

WHITWORTH

VALLEY NEWS



PRODUCED BY
Whitworth
Town Council



Whitworth has not one but two Christmas Trees
... read more on page 4

Dates for your diary:
Christmas Lights Switch On Sunday 26th November;
New Year's Day Duck Race Monday 1st January

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



The Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth, Councillor Alan Neal and Mrs Janet Neal

The last few months have been really busy and Janet and I have enjoyed every moment - even getting wet through at the annual Rushcart event, which was as usual very well supported. We have attended lots of different events including the Springhill Hospice Calendar Launch, the Re-dedication of the Bells at Christ Church Healey, the Jimmy Grogan Memorial Concert and the latest show by WAMDS Sweet Charity. As well as all this we also welcomed our friends from Kandel, Whitworth's twin town in Germany. The weather was unsettled during their visit, but everyone enjoyed the programme of trips the Town Twinning Committee organised for them.

We have also been invited to afternoon teas and coffee mornings including one at the Riverside for MacMillan. Janet and her friends arranged the Ladies Afternoon Tea in September at the Riverside for the Mayor's Charity Fund. 118 Ladies attended and enjoyed afternoon tea and entertainment by Mr Joel Brown.

On Saturday 21st October, we hosted our 60s Night which was a wonderful evening for those that attended and we raised an amazing £793 towards the Mayors Charity Fund.

By the time you receive this, we will have attended the family Halloween party at the Riverside, the High School GCSE Presentation Evening and UK Parliament Week. In between these is Remembrance Sunday which every year gets more and more support from all the Community.

The Christmas period will start with the Christmas Lights Switch on at 6pm on Sunday 26th November. Then in December we have School Christmas performances to attend and a number of Christmas Fairs. The Community Carol Service is on Monday 18th December at 7pm at the Riverside which I hope many of you can join us at.

Janet and I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Wonderful 2018, which for us will start with the Duck Race on New Year's Day.

Councillor Alan Neal
Mayor of Whitworth

R A Neal

Councillor Alan Neal, Mayor of Whitworth and Mrs Janet Neal, Mayoress of Whitworth

New Year's Day Duck Race

1pm New Year's day at Cowm Reservoir, Whitworth, FREE EVENT

Sponsor a duck NOW at the Post Office, Riverside, Reflections, Leisure Centre, UBS

1st prize £100 / 2nd prize £75 / 3rd prize £50 last duck wins a tenner!

All proceeds to tourism and leisure events in Whitworth and Claw Ltd



WHITWORTH TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

A LONG AWAITED GIFT TO WHITWORTH

The Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee have been on a mission this year, a mission to give Whitworth the gift of a community Christmas tree. Being the amazing team they are, the TLC have delivered not one, but two living Christmas trees, one at either end of the town.

Our trees will start off small (experts have advised us that starting off with a small tree gives a better chance of survival). We hope that our fantastic community will help us to protect and nurture these infant trees that over time will grow into a fantastic visual example of Whitworth's unbreakable community spirit and our ability to overcome any obstacles.

It has been a long journey to get to this point and would not have been possible without the support and funding from Whitworth Town Council, Rossendale Borough Council and funds raised by the TLC at events throughout last year.

Thank-you to our Tourism and Leisure Committee, they work so hard for the benefit of Whitworth and this has been an amazing, long awaited achievement. The TLC is made up of 15 volunteers, some are councillors and others just have an interest in helping out our community. They arrange five annual events and raise funds to make Whitworth an even better place than it already is. For more details about the TLC, contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk at Whitworth Town Council, on 01706 852018 / email: info@whitworth.gov.uk.



Whitworth's Official...
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON!

Sunday 26 November 2017
6pm Father Christmas will arrive at the outdoor stage followed by the competition presentation and the switch on

Followed by **FREE** grotto on the indoor stage and musical entertainment by the Whitworth Vale and Healey Youth Band and Whitworth Community Choir

The Riverside (Whitworth Civic Hall)
Free event, all welcome
(small charge for refreshments)

For more information, contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk: Tel: 01706 852018 / info@whitworth.gov.uk
Thank-you to our sponsors: RRG Toyota Rochdale, Valerie Bennett, Proscenium and Rossendale Borough Council

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON WITH A DIFFERENCE!

The Lights Switch On is so popular that the TLC have had to get their heads together this year to rethink the event.

The event will begin at **6pm** on Sunday 26th November with people arriving outside the Riverside for a short prize giving on the outdoor stage before the lights switch on. Public will then be invited inside for entertainment by the Whitworth Vale and Healey Youth Band and Whitworth Community Choir. A certain 'man in red' will arrive in his amazing grotto in a new location on the indoor stage and children will be invited to visit and receive their free Christmas. Hopefully, these changes will make the event run more smoothly and make it more enjoyable for all that attend.

Because the stage is going to be outside we are going to have to stop people entering and leaving the carpark between 5.45pm and 6.45pm, if you are planning to arrive or leave between these times please walk to the event or park nearby on Market Street. You are welcome to use the Riverside carpark for the event as long as you arrive by 5.45pm and do not leave until after 6.45pm.



ROSSENDALE
alive



Thank-you to our sponsors who made this event possible.

The Riverside will be serving a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie for a small charge, with kid's refreshments also available. 2018 Whitworth calendars will be on sale and ducks will be available to sponsor for the New Year's Day Duck Race. Entry to this event is free, and all are welcome.

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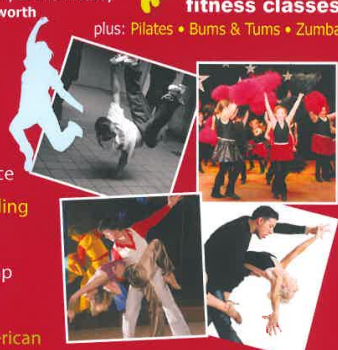


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SPODDEN VALLEY REVEALED AWARDED NATIONAL LOTTERY SUPPORT

Mid Pennine Arts (MPA) has received a confirmed grant (£246,500) from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for Spodden Valley Revealed (SVR). Thanks to money raised by National Lottery players, the project aims to create a 'greenway ecomuseum', a linear heritage destination exploring the long and unique history of human settlement in the area around Whitworth in Lancashire. The stories SVR will explore include stone age hunting sites and the relics left behind, and individual characters such as James 'Treacle' Sanderson running close to the sub 4-minute mile 90 years before Roger Bannister, and the Whitworth Doctors – 18th century 'bone setters' attracting patients from all over the UK such as the Archbishop of Canterbury with curious and strange treatments.



SVR will be made up of a 'string of pearls' of historic sites, which visitors will be encouraged to discover by signposting on a central cycling and walking route, interpretation, public art pieces and community events.

The Mayor of Whitworth, Councillor Alan Neal said: "We are really excited to be involved with Spodden Valley Revealed in Whitworth and can't wait to get all the local schools and groups involved in creating something which will benefit the whole community. It will be a great advantage for tourism in Whitworth and will provide more leisure facilities for local people."

MPA are also delighted to announce support for SVR from the Lancashire Environmental Fund and charity Newground Together. Their awards of £25,000 and £35,000 respectively helped to secure the funding from HLF. The project will also receive support from Lancashire County Council and Whitworth Town Council.

If you are interested in the project - please call Diana Hamilon on 01282 421986 ext:203 or email diana@midpenninearts.org.uk

Website: <http://midpenninearts.org.uk/programmes/spodden-valley-revealed/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/teamMPA

Twitter: twitter.com/teamMPA

MONDAY EVENING READING GROUP

The Monday Evening Reading Group consists of seven local people who meet monthly, at one member's house, to discuss the book they have read that month. All books are collected from and returned to Whitworth Library and provided via the Rossendale Libraries reading group scheme.

In recognition of this free service, and knowing the problems that Whitworth Library and other local libraries are currently facing, the group members contributed money to be given to the Library, which amounted to £70 in total. Unfortunately, the library being a public service, was unable to accept the donation so, instead, it was given to Rochdale Young Carers organisation, a wonderful cause and who are always grateful for donations. Since then, it has come to light that there is a group concerned with keeping the library open for the population of Whitworth, the "Friends of Whitworth Library", and donations from next year's collection will be going to this cause instead in recognition of the work of the libraries.

Monday Evening Reading Group, who meet on the third Monday of the month at 7.00pm, currently has three member vacancies. If anyone would like to join the group please call Jill on 07539 001 001 for further information.

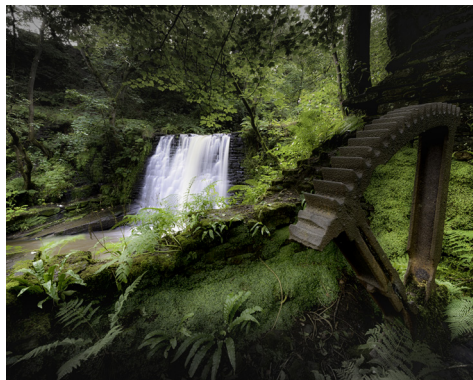
LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Whitworth Photographic Society come together with the aim of taking better photographs through a combination of practical member's nights, inviting along guest speakers and experts, competitions with other local groups and making field trips to photogenic locations. The group is a friendly bunch who meet on the first and third Monday of every month at Whitworth Band Club and potential new members are welcome to come along for a trial period before having to consider joining - just ask at the bar in the club and they'll be happy to point them out.

You can find the society on Facebook, where members usually post some of their pictures for comment, or through the website at www.whitworthphotographicsociety.org.uk. Recent trips out have included the Whitby Goth Festival, The Ashworth Valley, Hardcastle Crag and a bird of prey experience in Cumbria.

If you're interested in photography why not come along and see what it's all about!



*A photograph taken on a recent trip to Ashworth Valley
by Jeff Johnson*

UK PARLIAMENT WEEK

This year, Whitworth Town Council will be taking part in UK Parliament Week which takes place between 13th and 19th November 2017. This will be an opportunity to take a moment to celebrate and reflect on those rights which are often taken for granted but which people throughout history have campaigned to make happen or fought to preserve.

The Council will invite children from local schools to visit the council chamber on Friday 17th November and cubs will be visiting on Tuesday 14th November, meet with some of our Town, Borough and County Councillors and also our MP, Jake Berry. The children will get the opportunity to sit in the councillor's chairs and hold a mock council meeting to resolve a difficult local issue.



WHITWORTH AND HEALEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The group of volunteers has continued meeting throughout autumn to ensure the Memorial Gardens and the area around the Riverside look as bright and well-kept as possible for everyone to enjoy. The group will be resting throughout the winter but will resume their fortnightly meetings in the spring. If you feel you could offer some much-needed help for a couple of hours and give something back to the community, please look out for the contact details in the next edition of the Whitworth Valley News.





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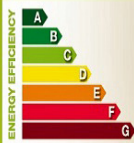


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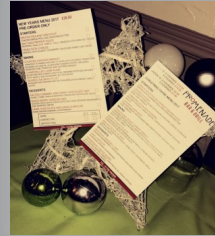
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WHITWORTH NEWS

WHITWORTH COMMUNITY CHOIR

The choir are still going strong and are always looking for new members to join, especially MEN! Rehearsals are every Tuesday night at Shawforth Chapel from 7pm. A very warm welcome is guaranteed and no auditions are required, just go along and sing. Suggested donation £3 per week. For any further information contact Gill Pearson on 07779 713595 or via email at whitworthcommunitychoir@gmail.com

Look out for the choir during the festive period performing at local venues, if you like what you see.... JOIN!



THE GALLERY AT THE BATHS

The Gallery at the Baths continues to offer a little showcase for the community's artwork and photos. Currently showing is Tonacliffe School's exhibition of Remembrance. Following that will be:

from December 1 - Our Lady and

St Anselm's School

January 5 - either photos by Karl Burrell or

Whitworth Food and Craft Fair

January 26 - photos by Alfie Ogg

February 16 - Whitworth Historical Society

If you or your community organisation would like to exhibit in The Gallery, please contact Jo Furtado (853442 or 07813180748) for details of when and how.

Whitworth Skyline is set for Sunday May 13 next year. It will be a clockwise walk this time, 14 miles as ever, but with two shorter options - a 9-mile Western Skyline, and a 3-mile Skyline Sunday Stroll. Jo Furtado (853442 or 07813180748) is hoping for lots of necessary volunteers to help on the day: people with a 4x4 prepared to staff moorland checkpoints; marshals for more accessible checkpoints; and, particularly, people prepared to backmark sections of the route.

Whitworth Sports Festival will take place from Saturday June 9 till Sunday June 17. Any offers of help - new events, marshalling etc - please contact Jo Furtado (853442 or 07813180748) or any member of the Sports Council.

WHITWORTH DOCTORS

Pay a visit to the local museum in Whitworth and see the new exhibition depicting the famous **Whitworth Doctors** and how, since 1764, they treated their patients, be they horses or human kind. The Doctors made no distinction between horse and human flesh and treated all, even Royalty, with the same level of care and skill but, sometimes, with scant regard to the level of pain they inflicted.

Exhibition Runs from September through until the end of November

Opening hours:
Tuesday evening: 7.30 – 9.30pm
Saturday afternoon: 2.00 – 4.00pm
Other times by appointment

The Heritage Museum
North Street
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WHITWORTH POLICE UPDATE

Heidi Kirkbright continues to be the PCSO dedicated to Whitworth. The role of the Community Beat Manager (CBM) has now changed to that of a local 'Hybrid Officer' with this role being required to provide a dual focus of both responding to calls across Rossendale; while also having a local policing function similar to that previously undertaken by the CBM. The officer recently appointed to this role for Whitworth is PC Lisa Hodgkinson who has already been working with Heidi on issues specific to Whitworth. In the near future it is planned for a further officer to assist Heidi and Lisa through undertaking a Hybrid role aligned to Whitworth and we will keep you updated on how this develops.

Reports of crime across Lancashire have increased by 15% and in Rossendale have increased by 5.5%. Despite a recent spate of damage caused to vehicles around Healey, crime continues to be very low with on average 1 to 2 crimes reported per day in Whitworth. In relation to this recent damage, Heidi and other local officers conducted letter drops in the area and published a press release encouraging victims to report damage and to appeal for witnesses. GMP have been assisting us with our enquiries and any member of the public with information relating to who is responsible is urged to contact:

Heidi (07890591496)
or ring 101
quoting log reference LC-20170928-0252.

Despite what you may read at times on Facebook, Whitworth continues to have a very low crime rate. Cuts to police budgets have been widely reported and Rossendale Police haven't escaped these but with the Police and Whitworth Community working together, we can ensure that Whitworth continues to be a safe and great place to live!

Rossendale Neighbourhood Policing Team

APPEAL BY WHITWORTH MUSEUM

Do you have any old cine' (8, 9.5 or 16mm) film, video footage or sound recordings, which in some way relate to Whitworth? Be it a film or recordings of past events which have taken place in the valley, Whitworth Museum would like to hear from you. This material does not need to be gifted but will be copied and converted into a modern digital format with the original being handed back to the donor. It would however be appreciated if permission could be given for the museum to use the processed material in any way that it deems beneficial to the local community. Similarly, the loan of any Whitworth related photographs which you are prepared to allow to be copied would be extremely useful.

If you have any material of this type tucked away in a bottom drawer, old suitcase, attic or garage, which you feel should be properly saved and archived for the benefit of future generations, please contact the museum by calling in on a Tuesday evening between 7.30 – 9.30pm or Saturday 2.00 – 4.00pm or, if you prefer, 'phone either 344894 or 356109. You can also make contact by email at chairman@whitworthhistoricalsociety.org.uk

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Winter can be lovely bringing snowflakes, for many it brings pains and various aches, but don't sit down in pain and despair, come to a class and find help there!

Join Rosemary at the AB&D Centre and Riddiough Court in exercise classes for the older adult who believes age is no barrier to keeping fit. These keep fit classes are aimed at the over 50's and all exercises have been chosen with the older adults needs in mind, they include; gentle yet cardiovascular exercise, coordination and balance routines aimed at fall prevention, a focus spot for the lower back and other problem areas such as the neck and knees, improving flexibility, with strength resistance using bands for upper and lower body work, sit to stand, stretch and cool down. Joining a group can be motivating, it's stimulating, it's fun and laughter is the best medicine they say!

Exercise is paramount in preventing those degenerative diseases, high blood pressure, and type2 diabetes to name a few, inactivity and weight are top risk factors in their cause, so please join in and Just Move! To improve.

See poster for days, times and cost, for more information contact: Rosemary on 07886 963024

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Except every 2nd Wednesday
when its 11.30am-12.30pm



Contact: Rosemary on
07886963024

AB&D Centre
(Burnley Road, Bacup)
Monday's (Except bank holidays)
1.45 - 2.45pm
Cost £3.50



SEW FABULOUS

Sew Fabulous is a new dress design and alteration service based in Whitworth. Lynn Christiansen has an impressive track record coveting 9 awards for her customer service and innovation throughout her career.

Having trained at the royal college of textiles and design in London Lynn has also taught Creative sewing on the Isle of Man and has moved to Whitworth to be nearer her family and continue her love of sewing. With over 45 year's experience Lynn made her first wedding dress when she was just 16 years of age, she has a wealth of knowledge in wedding dress design and manufacture specialising in gowns for curvaceous brides.

Her services also include Communion dresses, Christening gowns, bridesmaids, flower girls, prom dresses, waistcoats and cravats for the groom. Sew fabulous also offer a range of other services, wedding dress packaging for brides transporting gowns abroad, cleaning and boxing service. In stock are the latest designs in veils, tiaras, communion accessories, handbags and fascinators for special occasions.

All alterations are guaranteed to be of the highest standard and Lynn can be contacted on 07943 317560. Details can also be found on the Whitworth Facebook page, opening hours are 9-5pm Monday to Friday, late night and Saturday by appointment.

BUSINESS NEWS

A FRIENDLY WELCOME AT METCONPT

Danny, Personal Trainer from METCONPT is delighted with the response he has had from local people in Whitworth joining his new training facility based in **Anglo Mills**, at Unit 2 on Tong Lane in the village.

Young and old are taking advantage of personal training and small group training sessions, open 6 days a week, with hours to suit you. The ladies only classes are popular, private training and group and team training sessions are also taking place, you can take a training programme and a nutrient programme or just attend weekly classes, no contracts, just a simple health check to ensure you are trained carefully to meet your needs.



Transformations are taking place, people are toning up, losing weight, others are improving their confidence and their mobility and it's a really relaxed enjoyable atmosphere, but you will be tested and pushed to achieve the best you are able. Call in or check out the activities on facebook. Danny thanks everyone for their support and patience whilst the gym has been developed over its first 6 months and there are more plans to come, more groups and specialist classes, weight lifting, weight training, running, cross fit based classes and so on. Join anytime you like, **a genuine friendly welcome guaranteed.**

NEW FISH AND CHIP SHOP IN SHAWFORTH

It has been an amazing first 6 Months for Ashton's Fish and Chip shop! The owner, Richard Ashton would like to thank all his new customers. He is new to the Fish and Chip world, coming from a background as a youth worker in Manchester, and now a fully fledged fish fryer in Shawforth! The last few months have been a baptism of fire full of long days and burned fingers but the feedback is excellent, don't take it from us, call in and try for yourself! Open Monday to Friday 11.45am – 1.30pm and 4.30pm – 7.30pm, closed Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

MRS MAKER PARTY PLANNING & CRAFTS CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT!

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Sessions take place throughout the year in the Valley, take a look at Mrs Maker on Facebook and have a peruse of the reviews.

Tel: 07821075021

E-mail: mrsmaker123@gmail.com

REGULATOR REPORT SUPPORTS NEED FOR NEW WHITWORTH CARE HOME

Whitworth Care has reaffirmed its commitment to quality resident care, and its continued significant investment in a brand-new care home, following a recent assessment by the care regulator. The Care Quality Commission's (CQC) role is to make sure health and social care services provide people with safe, high-quality care. Following an inspection in August, the CQC gave Whitworth Care's Sunnyside Rest Home an overall rating of 'Requires Improvement', evidencing the need for continued investment in the care home service.

Whitworth Care is investing heavily in the future care of its residents, and work is well under way on their new state of the art facility, which will replace the existing care home.

Karen Henderson, Head of Care and Support, said:

"Our focus will always be on providing quality care residents, which the inspection endorsed as being good. It's no longer sustainable to provide services at our current location long term, and we're investing £2.8 million in a brand-new facility that will meet residents' high standards. The report is not unexpected, and raises some issues we identified with the existing provision and are taking actions to address. The report positively acknowledges this."



Artist's impression of the new Whitworth Care facility

CANCER RESEARCH WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

It is with great sadness that the committee announce the passing away of Joyce Ashworth. Joyce was a member of the committee for almost 60 years she was truly inspirational in the success of the committee and under her stewardship helped to raise over £350,000 for equipment used in research at the Patterson institute. Joyce was also a long serving member of WAMDS and many will remember her wonderful singing and acting over the years a sad loss of a lovely lady someone who gave so much she will be sadly missed.

Fund raising has continued at a pace. The cabaret dinner in September raised £1300 thanks to all who attended and donated raffle prizes. Special thanks to Kathleen Taylor who after winning the £5 draw promptly donated £150 back a wonderful gesture. Another successful golf tournament at Lobden raised £650 again thanks to all at the club. Quiz at the Band club raised £340 thanks to club for food donation. There have also been numerous funeral donations totalling over £1000.

The next big event is the Cancer research band concert featuring the youth and senior bands at the Riverside on Sunday 3rd December at 7pm tickets are priced £7 and available from The Riverside 854130 Michael Whitby 852613 Arnold Ashworth 343424. As well as great music it is worth attending for the updates on the battle against cancer by locally raised Doctor Allan Jordan who works at the Patterson.

LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND

Christmas is upon us and the Bands schedule is now prepared with 23 events in the diary! Starting with a concert in Ramsbottom on Sunday 26th November in the afternoon followed by the Christmas lights switch on with the youth band in the evening. The big concert in December is the Cancer research concert on Sunday 3rd at 7pm. The band will be out and about on the streets and will be at the Co-op and Tesco on Saturday 23rd December. The youth band will be at Christ Church Healey on 6th December at 7pm and Riddiough Court at 7pm on the 13th.

The Jimmy Grogan memorial concert was a huge success over £1300 raised for continued academy development. The youth development is now under the control of the new MD Joe Murtagh over 40 young people now attend on Wednesday evenings at the club. If you would like your child to be part of these developments please bring them along on Wednesdays evenings from 6pm or ring on the number below.

If you would like to book any of the bands for a
function, attend concerts or learn
more about learning to play music please contact:

Michael Whitby on 852613



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LOCAL NEWS

SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WHITWORTH LIBRARY... ALL ACTIVITIES ARE FREE UNLESS STATED

Mondays

10:30 - 12:00

Up and Active Weight Loss Drop - in First 45 mins is **FREE** and focuses on weight management and healthy eating; second 45 mins is an exercise session to get people moving. £2 donation towards the exercise session.

14:00 – 16:00

Knit and Natter

14:00 – 16:00

Careers Advice with Kay Royal. (Contact Kay on 07896 933560)

18:00 – 18:30

Bedtime Story - every second Monday of the month (18 months to 8 years)

Tuesdays

10:00 – 12.30

Scrabble Club

10:00 – 12.00

Citizen's Advice, by appointment. Please ring CA on: 0300 456 2552

14:15 – 15:00

Storytime Session (18 months to 6 years)

10:00 – 12.00

U3A Family History Group. 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Wednesdays

09.15 – 10.00

Up and Active Buggy Boot Camp Mums exercising with buggies. £2 per class

13:00 – 14.30

Up and Active Health Walks Walk lasting no more than 1 hour, then a cup of tea and a health-related chat in the library.

19:00 – 20:30

Yoga, Pilates and Relaxation with Sheila Daly (07762 757925) £5 per session

Thursdays

10:00 – 11.30

Shared Reading Group

10.30 – 12.30

The A Team Onwards and upwards for people with disabilities.

For information email: melanie_ashman@yahoo.com

14.00 – 17.00

FREE IT Basic Skills Course Please book your place at the library.

(N.B. Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment).

14.00 – 15.00

U3A Creative Writing 1st Thurs. of month. T. 07484 712878 (Sylvia) for info.

14.00 – 15.00

Bookworms Reading Group (2 – 4 years). 2nd Thursday of month.

14.00 – 15.00

Pelvic Floor Awareness & Incontinence Drop-in (M/F) 2nd Thurs. of month.

14.00 – 16.30

U3A Wellbeing 3rd Thurs. of month. T. 07484 712878 (Sylvia) for info.

14.00 – 16.00

U3A History 4th Thurs. 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 the month. An opportunity to meet Sandra from Carers Link. Also, presentations by various invited guest speakers.

14:00 – 16:00

Crafty Sew and Sews 1st Friday of month, except 19th January. All welcome

Saturdays

10:30 – 12 noon

Lego Club (5 yrs upwards)

Why not come along and join in? Everyone welcome!
All this plus books, magazines, newspapers, computers and friendly faces

Standard library opening times:

Monday, 14:00 – 19:00; Tuesday, 09:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 17:00;

Wednesday Closed; Thursday, 09:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 17:00;

Friday, 09:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 17:00; Saturday, 09:30 – 13:00



Friends of Whitworth Library

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

LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH ONLINE - CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

Christmas is fast approaching and while many of us will be celebrating with family members, snug, warm and well fed, there will be thousands of people living on the streets, cold, hungry and with no place to go.

Whitworth Online has decided to launch a Christmas Shoebox Appeal for the homeless. The idea is to get an old shoebox, fill it with little gifts, hats, gloves, toiletries and other goodies and we'll distribute them to the homeless.



We want to come together as a community and try and bring a little joy and hope to those that need it most this Christmas time.

We're still in the process of sorting the finer details such as, drop off points for the shoeboxes and how we'll distribute them to the homeless. If anybody works with the homeless and can help with distributing them or if you own a local business and are happy to be a designated 'drop off point' for the boxes, please do get in touch.

WHITWORTH BAND CLUB

Events in the run up to Christmas:

Friday 17th November "Secret Lemonade Factory"

Saturday 25th November sees the return of Ukulele maestro Ralph Shaw

Friday 15th December "Between the Vines"

Monthly Karaoke nights with Jay – check the board outside the club for details

Sunday Quizzes **19th November, 3rd December, 17th December** - free entry

After the Remembrance Sunday ceremony Whitworth Band will be performing some old favourites in the club followed by Dixieland Jazz band

The club Christmas party is on **9th December** with singer/instrumentalist James Devine providing the entertainment.

On the afternoon of **Sunday 17th December** Whitworth Band will be performing carols in the club and the club Christmas draw will take place.



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LOCAL NEWS

GREENBROOK HOUSE CHRISTMAS FAIR

Join Greenbrook House on Saturday 2nd December between 1pm and 4pm for their Christmas Fair. There will be crafts, face painting, tombola, raffle, Santa's Grotto and refreshments including turkey muffins and mince pies. Free entry all welcome.



Riddiough Court, off Hall Street Whitworth welcomes anyone over the age of 50 to our social activities.

Second Wednesday of each month 10.00am – Tea and Toast

Wednesday 10.30am – Chair Exercises (except second Wednesday of the month 11.30 a.m.)

Wednesday 2.00pm – Bingo

Thursday 2.00pm – Craft Group

Tuesday 5th December 10.00am they have a new event launching which will include a variety of games, including board games, card games and more, newspapers and refreshments available

Please contact Court Manager Margaret Denniff 0370 192 4773 for further details. Look forward to meeting you.

WHITWORTH SWIMMING CLUB

Whitworth Swimming Club hosted the annual swimming gala at Whitworth Leisure Centre on Sunday 15th October 2017. The gala was very well attended for the time of year and the children clocked up some amazing swims and times throughout the 65 event programme. WSC would personally like to thank all the children who participated and the parents for cheering them on, all the volunteer swimming teachers, assistants and helpers who make this event happen and a brilliant success and all the Leisure Centre staff for going that extra mile. Well done everyone another first-class event.

On the horizon for the club are:

- Whitworth Remembrance Sunday 12th November
- The Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday 13th November at the Council Chambers
- The club will be canvassing the generous people of Whitworth for Christmas raffle prizes to raise much-needed funds.
- The popular medal celebration and Christmas Party on the 10th December

Whitworth Swimming Club will be closed for the Christmas holidays on the 26th and 27th December 2017 and the 2nd and 3rd January 2018 and re-open on Tuesday 9th January 2018.

Whitworth Swimming Club is always looking to recruit new teaching assistants and teachers to help run the swimming sessions. Please contact the club for more information on whitworthswimmingclub@gmail.com

WHITWORTH YOUTH
PRESENTS

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Saturday 9th December

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LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH 2018 OFFICIAL CALENDAR

Each year, Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee produce a calendar which helps to raise funds for the year ahead. This year the calendar is a little bit different and has been produced by collaboration between Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee, Tonacliffe Primary School and St John with St Michael Primary School. This special calendar marks the 100 years since the end of the First World War and the children have produced some amazing artwork and poetry in remembrance and reflection. The artist of the front cover image is Faith Hinchliffe, aged 11 from Tonacliffe Primary School who painted this wonderful and striking picture.



The calendar is on sale NOW from the Post Office, UBS, the Council Office and Nibbles costing just £5 each. Special thanks and credit for work in this year's calendar goes to: Faith Hinchliffe, Lucy Wilkins, Brooke Thompson, Brooke C, Cara Platts, Lainey, Spencer, Isabella Whipp, Libby, Mick Devine and Thomas at Tonacliffe Primary School. Bailey Perkins, Bailey Davies, Declan Marsden, Jake Walker, Jess, Holly Mellor and Class 1 at St John with St Michael Primary School and last but not least Mr Mike Burgess for giving permission to use his photography.

For further information, or to order a calendar by post please contact Melanie Hearn, Whitworth Town Clerk on 01706 852018 / email: info@whitworth.gov.uk.

WHITWORTH GOES ALL GROOVY

On Saturday 21 October, Whitworth came out in force and went all retro for charity. The evening featured live music from the band 'Off the Record' and they kept the dancefloor busy throughout the evening. Spot prizes were awarded on the evening for best costumes and best dancer, the best costume prizes went to Gill Hastewell, Sam Ashworth and Sian Beeson and the prize for the grooviest moves went to Kirsty Ward!

The event raised an amazing £793 pounds towards the Mayor's Charity Fund. This year the Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth will be supporting some of the wonderful groups and charities who do so much to make Whitworth the place it is. The funds will be distributed to local groups of their choice at the end of their Mayoral year in May.



The Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth (Councillor Alan and Mrs Janet Neal) testing out the custom made camper van prop made by Creation Signs

Now the Mayoress and the Clerk have the exciting task of arranging an out of the ordinary civic event for Saturday 7th April 2018, it won't be easy to come up with an event to top this one, but this is a challenge they are ready to accept, watch this space!!

If you want to join the mailing list to be the first to be notified about this exciting event in April, please email the clerk on info@whitworth.gov.uk or telephone 01706 852018.



Kirsty Ward was the well-deserved winner of the grooviest moves award.

LOCAL NEWS

GIN FESTIVAL WHITWORTH

The Riverside held their sell-out Gin Festival in September with 50 gins available, all served with the recommended tonic, lemonade or prosecco and garnish. Included in the 50 gins was our very own local gin Bluestone distilled in Whitworth plus Batch distilled in Burnley and DeFiance distilled in Lancashire.

Bluestone, DeFiance, Manchester Gin, Cuckoo and Jaffa Gin distillers were on hand with free samples, some offering free masterclasses and all generously donated prizes for our gin raffle in aid of the Riverside (registered charity, not for profit) and Macmillan Cancer Support.

"This is the first time we have held a gin festival and we were blown away by the huge success. Preparations are now underway for our second gin festival to be held in April, we look forward to seeing you all there" Lisa McDowell, Riverside Manager.

"What a great success the festival was, serving over 50 gins and supported by local gin distillers from Lancashire, Manchester and Yorkshire " Paul Sheerin.

You can now enjoy several of these fantastic gins behind the bar at the Riverside.
Our next gin festival will be on Saturday 14th April 2018



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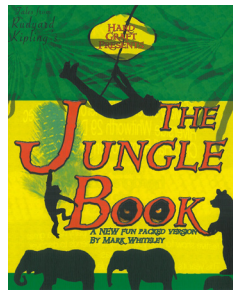
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LOCAL NEWS

HARD GRAFT THEATRE COMPANY

As a theatre company, hard graft get to do some very different projects. They once emigrated to Poland to tell a story about immigration and became minor (very minor) celebrities in Warsaw as they thought 2 Englishmen coming to Poland (whilst all their country were going the other way) was funny. Whilst there the director, Mark, learnt the most basic of Polish phrases, that proved very useful years later. The sheer magic of Christmas! With Santa Claus, gifts magically appearing under the Christmas tree, flying reindeer and busy elves - it's enough to evoke a frisson of nostalgia and sentiment in us all. As adults we continue the magic, both through our children and through the adult enjoyment of those things traditionally associated with Christmas. Hands up who doesn't get excited by pantomime, Christmas markets, roaring fires, mulled wine and good old family time spent together? Plus most of us are quite content that an empty glass, a chewed carrot and a few crumbs are evidence that Santa has BEEN.



Yet all of us are aware that Christmas isn't quite so magical, or perfect, for some. A Polish family took their young daughter to see Hard Graft Theatre's "Red Riding Hood" a few years ago. After the show she met Santa, who asked her what did she want for Christmas? The little girl promptly burst into tears. Concerned, Santa asked what upset her so. The little girl replied that she had recently moved to England and she was worried that Santa wouldn't know where she was. Relieved, Santa reassured her that Santa knows where every child in the world lives, "Nie martw się" ("Don't you worry"), he said.

Enjoy the magic of your own Christmas this year, however you choose to celebrate it.

Hard Graft theatre are running a pantomime this year in Whitworth at the Riverside on the 29th December, they present Rudyard Kipling's 'The Jungle Book' – but a new fun-packed version by Mark Whiteley. Tickets are available online at hardgraft.co.uk and for information call 07956 913 666.

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WHITWORTH SCHOOLS

TONACLIFFE SCHOOL NURSERY

The children in nursery are quickly settling into daily routines and enjoying meeting new friends. They have had their first visits to the hall for PE – which is always very popular - and they are beginning to feel 'grown up' by taking the register to the office and playing the important role of 'shopkeeper' at snack times. The Parents Play Maths sessions are under way and the children are advancing their number skills through quality play with an extended group of adults; thank you parents. The ever popular 'Parents to Play' days have begun and the children relish sharing the things they enjoy at nursery with their parents and likewise as a parent it is wonderful to have the opportunity to join in with children's play at nursery - from painting a junk model to sitting down to listen to a story. Look out Grandparents for the same opportunity in November/December.

Nursery still has a few afternoon places available for 3 to 4 year old children if you would like to join this outstanding teacher-led nursery. Contact: 01706 344609

A reminder that it will be the Tonacliffe Christmas Fair on Saturday 2nd December 12pm until 2pm.



Buggy Bootcamp

NEW to Whitworth Library



Every Wednesday 9.15-10am

£2 per class

Starting Wednesday 25th October

Fun exercise class with other new parents.

No need to book, just come along.



Email
info@upandactive.co.uk
Online
upandactive.co.uk
Call Us
Rossendale 01706 221524

St John with St Michael CE Primary School
 SHAWFORTH CHAPEL, Market St

Winter Wonderland Fair
Saturday 25th November
 11.00am – 2.00pm

 Lots of traditional stalls and Raffle.
 Santa's Grotto... Say "Hello"
 Cafe also open selling hot turkey muffins.


All Welcome

TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE NEWS

WHITWORTH ROCKS

The Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee have been really busy this year, if it wasn't enough to provide five great events and two Christmas trees they have come up with an exciting new initiative #Whitworth Rocks. This is a scheme that has been running really successfully in other areas for a while now, particularly a scheme called #Shropshire Rocks (which, you guessed it, is in Shropshire!). Basically, we would like to ask local people to paint and decorate a pebble or rock and hide it in the local area. Visit the Whitworth Rocks facebook page to let people know roughly where you have hidden it and others can try to



Some examples from the 'Kindness Rocks' project

find it. You could paint a pretty picture, an inspirational message or even just a pretty pattern. To launch the scheme we have asked local schools and groups to ask their children to paint rocks on a Christmas theme, there will then be two winners chosen to help switch on the Whitworth Christmas Lights!



Some examples from Darya Balova 'Stones' project

When you paint your rock we would love you to put some simple details on the back:

#Whitworth Rocks

Find, rehide or keep

Look us up on facebook

When you find a rock, you can either rehide it or keep it but please, if you keep it, will you paint another to keep the initiative going? For more information search for Whitworth Rocks on facebook. www.facebook.com/Whitworth-Rocks-1159446250855047/

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LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH AND DISTRICT U3A

U3A membership continues to grow and they have now seen the launch of the two newest groups: flower arranging, and art. Members can sign up for flower arranging: check out December's group for flowers with a Christmas theme! Or join the walking group for their planning meeting on 5th December- next year's walks will be planned with contributions welcome from all. And December's meeting is at Bernie's- potato (or cheese) pie, quiz and raffle. Next year's outings are now planned, and we will roll these out in December. Look out for trips to the theatre, Saltaire, Manchester galleries and ghost walks, with more trips planned to lovely gardens and nurseries with the garden inspiration group. If you are retired or semi-retired and live in the Rossendale valley, come and join us!



SHAWFORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Sundays 10.30am

Sunday Service, everyone welcome
and stay for a brew afterwards

Mondays 9.30am – 12.00

Mothers and Toddlers

Tuesdays 7pm – 9pm

Whitworth Community Choir rehearsals

7.30pm last Tuesday in every month

Ladies Group everyone welcome

Wednesdays 9.30am to 12.00

Mothers and Toddlers

Thursdays 8pm last Thursday in every month

Model Flying Club

Saturdays 11am – 1pm 3rd Saturday each month

Coffee and Lunches

(none in November)

Christmas Fair on Saturday 9th December, 11am to 1pm lots of stalls including home bake, featuring Whitworth Community Choir and Christmas dinner available

Candlelight Carol Service, Thursday 14th December at 6pm

For room hire contact Christine Tel 01706 854172

HALLFOLD URC CHURCH

Hallfold United Reformed Church in Hall Street are holding their annual **Christmas Tree Festival** on **Saturday 25th November** between 10am and 3pm. There will be light lunches, coffee and mince pies, craft stalls and Hallfold Brownies will be singing Christmas songs. Entrance free.

On **5th December** a **Candlelight Service** will be held where candles will be used to represent the characters of the nativity story. This service starts at 7.30pm followed by refreshments.

Following a successful concert last year at Hallfold, **Rochdale Festival Choir** will be returning on **Saturday 9th December** at 7.30pm to present a program of Christmas music. Tickets are £7 and can be booked by phoning 01706 356109. Mince pies and tea/coffee included in ticket price.

LOCAL TRADES LIST

CHILDREN – EDUCATION & TUITION:

Childminder, OFSTED registered: VIKKI MEGRAM

Full and part time spaces 15-hour funded places available
Tel: 01706 6530956 / vikkimegram@talktalk.net
(77 Hall Fold Whitworth OL12 8TT)

Childminder OFSTED registered level 3 qualified: GILL CHORLTON

Tel 01706 869142 / 07962190667
7 Lobden Crescent Whitworth

Private tuition, all ages: DR ADAM ANDREW

Qualified teacher with 10 years' experience
Science and maths specialist
Tel: 01706 630956/adamandrew@talktalk.net
(77 Hall Fold, Whitworth OL12 8TT)

HEALTH & WELLBEING:

VALLEY ACUPUNCTURE: Louise Crewe BSc (hons)

General health, pain & injury, fertility & pregnancy
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W: www.valleyacupuncture.co.uk

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PROPERTY SERVICES:

A1 TREE SPECIALIST (Jamie Young)

Tel: 07510 911122 or 01706 853760
(114 Cowm Park Way North, Whitworth OL11 8LW)

C & N GAS & ELECTRICAL All electrical, heating, plumbing & bathroom works (NICEiC approved – Gas Safe registered)

Tel: 07898 198095
(28 Waingap Lane Whitworth OL12 8QD)

Building & Maintenance

NORWEST PROPERTY SERVICES (Vincent Stringer)
Tel: 07817 519628
(28 Tonacliffe Road, Whitworth OL12 8SS)

CJ ROTHWELL LANDSCAPE AND DRAINAGE

Tel: 07846 107922 / cjrothwell@hotmail.com
(39 Rawstron Street, Whitworth OL12 8BA)

Property Maintenance Central Heating & Boiler Replacements (Gas Safe Registered)

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(35 Knowsley Crescent Shawforth OL12 8RR)

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(20 Ainsdale Drive, Whitworth, OL12 8QB)

Gas Engineer (servicing, installation & repairs, kitchen & bathroom):

RLH GAS & PROPERTY SERVICES (Richard Lyon-Hayes)

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(28 Douglas Road, Bacup, OL13 9PR)

Painting & Decorating: ANDREW ROBINSON

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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.

USEFUL CONTACTS

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atomaldred@aol.com

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seanserridge@rossendalebc.gov.uk

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cherylbrine@rocketmail.com

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01706 853234 • david@ubswhitworth.co.uk

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Ian Mycock (Labour): 01706 632823

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kriane@outlook.com

Alan Neal (Community First): 07817 414721

alanneal@rossendalebc.gov.uk

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:

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07703 832 156

petesteen@msn.com • 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 23 Nov, Thurs 7 Dec, Thurs 21 Dec, Thurs 11 Jan, Thurs 25 Jan, Thurs 8 Feb, Thurs 22 Feb, Thurs 8 Mar

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

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:

Honorary Alderman Eileen Kershaw: 01706 344661

Community Police Officer PCSO 7356 Heidi Kirkbright: to speak to Heidi please call 07904 899086, or to report a non-urgent crime or incident, please dial 101 or visit www.doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/ For emergencies only, dial 999.

Together Housing: 0300 555 5556 (general enquiries) • 01706 836318 (Michele Heys, Whitworth Officer)

Lancashire Wellbeing Service: 03450 138208

Living Well Living Better: 01706 252542 • hello@livingwell-livingbetter.com • www.livingwell-livingbetter.com

Homestart Rossendale, Burnley and Hyndburn: 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) 0300 222 5946 (out of hours emergencies) • www.rossendale.gov.uk

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

Whitworth Medical Centre: 01706 852238 • www.whitworthmedicalcentre.nhs.uk