in session in the Events space for friendly face to face advice about managing weight loss.	Thursdays 1-1:45 pm from 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Weekly 45 min drop-in session.  FREE
The Event Space			
Walking Group	Meet in Stubblee Hall Car park.	Fridays 12:00-1:00	

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# NOT ANOTHER CROSSWORD!!! (ER...TWO, ACTUALLY...)

**CRYPTIC CLUES** It might help to know that 1 and 10 across are anagrams – a good place to start: just work out, using the number of letters in the answer, which words in the clue have been anagrammatised! Or start with 16 across or 11 down, where the answer is embedded in the clue, with the letters in the right order. In all those clues look also for the trigger word that enables you to click that this is an anagram or an embedded answer (In regular crosswords you're simply told that these are anagrams or that the answers are embedded).

## CRYPTIC CLUES

### ACROSS

- 1 Tiny old fen splurges up how often you'd need to throw a double 1 to get your 180 (10)
- 7 Doctor takes time for fish (8)
- 8 Chanted in agreement...but with no grammatical agreement between singular article and plural people (4)
- 9 Improve doggy command? (4)
- 10 Sticky stuff spills at creel (7)
- 12 Egyptian beetle has no answer (or branch has no boy) in Yorkshire resort (11)
- 14 Girl steps into 199, accepted as gold standard (7)
- 16 Ben Hur is partly epicurean (4)
- 19 A revolutionary causes pain (4)
- 20 Spice overturning boredom leads to bungled crime (8)
- 21 Suggested deeper meanings in European articles, with English number lacking west but gaining three other points (10)

### DOWN

- 1 Deep cut, but not above central heating (5)
- 2 Van drives into discombobulating rain: heaven! (7)
- 3 Get knotted - sounds like first you're in, then you're out (4)
- 4 Fun? Er...cautious, but no woman. Solemn would be more like it (8)
- 5 Little priest gets tall sheep? (5)
- 6 In good nick? Yes/no - warm rather than hot produces loadsamoney (6)
- 11 Lots of the scabs in theatre drink (8)
- 12 Choose - French article (and the rest) are muddled (6)
- 13 Get rid of 16-year-old...and initial letter (7)
- 15 Rear without warmth? (5)
- 17 Dental disease loses a...hubbub? (5)
- 18 Bone! Decay! Walk quickly! (4)

## REGULAR CLUES

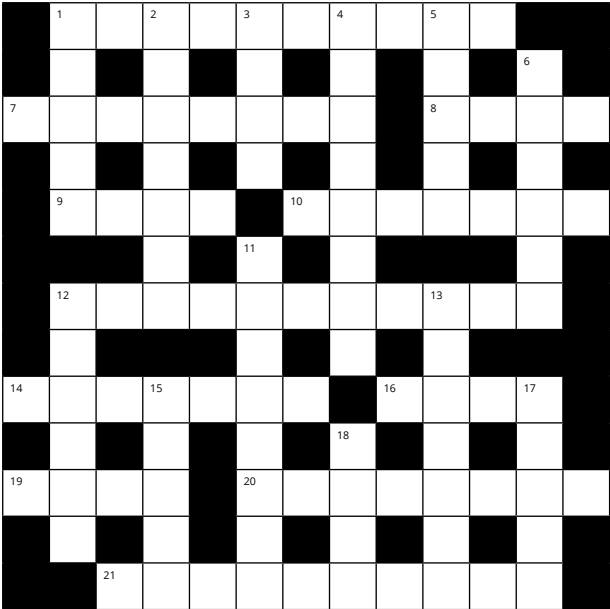
Re 1 & 16 across, and 11 down, see cryptic hints above.

### ACROSS

- 1 Tiny old fen (anagram) - x90 (10)
- 7 Scottish First Minister (8)
- 8 End of a prayer? (4)
- 9 Make better (4)
- 10 Whitworth's "great pedestrian" (7)
- 12 Yorkshire seaside resort (11)
- 14 Radio station (but not in the morning!) (7)
- 16 Ben Hur is partly epicurean (hidden) (4)
- 19 Dull pain (4)
- 20 Spice said to be good for arthritis sufferers (8)
- 21 Negative (?) unspoken hints (10)

### DOWN

- 1 Tally-mark carved into wood (5)
- 2 Kurt Cobain's band (7)
- 3 Bound (4)
- 4 Old-fashioned adjective relating to funerals (8)
- 5 Andean beast (5)
- 6 A lot of e.g.money or experience (6)
- 11 Lots of the scabs in theatre drink (hidden) (8)
- 12 Make a choice (6)
- 13 Lots, vaguely (7)
- 15 Not easy-going (5)
- 17 What a baby does to gain attention, and what someone afflicted by sadness or pain may do (5)
- 18 A horsey gait (4)



## FOCUS ON LOCAL BUSINESS

Whitworth has a wealth of talent, industry and social enterprise. Our intention is to put the spotlight on some familiar names and organisations, and some not so familiar – to give us all an insight as to what these great individuals and organisations bring to the community.

Our first interview is with the founder and owner Samantha Clarke, who runs Samba Dance and Fitness here in Whitworth.

---

### **Q: Tell us about yourself please Samantha?**

*A: I started dancing when I was 2, doing Ballet, Tap and Morris dancing. I progressed into Latin and Ballroom, then into Freestyle. I then began competing at the age of 11 in Freestyle. Years later I became a cheer teacher and started my fitness instructor degree. Prior to starting my degree, I attended Performing Arts college. I also moved to the USA and became an au pair for 18 months.*

*I always wanted my own school. In the performing arts/stage world I would have had to meet a minimum height criteria of 5'4, but am only 5ft so that couldn't happen.*

*When I came back to the UK I taught at Whitworth Civic Hall for Jean Cowsill for a while, got married, had my son. I was then a private nanny and took my son with me – it was at this point that I decided to give it a go on my own (teaching).*

*In January 1999 I started classes on a Weds evening at the old Whitworth Reform Club (which is now flats). Was there for 20 months, then had to move to premises on Tong Lane for 6-7 years. After this I moved to Station Road where Valley Thai boxing is now. Finally, I bought these premises on Market Street in March 2018.*

*Parents that I taught back then at the start now bring their children to the group and I teach them too!*

### **Q: Can you share with us how many members you have and the areas that they come from? (le – Shawforth, Rochdale, Healey, Whitworth, Bacup etc)**

*A: We have people from Norden, Helmshore, Haslingden, Reed, Littleborough, but with the majority from Whitworth (70%). Around 200 students in all – ages 20 months upwards.*



### **Q: What is your proudest moment so far?**

*A: Buying this building and knowing that this is what I've always strived for, opening those gates and it finally sinking in that it has become a reality.*

### **Q: Tell me about your team:**

*A: I'm proud of my Staff who are extremely loyal and talented. I couldn't do it without them. Josie, Sally, Abbie and Freya are our amazing dance teachers. We also have Gemma our excellent drama teacher and Leah is our dedicated singing teacher.*

### **Q: What are the plans for next year?**

*A: Much of the same, a big festival in Skegness mid-October. A show at the Ashcroft at the end of June. Big Christmas Presentation at the Ashcroft and various Freestyle comps that we will be doing from Jan onwards.*



Photo: Samantha Clarke in front of just some of many awards that Samba Dance and Fitness have won over the years.

### **Q: What styles do you teach?**

*A: Ballet, Tap, Latin and Ballroom dancing, Street, Breakdancing, Freestyle (disco) and Cheerleading. We also teach drama, singing and we now have Acro lessons (stamina, flexibility and acrobatics). Fitness classes – bums and tums, bootcamp, BounceFit and circuit training.*

### **Q: Are there many boys taking part? Back in the day there was a massive interest in street dancing.**

*A: Quite a few yes – but they do all styles not just Street and Breakdancing*

### **Q: Do we have any future Olympic contenders on our hands?**

*A: We have had a few go onto stage school, dancing on cruise ships, but they all start here. This is the 1st step for people to learn and decide if it's a career choice or hobby.*

### **Q: What does the group mean to you?**

*A: This is my family, I have a son but I class all of my students as one big family.*

### **Q: Any advice for people curious about joining?**

*A: Just come and see us, give it a try. Not every class might be for you, but there could be something you like. There are no tie-ins and we are very accessible. In June the Sports Council used to run a Sports Festival, where I offered free taster classes for a week. There wasn't much take up – I hope that the next time it comes around we see more visitors to see what we are about.*

*We're not just here for dance, we are a local facilitator for fun, fitness, singing and drama.*

Interviewer this time – Councillor Gareth Baron



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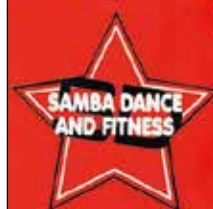
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## SKYLINE WALK

If it's a good, challenging walk you're after... **Skyline 8** will be taking place on **Sunday May 14**, same start (Lobden Golf Club), same distance (14 miles) and same cost as last year, but this time we'll be going anticlockwise i.e. past Brown Wardle and along Limers' Gate to Britannia, through Lee Quarry and up onto the moor, down Rooley Moor Road, and from Healey Corner through Nar and up to the Golf Club, for the usual warm welcome and a bite to eat.



As usual we'll offer a shorter walk – this year the 5-mile Eastern Skyline to Britannia – for those not keen on the full circuit. 463 of us walked last year, in warm weather, on hard ground. We can't guarantee the weather, or the underfoot conditions, but we can promise a grand day out. Full information sheets and entry forms will be available across the valley around the end of March.

If you'd like to join the team that staff the event, as a marshal, or a backmarker (they walk part of the route, slowly), or at the Lobden HQ, please contact Jo Furtado on 07813180748 or jofurtado@hotmail.co.uk.

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## WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND

Whitworth band would like to pass on heartfelt sympathies two local families. Firstly, for Dr Elliott who was a keen supporter of the band and its work with the Academy and Youth band groups, and secondly, the band president, Mr Joe Warburton, who was involved with the band for many years and held various different committee roles. They will both be very sadly missed.

Many thanks to the residents of Whitworth for continuing to support the band during the street carolling season. The band are very grateful for all the lovely comments received and would like to wish everyone all the very best for 2023!

February 26th sees the start of our contesting year which we are starting with our new conductor, Mr Mike Goulding. Rehearsals and sectionals are already underway in preparation for this.

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.

---

## INTRODUCTION TO ROSSENDALE CONNECTED

### Our aims

- To give people who work or volunteer in the health and wellbeing sector in Rossendale the chance to meet up and find out more about what is happening locally.

### What to expect?

- A 2-hour information session that is fun and interactive; informative and engaging.

### What will be covered?

- What's happening in Rossendale to improve wellbeing
- Our health plan created in partnership and owned by all
- What is Rossendale Connected?
- What are the 4 main health priorities in Rossendale?
- How you can be part of this movement?

**Be part of something that is growing into an innovative approach to making a real difference in Rossendale.**

### When are the sessions?

- Thursday 23rd February 10am till 12noon 2023
- Thursday 8th June 10am till 12noon 2023
- Thursday 14th September 10am till 12noon 2023
- Thursday 30th November 10am till 12noon 2023

Book your place for February here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-place-tickets-474641855567>

Book your place for June here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-place-tickets-474649508457>

## UPDATE FROM SPODDEN VALLEY REVEALED



Spodden Valley Revealed Ecomuseum is a project with a focus on highlighting the heritage and landscape of the valley, encouraging visitors to explore landscape off the routes of the Greenway. The project kicked off again in Summer 2022 with fun arts activities at the bottom of Facit Incline with environmental artist, Richard Shilling and along the Greenway route creating beautiful artworks using natural materials found onsite. We also took part in the Rushcart, capturing visitors thoughts on the routes and the stories to be told, and with Richard Shilling again, creating artworks with foraged materials.

In 2023 we look forward to many more engaging activities, including capturing local peoples stories and memories connected to Healey Dell, to become part of audio points onsite at Healey Dell, telling the story of the area. We are also hosting an exciting youth exchange with Cateran Ecomuseum in the Highlands, with their young people visiting the area in September and young people from Whitworth heading to the Highlands in August.

The project aims to complete the onsite signage and interpretation by the end of this year. If you are interested in the project or participating in some way, please contact Diana Hamilton - [diana@midpenninearts.org.uk](mailto:diana@midpenninearts.org.uk)

---

## 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 1.00 pm for refreshments and notices followed by a monthly speaker.



In February u3a's speaker will be Peter Horgan, legal advisor, everything you need to know about Tax, Wills, Probate, Estate Planning etc, and in March Andrea Sarginson, local author will be talking about her book, 'Man of Glass'.

In November a large group travelled Chatsworth House and Christmas markets. The weather was very kind to u3a; it was a wonderful day out.

Our Tappers Group along with u3a's Ukulele Group entertained at u3a's Christmas meeting, dancing and playing to Christmas Carols along with speakers, Carol and Steven Robson's Fools Gold Christmas Special; it was a great afternoon.

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](http://u3asites.org.uk/whitworth).



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## SPRING FLOWER EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE ASHCROFT SATURDAY 29TH APRIL 2023

Whitworth will once again play host to a National Horticultural event, when the East Lancs Group of the Alpine Garden Society stage another huge Spring Flower Show at The Ashcroft on Saturday 29th April 2023. The event will feature over 140 individual classes ranging from rare alpine gems to bulbs, dwarf conifers, hardy plants, ferns and mini gardens.

The organisers hope that Whitworth folk will again be tempted by a raffle, free parking, plant sales, bar and excellent refreshments. Open from 11am until 3.30pm on 29th April, entry for the general public is only £2.50 per person. There will be three or four superb nurseries in attendance selling a wide range of magnificent plants and leading exhibitors will travel from across the UK. Over the years Whitworth has rightly gained a proud reputation as 'The Friendly Show' among enthusiasts.



images by Cliff Booker

The East Lancashire Group still holds regular monthly meetings and additional Zoom meetings are drawing large international audiences. New members are always warmly welcomed and encouraged. Group Secretary, Cliff Booker can be contacted on 01706 534626 and Show Secretary, John Dower on 01928 733419.

## IN BLOOM AT WHITWORTH CEMETERY



The team of volunteer gardeners at Whitworth Cemetery, part of the Whitworth in Bloom group, has now grown to four, with the work carried out receiving much praise and encouraging comments from visitors throughout the year. Pete Cooper and the team at the Cemetery give helpful advice and good natured support with lifting and shifting the heavy stuff.

Initially focus was on restoring the planters outside the chapel, with subsequent additions of hanging baskets provided originally by the council's "Welcome Back" scheme.

Much effort in early spring of 2022 was put into clearing and tidying the Remembrance Garden. The initial target was to have it looking good for Mothering Sunday. Work has continued since then to clear some of the overgrown shrubs and allow sunlight to enter. Spring bulbs have been planted and should emerge soon.

The volunteers have also helped with cleaning preparations inside the chapel prior to funeral services.

Local businesses and organisations generously support the work with donations of plants and materials, and work carried out free of charge:-

The Plant Dude, Treads, Frank Duffy & Son, Facit Garden Centre, Whitworth in Bloom, A1 Tree Surgeons, Northern Joinery.

Contact:- Whitworth in Bloom Facebook.



**The Women of Whitworth Project**

## **The Women of Whitworth ROSE Award 2023**

This year marks 5 years of celebrating the amazing women of our Whitworth community.

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## WHITWORTH MUSEUM

By the time this magazine is issued, it is likely that the factory chimney attached to the museum building and one of the few remaining in the Valley, will have been reduced in height. Already abbreviated from its original height, the chimney's condition was such that serious corrective surgery was urgently required in order to stabilise the structure for the long term.



Middle Street, Whitworth

When constructed in c.1850, the chimney was part of a system which served the steam generation needs of Bridge Mills Number Four and Number Five, two of five spinning and weaving mills constructed and operated by Ralph Rawstron. Unusually, the Lancashire boilers were located on the opposite side of North Street to the chimney and were linked by an underground flue. It is possible part of the flue system remains.

As was customary at the time, Rawstron constructed houses in the immediate vicinity of his mills to accommodate his workforce; hence we have South Street, and had back-to-back dwellings in Middle Street and North Street, the latter leading into Rawstron and Lloyd Streets.

Following a period of closure for safe working, the museum will re-open to the public from 11.00am – 4.00pm on Saturday, 18th February 2023.



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## WHITWORTH LIBRARY'S LATEST NEWS

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The Home Library Service is for residents who can't get to the library, maybe due to age, disability, poor physical or mental health, caring responsibilities, or mobility issues.

Customers can have books, or audio books, in their choice of genres and authors, delivered to their home every four weeks.

The team are keen to make this fabulous, free service available to as many local people as possible. There are no fines or overdue charges. All the delivery volunteers have been DBS checked. So, if you, a relative, or someone you care for, would like to join the Home Library Service, get in touch on the number or email below.

### CHAIR BASED YOGA COURSE – COMING TO THE LIBRARY THIS SPRING

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Delivered by Lancashire Adult Learning, free to all adults over 19. Booking is essential. Please phone, e-mail or pop into the library to book.

Tel: 0300 123 6703 Email: whitworth.library@lancashire.gov.uk

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## WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND CLUB

WH&HBC would like to wish a Happy New Year to members and customers and would like to thank all who supported the club over Christmas and New Year; hopefully a good time was had by all.

They would like to remind members that subs are due.

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

Teams compete on Thursday nights in the Rochdale and Rossendale Darts/Crib Dominoes Leagues and WV&HBC would like to welcome some new blood!

The club's Twitter, Facebook, and web pages 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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## WHITWORTH SPORTS COUNCIL

Whitworth Sports Council has gone into temporary hibernation, which means no Sports Festival this year. But **Skyline 8** *will* go ahead on Sunday May 14, along with the **Senior Fell Race** on Wednesday June 14, and the **Junior Fell Race** on Thursday June 15. Details of any other survivors in the next WVN.

Meanwhile the Sports Council intends to produce a directory of sporting bodies in and around Whitworth, to provide contacts for those who want to get involved in a sport.



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

#### **Mondays**

14:00 – 16:00 **Knit and Natter** Bring your knitting and enjoy a brew and good conversation. All welcome!

#### **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**

9:30 – 11:00 **Rossendale Children and Family Wellbeing Session** for children aged 0-5 yrs  
11:30 – 12:30 **Meditation and Wellbeing** with Sheila Daly (07762 757925)  
Suggested £5 donation  
19:00 – 20:30 **Yoga, Pilates and Relaxation** with Sheila Daly (07762 757925)  
Suggested £5 donation

#### **Thursdays**

10:00 – 11:30 **Shared Reading Group** All welcome!  
10:00 – 12:00 **U3A Family History** on last Thursday of month - 07790 192 120 (Jean) for info  
13:30 – 15:30 **U3A Art Group** on first Thursday of month - 07800 820 096 (Lindsay) for info  
14:00 – 15:00 **U3A Creative Writing** on first Thursday of month - 07903 570 008 (Kay) 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 Club** (for children of all ages)

...and, of course, the library has books, lots of books! Including audio and large print. It's also a mine of information on a whole host of topics and is part of the warm welcome scheme to help with the cost of living. Drop in for a cuppa and a warm Whitworth 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](mailto: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](mailto:friendsofwhitworthlibrarygroup@gmail.com) to be added to the mailing list.**



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## CJ ROTHWELL LANDSCAPING AND DRAINAGE

cjrothwell@  
hotmail.com  
Tel: 07846 107 922  
39 Rawstron Street, Whitworth

## RLH GAS & PROPERTY SERVICES

Richard Lyon-Hayes  
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bathroom)  
Tel: 07970 470 019 www.rlhgas.co.uk  
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Seanbrad09@gmail.com  
28 Douglas Road, Bacup

## ANDREW ROBINSON

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openreach-wcs@tiscali.co.uk  
www.openreach-wcs.co.uk  
35 Westgate, Whitworth

## MILCAFE

Beautiful café - 516 Market Street, Whitworth  
Afternoon teas and hot food, bookable for events, Care Café  
open Wednesday morning for FREE advice on all aspects of  
care support, benefits assessments and accessing help and  
support.  
Tel: 01706 335444

## MILCARE

516 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8JT  
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This community magazine is produced by  
Whitworth 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.

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the content of adverts within the magazine.

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS see pg14 for the puzzle



# USEFUL CONTACTS

## WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS:

### FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD:

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### HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD

**David Chorlton** (Independent)

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**Sarah Rhodes** (Independent)

07891 269998 • [cllrrhodes@outlook.com](mailto:cllrrhodes@outlook.com)

## WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES:

The Ashcroft, Market Street Whitworth, OL12 8DP

Contact: Rachel Hodson, 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, 9.30am – 2pm

## 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](mailto:Scott.Smith2@lancashire.gov.uk)

07891 695 962

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

**Jake Berry MP**

0207 210 5000 (House of Commons)

01706 215 547 (Constituency office)

[jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk)

[www.jakeberry.org](http://www.jakeberry.org)

## FORTHCOMING WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Thurs 23 February and Thurs 23 March.

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.

**LANCASHIRE POLICE:** PC Scott Bentley [2973@lancashire.police.uk](mailto:2973@lancashire.police.uk)

Community PCSO 7356 Heidi Kirkbright [07970 600 160](mailto:07970 600 160) or [7356@lancashire.police.uk](mailto:7356@lancashire.police.uk)

**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](http://www.lancashire.police.uk/contact-us/how-do-i-report-a-crime)

**FOR EMERGENCIES DIAL 999**

Sign up to 'In The Know' to receive alerts around crime patterns in Whitworth

[stayintheknow.co.uk/lancashiretalking](http://stayintheknow.co.uk/lancashiretalking)

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

**Lancashire County Council:** 0300 123 6701 (general enquiries) [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk)

Highways 0300 123 6780 or email [highways@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@lancashire.gov.uk)

Out of hours social care emergencies 0300 123 6720

**Rossendale Borough Council:** 01706 217777 (council tax, bin collections and other services) • 0300 222 5944

(revenues and benefits) 0300 222 5946 (out of hours emergencies) • [www.rossendale.gov.uk](http://www.rossendale.gov.uk)

**The Lighthouse Community Foodshare:** 551-553 Market Street Whitworth Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

between 10am and 3pm by appointment only • [lighthousefoodshare@gmail.com](mailto:lighthousefoodshare@gmail.com) • 07922 951 096

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

**Homestart:** 01706 214621 • Emma@homestartrbh.co.uk • [www.home-start.org.uk](http://www.home-start.org.uk)

**Carers Link Lancashire:** 01254 387444 • [info@carerslink.net](mailto:info@carerslink.net) • [www.eastlancscarers.org.uk](http://www.eastlancscarers.org.uk)

**Citizens Advice Rossendale:** Financial, welfare and benefits advice 0300 456 2552 • [www.carh.org.uk](http://www.carh.org.uk)

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

**Lancashire Volunteer Partnership:** Befriending service for people who want someone to talk to

[www.lancsvp.org.uk](http://www.lancsvp.org.uk) • 07779 972114