

Issue 60 / March 2020

Whitworth

VALLEY NEWS



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Whitworth
Town Council

Local news

UPDATES FROM
COMMUNITY
GROUPS

**Business
listings**

VE 75 CELEBRATION

9TH MAY 2020

MORE INFORMATION ON PAGE 3



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Dear residents and readers,

I have had an amazing, enjoyable and very busy year representing Whitworth as Mayor. I have attended numerous events locally all of which made me so proud of our town and the community we have here. Our schools are excelling and the high school awards evening celebrating their fantastic results proved that.

This is my final message as Mayor and I want to thank all those people who have supported my charities and are continuing to do so. Thank you to my family and friends who have supported me in my mayoral role and particularly my grandson who has accompanied me on many occasions as my consort, including on our recent trip to our twin town of Kandel in Germany.

A very special thanks must go to Dawn Rose and her real women fashion show who supported my charity by attending our gin, fashion and chocolate evening which raised an amazing £700! All monies raised will be shared between local groups who work with our young people in Whitworth, I also plan to support Springhill Hospice by donating to them. The Christmas lights switch-on was very exciting and the community carol service was possibly the best one I have ever attended. Over 230 residents came along and it had been spectacularly organised by my Mayoral chaplain, Rev Joanna Watson. There are still many engagements to fulfil before my term ends which I am looking forward to here and out of town.

As a culmination to my Mayoral year I would like to invite you to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE day in style on Saturday 9 May at the Riverside, Whitworth. Doors will open at 7pm and guests will be entertained by Maria Manchester, the 40s sweetheart with classics from the war era including 'We'll Meet Again', 'Long Way to Tipperary' and 'Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree' with a potato pie supper served at 9pm. Tickets are £15 each with a small surcharge for booking online. Tickets are available now from the Riverside or from www.whitworth.gov.uk/events/VE_day_75

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

With all best wishes

Councillor Lynda Barnes, Mayor of Whitworth



The Mayor of Whitworth attending the Springhill Hospice Light of Life service alongside the Mayor of Rochdale.

VE 75

CELEBRATION

Featuring

MARIA MANCHESTER

the 40s sweetheart

Saturday 9th May

The Riverside Doors 7pm

£15

Tickets available NOW

from the Riverside and online

www.whitworth.gov.uk/events/VE_day_75

TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

MRS ANITA FARROW MADE HONORARY WHITWORTH TOWNSMAN

On 21 November, the Town Council voted to bestow the title of Honorary Townsman of Whitworth on Mrs Anita Farrow. Councillor Mellor explained "Anita has given excellent service to Whitworth, as a member Whitworth Amateur Dramatic Society for over 50 years and by leading the Horticultural Society for a great many years. She was the driving force in obtaining funds for the restoration of the memorial gardens and getting the roadside planters built."

Anita was awarded the Jeff Ogden service to the community award in 2012 and 2019 Women of Whitworth lifetime achievement award. This is a prestigious accolade and the highest award the Town Council can give. To make the award even more special, Anita will be the first female recipient.

The occasion will be marked with a celebratory dinner on Saturday 28th March at 7pm at the Riverside. All are welcome to join the celebration and support Anita. Tickets are priced at £32.95 each and are available from the Riverside and also online www.whitworth.gov.uk/events/hon_townsman_dinner



WHITWORTH LODGE GOES UP FOR SALE

Whitworth Town Council have made the decision to put up the Lodge for sale, this is a unique opportunity to own a substantial detached family home full of local history. The stone built period property is situated at the top of Edward Street, just inside the cemetery gates. It needs some modernisation and decoration throughout but is the perfect opportunity for the new owners to make their own stamp. The property has a recently fitted boiler with gas central heating and UPVC windows already fitted.

The downstairs has two large reception rooms with a separate hallway and the former registrar's office with separate access and a toilet which would make an ideal guest room or home office. Upstairs there are 3 large bedrooms and a family bathroom. The view from the master bedroom is spectacular, looking out over Whitworth and onto the hills on the other side of the valley. The property also has a cellar complete with coal store and access out to the garden.

The property has just gone on the market with Adamson's estate agents with an asking price of £250,000. For more information or to arrange a viewing please contact Adamsons Estate Agents, 109 Yorkshire Street, Rochdale OL16 1YJ Telephone: 01706 522424 or email sales@adamsons-estates.co.uk



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

Every English town or parish must hold a meeting for electors registered in the area. This year, Whitworth's Annual Meeting of the Parish takes place on Thursday 14 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!

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Sat 6th Jun	10am—11am litter pick
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	11.30am—12.30pm gardening
Sat 19th Sep	10am—11am litter pick
	11.30am—12.30pm gardening
Sun 1st Nov	10am—11am litter pick
	11.30am—12.30pm gardening

More Info 01706 852018, keepwhitworthtidy@gmail.com or
whitworthinbloom@gmail.com



WHITWORTH TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

WHITWORTH'S NEW YEAR'S DAY DUCK RACE AN EGG-CITING SUCCESS

A popular event in the Whitworth calendar, the ducks took to the water at the overflow of Cowm Reservoir on Tong. 1,560 ducks were sponsored and around 500 people turned out on the day in this growing event.

The ducks were launched at 1pm by Whitworth Councillor David Chorlton, Chair of the Tourism and Leisure Committee, with support from committee member Les Hirst. The sponsor of the first duck (1206) over the line was Sheila Dearden who won £100, with second place (1044) being taken by Holly Atkin with a prize of £75 and third prize (961) of £50 issued to Debbie Gowans. The last duck (603) to waddle in was sponsored by Jack Foster who was awarded a tenner.

The Duck Race is organised jointly between Tourism and Leisure Committee and CLAW (the Community Leisure Association of Whitworth). All proceeds are ploughed back into tourism and leisure events for the town organised by the two organisations. This year the duck race raised over a thousand pounds to be split between the two organisations and used for the Whitworth community.

For those unfamiliar with the concept, numbered ducks sponsored for a pound are entered into the Duck Race, and those who have sponsored the numbers of the first three ducks (and the last one) over the line get a cash prize.



Photo used with the kind permission of Mike Burgess

SAVE THE DATES...

The Tourism and Leisure Committee have been working hard planning this year's events. Mark these dates in your diary as these are not to be missed!

Sunday 5th July - 12 - 4pm - Family Fun Day and Dog Show

Sunday 6th September - 1pm - 4pm - Whitworth Rushcart

Early October - will be the deadline for those wishing to have 'over the shops' Christmas Trees to place and pay for their order

Sunday 29th November - Christmas Lights Switch On

CHANGES TO ST. GEORGE'S CELEBRATION

The Tourism and Leisure Committee have had some difficult decisions to take this year due to reduction in funding. The St George's celebration is by far the most expensive event of the Whitworth calendar and the least well attended. The dragon has other commitments in Shrek the musical this year meaning the star of the show would be missing. Bearing all this in mind the committee have taken the difficult decision to cancel the event in its current format. They are currently in talks with other groups to see if they can jointly organise an event to take its place so watch this space and facebook for an update.

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WHITWORTH NEWS

MONDAY EVENING READING GROUP

Once again, the Monday Evening Reading Group has donated from its members to the Friends of Whitworth Library in recognition of the wonderful work this group does with the local community.

The reading group collects £10 per member yearly (totalling £80) to donate to causes close to the member's heart.

For information relating to Friends of Whitworth Library, please visit the library.

For information of joining Monday Evening Reading Group which meets monthly, please call or text Jill on 07539001001



VE 75 CELEBRATION
9TH MAY 2020 7PM
hosted by the Mayor of Whitworth
15 INCLUDING POTATO PIE SUPPER

featuring
MARIA MANCHESTER
the 40's sweetheart

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Featuring
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the 40's sweetheart
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Mondays

- 10:30 – 12:00 **Ages and Stages** Children and Family Wellbeing Service (0 – 5 years).
 14:00 – 16:00 **Knit and Natter** All welcome!
 18:00 – 18:45 **Bedtime Story** - every last Monday of the month (18 months - 8 years).

Tuesdays

- 10:00 – 12:00 **Lighthouse Coffee Morning** All welcome!
 10:00 – 12:30 **Scrabble Club** Great company and good fun – why not join us?
 10:00 – 12:00 **U3A Family History Group** 3rd Tuesday of month. T. 01706 750542 (Glenda) for info.
 10:00 – 12:00 **Citizen's Advice** by appointment. Please ring CA on: 0300 456 2552.
 14:00 – 15:00 **Storytime Session with themed crafts** (18 months - 5 years).
 15:30 – 17:00 **U3A Wellbeing** 1st Tuesday of month. T. 07762 757925 (Sheila) for info.

Wednesdays

- 10:00 – 11:30 **Baby Group** Children and Family Wellbeing Service (birth - 12 months).
 13:00 – 14:00 **Up and Active Health Walk** Meet at the library for an accessible walk and a brew.
 Meeting time from March 2020 to be confirmed.
 15:30 – 17:00 **Junior Group** Children and Family Wellbeing Service (7 – 11 years).
 18:00 – 19:00 **Mature Movers and Groovers** Dance with Sheila Daly (07762 757925). £5 donation.
 19:00 – 20:30 **Yoga, Pilates and Relaxation** with Sheila Daly (07762 757925). £5 per session.

Thursdays

- 09:30 – 11:30 **IT Clinic** Personalised IT support – please speak to librarians.
 10:00 – 11:30 **Shared Reading Group** All welcome!
 10:00 – 12:00 **The A Team** Supporting learning disabilities. Email: melanie_ashman@yahoo.com
 11:15 – 12:15 **Up and Active Health Walk** Meet at Stubblylee Park café for an accessible walk.
 Meeting time from March 2020 to be confirmed.
 13:30 – 15:30 **U3A Art Group** 1st Thurs of mth, practice session. T. 07800 820096 (Lindsay) for info.
 13:30 – 15:30 **U3A Art Group** 3rd Thurs of mth, follow-up. T. 07800 820096 (Lindsay) for info.
 13:30 – 15:30 **U3A Flower Arranging** 3rd Thursday of month. T. 07411 520771 (Nina) for info.
 14:00 – 15:00 **U3A Creative Writing** 1st Thursday of month. T. 07903 570008 (Kay) for info.
 14:00 – 15:00 **Bookworms Reading Group** (for adults). 2nd Thursday of month.
 14:00 – 15:00 **Rossendale Hospice Support Group** for people in palliative care and their families.
 1 to 1 available after one hour's group session. 3rd Thurs of month. Start date T.B.C.
 14:00 – 16:00 **U3A History** on 4th Thursday of month. T. 01706 875585 (Jackie) for info.

Fridays

- 10:15 – 11:30 **Baby Bounce and Rhyme** (birth to 18 months).
 14:30 – 16:00 **Afternoon Tea** on last Friday of month - with guest speakers. Everyone welcome!
 14:00 – 16:00 **Crafty Sew and Sews** on 1st Friday of month - with guest speakers. Everyone welcome!

Saturdays

- 10:30 – 12:30 **Lego Club** (for all ages).
 13:00 – 15:00 **Whitworth Wellbeing Group** For more information, please email Jodie at: whitworthmentalhealth@aol.com

. . . and also books; useful information e.g. about local activities, one-off events, and clubs; computers;
 and, most importantly, friendly faces.
Everyone welcome!

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



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PAYING RESPECT TO MRS CHRISTINE ASHCROFT

Christine Ashcroft was a well-respected and valued Whitworth resident who dedicated her life to making Whitworth a better community for everyone. Christine sadly passed away on 3rd December 2019 aged 77 years. Her service to Whitworth was greatly appreciated and she will be sorely missed by all the many committees that she contributed so very much towards.

Christine was a keen sports woman and a committed volunteer for Whitworth Swimming Club, Whitworth Sports Council and Community Leisure Association Whitworth for many years. In addition, she also volunteered for the Town Twinning Committee and helped to strengthen the friendship with our twin town, Kandel in Germany. Christine was awarded the Jeff Ogden Service to the Community award in 2013 and the Women of Whitworth Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018 in recognition of her service to Whitworth.



Although this is not technically protocol, Whitworth Town Council lowered the flag on the day of Christine's funeral. Members felt that an exception should be made due to the amazing commitment that Christine made in Whitworth over a considerable period and it would be an honour that is very well deserved.

WHITWORTH SPORTS FESTIVAL

This year will revert to its usual slot, running from Saturday June 6 to Sunday June 14. We've the Euros to cope with this summer but have no fear – we've had a word with UEFA, and England don't kick off until the final Sunday afternoon. If you've an event you'd like to run, please contact Janet Whitehead on 07795577647 or j.w62@hotmail.co.uk Kim Blezard will be coordinating inter-primary school events. Heidi Bingham will be handling publicity. We hope to run the usual mix of events, some out-and-out competitive, some relaxed, where participation is the main aim; some for children, some for adults, some for everybody... and most for free! Full details in June's Valley News.





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STREAKY BEHINDERS' CHARITY SUCCESS

A group of dads from Samba Dance and Fitness thought it would be fun to do a group dance for the Christmas Presentation evening. Pete, took control and it went from a one-off performance to raising £7264.00 for the charity Francis House Children's Hospice, Manchester.

The dads made a cheeky Whitworth 2020 calendar dressed as peaky blinders, hence the name Streaky Behinders! They sold 300 calendars as well as competing in born survivor twice, charity car wash, sponsored walk, run to the top of Brown Wardle and a charity football match. They finished the year off with a dance piece, based around the Full Monty, choreographed by Beth Hall for the Christmas presentation.

Nomical, paid for the making of the calendars so proceeds could go straight to charity, Alfie Ogg, produced the photographs free of charge and large donations were made by Farley's Solicitors, ENWL and Samba.

Samba would like to that everyone involved, including those who bought calendars and gave generously to this worthy cause. Huge thanks has to go to the gentleman who danced, performed and took part in the calendar; Peter Griffiths, Richard Bingham, Grant Proctor, Ian Duffy, Gareth Clarke, Mick Simpson, Ben Leech, Jon Dunning, John Mellor and Sam Lord.



The cheque was presented to Kate from Francis House on Saturday 11th January 2020 at Samba Dance and Fitness.

NEW TENANTS IN TONG LANE

Danny Whitehead started Metcon Gyms in an old industrial unit in Bridge End Mills (owned by Anglo recycling) in 2018. He tidied up the unit along with his small team and built up a loyal clientele.

Simon Macaulay, Managing Director at Anglo explains:

"I was incredibly impressed by Danny – for his amazing work ethic but also for the fun and laughter there always seemed to be at his gym- classes for mums with young children and even overweight businessmen! all got treated with courtesy and respect.

Danny approached Anglo and suggested that he saw a future in the deserted top floor of the mill then another new tenant, Chris Rothwell, a local builder, along with his team made the project and refurbishment happen. Chris initiated tidying up the area behind the mill to make it more pleasant for all. I am delighted to be associated and to work with two local men who are in the early stages of their business careers but already helping to improve the look of Whitworth and now offering a great gym facility so people don't have to go down to Rochdale."



I'M TOO OLD TO START EXERCISING - IT'S A MYTH!

Fact: You're never too old! Adults who become active later in life often show greater physical and mental improvements than their younger counterparts. If you've never exercised before or it's been a while, don't worry - you'll quickly reap many rewards. Just begin with gentle activities and build up from there.



Make that start at the AB&D centre class for 50+ (or anyone who wants gentle yet effective exercise) by doing gentle cardiovascular exercise and balance routines to help in fall prevention. Each class has a focus spot for problem areas like the neck, back and knees, improving flexibility with strength resistance for upper and lower body, sit to stand, stretch and cool down.

Inactivity promotes many degenerative diseases; type 2 diabetes, hypertension and others, exercise can help improve symptoms. Please come along and **Just Move! To Improve.**

Join in on Mondays from 1.45-2.45pm (except bank holidays) at the AB&D centre, Burnley road, Bacup OL13 8EU

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

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

In November members were delighted when Whitworth & District U3A was awarded the Community Group Award for Whitworth at Rossendale Council's 2019 Community Awards Ceremony held at The Riverside. The group was formed in April 2017 and currently has 90 members with 12 special interest groups led by the members who share their skills and talents. Membership is made up of retired and semi-retired people from the Whitworth area who wish to continue learning, make new friends and have fun.



New members are welcome at the monthly meetings which are held at The Riverside on the first Wednesday of the month at 1.00 pm. Annual membership is £15 and members' meetings are £2 for room hire, speaker and refreshments. Anyone interested may attend two meetings before joining.

The speaker on 4th March is Sid Calderbank whose subject is Lancashire Language and on 1st April Roy Pennington will be talking about Santiago di Compostela. Why not come and join in? You will be made very welcome.

A full list of speakers, contact details and interest groups, are on the U3A Facebook page and website (u3asites.org.uk/whitworth).



Saturday 22nd February 2020
7.30pm Ticket £10.00

Join us for Afternoon Tea
 on
Mother's Day
Sunday 22nd March 2020
2.00pm
 Adults 13.50
 £16.50 with Prosecco
 Children 4.50





Friday 06th March 2020
Tickets £10pp
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 Doors 7.00pm
 First game 8.00pm

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For more
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WHITWORTH DOCTORS

Even after 250 years the local museum here in Whitworth continues to receive objects and documents relating to the valley's unique story of the Whitworth Doctors. Members of the Taylor family first came to Whitworth around 1764, first as blacksmiths and farriers but later as the resident medical practitioners. Recently, the museum was gifted an accounts book which dates from the 1830's and which details the supply of various pills, potions and medicines to residents of the village as well as regular visits to those patients too ill to attend surgery. This book indicates, perhaps surprisingly, that bleeding and bloodletting was still regularly taking place at that time. Medical thinking, dating from the time of the Greek physician Hippocrates, around 390BC, suggests that illness is caused by an imbalance in the make-up of bodily fluids. It was thought these fluids, often referred to as the 'Four Humors' and comprising of blood, yellow bile, phlegm and black bile could be re-balanced by the removal of blood from the body. The book tells us that on 3rd December 1835, 'Widow' Mills of Broadley was charged 6d (around £15 today) for 'bleeding'. The book is on permanent display at Whitworth Museum.



Medical accounts book dating from the 1830's

WHITWORTH BAND

The Band would like to thank all their supporters who attended any of their concerts or made donations during December to the street playing or playing outside the Co-Op - your continued support is much appreciated. The band missed one session of street playing again due to the heavy rain. One of the highlights this year was the Cancer research concert at the Riverside, a wonderful evening of festive music and song.

The contest season is underway and at the Butlin's contest in January the band improved on last year's performance coming 3rd with a prize of £700 - a great result. The area final's take place at Blackpool on 24th Feb, hopefully the Band will qualify for the Nationals. The Band will also take part at Holme Valley contest in April and Buxton in May. Whit Friday marches are on 5th June and the annual St George's concert is on 25th April.

The Youth and Academy Bands continue to flourish and over 50 children now rehearse in the club between 6 and 8.30 on Wednesday evenings. Even if your child does not attend school in Whitworth and you would like them to learn how to play an instrument, attend any concerts or book the Band please contact Michael Whitby 852613.

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SKYLINE WALK

This year's Skyline walk takes place on Sunday May 17. Walkers leave Lobden Golf Club between 8 and 9am, walking a circle of the moors around Whitworth at their own pace, returning for a bite to eat at the Golf Club. This year's direction is clockwise, meaning walkers get a downhill start then go up Rooley Moor Road. For those wanting something shorter than the full 14 miles, there are two options – the 9-mile Western Skyline to Britannia; or the 3-mile Skyline Sunday Stroll, which concludes at the foot of Rooley Moor Road. Entry forms are available from the start of April, or you can enter via the Town Council website (50p extra that way).

The event needs volunteers to act as checkpoint marshals and backmarkers. The marshals form static teams to offer reassurance to walkers and keep a tally for safety purposes. Backmarkers walk a 3-mile section of the course, slowly, at the very back of the walkers to ensure the organisers don't lose anybody, collecting up marker flags, and giving marshals a clear signal that they can close their checkpoint. All volunteers qualify for a free bite back at Lobden. If you might like to volunteer for either of these roles, please contact Jo Furtado – 07813180748 or jofurtado@hotmail.co.uk

CANCER RESEARCH WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

The committee would like to thank all their supporters for their continued support and generosity. The annual carol concert took place at the Riverside in December to a packed audience and a cheque for £18,000 was handed over to the Patterson institute for the equipment purchased this year.

The charity meal at the Ashoka raised over £1400 which included a donation of £750 from staff at the Yorkshire Bank Rochdale who had held various fund raisers across local branches leading up to the event. Thanks as well to Raj and Zac from Ashoka for their continued support. A quiz was held at the band club in February and meal at Pepe Nero is planned soon, watch out for updates on these events next magazine.

A new event this year will be a ploughman's lunch and teddy bears picnic at Lobden Golf Club on Sunday 31st May. Tickets for this will be priced £10 for adults and £5 for children. Please support this new venture. The committee are always on the lookout for new fund raising ideas. If you would like to organise your own event for cancer research or want to know more about the Committee's work or simply make a donation please contact Michael Whitby on 852613, Arnold Ashworth 343424 or Elaine Bagshaw 853935.

WHITWORTH VALE AND HEALEY BAND CLUB

The club hope to build on their success as Lancashire and West Pennines CAMRA Club of the year - putting them in the top 16 nationally! Traditional beers from a variety of local and national brewers are always available or try out the gin selection. Current beer selection continually updated on the clubs facebook page. Though a members club all are made welcome.

Regular fortnightly quizzes on Sundays and karaoke with Jay on the last Sunday of each month. Regular performances on weekends throughout the year; including St Patricks day celebrations with Celtic Brew on 14th March. Always guaranteed to get feet tapping - check the notice board, website or facebook page for details.

Club rooms are available, generally free of charge, for use by societies and local groups. Contact Stewards on 01706 852484.

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A cartoon illustration of a brown dog with large, expressive eyes and a pink tongue sticking out. The dog is sitting on a green lawn with several pink tulips. In the background, there is a stylized tree with orange-brown branches and green leaves. The entire scene is set against a white background.



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WHITWORTH ROADWORKS UPDATE

Town councillors and members of the public have been complaining recently to Lancashire County Council about the state of the road surface on Market Street throughout the length of Whitworth. The road was fully resurfaced last summer but started to break up not long after and the current state is poor.

Lancashire Highways have confirmed that the surface is unsatisfactory, and that the contractor will not receive payment until the issue is rectified. They have instructed the contractor to resurface the road again but this will have to wait until the weather improves. In the meantime they have agreed to provide regular street sweeping until the resurfacing is complete.

There are also plans to make repairs to the broken drains under the pedestrian crossing on Market Street near Tong Lane. This area has flooded regularly for several years and they are now able to make repairs and resolve the problem. There will be an inevitable knock on effect for traffic during the works and apologies are given for any disruption.

At the time of going to print there are no dates decided for these works but keep an eye on the Lancashire Highways roadworks bulletin online for further details <http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/roadworks/bulletin.aspx?district=Rossendale>
If you have any comments or complaints about the road surface, you can contact Lancashire highways directly on 0300 123 6780 or email highways@lancashire.gov.uk.

GALLERY AT THE BATH

The Gallery at the Baths has an exhibition of photos from Whitworth Horticultural Society on display now. The next exhibitions will be:

From Feb 28	Artwork by the pupils of St Anne's School, Edgeside
March 13	Photos from the Over the Tops walking group
April 3	(joint exhibition) Whitworth Community Choir/Samba Dance
April 24	Skyline
May 15	Whitworth Sports Festival retrospective

Meanwhile, at the Gallery at the Library there's now artwork from St Anne's, and upcoming are:

From Feb 28	Artwork from Tonacliffe School
March 13	Whitworth Horticultural Society
April 3	Skyline
April 24	Whitworth Sports Festival retrospective
May 15	Over the Tops walking group

The two spaces are available to any organisation or individual with Whitworth connections to exhibit photos or artwork. Contact Jo Furtado - 07813180748 or jofurtado@hotmail.co.uk – for further details.

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WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT 2020/2021

Whitworth Town Council has this year set a net budget of £60,6266. The Council has worked hard to keep the increase in precept to a minimum, which has been difficult in the current financial climate and in the face of further cuts to the Council Tax Support Grant from the Borough Council.

This past year has seen some pressures on finances and significant increases in costs, but some decent savings have been made in various areas of the budget to off-set this and the Town Council's wise investments are providing a healthy dividend. The Council is facing tough times in the next few years as we are expecting further cuts from the borough, so we strive to increase income and reduce spending wherever possible. Expenditure includes salaries for the Town Clerk (30 hours), our full-time Whitworth Town Caretaker, who makes a significant impact on the town's cleanliness, and our Parish Lengthsman, who tackles repairs and general maintenance around the town and also a member of staff who opens the toilets at weekends.

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

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

	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
Employee's (Town Clerk / Town Caretaker)	53,408	51,184	48,256
Parish Lengthsman (salary / materials)	6,000	6,500	6,500
Administrative Expenses	11,020	11,825	11,192
Statutory and Civic Events / Expenses	8,460	7,605	8,015
Audit Fee	400	400	435
Training / Member Expenses	450	600	650
Insurance	1289	1,275	1,228
Grants to Outside Bodies	1,000	1,000	1,000
Special Projects	7,412	5,678	8,300
Street Floral Displays	600	600	600
Whitworth Valley News Magazine	638	1,500	1,750
Investment Income	-10,000	-10,500	-10,500
LCC / RBC devolved funding	-11,950	-11,041	-10,314
Other income	-7,650	-7,370	-7,428
From Reserves	-1,451	0	0
Contingencies	1,000	1,000	1,000
COST OF TOWN COUNCIL LEVY (£)	60,626	60,256	60,684
RBC Council Tax Support Grant	4,000	6,000	8,000
Net Precept	56,626	54,256	52,684
Number of band 'D' equivalent units	2,194	2,186	2,186
Council Tax per band 'D' property (£p)	£25.81	£24.82	£24.10
Percentage increase per band 'D' property	3.99%	2.99%	2.99%
Actual increase per band 'D' property	99p	72p	70p

WHITWORTH YOUNG PEOPLE

OUR LADY & ST. ANSELM'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY BUSY RAISING MONEY FOR CHARITY AND COLLECTING

In December, school presented a cheque to Polly from Cancer Research UK, Whitworth for £3,808. The money was collected through a number of fundraising events over the school year, including a cake sale, pyjama day, afternoon tea and a sponsored run.

To celebrate the Epiphany, the children returned to school after Christmas like the three kings bearing gifts! The number of gifts brought into school was overwhelming and included baby-grows, nappies, outfits, toiletries and more. The gifts have now been distributed by the community Midwives, who were extremely grateful to receive such a bounty, to families in need of extra help with their new baby.



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

Our Lady & St. Anselm's RC Primary School
Lime Grove, Off John Street, Whitworth, OL12 8DB
Tel: 01706 853545 email: office@olsa.lancs.sch.uk

WHITWORTH YOUTH

Before Christmas, Whitworth Youth were able to offer a girls group on a Wednesday night at 515. The girls chose sewing as their first activity and made patchwork blankets for the residents in Barley View care home. The girls made the blankets from scratch learning many new skills along the way. They then visited the care home to present their creations to the residents who were thrilled with their blankets.

Cameron Ashworth, 13, said: "One of the residents started crying because she liked her blanket so much." Some of the young people had never sewn before and all thoroughly enjoyed the group, learning new skills, making new friends and most of all meeting the residents of Barley View.

The group want to thank everyone involved; donating sewing machines and material, the CO-OP who donated £250 and the amazing volunteers who came along to teach the girls a new skill and made group possible.



Another huge thank you to all the young people and members of the community who helped collect non-perishables for Christmas hampers. The youth were able to donate 3 large hampers and toys to 7 families in Whitworth.

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Mondays	9.30 - 11.30am	Toddler group
Tuesdays	7pm - 9pm	Whitworth Community Choir rehearsals
Wednesdays	9.30am to 11.30am	Toddler Group
	6.30pm - 8pm	Shotokan Karate
Thursdays	8pm last Thursday in every month	Model Flying Club
Fridays	10.30am - 12.00	Community Drop In. Drop in for tea, coffee and toast (and a natter!) all welcome
Saturday	Coffee & Lunches look out for information	

Superintendent Minister Revd. David J Burrow Tel 01706 602882
For room hire contact Christine Tel 01706 854172 or **Lois 01706 852815**

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SPRING FLOWER EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE RIVERSIDE 2020

Whitworth will again play host to a National Horticultural event when the Alpine Garden Society stage another huge Spring Flower Show at The Riverside on Saturday 25th April. 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, dwarf 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 several highly prestigious medals and trophies. Shows held in the hall in the 1990's and more recently attracted marvelous attendances and the organisers hope that folk will be tempted back by a raffle, tombola, free parking, seed, book and plant sales and excellent refreshments. The event runs from 11am until 3.30pm on the 25th April 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? The Show Secretary, John Dower, can be contacted on 01928 733419. The East Lancashire Group holds regular monthly meetings at the Civic Hall in Ramsbottom, continues to thrive although new members are always welcomed and encouraged. Group Secretary, Cliff Booker can be contacted on 01706 534626.



LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

KEEP WHITWORTH TIDY AND BLOOMING!

In the new year, some of the Whitworth in Bloom Committee were asked to take over the 'Keep Whitworth Tidy' litter picking group. It is mainly the same volunteers who attend both groups anyway so it really did make sense to collaborate.

The group have got their heads together and come up with a schedule of dates for community litterpicks and gardening so everyone can plan ahead. The January event was a success with members spending the first hour picking up lots of litter in several locations followed by an hour removing self-seeded tree roots from an area near bar garage where the group hope to plant some colour later in the year. A planting event was done with a class from St Anselms alongside Cowm Park Way, look out for the crocuses as spring approaches and look for the colour of daffodils near Daniel Street that we planted late last year.

Many members also got involved in a tree planting to put some hedgerow plants on Waingap Woods, it was a beautiful, crisp morning and there are hopes to add to this by planting fruit trees in spring to create a community orchard.

Keep an eye out for meeting locations nearer the time, you don't have to attend them all, even if you can only make one during the year it is a great help. The group have also started fundraising for the upcoming years activities, if you would like to donate please get in touch.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Mel on 01706 852018, email keepwhitworthtidy@gmail.com and whitworthinbloom@gmail.com or just turn up!



Community clean-up. Get involved!

2020 Community Clean-up dates:

Sunday 22nd March	10am—11am litter pick 11.30am—12.30pm gardening
Saturday 6th June	10am—11am litter pick 11.30am—12.30pm gardening
Sunday 19th July	10am—11am litter pick 11.30am—12.30pm gardening
Saturday 19th Sept	10am—11am litter pick 11.30am—12.30pm gardening
Sunday 1st Nov	10am—11am litter pick 11.30am—12.30pm gardening

For more info telephone 01706 852018,
email info@whitworth.gov.uk or visit the Keep Whitworth Tidy or
Whitworth in Bloom Facebook pages



WHITWORTH AND HEALEY HORTICULTURE SOCIETY

The volunteers were proud to have the gardens looking their very best for The North West in Bloom's 'It's Your Neighbourhood' award. Whitworth Memorial Park was awarded a 'Thriving, Level 4' which, for a first time entry, is very encouraging (there are only 5 levels). The judges said, 'This is a very good example of an IVN location being managed and maintained by an enthusiastic volunteer group...to provide a Memorial Garden for all the locals and visitors to enjoy. The roses are very well maintained and beautiful.'

This work has been carefully managed by the volunteers, especially Anita Farrow and Christine Parkinson who are retiring from the group after many years' extremely valuable service to the community. We cannot thank them enough for all they have done to establish such a lovely community space.

If you think you could be a volunteer and help continue their good work, please contact 01706 852018



ANDEMS RUNNERS - RACES IN WHITWORTH

Andems runners have several races coming up at Cowm Reservoir in Whitworth.

The Joe Salt Memorial Cowm Reservoir Race takes place at 7pm on Wednesday 1st April 2020 from the Cock & Magpie. Joe contributed over 60 years to Athletics. This race is a RRC measured 5k Cert No 13/325 which incorporates 2 laps of Cowm Reservoir. Proceeds from the race go to Mollie Campbell (see below) and there are prizes for all finishers. Entry fee £5.00 to affiliated. £7.00 to unaffiliated. The Mia Butterworth-Brooks One Mile Race is at 6.45pm.

Andems are also pleased to stage Mollie's 5K to support Whitworth's own Commonwealth Silver Medallist in the build up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The race takes place at 7pm on Wednesday 8th April 2020 from the Cock & Magpie, Whitworth, Rochdale, OL12 8BJ. This accurately measured 5K, takes in two laps of the Reservoir. Entry fee £4.00 to Club Runners. £6.00 to U/A. £1.00 extra on night. All proceeds to Mollie Campbell.

Ella Chadwick Mile starts at 6.30pm and costs £3.00. Ella is the Whitworth girl who recently received a Pride of Britain award. Proceeds to Royal Manchester Children's Hospital!

Please car share and park sensibly in the area. For all enquiries please contact 01706 750620 or email info@andemsrunners.co.uk

PROPOSED MOVE FOR WHITWORTH POST OFFICE

The Post Office is proposing to relocate Whitworth Post Office to WME Convenience Store, 303 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8PW. Post Office services would be provided from two open-plan counters alongside the retail counter. The Post Office opening hours would be significantly extended. The new opening hours would be Monday to Saturday: 8am – 7pm; Sunday: 9am – 6pm. This would be more than 30 extra hours of Post Office service a week including Sundays and Saturday afternoons. The branch would also open earlier and it would close much later and wide range of products and services would still be available.



The Post Office is inviting customers and interested parties to give their comments on the move from 295 Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8PW in a public consultation and are looking for feedback about accessibility, local community issues and anything that they can do to make life easier for customers.

The consultation will close on 4 March 2020. Customers can share their views online at postofficeviews.co.uk with the branch code 284424. Submissions can also be made via email to comments@postoffice.co.uk, by post to Freepost YOUR COMMENTS, or by telephone 03452 66 01 15 or Textphone 03457 22 33 55.

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Instructor David says "the session held at Whitworth Leisure Centre is one of the most relaxing and rewarding sessions we teach; everyone has made us so welcome and we try to support the centre and the community whenever we can. It's a lovely warm pool and we have exclusive use for our class. Perfect for a relaxing start to my weekend too!"

This month Lighthouse Tai Chi® presented 'Top Attender' Certificates to Margaret Waugh and Pauline Southern who have attended 43 of 47 sessions held in Whitworth 2019. Congratulations to them both for their commitment and dedication. If you'd like to join the group or give Aqua Tai Chi a try, you'll be made most welcome.



Healey Dell Heritage Centre & Tea Rooms - A local information centre

Our **fully licenced Edwardian tea rooms** are full of character which takes you back in time. All our traditional food is freshly prepared on the day and served in bone china. Come and try our sumptuous adult & children afternoon teas, traditional cream teas, sandwiches, fine loose teas, coffee, cakes and much more. You can also **hire this venue for FREE*** for events such as hen-do, wedding parties, birthdays, anniversaries, baby shower, naming ceremony, reunions, conferences, walkers' group etc. (*terms apply.) **Facilities:** Disabled parking & access, free parking, toilets, free WIFI, baby changing station, local information. Cards accepted.

Tel: 01706 350 459 www.healeydelltearooms.co.uk

Opening hours: Thursday to Sunday 10 am to 5 pm and open other days for large parties.



WAMDS PRODUCTION OF CINDERELLA WAS 'HILARIOUS!'

Whitworth Amateurs production of 'Cinderella' in January was a great success with full to capacity audiences including the Saturday matinee. There was lots of audience participation with singing, dancing and the inevitable 'he's behind you!!'

A lot of work has gone in to transforming the hall into a fully functioning theatre with stage, lighting, sound system and much more. WAMDS would welcome any support, please see website for details of all their fundraising events. Go to www.wamds.co.uk and check our facebook page for news and events.

The next productions are:

'Return to the Forbidden Planet'
Monday 6th - Saturday 11th July 2020
at St John's Hall
'The 'Producers''
October 2020
at The Curtain Theatre Rochdale



Barley View

Residential Care and Dementia Specialists

SPACES AVAILABLE



Contact Jane today

01706 659 917

07542 229 367

enquiries@whitworthcare.org.uk

or pop in and see us

LOCAL TRADES LIST

CHILDREN – EDUCATION & TUITION:

Childminder, OFSTED registered: VIKKI MEGRAM

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

Childminder OFSTED registered level 3 qualified: GILL CHORLTON

Tel 01706 869142 / 07962190667
7 Lobden Crescent Whitworth

Private tuition, all ages: DR ADAM ANDREW

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

HEALTH & WELLBEING:

VALLEY ACUPUNCTURE

Louise Crewe BSc (hons)
217 Market Street, Whitworth OL12 8TF (clinic to rear)
To find out if acupuncture may help your health condition
Visit: www.valleyacupuncture.co.uk
Call / text: 07903 851856
Email: lc@valleyacupuncture.co.uk

MASTER NLP PRACTITIONER & HYPNOTHERAPIST

Tracy Johnson
Tel: 07564352221 Email: info@tracy-johnson.co.uk
7 Station Road Facit Whitworth OL12 8LJ

BARLEY VIEW RETIREMENT AND CARE HOME

"Feeling at home, not in a home"
Call us on 01706 344534 or 07542 229367
and speak to Jane for an informal chat or visit
www.whitworthcare.org.uk/barley-view
(Market Street, Whitworth, Lancashire, OL12 8QL)

HEALEY DELL HERITAGE CENTRE AND TEAROOMS

Fully Licenced tearoom and free venue hire
Open Thursday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm
Dell Road, Rochdale, OL12 8TT
bookings and enquiries 01706 350 459
Hello@healeydelheritagecentre.co.uk
www.healeydelltearooms.co.uk

PROPERTY SERVICES:

CJ ROTHWELL LANDSCAPING AND DRAINAGE

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 Crescent Shawforth OL12 8RR)

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, 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)

High power pressure washing (paths & patio cleaning driveways & tarmacking, decking & cobble, 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 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)

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: 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
(35 Westgate, Whitworth, OL12 8UW)

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 service offered by advertisers, or the content of adverts within the magazine.

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Whitworth, OL12 8DP

Contact: Melanie Hearn, **The Town Clerk**

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email: info@whitworth.gov.uk

www.whitworth.gov.uk

Office hours: Mon - Fri, 9am - 2.30pm

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:

FACIT & SHAWFORTH WARD:

Lynda Barnes and **Tom Aldred**

HEALEY & WHITWORTH WARD:

Alan Neal and **Dayne Powell**

(See left for contact details)

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:

Peter Steen

07703 832 156

peter.steen@lancashire.gov.uk

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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 13 Feb, Thurs 27 Feb, Thurs 12 Mar, Thburs 26 Mar, Thurs 2 Apr, Thurs 23 Apr

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 591496, or to report a non-urgent crime or incident, please dial 101 or visit www.lancashire.police.uk/contact-us/how-do-i-report-a-crime
For emergencies only, dial 999. You can also report information confidentially to CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

Together Housing: 0300 555 5556 (general enquiries) Michele Heys, Whitworth Officer.

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

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

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

Citizens Advice Rossendale: 03444 889622

The Samaritans: 01706 830999 • (Freephone) 116 123

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

Rossendale Borough Council: 01706 217777 (general enquiries) • 0300 222 5944 (revenues and benefits)
0300 222 5946 (out of hours emergencies) • www.rossendale.gov.uk