

Issue 48/March 2017

WHITWORTH

V A L L E Y N E W S

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THE MAGAZINE FOR THE WHITWORTH COMMUNITY, PRODUCED BY WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL



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This cover photograph was taken by **Thomas Dixon, aged 7** and shows and Lobden Golf Course (near 4th Tee) looking back towards Cwm Reservoir in the distance.

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



The Mayor of Whitworth, Councillor Madeline De Souza

Wow, what an amazing year I have had representing Whitworth as Mayor.

The rewards have been enormous in meeting so many people who contribute so much of their time and effort into making Whitworth the wonderful town it is. I have attended numerous engagements and tried to involve as many people in Whitworth as possible. This is my final message as Mayor and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported my charity and events and for all the invitations and kind donations I have received during my Mayoral year. I really enjoyed attending the presentation evening for Whitworth High School and performances at our local schools which highlighted the talents of our young people and the hard work and commitment of staff and families.

As a culmination to this year I will be hosting my final event on Saturday 8th April. Usually on this date the Mayor holds a Civic Dinner but this year I have made some changes to make it the Mayor's Annual Celebration and Awards. I really want to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful people and business' who help to make Whitworth a town to be proud of and I thought this was the most appropriate way to acknowledge them. The evening will end with the 'Pride of Whitworth Award' being given to the overall winner.

I would like to invite the community to nominate individuals, organisations and businesses they feel deserve an award, it will be a wonderful evening with a hot buffet and musical entertainment from Graham Shellard. For more information and details of how to nominate and how to purchase tickets see page 4. Please also see page 24 for details about another Mayoral charity fundraiser I will be holding at Berni Inn in March.

Finally, a huge thank you must go to my family and friends who have supported me during my extremely busy Mayoral year. I know that they have enjoyed it as much as I have.

With very best wishes
Madeline

Councillor Madeline De Souza, Mayor of Whitworth



The Mayor's Annual

Celebration and Awards 2017

Featuring **Graham Shellard**, tickets £15 each from the
Council Office

Saturday 8th April

WHITWORTH MAYOR'S ANNUAL CELEBRATION AND AWARDS!

On Saturday 8 April 2017, the Mayor of Whitworth, Councillor Madeline De Souza, will be hosting the first ever annual celebration and awards evening. This year, this event will take the place of the Civic Dinner and aim to celebrate all there is to offer in Whitworth culminating in the presentation of some very special awards. It will take place at The Riverside, with doors opening at 6.30pm, a hot buffet, awards presentations and entertainment by popular local singer and guitarist, Graham Shellard.

The Mayor would welcome nominations for anybody you think should win an award. Nominations must be received by Friday 17th March to be judged. The winner of each category will then be entered into the overall 'Pride of Whitworth Award' which will be presented during the evening and finalists will receive complementary tickets to the awards evening. You can nominate by collecting a form locally, completing the electronic nomination form at www.whitworth.gov.uk/nomination-form or by completing and returning the slip on the opposite page.

Tickets are on sale now for the awards evening costing £15 per head which includes a hot buffet - tickets are expected to sell quickly for this event and should be booked in advance. To book tickets, contact Melanie Hearn, The Town Clerk on **01706 852018** or email info@whitworth.gov.uk

The Jack Wilkinson Young Achiever's Award Jack was a town councillor and became an Honorary Townsman of Whitworth in 1996. This is an annual award given in his memory. Any nominee for this award must be 16 years or under.

Jeff Ogden Services to the Community Award Jeff was a great contributor to Whitworth community in his time and this award was produced in his memory and is presented annually by a member of his family. Any nominee will be considered who has served the Whitworth community well and deserves recognition.

The following are new awards for 2017: Volunteer Award This is a form of recognition for a person, group or organisation who give their time and efforts without reward, for the good of others in Whitworth, or to enable money to be raised for charity.

Best Business Contribution Award A new or established business within Whitworth which deserves recognition for the contribution it makes our town.

Bringing Communities Together Award Nominations are invited for individuals or groups who are working to bring people together and have demonstrated a commitment to improving community well-being in Whitworth.

GALLERY AT THE BATHS

Currently showing at the Gallery at the Baths is an exhibition of primary school photography, sponsored the Mayor, Councillor Madeline de Souza. Following that will be:

- March 3 - Whitworth Photographic Society
- March 28 - Tonacliffe School Art Club
- April 2 - Whitworth Skyline Walk

If you or your organisation would like to exhibit in this community space please contact Jo Furtado on **853442** or **07813180748**.

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The Mayor's Annual Celebration and Awards

Nominator:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email or Tel: _____

I wish to nominate:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email or Tel: _____

Age: (Only Required for Jack Wilkinson award) _____

Jack Wilkinson Award Jeff Ogden Award Volunteer Award Best Business Contribution

Bringing Communities together (please tick which award you would like to nominate for)

Reason for nomination: (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)



Whitworth
Town Council

Please return to The Town Clerk, Whitworth Town Council, The Riverside, Market Street, Whitworth OL12 8DP or complete online at www.whitworth.gov.uk/nomination-form by **Friday 17th March 2017**



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WHITWORTH NEWS



ANDEMS RACES

The John Schofield 5k race was the 627th race organised by Andy O'Sullivan and took place on New Year's Day 2017. 100 runners braved the elements (and for some it was the third race they had ran that day!) The race raised an amazing £1200 for local causes. Steven Corbishley of Rossendale Harriers won the Race and Sophie Wood of Royton was the 1st Female to finish. The photograph shows Andy O'Sullivan, Annmarie McGilvary, the girls from Red Lion and John Schofield holding the award.

WHITWORTH VALE & HEALEY BRASS BAND

The Band would like to thank all their supporters in the village who attended any of their concerts or who made donations during December to the street playing or playing outside the Co-op, your continued support is much appreciated. For the first time in many years they were unaffected by the weather.

The new year brings new changes for the band. John Binns the long-standing conductor and most successful MD in the bands history has stepped down. He is however succeeded by another Binns, his son Christopher, who began his career in the youth band and then progressed via the senior band and Milnrow band to Black Dyke Mills as Principal Trombone. Aaron Wolfe MD of the Youth band is also going to pastures new taking up a teaching post in Abu Dhabi. Sophie Milton will take on the MD role. The band would like to thank John and Aaron for their fantastic contribution to the organisation.

The first concert in the village will be on Friday 24th March at The Riverside organised by the Rotary club all proceeds are for Brass in Africa. Tickets £10 available from Riverside or Tom Hobson **01706 852313** or number below. Annual St Georges concert takes place on the 22nd April again tickets £6 available from Riverside or Tom Aldred **01706 852183**.

Contest season is also underway the band were due to play at Preston contest on 29th January and the area contest at Blackpool on 25th Feb with the band now performing in the second section. If you would like to book the band or would like your child to learn to play a brass instrument or reserve tickets for any events, please ring Michael Whitby on **01706 852613**.



Left; John Binns, Centre; Aaron Wolfe, Right; Chris Binns

WHITWORTH NEWS

ALPINE FLOWERS WILL FESTOON THE RIVERSIDE



Photograph copyright Cliff Booker, used with kind permission

After the tremendous success of last year's event, Whitworth will once again play host to a national horticultural event when the Alpine Garden Society stage another huge Spring Flower Show at the Civic Hall (Riverside) OL12 8EP on Saturday 25th March 2017.

The event attracts exhibitors, judges, nurserymen and enthusiasts from across the country and features over 140 individual classes ranging from rare alpine gems to bulbs, conifers, ferns and mini gardens. Unusual plants from around the globe will vie for your attention with nurserymen selling the cream of alpine plants, while many of the nation's leading exhibitors will be competing for a number of highly prestigious medals and trophies.

Shows held in the hall in the 1990's and more recently attracted marvellous attendances and the organisers of this event hope that Whitworth folk will be tempted back by an grand raffle, tombola, free parking, seed, book and plant sales and excellent refreshments.

The event runs from 11am until 3.30pm on the 25th March and entry for the general public is £2.50 – why not come along and enjoy the floral magic of the mountains in the foothills of the Pennines? Show Secretary, Carol Kellett, can be contacted on **01257 273382**.

The East Lancashire Group (which holds regular monthly meetings at the Civic Hall in Ramsbottom), continues to thrive – but new members are always welcomed and encouraged. Secretary and Whitworth resident, Cliff Booker, can be contacted on **01706 356385**



LOBDEN GOLF CLUB WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



Founded 17th May 1888

Lobden Golf Club founded in 1888 is one of the oldest golf clubs to have been founded in the UK.

The club welcomes new and returning members. It is a friendly club where you can obtain a golfing handicap, join in competitions or just play leisurely golf. The club

holds many social events throughout the year as many valley residents will be aware, but 2017 is another significant year and milestone in the club's history.

1917 - 2017

Celebrating 100 years of Ladies' Golf at Lobden Golf Club

To mark the ladies' centenary, the club is offering a special one-year discounted membership of £50 for new ladies. Golf is a fantastic game to play with friends and family, a great way to relax and get outdoors. Why not give it a go? New lady members are always welcome!

Not forgetting the men. New members can join for as little as £200!

Whether male or female, thinking of playing or returning to golf why not contact the club at golf@lobdengolfclub.co.uk or the club Secretary on **07796511421** to find out more!

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WHITWORTH NEWS

TWO DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Whitworth Skyline walk will take place on **Sunday May 14**, starting as usual from Lobden Golf Club. The route will be anticlockwise, with two options – the full 14-mile circuit, or the 5-mile Eastern Skyline finishing at Britannia. Entry forms will be available from the Leisure Centre, Library, UBS, Riverside and Nibbles café from mid-March.

Whitworth Sports Festival will run from **June 10 to June 18**. Full details will appear in the next edition of the Whitworth Valley News.

If you've any great ideas or you want to offer any help – marshals are always welcome – for either event, please contact Jo Furtado on **853442** or **07813180748**, or, for Skyline, speak to David Chorlton at UBS.

WRESTLER EDWARD 'TEDDY' LOWE

Whitworth museum regularly receives requests for information and assistance about the history of the valley and its inhabitants. The majority relate to relatives who lived in the area but have long since passed away or, for various reasons, moved out of the locality. Recently, a request for information was received, via Facebook, from an American researcher living in Delaware, Ohio whose interest is the history of wrestling, in particular, one Whitworth athlete by the name of Edward 'Teddy' Lowe. Whilst there are several references to 'Teddy' on various websites, little seems to exist about his life in the valley itself. An article from Rochdale Observer of 27th October 1877 reads about three thousand persons assembled at the Higginshaw Grounds, near Oldham, to witness a Lancashire wrestling match, the best two out of three back falls, "catch as catch can," between Edward Lowe, of Whitworth, near Rochdale, and Francis Robinson, of Ashton-under-Lyne, for £25 a side and the Higginshaw challenge cup, now held by Lowe.

Is it possible that a reader of this magazine knows something of 'Teddy's' past? If so, the museum would be pleased to receive any information on the subject.

The Heritage Museum on North Street is open throughout the year on Tuesday evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm and on Saturday afternoons 2.00 - 4.00pm.



WHITWORTH AND HEALEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The group of volunteers has had a quiet time over winter but are preparing to meet again on a regular basis to maintain communal garden areas around Whitworth. Their work has been especially appreciated at times like the Armistice Day commemoration. The Society is always looking for new volunteers who would be able to give a couple of hours on a fortnightly basis on Tuesday afternoons to help keep Whitworth a brighter place. It doesn't have to be a regular commitment but, if you feel you could lend a hand, please contact Chris on **01706 852613** or Anita on **01706 853768**.



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WHITWORTH NEWS

HEALEY CARE LTD

Healey Care Ltd is a local established company providing support and positive outcomes for people with learning disabilities. Services are based in and around the Whitworth area including residential, supported tenancies & day services. Most employees are local people too, which ensures a community 'feel' to all services.

Healey Care Ltd have regular activities and events open to everyone with additional needs these include monthly discos & The Chill Mill on Wednesday evenings. There are also drop in Activity sessions at Holt Mill Support services Lloyd St. Recent event successes and up and coming celebrations include the annual Christmas fair 2016 in support of Christie's Hospital which raised more than £700. This year Healey Care Ltd will celebrate their 21st birthday and will celebrate with a Grand Summer Tea Party. Healey Care Ltd will also be holding local events throughout the year to raise funds and awareness for Derian House Children's Hospice which provides vital support, care & comfort for our local families. Clara's Coffee morning in aid of Rochdale RSPCA will be held in early June. For Contact details and further information visit Healey Care Ltd Web site at www.healeycareltd.co.uk

CANCER RESEARCH - WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

The annual carol concert at the Riverside was again a huge success and well attended. A cheque for £15,000 was handed over to Alan Jordan from the Patterson Institute at The Christie to purchase much needed equipment, the target for the year was £10,000 so thanks to the people of Whitworth for helping to surpass the target figure. Alan again spoke of the huge advances being made in treatments aided by the equipment being purchased with the funds raised. Early events for this year include a quiz at the Band club on 4th February, a meal at the Promenade on Thursday 16th March, and annual songs of praise at Christ Church on 19th May.

A new venture is also being considered for this year of holding a summer ball with another local voluntary organisation to maximise attendance and fund raising more details to follow in next magazine. The committee have yet to hear which piece of equipment they are being asked to purchase this year although a figure of £15,000 is being targeted.

If anyone would like to become involved with the committee attend any fund raising events, sponsor anyone in their fund raising activity or just like any information on the committee's activities please contact Michael Whitby on **01706 852613** or Joyce or Arnold Ashworth on **01706 343424**.

CROOK HILL COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND 2017

The deadline for the Crook Hill Community Benefit Fund is just around the corner. To be in with a chance of being awarded funding in 2017 groups need to apply before 1st March 2017. With £35,000 up for grabs – don't delay, apply today!

Projects need to be located within 5km of the Crook Hill wind farm and grants between £250 and £10,000 are available.

Mones for the Fund are provided by Hastings Funds Management UK (Hastings) who manage the Crook Hill wind farm. The Fund is being administered by national charity GrantScape. For full details and to apply visit www.grantscape.org.uk or call Liz Payne on **01282 543775**.

Decisions will be announced in May 2017.

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LOCAL NEWS

SHOP LOCAL IN WHITWORTH

Thanks to a fantastic bunch of volunteers, Whitworth now has a well-established food and craft fair which takes place on the second Saturday of each month at Hallfold Church from 10am – 3.30pm. The market has now been running over two years and every penny of profit is invested back into the local community.



There is a great mix of local producers attend, including food, drink and crafts and there are even activities, including sand art and paint-a-pot to keep the little ones entertained whilst you browse.

Upcoming dates:

Saturday 11th March

Saturday 8th April

Saturday 13th May

Saturday 10th June

You can find out more information about the market at www.whitworthmarket.co.uk.

NEW CAFE IN WHITWORTH



Nibbles café has recently opened at 597 Market Street, Whitworth (formerly Jan's butty shop) serving freshly made sandwiches, cakes and beverages, all served with a smile. The café can accommodate diners to eat in or take away. Nibbles is open Monday to Fridays 8am – 2pm, Saturdays 9am – 1pm and Sundays 9.30am – 12.30pm. For more information call **01706 853311**.

HEALEY CONSERVATIVE CLUB NEWS

2017 brings the start of a new era in the club's history as the phoenix rises from the ashes. The club is currently open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings, so why not drop in to enjoy a drink, play pool or watch sport on the big screen in good company? There's free Wi-Fi too.

Look out for fantastic artistes and themed nights on Saturdays in the forthcoming weeks. There's a regular quiz with bingo at 9.30pm on Wednesdays and you can meet up with friends or join in the snooker, darts, dominoes and card games on Fridays, which also feature the regular beer draw, bingo and key draw.



Perhaps you're planning a party, or family gathering in the future? Why not ring to find out about the competitive rates? Come along and meet up with old and new friends. You're guaranteed a warm welcome! **Healey Conservative Club, Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8RW Tel: 01706 343245**

WHITWORTH BUSINESS NEWS

MIGHTY MEDICINE IS PROBABLY THE NEWEST BREWERY & BAR IN THE NORTHWEST...

Brewing commenced a few months ago and their onsite Brewery Bar "The Medicine Tap" opened its doors to the public for the very first time Saturday 3rd December with a free Hog Roast for all customers attending the opening night.

Mighty Medicine is in Whitworth just off Market Street on Daniel Street Industrial Estate. The Brewery & Bar is a great spectacle customers will not be disappointed when visiting for the first time as it promises some unusual and quirky features.

The plant itself is bespoke and set over two levels, housing a 15BBL brew kit and a monster of a mash tun that is capable of producing some strong brews. The beer range offers a vast spectrum of ales and styles, past, present and future... hopefully something to please everyone.

Neither the brewery or the bar are on a large scale, however every square millimetre of space has been utilised...apart from a physical barrier separating you from your pint and the brew kit, everything is open and on show...

Please check the website and facebook page for further information and current opening times.
www.mightymedicine.com

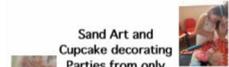
MRS MAKER PARTY PLANNING & CRAFTS HAS TEAMED UP WITH CAKES BY REBECCA LOUISE

Continuing the original, fantastic Sand Art Parties with the introduction of a second option which includes cupcake decorating too. Fancy 2 parties in one? Then look this way!! Contact Mrs Maker who can give you more information. 45 minutes Sand Art and 45 minutes Cupcake Decorating from only £10 per child. Additional extras available too. Look out for Sand Art sessions in the valley over the coming months. Keep an eye on the Mrs Maker page on Facebook for upcoming events.

Tel: 07821075021 E-mail: mrsmaker123@gmail.com



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Have joined forces to
Offer even more party choices



Sand Art and
Cupcake decorating
Parties from only
£10 per child



Inbox for info



WOODQUIRKZ

Woodquirkz are a family run Bespoke furniture designer/makers specialising in creating MADE TO MEASURE Industrial master pieces from all different types of reclaimed materials not just wood...The showroom and workshop, located at 717 Market Street in Whitworth, opened just before Christmas 2016, call in to have a look around, open 5 days (Mon to Fri) a week 10am – 6pm and weekends by appointment or you can even view designs from the comfort of your own home in the online shop
www.woodquirkz.com.

For more information email Tom Bennett woodquirkz@gmail.com or call 01706 567553 or 07766 260 260

WHITWORTH TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

WHITWORTH SCARECROW FESTIVAL

The 7th Whitworth Scarecrow Festival takes place from 1 July – 9 July this year. Once again this year the public will be voting for which display they think is the best, with the winners announced at the Family Fun Day and Dog Show at the Riverside on 9 July. If you'd like to take part you can pick up an entry form from various locations in Whitworth or, rather handily, you can simply complete the one opposite and hand it in at the Riverside! Last date for returning the forms is Friday 9 June, so you've got plenty of time to come up with ideas for your display.



The 2016 first place winner - Pirates surprise by St Anselm's RC Primary School - photograph used with kind permission of Mike Burgess

Any queries, call Melanie at the Town Council on **01706 852018** / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.



St George celebrations 2016 - photograph used with kind permission of Mike Burgess

BY GEORGE – IT'S ST GEORGE!

On Sunday 23 April, the Whitworth Tourism and Leisure Committee will present the 2017 St George celebrations. This event has become a staple in the Whitworth diary and is very popular, attracting larger crowds – this year the event is expected to be bigger than ever with another special appearance from a ferocious dragon! At 2pm a procession, lead by the Mayor of Whitworth, 'St George', a dragon and the Whitworth Vale and Healey Band, plus representatives of the uniformed organisations, will set off from the corner of Tong Lane and process along Market Street to the Riverside (Civic Hall). Then, at 2.15pm, a Celebration will take place followed by light refreshments. Everyone is welcome to take part in the procession and attend the service. If you would like to help out by spending a few hours marshalling or are part of a group and would like to take part in the procession or help out, contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk on **01706 852018** or email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

WHITWORTH
TOURISM & LEISURE COMMITTEE

WHITWORTH NEEDS YOU!

Have you ever wondered who organizes all these fantastic events that happen throughout the Whitworth year? Well they are carefully planned and executed by a crack team of volunteers known locally as the Tourism and Leisure Committee. You may have seen them out locally sporting their dashing hot pink shirts?

The committee meets about eight times a year and are always looking for new members. If you just fancy getting involved for a couple of hours per year, then you could help by marshalling at some of the events. If you would like find out more about the TLC or marshalling opportunities, contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk on **01706 852018** or email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

HELP TO LIGHT UP WHITWORTH

It is certainly too early to start talking about Christmas trees but it is not too early to order yourself a Christmas tree bracket to be fitted onto the outside of your property then you too can have a twinkly tree this year. The Tourism and Leisure Committee currently have some brackets in stock available for £25 each. Any queries, call Melanie at the Town Council on **01706 852018** / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.



2017 Entry Form

YOUR DETAILS (all those marked with * are required):

Your name and contact details are for the organiser's use only; your address and the name of your display are the only bits of information that will be included on the Trail Map.

Your name *: _____

Your address (incl. postcode) *: _____

Your contact tel no *: _____

Your email address: _____ £1 entry fee paid: YES / NO

YOUR SCARECROW'S DETAILS:

Name of your scarecrow or scarecrow display (as it will appear on the Scarecrow Trail map) *:

Location of your scarecrow display (if different from your address as above) incl. postcode *:

THE OFFICIAL BIT: By signing this entry form and paying my £1 (non-refundable), I agree to display my scarecrow(s) between Sat 1 July and Sun 9 July. I understand that there may be people who will come and look at my creation. If I am unable to show a scarecrow I will do my best to let the organisers know before 9 June. I understand that if my scarecrow display is deemed to be inappropriate I may be asked to remove it. I understand that I may be asked to display a laminated Scarecrow Festival poster next to my display.

SIGNED: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Please return this form to one of the venues listed below by FRIDAY 9 JUNE 2017:

Council Offices, Civic Hall, Market Street, Whitworth

The Riverside (Civic Hall), Market Street, Whitworth

Whitworth Post Office, Market Street, Whitworth

UBS, 699 Market Street, Whitworth

WHITWORTH
TOURISM & LEISURE COMMITTEE

For more information, please contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk, on 01706 852018

email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

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Monday: 2pm – 7pm

Tuesday: 9:30am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm

Wednesday: CLOSED

Thursday: 9:30am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm

Friday: 9:30am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm

Saturday: 9:30am – 1pm

Sunday: CLOSED

CHILDREN'S WEEKLY ACTIVITIES:

Bedtime Stories (ages 18months to 6 years)

2nd Monday of the month 6pm – 6:30pm

Storytime Session (ages 18 months to 6 years) Every Tuesday 2:15pm - 3pm

Bounce & Rhyme (from birth to 18 months) Every Friday 10:15am – 11am

Lego Club (ages 5+) Every Saturday 10:30 – 12pm

ADULT WEEKLY ACTIVITIES:

Knit & Knatter: Every Monday 2pm – 4pm

Scrabble Club: Every Tuesday 10am – 12:30pm

Shared Reading Group: Every Thursday 2:30pm - 4pm

Afternoon Tea: Last Friday of the month 2:30 – 4pm

We also have many more one off events such as author visits and children's holiday craft activities. Look out for information at the library.



WHITWORTH LIBRARY UPDATE

At the time of going to press, the Friends of Whitworth Library Group have been informed that the library has a stay of execution until summer 2017. Whilst this is wonderful news, it does not mean that the long term future of the library is secure. As with most things, finance is the huge issue. This is something that will be the subject of much discussion at public and council level in the coming months. Please keep in touch with events via Facebook, Friends of Whitworth Library or contact friendsofwhitworthlibrarygroup@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

GENTLE YOGA PILATES & RELAXATION

Every Wednesday between 7pm and 8.30pm a friendly group meet at Whitworth Library to take part in gentle exercise and relaxation. Everyone who comes along will receive a warm welcome, for further information call Sheila on 07762 757925.

WHITWORTH NEWS

SPODDEN VALLEY REVEALED

On the weekend of 2 – 4 December, the project embarked on an exciting new phase. Teaming up with Dig Ventures (@TheDigVenturers) and volunteer Explorers, the weekend began with Field Survey work starting from Whitworth Museum. The team found many intriguing and exciting ruins on our journey, capturing the attention of young and old Explorers alike (and piquing the interest of the archaeologists!) All the while, learning new skills and experiencing the beautiful landscape Whitworth has to offer.



Some of the Explorers taking part in the archaeology weekend

With the wonderful news that Spodden Valley Revealed have succeeded in achieving £25,000 funding from Lancashire Environmental Fund and £10,000 from the Ernest Cook Trust, this project can only get bigger and more exciting!

If you want to get involved in future historical investigations and experience some marvellous archaeological adventures, get in touch with Diana at: diana@thehamiltonproject.co.uk

WHITWORTH SWIMMING CLUB

Whitworth Swimming Club rounded off 2016 with a fantastic medal celebration and Christmas Party at the Riverside, where the medals and trophies were presented to the children and winners of the parent's race by the Mayor of Whitworth, Madeline De Souza.

Plans in 2017

The club have a detailed programme of event for 2017 including sponsored distance nights, Whitworth Sports Festival Splash and Dash, Kandel Exchange 2017 and the club gala later in the year. In the next two months, the club are training a new group of teachers to STA award level. The participants will complete the RLSS teacher rescue award and then progress through class room based lessons and waterside teaching.



Recruiting new members

Whitworth Swimming Club is recruiting new members, with spaces for children aged 5 to 16. The club teaches widths on Tuesday and Wednesday at 6.55pm and 7.25pm and lanes at 8.00pm and 8.30pm. Memberships are £20 per child with a discount for multiples of 3 in a family. The club now operates a standing order system order where you pay £9.10 per month for the full 12 months.

Contact us

If you would like your child to join, then please email whitworthswimmingclub@gmail.com or visit www.whitworthswimmingclub.com and read the details on the contact us menu under new member.

LANCASHIRE LAW



We have been contacted by a number of people about Power of Attorney applications recently and would like to take the opportunity to advise Whitworth residents that we can only execute a Power of Attorney document whilst all of the people involved have mental capacity. Once a person has lost mental capacity, and cannot understand the process of applying for a Power of Attorney, it is then too late to do it. Our fees for doing a Power of Attorney and registering it, are £225 plus VAT and the registration fee of £110.

Please note that in order to become an attorney or deputy for a family member or friend who has already lost the mental capacity to make their own decisions, an application to the Court of Protection would need to be undertaken which is very expensive with costs of sometimes over £1,000.

Our prices for Wills have remained the same as when we first began trading in 2008, which is £60 plus VAT for a single Will or £100 plus VAT for a couple making similar Wills.

Our price for an uncontested divorce with financial aspects agreed between the parties is a fixed fee of £450 plus VAT and the court fee of £550.00.

As always if you have any queries, please telephone us on 01706 854167 or pop into the office.

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email: kim.march@lancslaw.co.uk
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Please mention Whitworth Valley News when responding to adverts

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL LAUNCHES COMMUNITY TOILET SCHEME

Public conveniences are getting harder to come by and Whitworth Town Council believe these are important facilities worth preserving. The Town Council currently supports the public toilets at Healey Corner by paying for their opening and cleaning. Over the last year, the council has been trying to find a way of developing the services in Whitworth and for April 2017 will be launching the Community Toilet Scheme.

Basically, local businesses' register to open their toilet to the public in return for a £200 annual payment. Whitworth Town Council would like the to work together with local businesses such as pubs, post offices and shops provide cleaner, safer and more accessible toilets for the public. Members of the public can use registered toilet facilities during the premises opening hours and without the need to make a purchase. Businesses have the right to refuse entry in exceptional circumstances. Look out for the 'Community Toilet Scheme' window stickers in participating business'.

Contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk if you have a business and are interested in taking part in the scheme now or maybe in the future. Please note that the grant will be awarded on a first come, first served basis to suitable premises in each area of the town. Should the allocation reach the full capacity in your area, your details will be put down on a waiting list to take part in the scheme in the future, subject to funding being available.



Look out for this window sticker which identifies premises which are part of the community toilet scheme

WHITWORTH'S ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

Every English town or parish must hold an Annual Meeting of the Parish for electors registered in the area. If there is a Town Council, its Chairperson (or Mayor) chairs the meeting. This year, Whitworth's Annual Meeting of the Parish takes place on Thursday 18 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 (including the Town Council), and offering electors the opportunity to raise queries and make observations. It's usually over within an hour or so, so why not come along, everyone is welcome. See you there! For more information, contact Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk on 01706 852018 / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

MAYOR RAISES FUNDS AT BERNI INN

On Saturday 4th March, the Mayor, Councillor Madeline De Souza is hosting an evening of entertainment featuring local vocalist and guitarist Graham Shellard in aid of the Mayor's Charity Fund. Tickets cost £5 each including table snacks throughout the evening. To purchase tickets contact Madeline on 07961 932276, Berni on 07880 510177 or Christine 01706 536129.

LOCAL NEWS



THE ALLOTMENT WORKING GROUP

The Allotment Working Group has been set up to try and bring more colour to the valley. The group has taken over the planting boxes which are located around Whitworth in conjunction with the Town Council. They have secured donations of funds, workmanship and materials from a variety of local businesses, organisations and individuals to repair and refurbish the existing boxes ready to be planted.

Volunteers have each adopted a box which they will tend to and plant a variety of fruits, vegetables and floral decoration. This project serves as the start of a brighter and more beautiful future for Whitworth with the help of its residents.

For more information or to get involved please contact Cllr Donna Nutt **07532 144924** or Cllr Maureen Jones **07794 356610**.

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WHITWORTH NEWS

NEW YOUTH CLUB FOR WHITWORTH

Friends of Whitworth Youth is a new charity aimed at keeping the youth club open.

Simon Macaulay Chairman of Trustees comments: "We were concerned about the likely closure in March of the 515 youth club in Whitworth, although we understand the financial pressures that Lancashire County Council are under. We have recruited an experienced youth leader, Sarah Corke, a mother with young children, to help ensure that the youth club in Whitworth can continue as before, albeit at a new location which we will announce soon."

Sarah takes up the story "The youth club will only open on a Monday initially- from 7pm to 9.30pm for 12-19 year olds (SEN 25). We hope to work alongside the excellent existing team to ensure things stay as you know! Please keep an eye on the new Facebook page "Whitworth Youth Club. We plan to open if, and when, 515 must close. I am really excited – I have already got a team of local volunteers who have come forward to help make the new club as great as before. And to be clear, the club is open to all." For more information look up WHITWORTH YOUTH CLUB on Facebook or call Sarah on **07954 588335**.

LIVING WELL LIVING BETTER

The Living Well Living Better project aims to help people who might be feeling lonely or socially isolated, and to encourage people to be good neighbours and look out for each other. Regardless of age and background, it's common to feel lonely or isolated, but there is help out there. Ask yourself 'what have I done today or who have I spoken to?' if your answer to this question is regularly – 'no one or not a lot' then you can do something about it.

There is a lot happening in Whitworth, with many groups offering activities you can join. You might just need to sit and chat with someone every now and again, or you might want to put your skills to use and volunteer to help out with activities, not just attend them. You might have a great idea for a club or an activity but don't know how to get your idea off the ground? For more information about how you can tackle loneliness, or how to get support to develop new ideas for activities or groups, contact the Living Well Living Better team: Phone **01706 252542**, Email: hello@livingwell-livingbetter.com, Website: www.livingwell-livingbetter.com

 The Riverside, Whitworth



Sunday 12th March 2017 8.00am to 12.00 noon

£10.00 cars/indoor table, £15.00 vans **To book contact Lisa or Aimee on 01706 854130**



All proceeds donated in memory of Josh McCormack



WHITWORTH NEWS

WHITWORTH BAND CLUB

The following events are scheduled at the Band Club soon:

Saturday 18th February talented singer Gemma Louise Doyle.

Saturday 4th March rockin' with Idol Frets

Saturday 11th March folk duo Alex Cumming and Nicola Beazley return

Friday 17th March is an Irish themed night for St Patricks Day

EXIT appear on **Saturday 25th March**

Saturday 1st April sees Celtic Brew performing

Sunday 2nd with the popular KARAOKÉ night with Jay

Idol Frets return on **15th April**

Friday 21st April sees ukulele maestro Ralph Shaw in the club

30th April Sunday Karaoke

Vocalist and instrumentalist James Devine 6th May.

Dixieland Jazz combo the Spodden Valley 5+1 provide foot tapping music on Friday 19th May

27th May Idol Frets

28th May Karaoke with Jay

On **16th June** "Midsummer Madness" with steel pans and Caribbean Cocktails.

All Sky and BT sports channels are now available. The Club is available for special events and there's a small meeting room for community groups to use, all free of charge - contact the Steward on **01706 852484**. Follow the Club on Facebook, which is updated weekly with a selection of current guest ales and details of forthcoming events.

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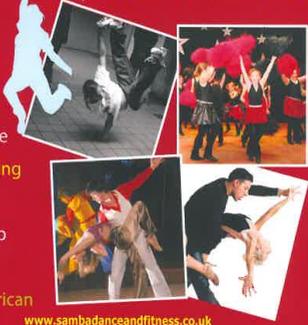
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Please mention Whitworth Valley News when responding to adverts

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT 2017/2018

Whitworth Town Council has this year set a net budget of £58,592. The Council has worked hard to keep the increase in precept to a minimum, which has been difficult in the current financial climate.

This past year has seen some pressures on finances and significant increases in costs, but some decent savings have been made in various areas of the budget to off-set this. Additionally, the Town Council's wise investments are providing a healthy dividend. The Council is never complacent, however, and continues to strive to increase income and reduce spending wherever possible. Expenditure includes salaries for the Town Clerk (30 hours), our full-time Whitworth Town Caretaker, who makes a significant impact on the town's cleanliness, and our Parish Lengthsman, who tackles repairs and general maintenance around the town.

The recently improved Town Council website attracts good visitor numbers, and the Town Council utilises social media to encourage a two-way dialogue with the community. The Valley News magazine, produced quarterly by the Town Council, continues to be hugely popular, and the Council's Tourism and Leisure Committee has a variety of leisure and cultural events planned for the year ahead. The Town Council continues to promote Whitworth as a great place to live, and lobbies hard for the best possible services for the town. It is at the forefront of tackling crime through the sponsorship of the Police Community Support Vehicle, and facilitates monthly multi-agency meetings attended by all the local agencies. From April 2017, Whitworth Town Council are investing in a new Community Toilet Scheme, working alongside local business' to improve the facilities in our town.

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

| | 2017/18 | 2016/17 | 2015/16 |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Employee's (Town Clerk / Town Caretaker) | 46,504 | 45,323 | 46,898 |
| Parish Lengthsman (salary / materials) | 6,740 | 7,287 | 7,066 |
| Administrative Expenses incl. rents | 10,410 | 9,364 | 8,945 |
| Statutory and Civic Events / Expenses | 9,665 | 8,415 | 7,065 |
| Audit Fee | 330 | 450 | 450 |
| Training / Members' Expenses | 650 | 650 | 250 |
| Insurance | 1,228 | 1,628 | 1,480 |
| Grants to Outside Bodies | 1000 | 1,000 | 500 |
| Special Projects | 6,400 | 6,800 | 5,000 |
| Street Floral Displays | 600 | 600 | 600 |
| Magazine (Valley News) | 1,250 | 1,250 | 1,854 |
| Investment Income | -10,500 | -10,500 | -10,000 |
| LCC / RBC devolved funding | -9,747 | -9,697 | -9612 |
| Other income | -6,938 | -5,819 | -5,764 |
| From Reserves | 0 | 0 | -309 |
| Contingencies | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| COST OF TOWN COUNCIL LEVY (£) | 58,592 | 57,751 | 55,423 |
| RBC Council Tax Support Grant | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Net precept | 50,592 | 49,751 | 47,423 |
| Number of band 'D' equivalent units | 2,162 | 2,162 | 2,061 |
| Council Tax per band 'D' property (£p) | £ 23.40 | £ 23.01 | £ 23.01 |
| Percentage increase per band 'D' property | 1.74% | 0% | 0% |
| Actual increase per band 'D' property | 39p | 0p | 0p |



Aunt Mary's Day Nursery

High quality, flexible, affordable childcare 

Part-time and full-time with free 15 hours' term time for eligible children - please enquire 

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www.rightstartdaynurseries.co.uk

Stone House, Dell Road, Healey Dell, Rochdale, OL12 6BG







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The Mayor's Annual Celebration and Awards 2017 ★

The Jack Wilkinson Young Achiever's Award
 Jeff Ogden Services to the Community Award
 Voluntary Award
 Best Business Contribution
 Bringing Communities Together
 Pride of Whitworth Award

Saturday 8th April 2017
 doors open 6.30pm ★

At The Riverside, Civic Hall, Whitworth

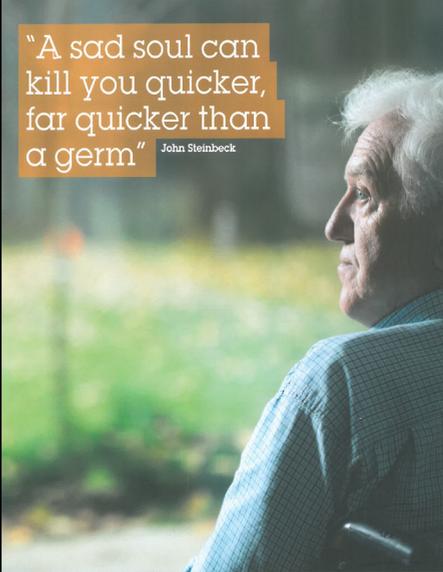
Featuring **Graham Shellard**

Tickets: £15 each including hot buffet and entertainment
 Tickets available from the Council Office on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk and from 'Eventbrite'

Make nominations at www.whitworth.gov.uk/nomination-form before 17th March 2017



"A sad soul can kill you quicker, far quicker than a germ" John Steinbeck



Whatever your age, or background, you can be affected by loneliness or feelings of isolation and you may not even know.

If you think you might like to talk to someone who can help, please call: **01706 252542** or visit www.livingwell-livingbetter.com




Please mention Whitworth Valley News when responding to adverts

CHURCH NEWS

HALLFOLD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Hallfold United Reformed Church will open its 2017 social event calendar with a quiz on Saturday 25th February. Proceedings will commence at 7.30pm and a charge of £5 per person will include light refreshments. Each team can have up to six members but don't worry if you do not have six in your party, there are usually others present to make up numbers. On March 25th at 7.30pm, Hallfold, in conjunction with Whitworth Museum, will present an opportunity to view archive material, including slides, audio and video, relating to Whitworth's past. Tickets are £6 and include light refreshments. Other events are scheduled to take place at various times throughout the year and will be announced in future editions of this magazine. For details of events and for tickets contact Mary on **01706 344894**.

Hallfold Church holds a regular service of worship on Sunday mornings commencing at 10.45am and provides a welcome to all, especially those who are new to the area and wish to extend their circle of friends.

SHAWFORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Services take place at 10.30am and everyone is welcome
Rev'd David J Burrow Superintendent Minister 01706 602882

Mon 9.30am - 12.00 Mother & Toddler Group

Wed 9.30am - 12.00 Mother & Toddler Group

Tues 7pm-9 pm Community Choir

Fri 10.30am – 12.00 Drop in - everyone welcome drop in for a brew & toast and a natter

Last Thurs in the Month 7pm Model Flying Club

3rd Sat in the Month 11am -1 pm Coffee Morning with Lunches

Work is progressing at the Chapel with the heating system going in very soon and some decorating work taking place also. To book a room please ring Christine on **01706 854172**.

St Mary and St Anselm St Patrick's Night Ceilidh Dance

at The Riverside on Friday 17 March at 7.30pm

Tickets £6, available from:

David Peel (07970 782333) or Carmel Donnelly (01706 650239)

Even if you are not a dancer, there'll be instruction given before each dance.

Even if you don't want to dance, it's a fantastic evening and more importantly, great fun!



LOCAL TRADES LIST

CHILDREN - EDUCATION & TUITION:

Childminder, OFSTED registered: VIKKI MEGRAM

Full and part time spaces.

15-hour funded places available.

tel: 01706 630956/vikkimegram@talktalk.net

(77 Hall Fold, Whitworth, OL12 8TT)

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)

Member of the British Acupuncture Council

217 Market Street, Whitworth OL12 8TF

01706 759896 / 07903 851856

lc@valleyacupuncture.co.uk

www.valleyacupuncture.co.uk

PROPERTY SERVICES:

A1 TREE SPECIALIST (Jamie Young)

tel: 07510 911122 or 01706 853760

(114 Cowm Park Way North, Whitworth, OL12 8LW)

All electrical, heating, plumbing & bathroom works

(NICEIC approved - Gas Safe registered):

C & N GAS & ELECTRICAL

tel: 07896 198095

(28 Waingap View, Whitworth, OL12 8QD)

Building & Maintenance:

NORWEST PROPERTY SERVICES (Vincent Stringer)

tel: 07817 519628

(28 Tonacliffe Road, Whitworth, OL12 8SS)

CJ ROTHWELL LANDSCAPE AND GARDENING

cjrothwell@hotmail.com

tel: 07846 107922

(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 Cresent, Shawforth, OL12 8HR)

Double Glazing Repairs:

MANCHESTER DOUBLE GLAZING REPAIRS

Whitworth-based, 30 years' experience, no callout charge.

Locks, handles, hinges, sealed units, drafts, leaks.

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

Electrical maintenance & installation for home & business: PDB ELECTRICAL

tel: 01706 860840 - 07740 825536

pdbelectrical@yahoo.co.uk

(20 Ainsdale Drive, Whitworth, OL12 8QB)

Gas Engineer (servicing, installs & repairs, kitchens & bathrooms):

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)

High Power Pressure Washing (paths & patio cleaning, driveways & tarmac, decking & cobble, graffiti removal, garden stone walls, moss & algae removal), plus window cleaning: SEAN BRADLEY

tel: 01706 879928/07773 798078

seanbrad09@gmail.com

(19 Douglas Road, Bacup, OL13 9PR)

Painting & Decorating: ANDREW ROBINSON

tel: 01706 639709/07967 203484

(4 Meadow Head Avenue, Whitworth, OL12 8TH)

Painter and Decorator - PETER RICHARDSON

tel: 01706 854729 mob: 07957 758928 Over 30 years

experience, no job too small (9 Heatherlands, Whitworth

OL12 8NW)

M CREWE PLASTERING

tel: 01706 759896/07932 986666

(217 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8TF)

PMB PLASTERERS (Paul Burrill)

mob: 07720 848700 email: plburrill@hotmail.co.uk

Whitworth based plasterer with 20 years experience, high

standard finish, no job too big or too small

(17 Grange Road, Whitworth, OL12 8LF)

Plumbing & Heating - LPG (Gas Safe Reg.): PHIL JONES

tel: 07976 886926/philip.jones1@btinternet.com

(4 The Hedgerows, Whitworth, OL12 8AW)

Window Cleaning - Pure Water Fed Cleaning System

(hard-to-reach windows)-UPVC Cleaning: JOHN LEYLAND

tel: 01706 854380/07790 771368

(7 Daniel Street, Whitworth, OL12 8BX)

Window & UPVC Cleaning - Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Jet Washing: OPENREACH

tel: 0800 612 7679/openreach-wcs@tiscali.co.uk

www.openreach-wcs.co.uk

(15 Westgate, Whitworth, OL12 8UW)

List your business for £5 + 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 created 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.

MORE INFO: Melanie Hearn, Town Clerk (01706 852018 / info@whitworth.gov.uk)

USEFUL CONTACTS

WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCILLORS:

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD:

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

Lynda Barnes (Conservative): 01706 853635
07944 116385 • cllrlyndabarnes@hotmail.co.uk

Madeline De Souza (Independent): 01706 853895
mads30950@hotmail.com

Jim Mellor (Conservative): 01706 853479 • 07973 421145
jim.mellor47@btinternet.com

Donna Nutt (Community First): 07532 144924

Sean Serridge (Labour): 01706 877008 • 07947 444732
seanserridge@rossendalebc.gov.uk
sean.serridge@lancashire.gov.uk

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:

Cheryl Brine (Community First): 07950 728890
cherylbrine@rocketmail.com

David Chorlton (Independent): 01706 869142
01706 853234 • david@ubswitworth.co.uk

Maureen Jones (Community First): 07794 356610
maureen5961@hotmail.com

Ian Mycock (Labour): 01706 632823

Karen Ruane (Independent): 07772 534412
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**
(see left for contact details)

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:

Alan Neal and **Sean Serridge**
(see left for contact details)

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

Sean Serridge
(see left for details)

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 Feb, Thurs 9 Mar, Thurs 23 Mar, Thurs 6 Apr, Thurs 27 Apr, Thurs 18 May, Thurs 25 May
All meetings take place at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber at the Riverside; members of the public are welcome.

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:

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

Green Vale Homes: 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

Honorary Alderman Eileen Kershaw: 01706 344661

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