Issue 56/March 2019



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Councillor Madeline De Souza, Mayor of Whitworth switching on the Christmas lights with the colouring competition winners, Hannah Earnshaw and Amelia Mayoh

Dear Residents and readers

I really have had an amazing, enjoyable and very busy year representing Whitworth as Mayor. The rewards have been enormous meeting, and joining in with, the people and groups that make Whitworth the great town that it is. I have attended numerous events locally all of which made me so proud of our town and the community we have here. Our schools are excelling and the high school awards evening celebrating their fantastic results proved that.

Once again, I had the great honour and privilege to visit Kandel, our twin town in Germany. I would encourage anyone to visit - a beautiful town with wonderful people. Have you thought about joining the Town Twinning group?

This is my final message as Mayor and I want to thank all those people who have supported my charities and are continuing to do so. Thank you to my family and friends who have supported me in my mayoral role and particularly Marie who has accompanied me on many occasions as my Mayoress. A very special thanks must go to Brian Adams at Merlyn Wealth Management who supported my charity by sponsoring the evening with Micky Quinn. The evening raised a fabulous £1700 and a donation from the proceeds will be made to Springhill Hospice. The Christmas lights switch-on was very exciting. I couldn't have done it without the help of the competition winners! There are many engagements to fulfil before my term ends and which I am looking forward to here and out of town.

As a culmination to this year I will be hosting the civic dinner in the style of a Scottish Ceilidh on Saturday 6th April. I do hope you will support this event with bagpipes, ceilidh dancing and a delicious four course dinner.

Finally, my thanks to my fellow councillors, Father Chris McGrane my mayoral chaplain, Melanie our Town Clerk and Lisa, Aimee and the Riverside staff for their support and guidance.

With all best wishes

Councillor Madeline De Souza, Mayor of Whitworth



POTENTIAL NEW PLAY AREA FOR WHITWORTH

Working alongside local residents, children and young people - Rossendale Borough Council have requested community interest company Proffitts – Investing in Communities carry out consultation regarding play provision in Whitworth. The team are identifying 3 possible sites for the play area which aims to serve Whitworth as a whole as well as attract visitors from outside the area. Proffitts will soon be undertaking consultations with local residents and groups to determine where the final site should be located and ensuring that it is accessible for all. Please look out for the questionnaire and fill it out before 8th March. It will be left in various prominent places including the Riverside, Leisure Centre, youth club and library and you can even fill it out online https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/whitworthplay

The consultation process will allow residents to give their thoughts on the design of the intended play area as we would like to cater for as many people as possible it the play space could include anything aimed at toddler, junior or teens and compromise of traditional play, adventure play areas or parkour. Once the consultations have taken place, the fund-raising process will then begin.

Martin from Proffitts said "We are really looking forward to identifying the best play site for the people of Whitworth. Whitworth is a lovely place to visit offering walks, heritage and wildlife – it would really add to the attraction of Whitworth if we could upgrade the play provision significantly for the benefit of generations of people from Whitworth and attract visitors into the area which would be great for local businesses".

Cllr Oakes said: "We definitely need more play facilities in Whitworth so I am very happy this project is progressing. I hope as many people as possible give their views so we get it in the right area. This Council believes children should have plenty of opportunities to play. It's a fundamental right of children."

Please see here for further information on the scheme: http://www.proffittscic.com/community-projects/whitworth-play-provision/

If you would like more information, please contact Martin on 07989928038 or martin.proffitt@proffittscic.com



The play area could look like this one which was delivered successfully in Helmshore

TOWN COUNCIL WELCOME COUNCILLOR WHITEHEAD

At the November 2018 council meeting Whitworth Town Council voted to elect Councillor Janet Whitehead onto the vacant seat in the Healey and Whitworth ward. Janet will hold this seat for the remaining term until the next election, which is imminent in May!

Janet has lived all her life in Whitworth (except for 2 years, 1979-1981, when she lived in Australia). She is married to Derek and has a grown-up family including 3 grandchildren.

Janet is passionate about our community and proud to live in Whitworth. She has been involved in local affairs for many years as part of The Sports Council, helping out with the Skyline Walk and Sports Festival along with delivery of the Whitworth News magazines and previously with school PTA groups organising fundraising events.

Janet was also involved with fighting for our swimming pool and the Riverside with CLAW, was a member of the Tourism and Leisure Committee and part of Lobden Golf club fundraising group. She helped to get our new local milkman in place to help rid Whitworth of plastic and welcomes her next challenge of being a councillor.

Janet says "I can help make changes on things that matter in our neighbourhood, things from grit bins to the state of our river and transport, I'm also keen to encourage Whitworth to becoming an 'Age Friendly Village' – providing awareness to shops on how to help people living with Dementia and Autism, making sure the people looking after them are supported and connected to reduce isolation, loneliness and improve mental wellbeing, ensuring our young people and unemployed have access to opportunities and are supported on their journey."



EVER WONDERED...

....how it is that your Whitworth Valley News plops miraculously through your letterbox every three months? Well, a bunch of local volunteers who walk the streets of Whitworth post them and they are always looking for more volunteers to deliver the magazine. If YOU would consider being one of those local volunteers, please contact either Melanie Hearn at the Council office, or ring Jo Furtado on 07813 180748. There's no brass and no glory, of course, but the Council does pay a small fee to the Sports Council for delivery, and that money effectively pays for the annual Sports Festival (June 15 - 23 this year, by the way). Rounds can be tailored to suit individual capacity, but usually take an hour to complete.



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WHITWORTH NEEDS YOU AND YOUR VOTE!

Elections for the Town Council, Borough Council take place on Thursday 2 May - your vote is important! The Town Council is determined to do all it can to help ensure Whitworth remains a great place to live; the Council has its Quality Status and continues to strive to provide a high level of service. But we need your help! Take an active role - please vote or become a Councillor yourself.

There are 2 seats coming up for election on Rossendale Borough Council, one for Facit and Shawforth and one for Healey and Whitworth and all 12 Town Council seats will be up for election (unless only 12 candidates come forward).



HOW TO VOTE

You must be on the Register of Electors to be able to vote. If you've moved house you can register to vote online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote or by contacting the Elections Office (details below). Registration isn't immediate so register soon if you want to vote in May.

Polling stations will be open from 7am until 10pm on 2 May, however if you'd prefer to vote by post or by proxy please contact the elections office for an application. Postal voting and proxy voting forms must be returned to the election's office by 5pm on 15 April.

WHY NOT CONSIDER BECOMING A COUNCILLOR?

The Town and Borough Councils rely on local people taking an interest in what happens in their community, and local councillors bring a wealth of knowledge and community understanding to a council.

WILL I GET PAID?

There is no salary for being a councillor, Rossendale Borough Councillors receive an allowance (currently £3,342 per year) to reimburse you for time and expenses incurred. Whitworth Town Councillors do not receive an allowance but can claim travel expenses if the attend meetings outside of Whitworth.

HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT TAKE?

The amount of time you spend on your work as a councillor is entirely up to you. The basic requirement is that you attend meetings (for Whitworth Town Council these take place roughly every two weeks on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm. If you're interested, now is the time to act. You don't need to be a member of a political party; perhaps you're just interested in helping your community and could stand as an Independent. Being a councillor can be an extremely rewarding experience for as little as a couple of hours a week. Information for prospective candidates can be found on the Electoral Commission's website http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent. Nomination papers are available from the Electoral Commission's website now or from the local elections office from the 26th March. If you'd like to order a nomination pack, please contact the elections office at the Borough Council on 01706 252446 or email elections@rossendalebc.gov.uk.

The Whitworth Town Council centenary working group would like to thank the Whitworth community and businesses for their overwhelming support in making the centenary weekend events a massive success. Without all your support none of this would have been possible. Once again thank you. Cllrs Lynda Barnes, Maureen Jones and Karen Ruane.



Whitworth News

WHITWORTH AND HEALEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The volunteers were proud to have the gardens looking their best for the November 11 Centenary celebrations - despite the rain! They are looking forward to the newly planted Acer trees becoming established and showing off their wonderful colours later in the year. In the meantime, tidy up sessions will be arranged in the coming months so if you have an hour to spare and would like to be involved in making a difference to communal areas in Whitworth, please contact Anita on 853768 or Chris on 852613 for further details. No experience or equipment is necessary – just a willingness to join in!



THE GALLERY AT THE BATHS

GAB (The Gallery at the Baths) now has a sister, **GAL** (The Gallery at the Library) so that most exhibitors now have six weeks' worth of exposure, rather than three. Usually exhibitions go first to the Leisure Centre, then transfer to the Library...but the next few months are not quite so neat. So, at the Leisure Centre:

Feb 15	Whitworth Historical Society
March 8	(jointly) Whitworth Horticultural Society and Whitworth Community Choir
March 29	Whitworth Photographic Society
April 18	Skyline
May 10	St Bartholomew's School
at the Library:	
Feb 15	The many guises of the Friends of Whitworth Library
March 8	Whitworth Historical Society
March 29	Skyline
April 18	Whitworth Photographic Society
May 10	Whitworth Horticultural Society and Whitworth Community Choir

We've had some wonderful photographs and children's artwork on display so far this year. You don't have to be a swimmer or a reader to come in and enjoy GAB and GAL!

St Mary and St Anselm St Patricks Might Ceilidh Dance



at The Riverside on Saturday 16 March at 7.30pm

Tickets £6, available from: David Peel (07970 782333) or Carmel Donnelly (01706 650239)

Even if you are not a dancer, there'll be instruction given before each dance. Even if you don't want to dance, it's a fantastic evening and more importantly, great fun!

And



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We are also offering 20% of Power of Attorney legal costs, again until the Summer Edition of the Magazine!

Our fees for a single Power of Attorney application will be £180.00 plus VAT and the Registration fee of £82.00, again our fees for a second application made at the same time will be half price at £90.00 plus VAT, subject to any exemptions. Please note that this offer excludes home visits.

If you would like to book an appointment, please contact the office on 01706 854167.

We look forward to hearing from you!

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WHITWORTH COMMUNITY POLICE VEHICLE

As many of you know Whitworth Town Council have contributed towards the fight against crime over several years by the sponsoring the Whitworth community police vehicle. Without it, Heidi, the local PCSO would have to start and end each shift with a bus journey to and from Waterfoot meaning she would spend much less time in Whitworth.



Did you know that the car only costs the people of Whitworth £24 per week? The lease was up for renewal last May and due to tight budgets, it was not an easy decision for the councillors to make but following lots of discussion with the police and negotiation to find the best price, the Town Council committed to support this scheme for a further three years. RRG Toyota Rochdale also offered to pay £500 per year sponsorship towards the police vehicle to assist to keep the community safe and to enable the Council to secure a lease within the tight budget.

Members of the pubic are always welcome at every town council meeting. These take place, generally, every other Thursday in the Council Chamber at the Riverside at 7.30pm. The dates of upcoming meetings are always on the back cover of this magazine as well as on the community noticeboards and on the town council website. Come along and ask questions, you may even enjoy it! Additionally, the Town Council is holding elections in May and you could stand for councillor yourself and be involved in the decision next time, find out more on page 7.





THE WOMEN OF WHITWORTH PROJECT 2019

Last year marked 100 years of Women's Voting Rights and to celebrate the occasion The Women of Whitworth Project launched its first ever Awards to recognise local females.

During the year they recognised over 50 Females in the Community, raised lots of money for local charities and community projects, organised afternoon tea events with The Friends of Whitworth Library Group and The Red Box Project – Rossendale and organised The Christmas Initiative with local primary schools. To round off an amazing year, The Women of Whitworth Project was a finalist at The Rossendale Business Awards.

This year they will launch Nominations for the Awards Ceremony in 2019. There are so many amazing Women in the area that have achieved great things and therefore it deserves to be celebrated.

To nominate please email thewowproject2018@ gmail.com include information about the local female you are nominating and also in no more than 100 words the following:

I am nominating this female for her outstanding contribution and good work because...

Closing date for entries is Friday 12 April 2019

WHITWORTH HERITAGE MUSEUM

For a number of years the museum has been building and organising various types of archive material in order to provide a permanent and searchable resource for local studies research. This resource is now available and can be accessed by visiting the museum during our normal opening hours. Alternatively, if you wish to make an appointment you may do so by email using one of the following;

chairman@whitworthhistoricalsociety.org.uk or archivist@whitworthhistoricalsociety.org.uk

The museum has a number of books and pamphlets for sale covering local topics such as the 'Whitworth Doctors' and 'Healey Dell'; the latter written in the form of a gazetteer. Also available are two titles from Mike Rothwell's excellent Industrial Heritage series which covers many of former industrial towns and villages of East Lancashire. The museum stocks the first book in the series which relates to Whitworth itself along with second title covering nearby Bacup and Stacksteads. Both are equally comprehensive.

Ever popular are the monthly talk nights which run from October through until June and take place on the first Wednesday of the month. For further details see our website.

www.whitworth historical society.org.uk

The museum is open on Tuesday evenings 7.30pm – 9.30pm and Saturday afternoons 2.00pm - 4.00pm.







Rose 'n' Bowl 264 Newchurch Rd, Stackisteads, Bacup, OL 13 OUC Est. 1969 MOTHER'S DAY SURDAY 31ST MARCH Why not give flowers and chocolates a miss this year and treat your marvellous mum to a slap-up meal at the Rose 'n' Bowl? Gift vouchers available



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COMMUNITY DEFIBS FOR ROSSENDALE

Community Defibs for Rossendale are very grateful to Steve Butterworth for kindly agreeing to host the Community Public Access Defibrillator (cPAD) by the front door of Basil's Restaurant, having been relocated from Sunnybank Day Care Centre, Market Street. We are also grateful to Wm Dyer Electrical (UK) Ltd for kindly installing the unit for us.

Funding for the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) started in July 2010 and was raised by personal, community group and Mayoral donations and a community grant from Rossendale Borough Council. The unit, installed in May 2011, has been deployed on several occasions.

It is not necessary to have prior training to use the defibrillator, which is available 24/7 for members of the public to use and is accessed by calling the ambulance service on 999 in the event of a Cardiac Arrest. The call-taker will direct the caller to deliver CPR and, if there is someone else available to access the housing unit, give them the key code. The AED is very easy to use as, once opened, voice instructions are delivered. It is vital that CPR is started as soon as possible and continued until instructed to stop by a health professional.



WATCH OUT BADMINTON 2019!

Carly Woolley, a local lady who currently stables her horse, Elmo, at Tong End Farm Whitworth, will be competing at Badminton Mitsubishi Motors Cup in May 2019. Carly will be hoping to beat her last result in which she came 18th out of 150 competitors, a massive achievement! Carly events Elmo up to BE100. Carly has owned Elmo since he was 3 years old, he was unbroken and has done everything herself with some help from friends and her instructor Jennifer Fallon on the way.

Carly has several sponsors which include – IQuip and Manchester Equine Therapy, if any local businesses would be interested in sponsoring Carly and Elmo for the event, please contact Emma Lamb on 07734 496301





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WHITWORTH MEN'S SHED

Whitworth Men's Shed is a community project for adult men of all ages. It is a social space where men can come and get involved in practical activities or just have a chat over a brew!



The 'Shed' opened its doors for the first time last September and since then a number of social and activity groups have been set-up. A workshop space has been built that is available for group and individual projects, and super-fast broadband and wi-fi has also been installed that provides access to internet resources and supports IT projects.

The project is based at 6, Milner Street, off Hall Street. There are various sessions through the week and new groups and activities are being set up all the time. If you are interested in making, mending, repairing or recycling, or if you just fancy a brew and a chat come along and find out what is going on!

New members are always welcome! For up-to-date information or to find out more visit the WMS website www.whitworthmenssheds.org.uk or follow us on social media; www.facebook.com/ whitworthmensshed or https://twitter.com/WhitworthMIS

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WHITWORTH SPORTS FESTIVAL 2019

The 2019 festival is taking shape and will open on Saturday June 15, with the official opening and traditional sports day races at a new venue, Whitworth Valley FC on Rawstron Street. There will be events through to Sunday June 23 – some old favourites, like the splash & dash, the fell races, show jumping, badminton, junior golf taster and various inter-primary school tournaments to name a few; and some new offerings – anyone

for croquet, or (hopefully) rafting?

Details will be in the next valley news, there will be listings and info nearer the time at the Leisure Centre, in schools, on facebook, and anywhere else people will give a bit of space. If you've got an event you'd like to offer or offers of help with marshalling, please contact Jo Furtado on 07813 180748.



WHITWORTH BAND

The Band would like to thank all their supporters in the village who attended any of their concerts or made donations during December to the street playing. Your continued support is much appreciated. They missed one session of street playing again due to the heavy rain. One of the highlights this year was the amazing attendance at the Cancer Research concert at the Riverside, a wonderful evening of festive music and song.

The contest season is now underway and as you read this the band will have performed at Butlins contest and will be playing at the area finals in Blackpool on 24th Feb - hopefully the Band will be back to winning ways! The Band will also contest at Buxton on the 28th April.

The St George concert takes place at The Riverside on Saturday 27th April and The Jimmy Grogan memorial concert on Sunday 6th July.

The youth and academy bands continue to flourish with over 50 children now rehearsing in the club between 6 and 8.30pm on Wednesday evenings. If you would like your child to learn how to play an instrument, attend any concerts or book the Band please contact Michael Whitby 852613.



Merlyn Wealth Management based in Britannia held an evening with Micky Quinn which raised an amazing £1700 to the Mayors Charity in November.

The directors are encouraging individuals and business owners in the local area to review their pension and investments to ensure they remain suitable and are happy to meet for a free initial meeting to discuss.

They can be contacted on 01706 875459 or call into the offices in the old Travellers Rest Pub.



pictured are Brian Adams & Phil Walton handing over a cheque for £1700 to the Mayors Charity

CANCER RESEARCH WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

Thanks to all who attended the carol concert on the 2nd December, a record attendance and fantastic evening of music and song. Unfortunately, there will be no further opportunities to listen to Alan Jordan from the Patterson institute as he has moved to another job. His talks about advances in fighting and winning the battles against this disease have been inspiring and the committee wish him well for the future.

In January, a fund-raising meal was held at the Promenade, thanks to Joe for his generosity and support, there will be an update in next edition on the funds raised from this event. A quiz will be held at the band club on Saturday 16 February starting at 8pm and the songs of praise will take place at Christ Church Healey on 17 April at 7pm. As other events are organised these will be posted on the Facebook page.

St Anselm's School have adopted Cancer Research Whitworth Local Committee as their nominated charity for the year and have already started raising funds.

If you have any suggestions for fund raising events, would like to attend any dinners or other events, sponsor anyone or donate, please contact Michael Whitby on 852613.

ANDEMS RUNNERS ARE HONOURING WHITWORTH COMMONWEALTH SILVER MEDALLIST MOLLIE CAMPBELL WITH A FUNDRAISING 5K RACE!

The Mollie Campbell 'Cowm' 5K Race takes place at 7pm, Wednesday 10th April from the Cock & Magpie Pub.

Race Organiser, Andy O'Sullivan said "Mollie could well be at next year's Tokyo Olympics, she has the Talent and the Commitment, the 5K will donate the proceeds to help her"

Entry forms are available from Andy on info@andemsrunners.co.uk

5K is open to serious Runners and walkers.



Skyline 6, Whitworth's very own community walk, will take place this year on **Sunday May 12**. The 14 miles will begin and end at Lobden Golf Club, as ever, with this year's direction of travel being anticlockwise: we'll set out northwards, along the east side of the valley, heading over Middle Hill, along Limers Gate and down to Britannia, then circle to the west via Lee Quarry, Rooley Moor Road and Healey Dell: and, of course, there will be a bite to eat back at the Golf Club. A record 454 walked last year. Hopefully many of them will return on May 12, and be joined by some who'd like to walk Skyline for the first time. For those doubtful about managing 14 miles – and it is a challenge – there is also the option of a 5-mile **Eastern Skyline**, finishing at Britannia...and, yes, you still get your free bite if you get yourself back up to Lobden! Entry forms will appear around April Fool's Day (insert own joke) in many places around the valley. If in doubt, try the Leisure Centre or The Riverside. Spodden Valley Revealed will

have another audio commentary for those who'd like to enhance their walk with a bit of thoughtful history – details of the free download for your phone on the entry form.

Jo Furtado is keen to hear from anyone who doesn't fancy walking but who'd like to help out by joining the marshalling team. And we always need gentle, relaxed walkers who are prepared to backmark a section of the course at the pace of the slowest walker. Please contact Jo on 07813180748 to see if either of those options would suit you.





KEEPING WHITWORTH SAFE

MESSAGE FROM ROSSENDALE POLICE

During the months of November and December 2018, Whitworth suffered an increase in burglary and vehicle crime. This occurred both night-time and daytime and understandably raised concern amongst some residents of Whitworth. This led to several members of the public patrolling the village during the early hours of the morning.



to discuss this recent spike in crime. It was clear that there was an increased fear of crime and a lack of reassurance with Rossendale Police's response to this.

Police were able to offer reassurance that they were aware of the spike in crime and had deployed extra officers in response to this. Officers had been tasked with patrolling Whitworth in the early hours to provide a visible presence to both deter criminals but also offer reassurance to members of the public. With this police activity being undertaken up into the early hours of the morning, many residents would be unaware of this but as it was pointed out by a resident who had been part of the patrols, police had clearly been seen out and about and this had been appreciated.

A reduction in police officer numbers has had an impact on how we police and this was discussed at the meeting. However, the important message is that Rossendale Police having identified crime patterns, deploy resources to tackle these and this is what has been happening in Whitworth. It is also how Rossendale Police respond to the wider crime patterns within Rossendale.

It was positive to feel from residents and local Councillors the support for the local police and a willingness to work together to ensure that Whitworth remains a safe place to live with a good quality of life and continued low levels of crime; and that any future increases in crime are spikes that we quickly deal with, preventing any increase in crime becoming a long-term problem.

Rossendale Police doesn't condone local residents patrolling their neighbourhoods, but we do need the public to assist us in keeping Whitworth safe with continued low levels of crime. We need the public to report crime to us via 999 or 101 as appropriate or online via www.lancashire.police.uk/contact-us/ how-do-i-report-a-crime. This allows us to identify crime patterns and consider how we deploy our resources. It is also important that residents report activity that they believe to be suspicious as this may result in crime being prevented.

Heidi Kirkbright continues to be the dedicated Police Community Support Officer for Whitworth, dealing with lower level crime and ASB, being supported by local police officers. She can be contacted on 07890591496 or 7356@lancashire.pnn.police.uk. Please remember though, that to report an emergency it is 999.

Local Councillors are also more than happy to listen to your concerns and share these with the local police.

ADVICE FOR REPORTING CRIME

It is essential that crimes are always reported to the police to ensure that any trends are recognised quickly to enable the police to react.



For emergencies always dial 999 but there are other ways to report a non-urgent crime or incident. You can call 101 but historically people have experienced long wait times for calls to be answered using this service. Did you know that you can guickly report nonurgent crimes online? Visit https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/

Click report a crime and you will be led to answer questions about the type of crime you wish to report. This is quick and easy to use so there is no reason for any crime not to be reported.

HOW TO SET UP A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME				
The first step				

What are you reporting?
Please choose the option that best describes what happened. This helps us to ask you the right questions to find out the information that we need.
If more than one option applies, choose the one that is most important to you. You can give more details later in the report.
Sexual abuse any unwanted sexual contact
Domestic incident any incidents between partners or immediate family
Criminal damage any property damaged

If you are interested in setting up a scheme, the first step is to speak to your neighbours and find out if they are also interested. The more residents there are who want to get involved, the more successful a scheme will be. Not everyone in a street or neighbourhood needs to join a scheme for it to work. It will work if there are enough residents to keep an eye out for each other's properties and to liaise with the police.

The Coordinator

Each scheme has a coordinator who acts as the key contact point for the scheme. They liaise with the police, scheme members and the general public as well as non-member residents when necessary. The coordinator ensures a smooth flow of information and communication between the police and scheme members.

Register for a Neighbourhood Watch scheme

Lancashire Police no longer administer neighbourhood watch schemes, this is now done by Lancashire Combined Watch Forum (LCWF). If you would like to discuss setting up a scheme then you can contact LCWF direct - newwatch@lcwf.co.uk The link to register for a NHW scheme in Rossendale is - https:// lancsvp.org.uk/opportunities/neighbourhood-watch-coordinator-11/

There is an application form to be completed, which will go directly to LCWF, one of the members will make contact with the applicant and arrange for the necessary paperwork to be sent out. They will also visit the applicant and discuss the scheme with them.

SIZE AND COVERAGE OF YOUR SCHEME

There are no hard and fast rules about the size of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. This can vary depending on the geography of the area. A good rule is to think about which houses can see each other, so that they can keep an eye open for any suspicious activity. But some schemes don't fit into that model, such as long straight roads, blocks of flats and rural areas where houses are widely spaced, so just choose what works best for you!

ACTIVITIES & PARTNERSHIPS

Traditionally, Neighbourhood Watch activities have focused on the immediate vicinity of homes, with members looking out for anything suspicious and helping their neighbours. However, more and more schemes are broadening their work to target a range of other problems such as cyber-crime, antisocial behaviour, vandalism and graffiti. When links are made with other local schemes and wider alliances are formed, the membership can become a powerful voice within a community and get actively involved in problem-solving.



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CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR LOCAL MAGAZINE

The Whitworth Valley News community magazine is produced by Whitworth Town Council and published four times a year. It is delivered to every household in the Whitworth area, and to numerous businesses and key stakeholders, and is also available as a download on the Town Council's website, www.whitworth.gov.uk.

The magazine is mainly split between editorial news items, which we receive from local groups, organisations and individuals, and advertising, the vast majority of which is very local. It is free to supply editorial content for the magazine and it is included on a first come-first-served basis with priority given to local news. If you would like to include an editorial article in the magazine, please get in contact, this is your magazine and should contain content that is useful to local people. We would love to hear from anyone wanting to promote local events or sharing useful community information.

Advertising is important to the magazine as it keeps the cost of producing it right down for the residents. The aim is that the advertising should pay to produce the magazine and the council pays a donation to the Sports Council in return for hand delivering the magazine. This donation is then used to run the

annual Whitworth Sports Festival. This is a great example of community organisations working together! Due to the nature of the magazine we have a cap on the number of adverts we carry per edition, but there are currently some spaces available, if you are interested let us know and we can give you the full details of advertising. For more details contact Melanie Hearn info@ whitworth.gov.uk or call 01706 852018



LOCAL ARTIST EXHIBITS WORK AT THE WHITAKER

Scott Tetlow, from Whitworth, is currently exhibiting his current collection of artwork, Emerging figures, in the gallery at the Whitaker. When starting out as a painter Scott was obsessed with the works of Goya and Rembrandt, and the painters of the London school; Auerbach, Freud, Uglow and Bacon. He would stand very close to a picture, studying the ways in which the artist had physically applied the paint, working out which tools or implements had been used, assessing the viscosity of the paints and the speed and weight with which the marks had been applied. In being up close he

could see the abstraction; viewing the painting on a minute and detailed level. He would then stand back, watching the transition as abstract marks transformed and cohered into readable figures.

In this exhibition, Scott has experimented on manipulating the background until something happens, letting the results unfold and the abstract dictating a figure within.

The exhibition will run until 10th March and the gallery is open Wednesday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm. Whitaker Museum, Haslingden Road, Rossendale, BB4 6RE



NATIONAL SPRING FLOWER SHOW HELD IN WHITWORTH

Saturday 27th April 2019 - 11.30am - 3.30pm at the Riverside

After hugely successful events over quite several years, the Alpine Garden Society are to stage another huge national Spring Flower Show in Whitworth.

This prestigious event, which attracts exhibitors, nurserymen, enthusiasts and visitors from across the country, will feature over 140 classes ranging from rare alpine gems to bulbs, hardy orchids, dwarf conifers, ferns, shrubs and mini-gardens. Unusual plants from around the globe will vie with those on the stalls of leading nurserymen selling the cream of hardy alpines and inexpensive rock garden plants. In the 1990s (and since its welcome reintroduction in 2009) this show has attracted remarkable attendances. Organisers hope Whitworth folk will be tempted back to this stunning venue by a superb raffle/tombola, free parking, seed and plant sales and excellent refreshments. Whitworth couple, Cliff & Sue Booker founded the East Lancashire Group way back in 1986 and the group (which holds monthly meetings at Ramsbottom Civic Hall) still thrives. Newcomers are always most welcome to join.







For further information on the Show, the Group or the Alpine Garden Society, please contact Cliff on 01706 534626. Please don't miss this fabulous event.





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At the AB&D centre class, the focus is on strengthening weak muscles in *practical* movements aimed at fall prevention. They include; gentle yet cardiovascular exercise, coordination and balance routines, a focus spot for problem areas like the neck, back and knees, improving flexibility with strength resistance for upper and lower body, sit to stand, stretch and cool down. To keep the class fresh and fun a varied approach is taken.

Inactivity promotes degenerative diseases, if you have diseases such as diabetes type 2 already, exercise can improve symptoms. Please come along and Just Move! To Improve.

If fall prevention is your goal as well as keeping fit in other fitness categories, join in on Mondays from 1.45-2.45pm (except bank holidays) at the AB&D centre; Burnley road, OL13 8EU

For further information or if you manage a nursing home or sheltered housing and would like exercise for your residents please contact: Rosemary on 07886963024

UNIVERSITY OF THE 3RD AGE

Whitworth U3A finished 2018 with a well-attended lunch and a fun Christmas quiz at Berni Inn. The year-end also included a Ghost Walk around Rochdale and a coach trip to Dunham Massey to see the Christmas light display, other trips are being planned for 2019.

The interest groups are still attracting new members, with the Walking and Photography groups proving very popular. In January, the Art and Flower Arranging groups moved to a new venue (the AB&D centre in Bacup). There has also been quite a bit of interest in starting a Birdwatching group.

If any member has an idea for starting a new group, they should talk to one of the committee members to see what support can be offered. The monthly meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at The Riverside at 1pm, the speaker on March 6th is



Philip Caine, author of the Jack Castle books. The charge is £1 for refreshments.

A full list of speakers, contact details and interest groups, can be found on our Facebook page and website (u3asites. org.uk/whitworth).



WHITWORTH TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

BY GEORGE! WHITWORTH TO CELEBRATE PATRON SAINT IN STYLE

By George! Whitworth to celebrate patron saint in style

On Sunday 28 April 2019, the town of Whitworth will hold its annual celebration of England's patron saint, St George. As usual, the event has been organised by the Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee, comprising town councillor and non-councillor volunteers. The celebration will be a week later than usual this year to avoid falling on Easter Sunday.

The committee were keen to bring back the procession element and have been successful in finding funding to cover the cost. At 2pm a procession, led by the

Mayor of Whitworth will set off from the corner of Tong Lane and process along Market Street to the Riverside (Civic Hall). Then, at 2.15pm, a Celebration will take place followed by light refreshments. Everyone is welcome to take part in the procession and attend the service. If you would like to help out by spending a few hours marshalling or are part of a group and would like to take part in the procession or help out, contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk.



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TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

OCH AYE THE NOO! MAYOR'S CEILIDH PROMISES FUN FOR ALL

The Mayor of Whitworth, Councillor Madeline De Souza, invites you to dig out your kilts, sashes and sporrans for wee stunner of a shindig in aid of the Mayor of Whitworth's charity fund on Saturday 6 April at the Riverside, Whitworth.

Doors will open at 7pm and guests will be piped in by Pipe Major Paton, a four-course roast dinner will be served from 8pm. The highlight of the evening will be your chance to take to the floor at as Scottish ceilidh caller Heather Birch talks you through the steps or these traditional highland dances.

The ceilidh is the perfect way to





the spring – the dances are simple, fun and a great way to get some exercise and have a laugh with others. Come by yourself, with a partner or a few friends – it really doesn't matter – a great evening in good company is guaranteed for all. Kilts, sashes and sporrans are encouraged and there will be a prize for the best dressed!

To book your ticket for this year's event on Saturday 6 April at 7pm, contact Melanie Hearn on 01706 852018 or book online on the Whitworth Town Council website at www.whitworth.gov.uk/ events/Civic_Dinner_2019

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 16 May at 7.30pm, at the Riverside. The meeting will be quorate (legal) if just two electors are present. Although chaired by the Mayor, this is not a Town Council meeting. It is a meeting for all Whitworth people to get an overview of what is currently happening in the town, looking the work of the various organisations serving Whitworth, and offering electors the opportunity to raise queries and make observations.

It's usually over within an hour or so, so why not come along, everyone is welcome. See you there! For more information, contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk.



Andrew Paton, Highland bagpiper



See what's happening in Whitworth Library . . . activities are free unless stated

Mondays

10:30 - 12:00	Up and Active Weight Loss Drop-in First 45 mins FREE weight management and healthy lifestyle advice; second 45 mins exercise session - suggested £2 donation.
14:00 - 16:00	Knit and Natter All welcome!
17:30 - 18:30	Bedtime Story - every fourth Monday of the month (18 months - 8 years).
19:00 - 20:30	Mature Movers and Groovers Fun dance with Sheila Daly (07762 757925).
19.00 20.00	Suggested £5 donation.
Tuesdays	
10:00 - 11.00	Lighthouse Coffee Morning All welcome!
10:00 - 12.30	Scrabble Club Great company and good fun – why not join us?
10:00 - 12.00	Citizen's Advice, by appointment. Please ring CA on: 0300 456 2552.
11:00 - 12.00	Up and Active Health Walk at Stubblylee Park This is an accessible walk.
14:00 - 15:00	Storytime Session (18 months - 6 years).
10.00 - 12.00	U3A Family History Group 3rd Tuesday of month. T. 01706 750542 (Glenda) for info.
Wednesdays	
13:00 - 14.00	Up and Active Health Walk from the library This is an accessible walk.
19:00 - 20:30	Yoga, Pilates and Relaxation with Sheila Daly (07762 757925). £5 per session.
Thursdays	
09.30 - 10.30	Surf and Sup and Learn My Way Personalised IT courses – please speak to librarians.
10:00 - 11.30	Shared Reading Group All welcome!
10.30 - 12.30	The A Team Social group for people with learning disabilities. For information, please email: melanie ashman@yahoo.com
14.00 - 15.00	U3A Creative Writing 1st Thursday of month. T. 07484 712878 (Sylvia) for info.
14.00 - 15.00	Bookworms Reading Group (for adults). 2nd Thursday of month.
14.00 - 16.30	U3A Wellbeing on 3rd Thursday of month. T. 07484 712878 (Sylvia) for info.
14.00 - 16.00	U3A History on 4th Thursday of month. T. 07484 712878 (Sylvia) for info.
Fridays	
10:15 - 11:30	Baby Bounce and Rhyme (birth to 18 months).
14:30 - 16:00	Afternoon Tea on last Friday of month - with guest speakers. An opportunity, when advertised, to speak with Carers Link and ClIr Peter Stein. Everyone welcome!
14:00 - 16:00	Crafty Sew and Sews on 1st Friday of month (no class in March). All welcome!
Saturdays	
10:30 – 12 noon	Lego Club (for all ages).
13:00 - 14:30	Whitworth Wellbeing Support Group For more information, please email Jodie at: whitworthmentalhealth@aol.com
and also,	one-off events, books, magazines, newspapers, computers and friendly faces. Everyone welcome!

Updates can be found in the library, or on the Friends of Whitworth Library Group Facebook page, or contact friendsofwhitworthlibrarygroup@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT 2019/2020

Whitworth Town Council has this year set a net budget of £60,256. The Council has worked hard to keep the increase in precept to a minimum, which has been difficult in the current financial climate and in the face of cuts to the Council Tax Support Grant from the Borough Council.

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 four years as we are expecting further cuts from the borough, 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.

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. For the last two years, the council have been running a successful Community Toilet Scheme, working alongside local businesses to improve the facilities in our town.

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.

	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18
Employee's (Town Clerk / Town Caretaker)	51,184	48,256	46,504
Parish Lengthsman (salary / materials)	6,500	6,500	6,740
Administrative Expenses	11,825	11,192	10,410
Statutory and Civic Events / Expenses	7,605	8,015	9,665
Audit Fee	400	435	330
Training / Member Expenses	600	650	650
Insurance	1,275	1,228	1,228
Grants to Outside Bodies	1,000	1,000	1,000
Special Projects	5,678	8,300	6,400
Street Floral Displays	600	600	600
Whitworth Valley News Magazine	1,500	1,750	1,250
Investment Income	-10,500	-10,500	-10,500
LCC / RBC devolved funding	-11,041	-10,314	-9,747
Other income	-7,370	-7,428	-6,938
From Reserves	0	0	0
Contingencies	1,000	1,000	1000
COST OF TOWN COUNCIL LEVY (£)	60,256	60,684	58,592
RBC Council Tax Support Grant	6,000	8,000	8,000
Net Precept	54,256	52,684	50,592
Number of band 'D' equivalent units	2,186	2,186	2,162
Council Tax per band 'D' property (£p)	£24.82	£24.10	£23.40
Percentage increase per band 'D' property	2.99%	2.99%	1.69%
Actual increase per band 'D' property	72p	70p	39p



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WAMDS Murder Mystery Night 7.30pm Saturday 23rd February 2019 St John's Hall, Facit, Whitworth OL12 8LU



After the success of our production of Robin Hood & Babes in the Wood Pantomime our next fundraising event will be a Murder Mystery Night. All tickets are £10 including supper

The evening will take the shape of a "school reunion" where you will attend as a former pupil and meet some of your most hated/loved former teachers. At some point in the proceedings, a ghastly murder takes place and you and your house mates will need to solve the mystery- along with a few other challenges!

(Please note that participants will not be required to "act" but rather participate!)

To reserve tickets please call the Box Office: 01706 630773 or 07967 925283



CHURCH NEWS

OUR LADY & ST. ANSELM'S RC PRIMARY

To celebrate the Epiphany, on the first week back in school after Christmas, the children of Our Lady & St. Anselm's RC Primary returned to school like the three kings bearing gifts!!

The school received baby-grows, nappies, outfits, toiletries, a huge box of children's clothing and even a Moses basket; the number of gifts were overwhelming. The gifts were taken to the midwife at Whitworth Medical Centre for her to distribute to local families in need of support around Whitworth and Rochdale.



Mrs Rainey, Headteacher, said "I am so proud that our children and families care so much for others and have been generous with their gifts."

SHAWFORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Sundays	10.30am	Sunday Service, everyone welcome and stay for a brew afterwards
Mondays	9.30am – 11.30am	Toddler group
Tuesdays	7pm – 9pm	Whitworth Community Choir rehearsals
	7.30pm last Tuesday in every month	Ladies Group everyone welcome
Wednesdays	9.30am to 11.30am	Toddler Group
	6.30pm – 8pm	Shotokan Karate
Thursdays	8pm last Thursday in every month	Model Flying Club
Fridays	10.30am – 12.00	Drop in for tea, coffee and toast (and a natter!) all welcome
Saturdays	11am – 1pm 3rd Saturday each month	Coffee and lunches

Superintendent Minister Revd. David J Burrow Tel 01706 602882

For room hire contact Christine Tel 01706 854172 or Lois 01706 852815 6.30pm -8pm Shotokan Karate

LOCAL TRADES LIST

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Gas Engineer (servicing, installation& repairs, kitchen & bathroom): RLH GAS & PROPERTY SERVICES (Richard Lyon-Hayes) Tel: 07970 470019 / rlhgasandpropertyservices@yahoo.co.uk www.rlhgas.co.uk, Gas Safe registered 531279

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(33 Oak Street Shawforth OL12 8NP)

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

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List your business for £5.21 + VAT per edition!

01706 852018 / info@whitworth.gov.uk

This community magazine is produced by Whitworth Town Council. It is distributed to 3,900 properties in Whitworth four timer 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 services offered by advertisers, or the content of adverts within the magazine.

USEFUL CONTACTS

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS:

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD:

Tom Aldred (Labour): 01706 852183 atomaldred@aol.com Lynda Barnes (Conservative): 01706 853635 07944 116385 • cllrlyndabarnes@hotmail.co.uk Madeline De Souza (Independent): 01706 853895 mads30950@hotmail.com Jim Mellor (Conservative): 01706 853479 • 07973 421145 jim.mellor47@btinternet.com Donna Nutt (Community First): 07532 144924 Rachael Barker (Independent): • 07821 248511 cllrrachaelbarker@gmail.com

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:

David Chorlton (Independent): 07939 218266 01706 853234 • david@ubswhitworth.co.uk Maureen Jones (Community First): 07794 356610 maureen5961@hotmail.com Karen Ruane (Independent): 07772 534412 kriane@outlook.com Alan Neal (Community First): 07817 414721 alanneal@rossendalebc.gov.uk Dayne Powell (Independent): 07795 022564 Dayne.Powell@Outlook.com Janet Whitehead (Independent): 07795 577647 cllrjanetwhitehead@gmail.com

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES:

Civic Hall, Market Street Whitworth, OL12 8DP Contact: Melanie Hearn, **The Town Clerk** tel: 01706 852018 email: info@whitworth.gov.uk www.whitworth.gov.uk Office hours: Mon – Fri, 9am – 2.30pm

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD: Lynda Barnes and Tom Aldred HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD: Alan Neal and Sean Serridge (see left for contact details)

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

Peter Steen 07703 832 156 peter.steen@lancashire.gov.uk

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:

Jake Berry MP 0207 210 5000 (House of Commons) 01706 215547 (Constituency office) jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk • www.jakeberry.org

FORTHCOMING WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Thurs 21 Feb, Thurs 7 Mar, Thurs 21 Mar, Thurs 23 May All meetings take place at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber at the Riverside; members of the public are welcome.

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:

Community Police Officer PCSO 7356 Heidi Kirkbright: to speak to Heidi please call 07890 591 496, or to report a non-urgent crime or incident, please dial 101 or visit www.lancashire.police.uk/contact-us/how-do-i-report-a-crime. For emergencies only, dial 999.

Together Housing: 0300 555 5556 (general enquiries and to book a face to face appointment in their office at Rawtenstall, please note the office is appointment only) Michele Heys, Whitworth Officer

Whitworth Youth: Mondays 6.30 – 9pm at the scout hut, Tuesdays 3.15 – 4.30pm at 515 centre, Thursday 6.30 - 9pm at 515 www.whitworthyouth.co.uk

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

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

Citizens Advice Rossendale: 03444 889622

The Samaritans: 01706 830999 • (Freephone) 116 123

Lancashire County Council: 0300 123 6701 (general enquiries) www.lancashire.gov.uk • Highways 0300 123 6780 or email highways@lancashire.gov.uk • out of hours social care emergencies (5pm – 8.45am) 0300 123 6720

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

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