

WHITWORTH

VALLEY NEWS



PRODUCED BY
Whitworth
Town Council

Whitworth Family Fun Day and Dog Show

Sunday 8th July

12pm - 4pm at the Riverside



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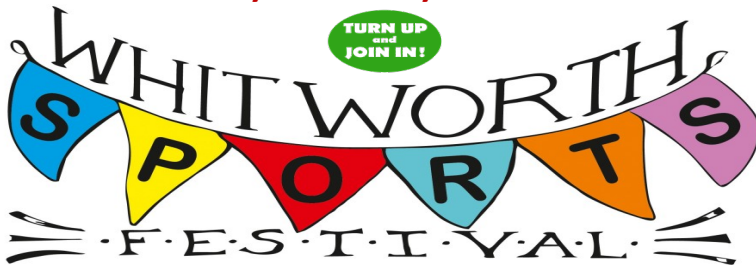


SUNDAY
13TH MAY 2018

**WHITWORTH
SKYLINE**

5

Saturday 9 – Sunday 17 June 2018



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR ELECT



Dear Whitworth Residents and friends in the wider community,

On Thursday May 24th I will have the great honour and privilege of becoming Mayor of our Town for the second time. To say I am excited to represent our fantastic community is an understatement and I can't wait to get started.

The plans for my mayoral year are still on the drawing board but I hope you will support me when you can. I will not have a named consort or Mayoress but will be asking friends and family to accompany me to events, of which there will be many. I would like to open this up to the adults and children in our town too. If you would like the opportunity to accompany me, please contact our Town Clerk, Melanie.

I haven't yet decided my chosen charities for the Mayor's Charity fund. That will be mentioned in a later newsletter. I do hope you will support me during this exciting year and I look forward to welcoming you at events throughout the town and further afield.

Councillor Madeline De Souza
Mayor Elect of Whitworth

Some dates for your diary...

- Mayor-making**
Thurs 24th May
7.30pm
The Riverside
- Civic Sunday**
Sun 10th June
service at 2.30pm at St Anselms RC Church
(no procession)
- Mayoral Charity Fundraiser**
Sat 20th October
The Riverside
- Civic Dinner and Whitworth Awards**
Sat 6th April 2019



LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Horticultural Society volunteers have joined in with the Lancashire-wide 'Royal Airforce in Bloom' scheme to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the RAF, aiming to plant the rondel outside The Riverside, not in the usual Spring colours but in red, white and blue. Flying above the rondel, from 1st April to 1st May was the official RAF flag.

They have also been busy making some changes to the layout of the Memorial Gardens. If you would like to be involved in helping to add some colour to our local environment, please think about joining the group for a couple of hours on a Wednesday morning on a monthly basis.



For more info, contact Anita on 01706 853768 or Chris on 01706 852613.

WHITWORTH AND DISTRICT U3A

The U3A celebrate their first year in June and have seen a steady growth in special interest groups, outings and members. There are new groups setting up all the time – from learning foreign languages to table tennis! - so they suggest you check the website or Facebook page to find out more.



Just one of the many stunning arrangements which have been made at the flower arranging group

The AGM was on 9th May when officers to the committee were elected and resolutions heard. To liven proceedings, the ever-popular quiz was held and enjoyed by all. Membership is due for renewal from 1st July and anyone who is retired or semi-retired is welcome to join or renew their membership. It costs £15 for the year, (nearly £4 going to the national U3A to cover insurance and training) and this offers everyone monthly meetings, coffee mornings, trips to the cinema and historic buildings and gardens, 14 special interest groups and the opportunity to make new friends, have a great time and learn new skills. This is a group for members, by members, and they invite everyone to come and join the fun.

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LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH GIRL AWARDED SILVER MEDAL IN THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Mollie Campbell, the 23-year-old from Whitworth, was awarded a silver medal in the finals of the Ladies Basketball against Australia at the Commonwealth last month!

Mollie began her basketball career aged 12 when she would accompany her older brother Jake, who was playing for National Championship winning team, Manchester Magic. She began to train with Manchester Mystics as a way of killing time whilst waiting for Jake to finish training, however her talent was soon spotted and she was recruited to the England Development programme. This led to Mollie representing England in tournaments across Europe at U16s and U18s level, before moving on to play for Great Britain U20s and currently Great Britain Senior Women.

Mollie is currently studying for a Sports Engineering Degree at Loughborough University, where she also plays for WBBL Division 1 team, Leicester Riders. Previously her love of, and talent for, Basketball secured her a Scholarship at the University of Arkansas in America, where she played for their Division 1 College Team, having the opportunity to play tournaments all over America, including the stadium of NBA team Houston Rockets, in Texas.

Mollie is a true inspiration for local girls in the valley. No-one could have predicted she would have achieved the things she has, or visited the many countries worldwide. Mollie is proof that anything is possible if you are prepared to work hard!

Mollie's family would like to thank Andy O'Sullivan for his continued and generous support in helping Mollie.



WHITWORTH GUIDES

At February half-term a group of Guides and two leaders from Whitworth were among a party of 160 from Lancs East County who travelled to Disneyland Paris for a weekend of fun. After travelling overnight by coach and ferry they arrived to a thick covering of snow. However, the weather brightened and as the snow melted away they enjoyed the rides and came away with souvenirs, photos and lots of happy memories.

Guides have completed World Cultures and Craft activity badges over the term and three girls have made their Promise.

The Guides have said farewell to Jane Myers, who has stood down as Assistant Leader after almost twenty years. Jane's last meeting was a fun night with games and a quiz. Each patrol presented her with homemade gifts and cards, and she received wine glasses and jewellery from the leadership team.



LOCAL NEWS



Friends of Whitworth Library

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

Mondays

10:30 - 12:00

14:00 - 16:00

14:00 - 16:00

17:30 - 18:30

Tuesdays

10:00 - 12:30

10:00 - 12:00

14:00 - 15:00

10:00 - 12:00

Wednesdays

09:30 - 10:15

13:00 - 14:00

19:00 - 20:30

Thursdays

10:00 - 11:30

10:30 - 12:30

14:00 - 17:00

14:00 - 15:00

14:00 - 15:00

14:00 - 15:00

14:00 - 16:30

14:00 - 16:00

Fridays

10:15 - 11:30

14:30 - 16:00

14:00 - 16:00

Saturdays

10:30 - 12 noon

14:00 - 16:00

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 exercise

Knit and Natter

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

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

Scrabble Club

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

Storytime Session (18 months to 6 years)

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

Up and Active Buggy Boot Camp Mums exercising with buggies and exercises for everyone. £2 donation per class

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.

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

Shared Reading Group

The A Team Onwards and upwards for people with disabilities.

For information email: melanie_ashman@yahoo.co.uk

FREE IT Courses Please book your place at the library.

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

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

Bookworms Reading Group (for adults). 2nd Thursday of month.

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

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

U3A History 4th Thurs. of month. T. 07484 712878 (Sylvia) for info.

Baby Bounce and Rhyme (birth to 18months)

Afternoon Tea on last Friday of the month. An opportunity to meet Sandra from Carers Link. Also, presentations by various invited guest speakers.

CraftySew and Sews 1st Friday of month. All welcome! Except June.

Lego Club (for all ages)

Puppet Workshop 2-4pm each Sat. till 19 May. Fun for all the family!

... and also books, magazines, newspapers, computers and friendly faces. Everyone welcome!

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.

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Sun 2 Sept

1pm, Whitworth Museum

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1.30pm - 4.30pm: Riverside:

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LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH SKYLINE WALK

It's Skyline 5 this Sunday. This year we're reverting to clockwise, so a downhill start... but we go up Rooley Moor Road. Enter by Wednesday (Leisure Centre, the Riverside, UBS or Nibbles) for £3. From Thursday to Saturday it's £5 – Leisure Centre and UBS only, please. Entry on the day is £5 too. Start at Lobden Golf Club, between 8 and 9am, and do the 14 miles at your own pace. There are two shorter walks you can opt for this year: the Western Skyline goes as far as the Britannia checkpoint at 9 miles (£2 by Wednesday, £3 after); and the Skyline Sunday Stroll is a 3-miler finishing at the bottom of Rooley Moor Road (£1/£2). All walkers qualify for a free meal afterwards, providing they can get themselves back up to the Golf Club.



Whichever the walk, please come well kitted out for the conditions – walking boots or equivalent, waterproofs (just in case), and at least one layer of clothing more than you expect, because it is always cooler up top. We do not allow dogs on any of the walks – sorry. 14 miles takes most people 5-7 hours to walk, so do bring a snack and a drink, although each checkpoint will have liquid available, and at Britannia there will be a burger van.

300+ people have walked each of the previous Skylines, with numbers rising each year – 369 for Skyline 4. Will you walk this year? Brilliant countryside, varied surfaces underfoot and good company, both on the moors and back at Lobden – what more could you want for a grand day out?

How about a free audio commentary, linking 11 specially-flagged bits of the route to the valley's heritage, courtesy of Spodden Valley Revealed. Download the audio to your mobile phone in advance to listen to the short items as you walk along: this is not a stand-and-listen guided tour. <https://spoddenvalleyrevealed.wordpress.com/> for links and instructions, any time this week. Any problems, please contact project manager Diana@midpenninesart.org.uk

HEALEY CARE LIMITED

Healey care Limited have enjoyed a busy time over the past few months attending community events and planning for 2018.

Healey Care Limited will be hosting the RSPCA Annual Clara's Coffee morning on the 6 June 2018 10.30 am -12.30pm. Everyone invited to raise funds ALL of which go to the local base in Rochdale.



Service Users are looking forward to involvement and contribution to the November 2018 planned Great War Centenary with the Community lead for the company Angela Rhodes and service users working closely with councillors Karen Ruane, Maureen Jones and Lynda Barnes from the Whitworth working group who are organising various events through November.

Further details may be found on their website www.healeycarelimited.co.uk and Facebook page.



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Pack up your Troubles Sat 10 Nov 7pm at The Riverside

Live entertainment including the 'Swing Commanders' and hot supper, tickets from www.whitworth.gov.uk and the council office

Remembrance Commemorations Sun 11 Nov

Procession meets at Tong Lane at 10.20am
Service in Whitworth Memorial garden from 10.40am

WW1 Themed Café at St Bartholomew's Church Sun 11 Nov

Lighting of the Beacon Sun 11 Nov

Lobden Golf Club open from 5pm, hot food and bar open



2014-18

BUSINESS NEWS

PARTY WITH ZEBRACORN

February saw the Zebracorn ride into Whitworth! With fun events, workshops and unique parties aimed at children of all ages, Zebracorn are bringing kids entertainment to life.

Zebracorn is the inspiration of two local mums who wanted to use their skills to bring hands-on, interactive events and 'cool stuff' to kids. In the space of just a few months they have organised and run slime workshops, hosted kids parties and attended local events, bringing glitter tattoos, festival face glitter, hair design, badge making, paper-craft activities and running the St George's shield competition. Phew, what don't they do!!



If you've ever tried to make slime at home and failed, or you simply can't stand the mess, join Zebracorn at their next slime event to learn their 'fool proof' Slimeology techniques. You might even love it as much as the kids! You can contact Zebracorn on Facebook with any party requests, or like their page to keep up to date with their latest workshops and upcoming events.



LATEST NEWS FROM FACIT GARDEN CENTRE

This summer the garden centre will be not only supplying plants from Southport and Cheshire, their own hanging baskets, compost, and fire-torches. They will also have regular visits from NUTTS ABOUT ICECREAM with an ice cream trike full of real dairy ice cream straight from the farm.

The garden centre's latest venture is a 20ft by 20ft traditional marquee which is set up at the garden centre all summer and available to hire on site. Why not rent the marquee for classes, workshops or courses through the week? If you teach an instrument, paint, make wicker baskets or are a group with nowhere to gather then call in and have a look - you're most welcome.

For more info please call Donna on 07966 431 376.



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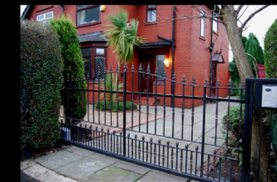
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SAMBA'S NEW HOME

On 10th March the Mayor, Councillor Alan Neal, cut the ribbon to opening the new Samba Dance and Fitness premises after 19 years of trading in Whitworth.

Owner, Samantha Clarke, began teaching classes every Wednesday night above the Whitworth Reform club on Market St in January 1999. Less than two years later they moved to a small unit on Tong lane, then onto a larger school with two studios just off Station Rd in Facit where their school grew over the last 11 years.



Samba now has three studios, a large reception, a car park and disabled facilities. They teach Freestyle, Streetdance, Cheerleading, Drama, Tap, Ballet, Latin and Ballroom. They also teach a range of Fitness classes including Boogie Bounce (they were the first ever school in the area to start this 4 years ago). The school has gone from strength to strength, with 9 staff, from teachers to receptionist. They couldn't have asked for a better place to set up our new home. Without the people of Whitworth coming to classes from 19 years ago, Samba wouldn't be where it is today.

Samba is now centrally located on Market St, near to the Co-op in Whitworth.

RUSTIC RETAIL RETREAT

Whitworth Apothecary, Little Treat Boutique and Haelan Bowen Therapy have enjoyed a brilliant start at their new premises 296a Market Street Whitworth. "We have had amazing feedback from all the lovely people of Whitworth who have popped in to see us" said Harriet Murphy-Harry (Bowen therapist and partner of Whitworth Apothecary).



This charmingly rustic new addition to Whitworth launched on 24th February with a well-attended opening day and sells a constantly changing range of natural remedies, gifts and curiosities (soon to include the acclaimed locally produced MCC essential oil pain relief range). These are classily offset against the latest selection of fashionable handbags, scarves and accessories from Little Treat Boutique, all at very reasonable prices.



Group photo left to right, Jason Wales, Laura Wales, Harriet Murphy-Harry & Fran Butcher

The onsite 'Salubris' treatment room offers not only Bowen therapy, but now Gemini Reiki have appointments available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Sports massage will also be available by the end of May and there are whispers of reflexology, facials & Hopi ear candles too, so watch this space.

Upcoming events include Rose Marie, 7th generation Romany clairvoyant, who practices crystal ball & tarot; and Crowe, a Shamanic healer who will be giving talks, healing rune readings and more.

SUMMER IS HERE! THE PERFECT TIME TO START AN EXERCISE PLAN.

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 50+ 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 like the neck and knees, improving flexibility with strength resistance for upper and lower body, sit to stand, stretch and cool down. The way in which these fitness areas are covered vary, to keep it fresh and fun. At present it's chair dance and cardio challenges!

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 type 2 diabetes to name a few. Inactivity and weight are top risk factors in their cause, so please join in and just move to improve.



Join us for exercise classes at:

AB&D Centre

(Burnley Road, Bacup)

Riddiough Court

(Hall Street, Whitworth, OL12 8TL)

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

Monday's (Except bank holidays)

Wednesday's 11.30am-12.30pm

1.45 - 2.45pm Cost £3.50

METCONPT

MetconPT, the community-based gym in Whitworth, is about to expand to meet the growing demand from residents. Metcon runs small classes and offers 1 to 1 personal training, based at Anglo Mills on Tong Lane.

From your first visit, Danny and Matt will design a programme to improve your fitness, lose weight, build muscle, socialise, specialise, weight train or improve your personal mobility and stamina. Danny a Level 3 trainer will discuss exercise routines and offer motivation and support to make sure you enjoy your time in the gym.

Move away from the sedate lifestyle the winter encourages, get moving, interact and get a personal sense of achievement away from social media, TV and online shopping. (We all love all 3 but finding time to exercise is essential for your physical and mental wellbeing). Train with family and friends, make new friends or go along as a team, a sports team, social group, work colleagues - everyone will get a sense of challenge and teamwork.

This is not a conventional gym full of mirrors and machines. Call Danny (07809 127571) to book onto a class (or free taster session during the sports festival) or visit Metconpt on Facebook.





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If you have any queries, telephone us on 01706 854167. We look forward to hearing from you.

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**SATURDAY 9TH - SUNDAY 17TH
JUNE 2018**

A celebration of Whitworth sporting activity for all ages, all genders and all levels of fitness, experience and ability

COLOUR KEY:



Must enter in advance



Turn Up and Join In

England's first game at football's World Cup in Russia is on June 18. But before you curl up and start shouting at the television hopefully you'll find something in our most inclusive Festival ever to get you up and active. Basic details below, but if you have a query call the event organiser, or Jo Furtado on 07813180748, or go to www.whitworth-sports-council.co.uk.

SAMBA DANCE now in the old Trains building at 613 Market Street, near Tong Lane (tel. 854960), are giving you the chance to try out their classes, **FREE**. Classes printed in this schedule run at that time each week, but there are more – pick up one of Samba's leaflets for full details. You can sample Samba's kind offer any time this June, not just during Festival.

WHITWORTH WATER-SKI, during Festival and the week before, is offering anyone the chance to try out any of their activities at member rates. Ring 852151 for details.

CLAW will once again be giving **free swim tokens** to all who take part in Festival events. They can be redeemed at the Leisure Centre on John Street at any appropriate time until July 20. (Under-8s must be accompanied in the pool.)

METCONPT on Tong Lane is not a conventional gym full of mirrors and machines. Danny offers one-to-one personal training, but also teamwork, within which everyone creates their own personal challenges. **Free** taster sessions during Festival for individuals, families or groups of friends. Book in via Facebook Metconpt or phone Danny on 07809 127571.

ENTRY FORMS for all those events that require **PRE-ENTRY** will be available this year from various places, but must be returned to one of the following:

*The Riverside * The Leisure Centre (Baths) * Any Whitworth School
Your entry form can be returned, with entry fee, to any of these places – it doesn't have to be the place you picked it up.
BUT do please read entry forms carefully to see **WHEN** you must return them by, and please note that **different events have different deadlines**.

SATURDAY 9 JUNE: 1.30 – 4.30 WHITWORTH HIGH SCHOOL FIELD

A new look this year, with the Mayor officially opening Festival at 1.30, and then we're straight into a traditional-style Sports Day, with running races for all ages, a throwing event, tug-o-war, and some novelty items. There will be (small) cash prizes for first 3 in all children's individual events, and (small) consolation prizes for all who enter. Grown-ups compete for love! Full details of all events will be published in a separate programme available from Leisure Centre, schools, The Riverside and lots of other locations around Whitworth.

SATURDAY 9 JUNE - ELSEWHERE

• 10am til 3pm

Broadley Wood

ANGLING

If you've ever wanted to fish, but have never known how to go about it, make your way to Whitworth Angling Club's water (down Station Road, Broadley, cross the bridge, go 200metres, and it's just above the car park). The club will loan you all the gear, and offer expert instruction. Children under 16 are welcome but should be accompanied by an adult. Ring Nigel (07964793898) if you've any queries.

• 10.45am, 11.30am and 12.15pm

Riddiough Court

YOGA

Never tried it? Want to get back into it? Whatever your level or age, experienced yoga teacher Rita Thompson is offering **FREE** group tasters, with sessions lasting half an hour. You'll **need to book** – ring 07935964137 to arrange, please.

FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday 8th July 2018

TIME; 12pm – 4pm

PLACE; The Riverside FREE ADMISSION

- Calling all dog lovers! Dog show events taking place throughout the afternoon. £2 entry per category
- Stalls, rides and inflatable's
- Entertainment and performances



For more information contact Melanie, Town Clerk
01706 852018 / info@whitworth.gov.uk

or visit www.whitworth.gov.uk

WHITWORTH
TOURISM & LEISURE COMMITTEE



SUNDAY 10 JUNE

• 9am Car park at Hall Fold Church (MODERATE) WALKING
Whitworth's walking group, Over The Tops, organise regular Sunday group walks. This one will be of about four and a half miles (roughly 2hrs30). Just turn up, wearing clothes appropriate for the weather and shoes/boots suitable for rough tracks. Bring a drink, and your dog if you wish. Free. All ages welcome. For further details: Angela Jordan 07594333148.

• 11am – 3pm Unit 1 (ex-Samba), off Station Road, Facit THAI BOXING
This inter-club event pits Valley Thai boxers of all ages against guests from other clubs, giving everyone chance to hone their skills against unfamiliar rivals in a controlled environment. If you've never seen Thai boxing before, and want to see what's involved, this is a perfect opportunity, so why not pop in for a while.

MONDAY 11 JUNE

• 10.30am Library WEIGHT MANAGEMENT...
A free informal discussion session and weigh-in run by professionals, focusing on promoting a healthy lifestyle through improved eating habits and exercise...

• 11.15am Library ...and EXERCISE CLASS
...plus an exercise class to get you moving and stretching, as gently or dynamically as you wish. Just arrive wearing comfy clothes/shoes. Join either or both. For more info, call Fiona at Up and Active (01706 221524). No £2 fee during Festival.

• 3.30pm High School Tennis courts (Sports Hall if wet) PRIMARY SCHOOL CRICKET
A tournament for secondary-age students, and any adult who fancies a go. Speak to Mr Cawley, or turn up promptly at 3.

• 6pm High School Sports Hall JUNIOR BADMINTON
Two tournaments running simultaneously, one for those in years 6, 7 and 8; one for years 9, 10 and 11. You don't have to be a club member to enter, but you do have to fill in a **PRE-ENTRY form**, or contact Paul Shiel on 853115.

• 6.30pm The Riverside FENCING
Salle Angelo's coaches were ace last year, so, adult or child (from about 8), come and wield a sword! Free, with all equipment provided. Call Paul Marr (07814018777), or just arrive for 6.30. It's hot inside body armour, so bring a bottle.

• 6.30pm Whitworth Square (Red Lion) MOUNTAIN BIKING
This one's for over-16s with some MB experience (or the willingness to give it a right go) and a bike in decent nick. It'll consist of a 2-hour tour of the hills around Whitworth. Ring Richard on 07780697381, or just arrive in good time.

• 6.30pm John Street football pitch ROUNDERS
Friends of Whitworth Youth are aiming this event at those of an age to attend the Youth Club, but you don't have to be a current member. Sign up via Facebook, or by speaking to Sarah or Matt.

FREE Samba Dance tasters! 10am Ballerina Bear (18 months+) / 4.15pm Uni-Ted Ballet (3-6yrs) / 5pm Freestyle Disco (9yrs+) / 6pm Bums, Legs & Tums (adults)

TUESDAY 12 JUNE

• 9.30am Valley FC, Rawstron Street PRIMARY SCHOOL TAG RUGBY
Ian Jones of Rossendale RUFC will have been coaching in local schools prior to the event. Thorn won the event last year.

• 3pm High School Sports Hall TABLE TENNIS
A tournament for secondary-age students, and any adult who fancies a go. Speak to Mr Cawley, or turn up promptly at 3.

• 3.15pm High School Drama Studio INSANITEEN
A loud and vigorous Michelle Griffiths workout for High School students. Wear clothes you can get sweaty in!

• 6.45pm Cowm Reservoir TREACLE CHALLENGE (RUNNING)
Run the 440 yards of Treacle Sanderson's track as fast as you can – it's that simple, though as anyone who has run this distance will tell you, it really is a challenge, for adults of all ages as well as children from year 6 up. Come and give it a go! **PRE-ENTRY ESSENTIAL, so pick up a form** - strictly NO ENTRY on the night.

• 7pm/8pm Unit 1 (Ex Samba) off Station Road, Facit THAI BOXING
An open training session, where anyone can come along and try out for free. Simply arrive a few minutes early wearing loose clothing, introduce yourself to Andy, and he'll provide gloves and pads. Juniors at 7pm, adults at 8pm.

• 7-9pm High School Sports Hall NETBALL
Whether you want to revive your schooldays, or you fancy taking up a team sport without the pressure of a club and the commitment of competition, this is for you. Ring Heidi on 07970341645, or just turn up ready to play, socially. This is for over-16s, really, but if you're a little younger than that you can come along today.

FREE Samba Dance tasters! 1.30pm Chair Fitness (Adults) / 2.30pm 'Sens'ational Dance (Children with extra needs) / 4pm Young Performers (Drama 4-9yrs) / 5pm Street Dance (4-9yrs) / 5pm Drama and Musical Theatre (10yrs+)

WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE

• 9.30am Library BUGGY BOOT CAMP
Originally just for mums, this class now welcomes childminders, grandmas, aunties and anyone else who feels the need for a workout that can be adapted to their needs. There are toys to keep the little ones entertained. Wear comfy clothes and shoes. No need to book, but more info from Fiona at Up and Active (01706 221524) on this and the Health Walk (below).

• 1pm Library HEALTH WALK
A circular group walk of an hour, on level terrain, for anyone who enjoys walking, likes the sociable side of group walking, or just wants a bit of encouragement to get out. Free. Tea and biscuits after. Just turn up, wearing suitable footwear.

• 3.30pm High School Sports Hall PRIMARY SCHOOL BASKETBALL
A wonderfully competitive tournament last year was won by Tonacliffe. Who will take the Mollie Campbell trophy this year and, just as importantly, will it be as good an evening's sport? Thank you to Brad Hancock for agreeing to referee.

• 7-8.30pm Library GENTLE EXERCISE
A combination of Pilates, yoga and therapeutic relaxation exercises, done to music, aimed at people of mature years who want to improve mobility, flexibility and toning. Wear comfy clothing, and try out this week for free, to see if it's for you.

• 7.30pm Scout Hut, Longacres Lane SENIOR FELL RACE
A challenging race of 3+ miles over Brown Wardle and onto Hades but still do-able by a reasonably fit novice. Minimum age is 14 on the night, but 14-15-year-olds need parental signature on entry form. Registration is at the Scout Hut from 5.30pm, or ring Andy Lee on 344436.

*** Andy's looking for marshals for this event. If you'd like to help out, please give him (or Jo) a call. ***

FREE Samba Dance tasters! 10am Ballerina Bear (18 months+) / 4.15pm Tiny Tappers (3yrs+) / 6pm Beginners Junior Tap / 7.45pm Adult Freestyle/Street

THURSDAY 14 JUNE

• 3.15pm High School Sports Hall PRIMARY SCHOOL NETBALL
Thorn Primary are reigning champions. Thanks are due to Vicky Tighe for agreeing to organise and umpire this event.

• 4.30pm Lobden Golf Club JUNIOR GOLF
Kevin and Claire are making the usual generous offer: if you're 16 or under and you'd like to try your hand at golf, just turn up at the club and they will loan you the equipment, coach you and feed you some tea. How can you refuse!

• 5pm Cowm Reservoir PONY-GO-ROUND
Last year there weren't as many takers as usual, which was a shame, as Jenny and Nicky had provided even more horses for this lovely event, in which children aged (roughly) 4 to 12 can experience riding a horse, for free, out and back alongside the res. But they're back again, so dig out some old clothes and shoes with a low heel. Helmets will be provided.

• 7pm Lobden/Brown Wardle JUNIOR FELL RACE
Charley Leech's winning time last year of 16 minutes dead was the best since 1995 (though still a way short of Dave Thomson's record of 14.01), and it's been a long time since 130 entered, as happened in 2016, so the race is in good nick. If you wish to run, you **MUST PRE-ENTER, so pick up a form** – NO entry on the night.
*** Jo's looking for extra marshals for this event. If you'd like to help out, please give him a call on 07813180748. ***

• 7pm (juniors)/8pm (adults) Unit 1, off Station Road, Facit THAI BOXING
Another open training session. Look back to Tuesday for details.

FREE Samba Dance tasters! 1.30pm Mini Movers – Music+Song+Movement (18months+) / 1.30pm Afternoon Social Dance (Adults) / 4.45pm Streetdance (9-13yrs) / 7pm Senior Streetdance (14yrs+) / 7.45pm Boogie Bounce Extreme (Adults)

FRIDAY 15 JUNE

• 1pm **High School Sports Hall** **PRIMARY SCHOOL LACROSSE**
In 2013 Kerrie Lawler was the first recipient of the Ian Clegg Legend Award for best contribution to Sports Festival. This year she's spent time as a volunteer over the last month introducing year 5 pupils (and some High Schoolers) to the joys of lacrosse. This tournament is intended to showcase the fruits of her labours, for which we are very grateful.

• 1.30pm **Greenbrook House (next to Valley FC)** **BOCCIA** ■
Think indoor boules, played with squashy balls, and very sociable. Boccia can be played equally by able-bodied and disabled athletes of all ages. If you (and your friend?) fancy trying the sport, this event is open to anyone and you'll be made welcome. If you've queries ring Amy Taylor on 07734488803, or just turn up.

• 6pm **Tonacliffe School Hall** **KIDSANITY** ■
Magic Michelle is back again, hoping for lots of takers for her noisy, sweaty, cheerful workout. It's free, it's fun, it's really for 11-year-olds and younger from any primary school, but accompanying adults can join in too. (But can they keep up?)

• 7pm **Whitworth Square (Red Lion)** **CYCLING HILL CLIMB** ■
Cyclists ride an awesome individual time-trial of near-vertical torture from near the Square to the picnic area (Juniors) or Lobden Golf Club (Seniors). To join in **you need to PRE-ENTER** either by entry form or by registering via dedicated email chrisatwhitworthhikehillclimb@hotmail.com. Please note – parking at top of rake only until 6.45.

SATURDAY 16 JUNE

• 9.30am till noon **Sharneyford (details when you register; or Facebook)** **CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING** ■
Clough Head Gun Club are offering this event too for a third year. It's for adults and children strong enough to hold a gun safely. You **MUST** phone Michelle Spilling on 07767216626 to **REGISTER (at least) A WEEK IN ADVANCE**. (For insurance purposes and to make sure there's enough equipment.) Limited places. £20, payable in advance, covers 25 clays, equipment and instruction.

• 9.30am - 4pm **Whitworth Quarry** **MOTORCYCLING**
Today and tomorrow Cowm Leisure host a round of the awesome British Quad Bike Enduro Championships. Spectators are most welcome – there's no charge, but how about a donation to the Air Ambulance? Refreshments available.

• 10am **Valley FC, Rawstron Street** **JUNIOR FOOTBALL** ■
In a World Cup year how could this football-mad valley not have the beautiful game on the menu! Whitworth Valley Juniors will take on invited opposition at levels from under-6 to under-10. If your son or daughter is looking to sign up for next season, please come along and introduce yourselves to club Chairman Kingsley.

• 1pm **Sportsman, 464 Market Street** **BOULES** ■
Turn up and join in – that simple!

FREE Samba Dance tasters! 9.15am Mini Movers Pre School Fun Dance (2yrs+) / 10am Freestyle Disco (4-9yrs) / 11am Freestyle Disco (9yrs+) / 12noon 'Destructive' – Under 8s Breakdance Team

SUNDAY 17 JUNE

• 8am **Leisure Centre/Cowm Reservoir** **SPLASH & DASH** ■
After our traditional finale, this year as last, all who enter, plus their mum and dad, are invited back to The Riverside for their awards and a well-deserved breakfast. This gutsy event is the same as ever: children aged 8-16 swim 8 lengths of the pool, then run 1.75 miles to the res. and round. **You MUST PRE-BOOK, so pick up a form.**

*** Extra-early-rising marshals are needed for this event. If you'd like to help out, please ring Jo on 07813180748 ***

• 10am **The Arena (above the stables on Cowm Park Way)** **EQUESTRIANISM**
Horses exhibiting their grace and power and athleticism in the various disciplines on show. Unless you're a rider it's a relaxing way to end the Festival. Refreshments available after you've strolled up the (signposted) lane.

• 10.45am for 11am start **Festival Park (next to Riverside)** **BOWLING** ■
Joe Warburton runs a super event, in which newcomers to bowling, or novices, will be paired up with a more experienced partner, and given lots of playing time in a friendly tournament, which should provide a proper chance for people to take the first step and find out if they like the sport. Bowling clubs have entry forms, but Joe (853457) will be expecting calls. Or just turn up and ask for him or Jean. Bring a packed lunch (drinks available) to see you through the day.



CHARITY NEWS

CANCER RESEARCH WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

Cancer Research Whitworth Local Committee would like to thank their supporters for continued generosity and support attending events and donating. The group have now been given their target piece of equipment for 2018 - a Bioanalyzer looks at DNA and protein in cancer patients to target treatment more efficiently and costs £15000. We can achieve this amount, with your help.

Arnold Ashworth visited Tonacliffe school along with Polly Williams from Cancer Research to explain how money raised helps to fight cancer. The school adopted Cancer Research as their nominated charity this year and have already raised £468 selling wrist bands. Well done to the staff and pupils.

A quiz night held at the Band club in February raised over £400. Thanks to the club for their support with food and Marie Gibbons for her hard work and those who donated prizes.

On Friday 18 May the Songs of Praise will be held at Christ Church Healey at 7pm. Admission is free and donations are welcome on the evening. The annual golf tournament will be held at Lobden on Sunday 10 June.

If you would like to know more or attend any fund-raising event please contact Michael Whitby 01706 852613.

RSPCA ROCHDALE & DISTRICT Reg Charity no 232257

If you need to report an animal in distress please ring 0300 1234 999

Rochdale RSPCA's charity shop is at 595 Market Street, Whitworth

The money raised helps support the work of the Rochdale Animal Centre on Redcross St. Rochdale OL12 0NZ. For more information check the website www.rspca-rochdale.org.uk, ring **01706 861897** or email rspcarochdale@btconnect.com. Follow the work of the centre on Facebook and check for offers in the charity shops. Keep updated on animal stories too.

Seasonal Advice

In addition to the cats and rabbits etc still needing new homes, the animal centre continues its work as a holding centre for wildlife rescued by RSPCA Inspectors..
In spring the RSPCA receives many enquiries about 'abandoned' baby animals such as fox and badger cubs and fledgling birds. In most cases the parents are nearby and our advice is to leave them alone unless obviously injured.

Check our website, www.rspca-rochdale.org.uk, to find the link to the national RSPCA website where you will find more detailed seasonal advice and information on all types of wildlife.





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FAMILY RUN WITH FAMILY VALUES

LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND

After being placed a creditable 5th at the Butlin's mineworkers' contest in January the Band were really disappointed to be placed 16th at the Area finals. The result was certainly questionable and placed the band in danger of relegation from the second section - contesting is certainly challenging sometimes.

The concert season is in full swing now. The band have performed at the St George concert, Edenfield Whit March, Ramsbottom War weekend, Rochdale Golf Club party in the park and the Jimmy Grogan memorial concert. Strange and frightening as it seems in the next edition will be plans for the Christmas season.

The youth and academy bands continue to flourish. If anyone would like their child to learn how to play an instrument please contact number below. If you would like to book the band (full band or smaller band) for any event you might be considering, please contact Michael Whitby 01706 852613.

WHITWORTH COMMUNITY CHOIR

Whitworth Community Choir will soon be celebrating its third birthday and are still going strong!

Thanks to fundraising the choir are now regularly purchasing new music of all genres to sing, a little bit of something for everyone! The choir is proud to boast most members are home-grown and enjoy performing to the local community. However, men are still in short supply and are seriously outnumbered by the ladies. They need tenors and basses...go on lads, go and support your fellow men, a warm welcome is guaranteed.

They're performing throughout the year. Please show your support. They're more than just a choir, providing a positive activity for anyone over the age of 18 to make new friends, be involved in the community and more importantly.... sing!! There are no auditions, just turn up!

They rehearse every Tuesday at Shawforth Chapel from 7pm. If you want any more info or a chat about it contact Gill Pearson on 07779 713595 or email whitworthcommunitychoir@gmail.com



MESSAGE FROM THE RETIRING MAYOR

This has been a truly amazing year for both myself and Janet. We have attended more than 140 events. We have supported a large number of our local community groups & organisation over the last 12 months. We would also wish to place on the record our heartfelt thanks to our Town Clerk Melanie, for her dedication, help and support. Thank you to all our community along with our family & friends all of whom have enabled us to provide much needed financial support to all those local community groups & organisations.

Finally, we would like to wish every success to Councillor M. De Souza in her year of office as Mayor of Whitworth along with her Deputy Councillor L Barnes both of whom will serve of community here in Whitworth.

LOCAL EVENTS

REMEMBRANCE COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Whitworth residents will commemorate the centenary of the end of World War I on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 November.

A Field of Remembrance will be created in the Memorial Gardens to display poppies by children from local schools and groups. Poppies will be attached to lamp posts throughout Whitworth and WW1 memorabilia will be displayed in the Riverside.

An Evening Celebration in aid of the Royal British Legion will be held on Saturday 10 November at the Riverside. Entertainment includes readings by Charles Foster, First World War songs by Freda Farnworth and entertainment by the Swing Commanders.



Councillors Maureen Jones, Karen Ruane and Lynda Barnes, members of the Remembrance Working Group who are organising the weekend celebration

On Sunday 11 November, the Remembrance procession will gather at 10.20am at the corner of Tong Lane and arrive at the Memorial Gardens at 10.40am for the service to begin. St Bartholomew's Church will be open all day with a WW1 themed café and the bells will peal at 7.05pm in line with the national event "Battles over-ringing out for peace". At 7pm there will be the Lighting of the Beacon "A Nation's Tribute" located temporarily on Brown Wardle. Members of the public will be able to view the beacon from a safe distance at Lobden Golf Club.

For more information on this year's commemorations, please visit www.whitworth.gov.uk

WHITWORTH RUSHCART PROCESSION AND CELEBRATIONS

The annual Whitworth Rushcart celebrations will take place on the afternoon of Sunday 2 September. The procession will leave from Whitworth Museum at 1.00pm featuring numerous traditional morris troupes and led by the Rushcart itself.

From 1.15pm until 4.30pm, the Civic Hall will host stalls, entertainment and performances, plus the Whitworth Vale and Healey Youth Band. St Bartholomew's Church will be providing traditional hot food, and the bar will be open for liquid refreshments, including real ale 'Grogan's Delight' in memory of Jimmy Grogan, Honorary Townsman of Whitworth.

Whitworth's cart is unique as it is the only one in the UK to be covered in beautiful local heather Rushcarts in the other areas are covered with rushes or tatters of cloth. Whitworth's Rushcart history goes back hundreds of years; initially the celebration was linked to the cutting of rushes to be strewn on the bare floor of the church as a form of insulation for the winter, taken to the church on the cart. Out of this grew a celebration which was enjoyed by the whole community.



For further information please visit www.whitworth.gov.uk



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LOCAL NEWS

WHITWORTH CELEBRATES THE ROYAL AIR FORCE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

On, Sunday 1 April 2018, the Royal Air Force celebrated 100 years since its formation. The Royal Air Force was formed during the World War 1 when it was decided to amalgamate the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service to form the world's first independent air arm.

The Royal Air Force is proud of its rich history and achievements, from battle-winning performances high above the skies of Britain in the nation's hour of need to more recent activities that include:

- tackling terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan;
- securing and protecting the skies above the UK;
- disaster relief around the World;
- supporting the Civil Authorities in times of national emergency.



Whitworth Horticultural Society have been instrumental in the arrangements for the centenary celebration by planting a floral display in the RAF colours and also arranging for the RAF flag to be flown outside the Riverside (Whitworth Civic Hall).

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL AND RRG TOYOTA WORK TOGETHER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME

Whitworth Town Council have contributed towards the fight against crime over several years by sponsoring the **Whitworth community police car**, which has proved invaluable to the local constabulary. Without it, 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.



The lease was up for renewal this 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 has committed to support this scheme for a further three years. RRG Toyota Rochdale have 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.

Look out for PCSO Heidi Kirkbright in her new Aygo!

2018 IS SHAPING UP TO BE ANOTHER BUSY EAR FOR WHITWORTH SWIMMING CLUB

After another successful distance night swimming sessions at the end of April, the club are now preparing for the Whitworth Sports Festival Splash & Dash in June 2018. In addition, preparations are in place to welcome 26 visitors from Whitworth's twin town in Kandel, Germany at the end of July for a week of fun and activities. Letters have been circulated to club parents to get involved. Whitworth Swimming Club are now recruiting new teaching assistants (must be aged 14 or older) and qualified teachers to assist on Wednesday evening club nights.

The club also have some spaces for new children members on both Tuesday and Wednesday evening sessions. Please visit the website under new members and send your details.
<http://www.whitworthswimmingclub.com/#/new-members/4584892532>

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LOCAL NEWS

The Gallery at the Baths continues to stage exhibitions of photographs and/or artwork from a wide variety of local organisations and individuals. Why not pop in some time, buy a coffee and enjoy the work on show? Currently it's photos of last year's Skyline. Then:

May 11	Whitworth Sports Festival Retrospective
June 8	St Bartholomew's School
June 29	Whitworth Sports Festival 2018
July 20	Family Fun Day
August 10	currently a gap in the schedule. If anyone out there would like to exhibit on August 10 or from September, please contact Jo Furtado (07813180748) for details, any necessary help, and a big thank you!

Could you spare a couple of hours each week to be a community contact in your local area?

The REAL 'Connecting our Community' website rossendale.realtld.co.uk is a directory of community organisations, news and events in Rossendale. They are looking for volunteers to represent the Whitworth area and help ensure that local information is represented and kept up to date.

It is a perfect volunteering opportunity to get out and meet new people, enjoy local activities and at the same time play an active role supporting your local community. No previous experience is necessary, just enthusiasm for promoting your local community. And of course you will be supported along the way.

REAL are also members of the Lancashire Time Credits Scheme so you can 'earn' time credit vouchers at the same time as making a difference to your community.

If you would like to find out more please contact Matt Wiseman by email mattwiseman@realtld.co.uk or phone 07484 151599.



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARDS

Back in early 2016, Whitworth Town Council invested heavily in the purchase of some new community noticeboards at Moss Side Street, Shawforth; on the grass banking outside Whitworth Medical Centre; and on the Prom. These noticeboards have been provided for use by the Whitworth community and are an essential resource for our local charities and community groups to advertise their events free of charge. You are welcome to place posters and notices on this board but recently there have been several instances of misuse leading to repair and cleaning costs to the public.

Here are the guidelines to place a poster in the frame

- Use pins to secure your notice, NOT staples
- Remove the notice once it becomes scruffy / insecure / out of date;
- The content of your notice is appropriate for display on a community noticeboard.
- All posters must be no larger than A5 portrait as space is limited, larger posters will be removed.
- Please do not hang or pin banners from the legs of the frame and
do not stick posters to the front Perspex of the frame
- To access the noticeboard, twist the catches at the top corners and lower the Perspex front.

For further information, please contact Melanie, Town Clerk, on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk

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Domestic - Commercial
Conservatories - Gutters
PVC Cleaning - Jet Washing

WHITWORTH FAMILY FUN DAY AND DOG SHOW

On Sunday 8 July, the Family Fun Day and Dog Show organised by the Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee is back! There'll be lots of attractions including rides, stalls, live performances by local dancers, candy floss and ice cream. Come along, bring all the family (even your pet!) and join in with the fun (and you never know – the sun may even shine too!).



Whitworth Family Fun Day and Dog Show

Sunday 8th July 2018, 12pm - 4pm at The Riverside

Finest Senior 1pm	Scruffiest Mutt 2.10pm
Waggiest Tail 1.20pm	Cutest Dog 2.30pm
Perfect puppy 1.40pm	Best in show 2.50pm (no entry fee - winners of all other categories)

Register in advance at the Council Office (the Riverside) Monday to Friday 9.30am – 2.30pm or email info@whitworth.gov.uk

WHITWORTH
TOURISM & LEISURE COMMITTEE

This year there are five categories available for you to enter for £2 per dog per category. You can register in advance by calling into the Council Office at the Riverside (Monday to Friday 9.30am to 2.30pm) or register on the day although spaces will be limited so it is a good idea to register in advance. The winners of each category will then be invited back for the Best in show at 2.50pm where the pups compete for the star title!

LADIES, PUT ON YOUR GLAD RAGS, DUST OFF YOUR HATS AND JOIN US AT THE RACES!

Ladies Day at the Riverside with live racing from Ascot will take place on Thursday 21st June 2018. The afternoon will start with a sparkling drinks reception at 12:30pm followed by a lovely 2 course lunch served at 1pm with Afternoon Tea being served later in the day.

During the afternoon and into the early evening, they'll be plenty of prizes to be won from best dressed to most outrageous hat/fascinator and much more....

There will be a raffle with prizes to be won from fizz to pamper packs! A donation from the raffle will be made to Cancer Research (Whitworth Committee). Photographers will be on hand all day to snap that perfect portrait. Why not have a fun group shot too (small charge)?

Tickets £37.50 incl drinks reception, 2 course lunch, afternoon tea & portrait photograph. Tickets are on sale now from the Riverside, Tel:01706 854130



ANNUAL REPORT, WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

MAYOR'S OVERVIEW

Myself and Janet can only say thank-you so much for the privilege of being your Mayor and Mayoress for the last 12 months. We have had a fantastic time and enjoyed everything - even getting drenched at the Rushcart did not stop our enjoyment of the day.

We have been to Coffee mornings, Afternoon teas, Summer Fairs, Christmas Fairs and Concerts, Band Concerts, WAMDS shows, the Samba Dance show and the opening of the new Samba Studio to name a few. These events have been well organised, well attended and a great success.

We would like to express our gratitude for the invitation to these events and say a massive well done to everyone involved in these groups in our Town who are working hard to raise much needed funds and raise the profile of their particular organisations.

Our own events have been a great success as well. Janet wanted to hold a Ladies Afternoon Tea and was really pleased that 116 ladies joined her at the Riverside for this. My own personal highlight was our 60s themed charity night in October which had us dancing the night away. We have also hosted a couple of events for the children one with the help and support of Sam Clarke at Samba Dance. Our Murder at the Riverside Civic Dinner was also a success. We have tried to hold events with a little twist this year.

The Town Council continues to be at the fore of a variety of initiatives, many of which are detailed in this report; it continues to provide a dedicated service to the town whilst staying within its frugal spending limitations. It is through prudent financial management and much discussion and research that the Council have managed to keep the increase of the precept to a minimum with just a 2.99% rise in a difficult financial climate.

Going forward to the next twelve months, Councillor Madeline DeSouza will become Mayor, I am sure Madeline will enjoy her year of office.

INITIATIVES

The Council is supported by **Town Clerk** Melanie Hearn, who works 30 hours a week as standard. The Council also contracts a **Parish Lengthsman**, John Leyland, for general repairs and maintenance, including attending to Public Rights of Way, mending footpaths, fences and stiles and undertaking a multitude of jobs in and around the town. The Council employs a full-time Town Caretaker which is funded in part by Rossendale Borough Council. Glen Iliff, our **Town Caretaker**, litter-picks targeted sites the length and breadth of the town, and reports issues and problems to the Clerk. All three maintain healthy attendance sheets.

The Town Council have contributed towards the fight against crime over several years with the sponsorship of the **Whitworth community police car**, which has proved invaluable to the local constabulary. The lease was up for renewal this May and following lots of discussion with the police and negotiation to find the best price, the Town Council has committed to support this scheme for a further three years. RRG Toyota Rochdale have 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.

In September 2017 the council appointed a working group to make plans for a special weekend of celebrations to mark the centenary of the end of WW1 in November, the plans tie in with the national 'Battles Over' event and aim to include the whole community.

Whitworth Town Council Community Toilet Scheme has been up and running successfully for over a year. Currently, there are six local businesses participating in the scheme. These businesses will allow the public free use of their toilet facilities during their normal opening hours without feeling the need to make a purchase. In return, Whitworth Town Council make a financial contribution to the businesses to help them maintain their facilities to a high standard. In addition to the scheme Whitworth Town Council also pay for the cleaning and opening of the toilets at Healey Corner.

The Town Council's **website**, www.whitworth.gov.uk, is well used and an asset to the Council. The site aims to be a one-stop-shop for Whitworth information for residents and visitors. The website now features a central Whitworth events calendar and business directory providing local organisations with free promotion and making it easier for residents and visitors to plan their leisure time in Whitworth. The Town Council also makes good use of social media; its Facebook page is regularly contributed to.

The Horticultural Society continues to do a wonderful job ensuring the town looks its blooming best. The Society works proactively with the Town, Borough and County councils, and is financially supported in part by the Town Council – a good illustration of the Council interacting with the community. The volunteers tend to flowerbeds and the planter boxes provided by Northern Joinery Ltd.

The Town Council-produced quarterly **Whitworth Valley News** magazine continues to be a very popular read, receiving

editorial contributions from a wide variety of organisations and featuring 62 paying advertisers. It involves a significant amount of work for the Clerk but is very well received and ensures all in Whitworth are up-to-date with town news and developments. It is hand-delivered to all households by the Sports Council volunteers.

Whitworth Town Council facilitates monthly **Multi-Agency meetings**, where representatives of all the main agencies come together to tackle issues in the town. The Town Council continues to take a pro-active approach to tackling the issue of litter and uncollected dog-mess, supporting the legislative work undertaken by the Borough Council, issuing further letters to residents around particular 'grot-spot' areas. The Town Council continue to use initiatives like a pavement stencil and accompanying signage in hot spot areas and stickers issued to homes and businesses requesting people pick up their dog mess.

The Town Council's **Tourism and Leisure Committee**, featuring councillor and non-councillor members (including quite a few new members recruited in this last year!), organises or part-organises a large number of events annually – this past year's offer has included the Rushcart, Christmas Lights Switch On, New Year's Duck Race, St George Celebrations, Family Fun Day and the Whitworth Calendar, which sold 200 copies. The Committee is currently working on all these projects again. Additionally, the Town Council itself is responsible for organising Whitworth's Remembrance Sunday commemorations and the Community Carol Service. All these events serve to preserve and strengthen the town's identity and provide a solid sense of community and civic pride.

Comprising town councillors and representatives of local sporting organisations, the **Whitworth Sports Council** continues to flourish, and plans for the 2018 (10th Annual) Sports Festival are well underway.

Since 2007, Whitworth Town Council has held **Quality Status**, a nationally recognised quality benchmark for parish and town councils. This has now been replaced by the Local Council Award Scheme, which celebrates the successes of the best local councils, and provides a framework to support these councils to improve and develop to meet their full potential.

TOWN TWINNING

Whitworth has been twinned with Kandel for over 50 years this year and the friendship between the towns continues. Cllrs Aldred and Mellor are instrumental in keeping the twinning alive, and thanks are due to them for their continued work; if you wish to get involved with Town Twinning in Whitworth please contact them.

CIVIC EVENTS

2017's municipal year began as always with **Mayor-Making** held at the Riverside, followed by a joint Civic Sunday and Pentecost Service at the Riverside. Rev Lyn Woodall has acted as Mayoral Chaplain this year and many thanks are offered to her for her support. As always, the Town Council-organised **Remembrance Sunday commemorations** were extremely well attended. **The Community Carol Service** at the Riverside was led by Rev Lyn Woodall and was a very popular event; the junior band did a sterling job accompanying the carols and a joyful, festive time was had by all. **The Mayor's Civic Dinner** last month was an enjoyable evening with live murder mystery entertainment from Just Imagine NW. Dignitaries from other Councils attended the event, and over £735 was raised for the Mayor's Charity Fund just on this one night!

PLANNING

As a statutory planning consultee, the Town Council passes comments on all Whitworth applications; Rossendale Borough Council then takes these observations into account when reaching planning decisions. Since April 2017, 21 applications have been considered by the Town Council, ranging from home extensions to new developments. The Town Council is also consulted on Highways proposals and other consultations which relate to or affect the Whitworth area.

CONCLUSION

Whitworth Town Council continues to work to the best of its ability to serve its community. The quality of the council is monitored and ratified through the benchmark council awards scheme, and the feedback from the community is overwhelmingly positive. The Town Council strives to be as accessible as possible, with the magazine and website facilitating communications to the community, and social media and the availability of the town clerk and councillors, along with the publicly attended council meetings, enabling a two-way communication with residents, organisations and businesses. The Town Council works with local organisations and authorities to improve its offer and to enhance the lives of everyone in Whitworth, and to ensure that any issues or problems are monitored and dealt with swiftly. It is always looking for innovative ideas to tackle problems, and initiatives such as the support of the Whitworth police car and the partnership working with Rossendale Council on controlling dog mess and making a real and positive difference to daily lives. On a lighter note, the Town Council continues to provide and support a range of fun, family events and initiatives throughout the year, encouraging community spirit and togetherness. There will, as always, be challenges and opportunities presented over the year ahead, but the Town Council is well equipped to deal with both.

LOCAL NEWS

ST JOHN WITH ST MICHAEL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The children from St John with St Michael CE Primary School in Shawforth were joined by parishioners from St Johns Church, Facit for a fun filled afternoon of arts and crafts that all linked with The Eucharist.

There were different stations set up as part of the Churches Together "Messy Church" initiative.



Leo helping to make the Eucharist table cloth

Children rotated in groups around each station, making various craft items that linked closely to the Eucharist such as Friendship Bracelets, Prayer bead Keyrings and Prayer doves.

It was enjoyed by the children, staff and also the volunteers from the Church. Rev Lyn Woodall, later led an Eucharist Service with all the children in the school hall.



Anabella with her prayer dove

SHAWFORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Sundays	10.30am	Sunday Service, everyone welcome and stay for a brew afterwards
Mondays	9.30am – 12.00	Toddler group
Tuesdays	7pm – 9pm 7.30pm last Tuesday in every month	Whitworth Community Choir rehearsals Ladies Group everyone welcome
	9.30am to 12.00 1pm – 3pm	Toddler Group Foodshare
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 (please note the lunch in May will be on 12th)

Superintendent Minister Revd. David J Burrow Tel 01706 602882

For room hire contact Christine Tel 01706 854172 or Lois 01706 852815

LOCAL NEWS

A SCOOTASTIC WEEKEND IS IN PROSPECT AT ROSSENDALE'S 'RALLY IN THE VALLEY'

Plans are in place to establish a brand new Scooter event 'Rally In The Valley'. The dates for the have now been confirmed as 8th, 9th and 10th June 2018, and will be held at Marl Pits Sports Complex in Rawtenstall, a venue that is perfect for the Rally as it has all the facilities for a fantastic weekend. These include a fully licensed clubhouse, toilet and showering facilities, swimming pool and gym. The event offers Entry and Parking for your Campervan at just £20 for the weekend, a camping option at just £15 per tent for the weekend, along with parking for your scooter and also a Day Pass Rate at just £5. There will be Live music and DJs throughout the weekend including bands such as The Itch and The Jam collective headlining on Saturday night, and Standing In For Joe, with their sounds of late 70s/early 80s New Wave/Punk. There will be a market with Scooter related and other items and a Scooter Competition with Trophies. Please note that this event is extremely family friendly, so come along and enjoy what promises to be a fantastic weekend.



Having a party or a get-together?

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Whitworth Town Council

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

Every English town or parish must hold an **Annual Meeting of the Parish** for electors registered in the area. This year, Whitworth's Annual Meeting of the Parish takes place on **Thursday 17 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, Town Clerk on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

MAYOR-MAKING

On Thursday 24 May at 7.30pm, the Mayor-Making ceremony will take place at the Riverside (or as it is more properly known the Annual Meeting of the Town Council) where the new Mayor, Councillor Madeline De Souza will be elected.

After the Mayor has been elected, she will receive the chain of office from the previous Mayor, Councillor Alan Neal and will make a speech outlining what she thinks is special about Whitworth and how she intends to go about her Mayoral duties. The outgoing Mayor will also make a speech reviewing the highlights of his Mayoral year.

No other business is done and attendees will then join the Mayor for refreshments, all are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact Melanie, Town Clerk on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

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)

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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)
JIM MELLOR PROPERTY SERVICES
Tel: 01706 854777 / 07973 421145
(35 Knowsley Crescent Shawforth OL12 8RR)

Double Glazing Repairs:
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tel: Richard on 07768 243081 / richard@mdgr.org

Electrical Maintenance & Installation for home & business:
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Tel: 01706 860840 / 07740 825536 / pdbelectrical@yahoo.co.uk

(20 Ainsdale Drive, Whitworth, OL12 8QB)

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
(33 Oak Street Shawforth OL12 8NP)

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07896 198095
(28 Waingap View, Whitworth OL12 8QD)

High power pressure washing (paths & patio cleaning driveways & tarmacking, decking & cobbles, graffiti removal, garden stone walls, moss & algae removal, plus window cleaning: SEAN BRADLEY
Tel: 01706 879928 / 07773 798078 / Seanbrad09@gmail.com
(28 Douglas Road, Bacup, OL13 9PR)

Painting & Decorating: ANDREW ROBINSON
Tel: 01706 639709 / 07967 203484
(4 Meadow Head Avenue Whitworth OL13 8TH)

Painter and Decorator: PETER RICHARDSON
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(4 The Hedgerows, Whitworth, OL12 8AW)

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(7 Daniel Street, Whitworth, OL12 8BX)

Window & UPVC Cleaning – Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
JetWashing: OPENREACH
Tel: 0800 612 7679 / openreach-wcs@tiscali.co.uk
www.openreach-wcs.co.uk
(35 Westgate, Whitworth, OL12 8UW)

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or contact on 07412 956230

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 times a year.

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

Whitworth Town Council cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of any information provided for submission by outside organisations, the quality of 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 • clrlryndabarnes@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

Sean Serridge (Labour): 01706 877008 • 07947 444732

seanserridge@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:

Sean Serridge (see left for contact details)

Second councillor known after elections on 3rd May

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 14 June, Thurs 28 June, Thurs 12 July, Thurs 26 July, Thurs 13 Sept, Thurs 27 Sept,

Thurs 12 Oct, Thurs 25 Oct, Thurs 8 Nov, Thurs 22 Nov, Thurs 6 Dec, Thurs 20 Dec

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. For emergencies only, dial 999.

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

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

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) 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)