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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

As this my first Town Mayor report, I feel I should introduce myself. David and I came to Whitworth forty years ago and love life in Whitworth. We had the Suncentre on Market Street for a number of years and our children and grandchildren have attended Whitworth schools. I've served as a Town Councillor since 2011, and I was thrilled and humbled to be appointed Mayor of Whitworth by the Town Council back in May - it's been non-stop ever since!



The Mayor of Whitworth, Councillor Lynda Barnes, and family - husband David, daughter Victoria and granddaughter Charlotte

During my year in office, my primary focus will be on the town's youth, and any funds we manage to raise will be donated to support them in their endeavours.

No surprise, then, that some of our most memorable and enjoyable engagements have involved young people. Back in June, the Town Council opened its doors to pupils from each of our primary schools. We had a good old chat about democracy, voting and the roles and responsibilities of councillors, and then ran a mock council meeting in which the pupils became councillors, taking part in a debate on a fictitious wind farm. The young people were inspiring - they listened, debated and voted with intelligence and enthusiasm; hopefully they enjoyed themselves as much as we did. I've also had the pleasure of visiting the High School and have attended two High School awards ceremonies. All our schools provide a great service for our young people, and I thank them for their commitment and care. We've also attended the opening and closing ceremonies of the Whitworth Sports Festival (a terrific initiative so well managed by the Sports Council), a superb performance of Jesus Christ Superstar by the Whitworth Amateur Musical and Dramatic Society, an open day at Healey Care on Lloyd Street and given out awards to inspiring young carers.

When you stop and look around you, when you speak to local people, when you flick through this magazine and look at all the news, events and businesses that Whitworth can boast of, it really does take your breath away. Despite its faults and problems (what town doesn't have them?), we live in a low-crime, community spirited, active, friendly, beautiful town that I never cease to be proud of and to call home. I look forward to meeting you on my travels in the coming months - do come and say hello.

Finally, if you fancy a evening bopping, rocking and rolling to the best tunes from the 1950s and 1960s, consider coming along to 'Rock Around The Riverside' in October (see advert below). Tickets go on sale on Monday at £15 each - fancy dress optional but encouraged, and all proceeds go to supporting our young people. What's not to like? See you there...

With all best wishes,

Councillor Lynda Barnes, Mayor of Whitworth

All proceeds to Mayor's Charity Fund

Rock Around The Riverside!

Sat 10 Oct

Doors open 7pm

Dust off your blue suede shoes and bobby socks and enjoy the greatest hits of the 1950s and 1960s! Featuring live music and themed buffet and disco

Fancy dress encouraged!

Tickets £15 (13 years and above):

Available from Whitworth Town Council
(t: 01706 852018 / e: info@whitworth.gov.uk)

WHITWORTH NEWS

THE (WHITWORTH) HILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC...

Did you know Whitworth now has a community choir? It's proving to be a great success and the organisers are always looking for new members, especially men! The choir rehearses every Tuesday at Shawforth Chapel from 7pm-9pm. It's open



The Choir's very first rehearsal

to anyone over the age of 18 regardless of ability, and features a wide range of songs to get stuck into. There's something for all tastes, it's a friendly and supportive atmosphere and it's fun too. If this appeals to you just turn up; you'll be given a warm welcome and a chance to exercise your lungs. For more information on joining or helping out behind the scenes with admin, printing, donations or fundraising please contact Gill Pearson on 07779 713595 or email whitworthcommunitychoir@gmail.com.

MESSAGE IN A BOX EMERGENCY INFORMATION SCHEME

Message in a Box is a simple idea - you keep a box in your fridge containing details of your illnesses or ailments, so the emergency services, alerted to the box through stickers on your front door and fridge, can quickly identify you and your medical history and treat you accordingly. The form includes space for personal, allergy and medication details, plus contact details for your GP and carers or next of kin.



The scheme is managed and promoted by East Lancashire NHS, Age UK Lancashire and BCU Savings and Loans, and sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bacup. Boxes are available free of charge from the Whitworth Town Council office, Nuttall's Chemist and Sunnybank Day Centre. Initially, boxes will be made available to older people living on their own, but anyone who is vulnerable can be included in the scheme. For more information, please contact Peter Steen via email at petesteen@msn.com or phone 01706 875479.

GALLERY AT THE BATHS

This summer the Gallery at the Baths hosted its 50th exhibition featuring the work of local artists, photographers and organisations as well as material recording various community events and histories. Currently on show are photographs of two of this year's events – the Family Fun Day and the Scarecrow Festival. Next up are:

- From Aug. 28 John Norris – Wildlife Photographer
- From Sept. 18 Welcome to the Riverside
- From Oct. 9 Whitworth Amateur Musical and Dramatic Society
- From Oct. 30 St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School

Why not arrange to meet a friend there for a quiet cup of coffee and a feast for the eyes!? If you have any ideas for future exhibitions, please phone Christine Ashcroft (01706 853012) or Jo Furtado (01706 853442 / 07813 180748).

WHITWORTH NEWS



ART AT WHITWORTH LIBRARY

Members of the Painting with Chalk Pastels Course (Library Art Group) have an exhibition of new paintings coming up at Whitworth Library: why not go along and have a look at some of the work these industrious people have produced? Join them at the library for viewing and refreshments on Saturday 12 September from 12 noon until 1pm, or drop in during the following week as paintings will be on display until 26 September.

The next block of painting sessions will run from Thursday 24 September to Thursday 12 November, 7pm until 9pm at Whitworth Library. The cost is £85 and includes basic materials. Krista Howell, who runs the course, says: "Chalk pastels are fun to work with - the colours are luminous! If you enjoy being surrounded by books in a friendly atmosphere and getting stuck into the challenge of something new, do come along and you may surprise yourself." For further information, please email Krista at krista_howell@hotmail.com or phone her on 07784 939100.

WHITWORTH SPORTS FESTIVAL REPORT

The 2015 Whitworth Sports Festival perhaps started slowly, with the cancellation of a family-and-friends football event that had been a real success in 2014, but the other 26 events prospered nicely. 120 young runners contested the junior fell race; there was a record entry of 55 for the Sunday-at-dawn torture known as Splash & Dash; and two non-competitive events, Jenny Fallon's Pony-Go-Round and the High School's climbing wall, proved popular. Rebound and Boccia, two events for disabled athletes (though boccia is a sport open to anyone of any age), were notable for the pleasure derived by the participants, which is what the Sports Festival is primarily about. Carl Ashworth was awarded the Ian Clegg trophy: this too was largely about participation, although the clincher was the fact that Carl left his comfort zone, entered and won the pool tournament at the Whitworth Young People's Centre. There were inter-primary school competitions in four different sports, all won by Thorn School from Bacup, whose sporting demeanour was as praiseworthy as their athletic ability. Many thanks are due to all the valley's schools (their teachers' commitment was fantastic) and to the staff at the Leisure Centre, who did a grand job with an array of entry forms. Next year's Festival will be slightly later, running from Saturday 11 June to Sunday 19 June. Any bright ideas or offers of help to Jo Furtado (853442 or 07813 180748).



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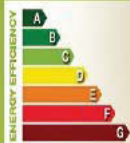
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CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHTS

all £29.95 at The Riverside

Fri 11 Dec:

4-course dinner, artist LAREENA & disco

Fri 18 Dec:

4-course dinner, artist ABBA GLAMMA & disco

Sat 19 Dec:

4-course dinner, artist FRANKLYN & disco

NEW YEAR'S EVE: Thurs 31 Dec

7.30pm til late - party games, disco & hot supper

Tickets £15 adults, £10 children, under 2s free. On sale Sat 3 Oct 10am - 12 noon, then Mon - Fri, 10am - 3pm (closed Tues).

WHITWORTH NEWS

FOSTERING – COULD IT BE THE ROLE FOR YOU?

Did you know that there are nearly 1,600 children and young people (birth – 18 years) in Lancashire alone, who are looked after by the County Council? There is a constant search for foster carers who can help to give these kids the best possible chance in life. It doesn't matter about your gender, age, living arrangements, work situation – your personal qualities are what matter and the County Council will look at each potential carer individually. Foster carers receive an allowance, support and training. If it's something you think you might be interested in, why not call the County Council on 0800 195 1183 and have a chat with a member of staff. Or, if you'd prefer, go online at www.lancashire.gov.uk/fostering and read more about it. You could make all the difference in the world to a young person who needs to know someone cares.



Official photo from Lancashire County Council's fostering campaign

**11.30am,
Sunday 18th
October
2015**

**Jimmy Cricket's
70th Birthday
Cwm 5K Race**

Join Jimmy as he celebrates his 70th birthday by hosting a 5k race around Cwm Reservoir

£4 entry fee to club runners, £6 others. £1 extra for entrants that turn up on the day.

Start venue: Cock & Magpie Pub, Cockhall Lane, Whitworth, Rochdale OL12 8BJ

For more information, contact Andy O'Sullivan on 017060 750620 or at: info@andysrunners.co.uk

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WHITWORTH NEWS

WHITWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

There is a buzz about the Museum as volunteers are busy improving the displays at the North Street site. They are also embarking on an exciting digitalisation of archives and artefacts, which will make searching into your family history much easier. Although based in North Street, they are taking parts of the collection out into the community; you may have spotted displays in the library, the baths and at local events. Through curator, Cornelia Zah, the museum now has a clear focus on the history of Whitworth and its people, and they're keen to include as many of you as possible in this project. Whether you have photographs to be scanned or objects to donate, the Society would like to meet you – do pop into the museum any Saturday afternoon or Tuesday evening. For the museum to remain vibrant it needs more volunteers, particularly for 'front of house duties'. Don't think "I know nothing about history" – if you went to school in Whitworth you are probably already part of the archive! Everyone has something to offer. Why not join this friendly local group. For more details please contact 344894 or 344781.



A pocket tool-kit used on the Western Front by a Whitworth soldier during WWI, one of the many interesting objects on display at Whitworth Museum

CEMETERY LODGE TENANTS SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Although set within the boundary of the grounds of Whitworth Cemetery, the Lodge building (the large building just inside the main Cemetery gates) is actually tenanted as a residence; it is rented out by the Town Council to a family which has lived there for many years. Despite numerous signs explaining that the tenants have nothing to do with the management or maintenance of the Cemetery grounds, they are regularly confronted by members of the public with queries. Most people are pleasant and apologise for the misunderstanding, however some have been rude and even aggressive, upsetting and frustrating the tenants. They have asked if residents could be made aware, through this magazine, that they have no connections, responsibilities or sway in relation to the Cemetery grounds and would refer the public to the signage just inside the main entrance, on the grassed banking, for Cemetery information.

HELP LIGHT UP WHITWORTH AT CHRISTMAS



The Buy a Christmas Bulb campaign has been running for around 6 months now. The response has been reasonable but there's still time to donate if you wish. The idea behind the campaign is to try and expand the Christmas lights offer beyond the locality of the Riverside and extend it, as best we can, to include lights at either end of the town. Just to give you an idea of the kinds of costs involved: to purchase, install and maintain a street lighting column display, the cost is around £350. To purchase lights enough to replace one of the trees in the Memorial Gardens, the cost is around £2,400 per tree (update: the Town Council and Rossendale Borough Council are each committing to this spend this year). To provide a Christmas tree at either end of the town, an idea the Tourism and Leisure Committee is working on as we speak, the costs look to be around £1000 - this involves the initial cost of linking up a power supply and the tree and lights purchase. As you can see, it ain't cheap! If you can spare a fiver towards the cost of the lights, it could help to make a significant impact at Christmas. For more details, please contact Whitworth Town Council on 01706 852018 / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

WHITWORTH NEWS

JOHN NORRIS PHOTOGRAPHY

John Norris is a self-taught wildlife photographer who has lived in Whitworth for around 15 years with his wife and family. He took up photography 10 years ago and enjoys capturing images of the wildlife in and around Whitworth. John says: "The diversity of wildlife around us is amazing. Over the years I've taken photos of roe deer, badgers, little owls and tawny owls to name but a few. I love taking pictures of local wildlife and sharing it with others, which encourages them to go and have a look for themselves." John's work is displayed in the Red Lion and will also be on show in the Leisure Centre gallery at the end of August. He's always looking for exhibition spaces, and if anyone can help they can contact him on 07792 679286. John has a serious mobility problem as a result of his rugby playing days, but gets about by using his vehicle to get close to nature. He says: "Anybody can take great pictures from their car by using it as a hide. Most wildlife doesn't seem afraid of vehicles and you can often get much closer in a car, resulting in fantastic shots taken through an open window." For more fantastic photos, visit John's exhibitions or go to www.johnnorrisphotography.co.uk.



One of John's fantastic shots, reproduced here with his kind permission



SECOND RIVERSIDE BLOOD DONATION EVENT SCHEDULED

Following the success of the first NHS Blood and Transplant Blood Donation event at the Riverside in May, a further event has been scheduled for Monday 14 September, with sessions

from 1.15pm – 3.30pm and 5.15pm – 7.30pm. Every day hospitals need around 6,100 blood donations and 330 platelet donors. Regular donations are crucial to saving and improving the lives of patients with cancer, blood disorders and those suffering medical trauma or undergoing surgery. Please visit www.blood.co.uk or phone 0300 123 23 23 to find out if you're eligible to donate, register as a donor and book an appointment. Giving blood is easy to do and will only take about an hour of your time. By giving a single blood donation, you can save or improve up to three people's lives. It could literally be a matter of life and death for somebody else.

LAUNDEREASE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Launderease at 517 Market Street, Whitworth is under new management. The company provides everything you will ever need laundry-wise, including service washes, duvets, horse rugs and sporting kits, and also offers a washing and delivery service. For more information, phone Lynda or Debbie on their new telephone number, 01706 852729.

BIRCHES UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

It's all change at Whitworth's public houses and eateries at the moment! The Birches on Market Street also recently saw a change of management – Dan, Vicki and team have refurbished the building and are offering locally sourced meals, a selection of local ales and function facilities, catering for private functions. You can even hire out their famous bowling green. For more details, visit www.birchespub.com or phone 01706 559495.

WHITWORTH NEWS

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

Rochdale Ancient Parish Educational Trust offers grants for educational purposes. Applicants for grants from the Trust need to reside in the area of the Ancient Parish of Rochdale (which includes the whole of Whitworth), or attend (or have attended) a school in the Ancient Parish of Rochdale area. There is no age limit for applicants, although preference will be given to persons qualified who are under the age of 25 years. Trust grants may be given for any purpose which promotes the education of the applicant (including social and physical training). In particular, monies may be given for the following purposes:

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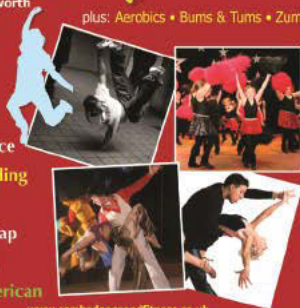
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WHITWORTH NEWS

GUIDES TAKE PART IN RELAY FOR LIFE



Over the summer, the Guides have had a lot of fun outdoors making their scarecrow, cooking on trangia stoves and visiting the Cool Pig for ice cream.

Guides and Senior Section also really enjoyed the water fun session at Cowm Reservoir. In June, Whitworth Guides took part in Relay for Life to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. It was held at Marl Pits, Rawtenstall and was a 24-hour event which involved at least one member of the team being on the



Photo by Helen Kowal, used with kind permission

track at any given time. There were heavy showers, particularly through the night, but the girls remained cheerful throughout. The girls were between 10 and 17 years old and were accompanied by leaders, Elaine Dyson and Helen Kowal. A total of £804 was raised by the group.

WHITWORTH VALE & HEALEY BAND

The band has been very busy during the summer months. A big disappointment was the cancellation (due to inclement weather) of the Proms in the Park event in support of Springhill Hospice, which will be held next year with donated raffle prizes held by the Hospice committee. Forthcoming events in the Band's packed schedule are listed below. For event enquiries, how to book the band and details of how you or your child can learn an instrument or join the band, please ring Michael Whitby (01706 852613).

Sun 6 Sept: Rushcart procession and youth band concert

Mon 7 Sept: Farewell concert at Berni Inn for the Kandel Twin Town delegation

Sun 13 Sept: Hardraw Scar band contest at Hawes

Sat 19 Sept: Proms concert at Healey Club

From Mon 14 – Sat 26 Sept: some male band members performing in Brassed Off at the Curtain Theatre

Sat 3 Oct: Annual Heartbeat Concert at the Riverside (youth and senior bands)

Sun 11 Oct: Annual sponsored walk in conjunction with Whitworth Cancer Research group

Sat 17 Oct: Band Dinner and presentation evening

Sat 24 and Sun 25 Oct: contest at Rochdale Town Hall

Fri 30 Oct: Rotary Club Brass and Folk with Hindle Wakes at the Riverside

FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 6 Sept: Rushcart

Sat 10 Oct: Rock Around The Riverside

Sun 8 Nov: Remembrance Sunday

Sun 22 Nov: Christmas Lights Switch On

Mon 14 Dec: Community Carol Service

Fri 1 Jan 2016: New Year's Day Duck Race

See back outer page for dates of forthcoming town council meetings

WHITWORTH NEWS

IT'S RUSHCART TIME AGAIN!

The Whitworth Rushcart takes place on Sunday 6 September. The procession will leave from the car park on North Street at 1pm, processing up Market Street to the Riverside, led by the Whitworth Vale and Healey Band and the Whitworth Rushcart Men. From 1.20pm until 4.30pm, there will be performances from a variety of dance troupes from across the region, including the ever-popular Britannia Coconutters and the Whitworth Rushcart Men, and the Whitworth and Healey Youth Band. There will be rides for all ages, stalls, entertainments, hot food provided by St Bartholomew's Church and other food and drink, and the Riverside bar will be open. There will also be a variety of arts and crafts stalls both inside and outside the Riverside. And Grogan's Delight ale will be available on tap (named in memory of much-missed Jimmy Grogan). Last year over 1,500 people attended the event – come along and join in the fun!

For more information on the 2015 Rushcart, please contact Whitworth Town Council on 01706 852018 / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.



2014 Rushcart celebrations: photo by Mike Burgess, used with kind permission

Associated events:

- Rushcart Evening Service, Sunday 6 September, 6.30pm, St Bartholomew's Church, Whitworth Rake. All welcome. For more information, please contact Rev Lyn Woodall on 01706 853931.
- Whitworth Band Club: 3rd Annual Beer Festival, Thurs 3 – Sun 6 Sept. Up to 15 cask ales available – for more details see the Beer Festival advert on page 10 or contact the Club on 01706 852484.
- Whitworth Museum, North Street: open from 10.30am on Sunday 8 September whilst finishing touches made to the Rushcart. For more information contact Mr Furness on 01706 344894.

WHITWORTH TOURISM & LEISURE COMMITTEE PRODUCES TOWN VISITOR GUIDE

Visitors to Whitworth can now download a copy of the inaugural Whitworth Visitor Guide, developed and produced by the Whitworth Tourism & Leisure Committee. The leaflet, a 3-fold A4 document, features details on where to eat, stay and visit in Whitworth, alongside a number of lesser known facts about the town.

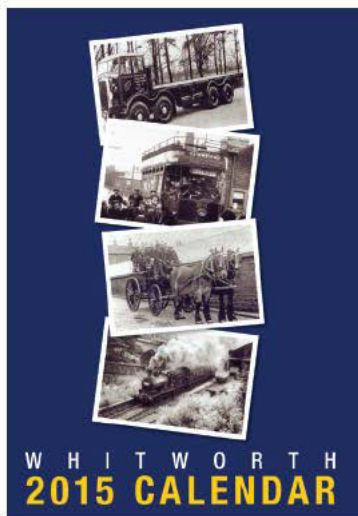
Councillor David Chorlton, Chair of the Tourism & Leisure Committee, says: "The Guide is something we've been looking to produce for a while now, and I'm glad the idea has finally come together. This first edition of the Visitor Guide will be distributed around key sites in the town over the next couple of weeks and will also be available to download from the Town Council's website at www.whitworth.gov.uk. The Guide will be updated and reprinted as needed, to allow for additions and new ideas. We hope it will appeal to anyone making a visit to Whitworth, as a tourist or when visiting family and friends, and might also be of interest to local residents who may find out a thing or two that they didn't know about the town." For further information on the Whitworth Visitor Guide, please contact Whitworth Town Council on 01706 852018 or email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

Welcome to Whitworth



VISITOR GUIDE

WHITWORTH NEWS



Last year's calendar

OFFICIAL WHITWORTH CALENDAR 2016

Now in its sixth year, the official Whitworth calendar remains a popular purchase. Previous editions have been delivered to delighted ex-pats across the world, and numerous copies are hanging in the kitchens of homes around Whitworth. For the 2016 edition, the Tourism and Leisure Committee has returned to the format of the best-selling version back in 2011 - the 'then and now' format. The new calendar sees a selection of archive photos from all around the town alongside current snaps of the same location, with information on each setting. The photos and information provide a fascinating delve into Whitworth's yesteryear, and the calendar is well worth the £5 cost. The calendar will be available to purchase from Sunday 6 September (at the Rushcart) and from then on at a number of outlets in the town - the Riverside, Post Office, UBS, Jan's Butty Shop and Top Shop. For more information, please contact the Town Council on 01706 852018 / email info@whitworth.gov.uk.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY COMMEMORATIONS



Please join the Mayor of Whitworth, Councillor Lynda Barnes, and members of the Whitworth community at the 2015 Remembrance Sunday commemorations.

Sunday 8 November 2015

10.20am: procession leaves from opposite the old Council Offices (corner of Market Street and Tong Lane).

10.45am: Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph, Memorial Gardens, Facit, led by the Mayoral Chaplain, Rev Father Frank Thorpe of St Mary and St Anselm RC Church.

Please stay for light refreshments at the Riverside after the service - all are welcome.

WHITWORTH'S CHRISTMAS LIGHTS: THE BIG SWITCH ON!

Sunday 22 November 2015

The Riverside, from 5.30pm (doors open 5pm)

Featuring Whitworth Vale & Healey Youth Band
Winners of the schools colouring competition
Father Christmas!!



WHITWORTH NEWS

CAKE TASTES BETTER TOGETHER!

The Riverside is hosting a coffee morning, 10am til 12noon on Friday 25 September as part of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. One in three of us will face cancer and the



money raised by the Riverside at the coffee morning will help to ensure that no-one has to face it alone. The coffee morning is the perfect chance for you to catch up with friends over a lovely cuppa and a slice of something delicious whilst raising money for this worthwhile cause. There will be a raffle, with a chance of winning a Rijo coffee machine worth £199 kindly donated by Rijo. Entrance is £2.50 and includes the first cup of coffee and a slice of cake. For more information please contact The Riverside on 01706 854130 or email riverside-whitworth@zen.co.uk.

HALFWAY HOUSE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

The Halfway House pub in Facit has been taken over by mother and daughter team, Jayne Crook and Michelle Lazaruik. Jayne and Michelle took over the pub in early March and business is booming, boosted by the recent introduction of the Halfway House Thai Restaurant. The Thai Restaurant features the culinary talents of Bia, who you may know from her work at the Red Lion and also at the Duke of Buccleugh in Waterfoot. Bia's food has been garnering great reviews and bookings are going well. Jayne says: "We operate as a family business; everyone gets involved and helps out. The support of the local community has been great so far and it's very pleasing to see the restaurant get such a great reception." To book at the Thai Restaurant, phone Bia on 077736 101104; restaurant opening hours are Tuesday – Sunday, 5.30pm – 9.30pm. To contact the pub, phone 01706 852113 (you can also book for the restaurant on this number); pub opening hours are from 4pm Monday – Friday and from 12 noon on Saturday and Sunday.

WHITWORTH'S OWN FAIRY (DOOR) GODMOTHER!

Local lady Gail Grey has started up her own business making, among other things, fairy doors! Gail has always suffered from eczema which started to interfere with her working life, resulting in her having to give up a much-loved job. She started to hunt around for a new challenge and came across a fairy door online; she decided to have a go at making one and had so much fun that she was hooked. She uses Whitworth, and especially Healey Dell, as her inspiration for the doors and loves the design, individuality and intricacy of each one. She says: "I make fairy doors and tooth fairy doors; all are individual and handmade out of polymer clay which I bake. They can be displayed inside and outside and I can take individual orders. I've had some lovely feedback, and I'm excited to be doing my first craft fair very soon. The best part of making the doors is when I see the delight on people's faces when they receive them." For more information or to order your very own door, phone Gail on 07841 979493 or visit her Facebook page 'Gails jewellery,fairy,tooth fairy doors'.



Two of Gail's gorgeous creations

WHITWORTH NEWS



Photo by Jim Mellor, used with kind permission

SKYLINE WALK REPORT

Back on Sunday 17 May, 301 souls set out at breakfast time from Lobden Golf Club to walk the 14 miles of Skyline 2, on a cool and blustery day that obviously encouraged purposeful striding. All but a handful were safely back at the Golf Club by 3.15pm for an early and well-deserved tea. The organisers, Whitworth Sports Council and the Tourism and Leisure Committee, wish to thank all those volunteers who assisted with the route, marshalled, backmarked, recorded, or loaned equipment. A particular thank you goes to the Countryside Rangers, who have simply done so much, so willingly to make the event a success. Next year's Skyline will start and finish at Lobden Golf Club again, on Sunday 15 May – but next year it will be walked anti-clockwise. Any bright ideas or offers of help to Jo Furtado (853442 or 07813 180748).

COCK AND MAGPIE CHARITY BIKE RIDE

The Cock and Magpie Pub, with the help of Gary Hancock's family and friends, are organising and taking part in the annual bike ride from Blackpool to Whitworth on Sunday 27 September 2015. This year's charity is the British Heart Foundation because early on Easter Monday this year, Gary Hancock suffered an unexpected heart attack. Thankfully both wife Vanessa and son Bradley were at home and Bradley was able to assist in giving CPR whilst they waited for the paramedics to arrive. There aren't enough words to describe the remarkable work Bradley, the paramedics, ambulance team, doctors, nurses and surgeons at both Fairfield Hospital and Manchester Royal Infirmary did in saving Gary's life. Gary has been having lots of rest and recuperation and is making fantastic progress. Gary, Vanessa, daughter Sophie and Bradley are delighted that the British Heart Foundation has been chosen as this year's charity and they hope that many people will support this worthwhile cause. Donations can be made via the just giving fundraising page www.justgiving.com/BHFCharitybikeride2015, where you can also read more of Gary's story.



ST MARY AND ST ANSELM CHRISTMAS FAYRE

St Mary and St Anselm will be holding their Christmas Fayre at the Riverside on Saturday 7 November, 10am until 1pm. Admission is £1; children accompanied by an adult go free. There will be stalls including handicrafts, a tombola, cakes and biscuits, and toys and books, and there will also be a special visit from Father Christmas! Refreshments, including bacon butties, will be on sale. All are welcome. For more information, please contact David Peel on 01706 852008 / email d.peel6@btinternet.com.

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WHITWORTH NEWS

BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST TO BE SET UP TO PROTECT ROSSENDALE'S HERITAGE

A Rossendale group has been awarded £9,900 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to establish a Building Preservation Trust (BPT) to rescue empty and decaying historic and listed buildings in Rossendale. The project is the brainchild of architect and valley resident Stephen Anderson, who has assembled a team of like-minded people living or working in the area. Rossendale has been identified as a Priority Development Area by HLF, and the BPT feels there is no better time to save some of Rossendale's cherished buildings in a way that benefits the community. Stephen says: "Rossendale is an area of rich heritage illustrated by its buildings which are full of character and help to tell amazing stories about how this beautiful part of the world developed."



Members of the Rossendale Building Preservation Trust

Once set up, the BPT aims to start its work in Bacup to complement the Townscape Heritage Initiative which is underway, before taking on projects across Rossendale. On Saturday 12 September, the BPT will put on an event in Bacup for the Heritage Open Day 2015, opening up empty or privately owned buildings to the public for the day to help the BPT share information about their aims for the wider community. For more information, contact the Building Preservation Trust at info@valleyheritage.org.uk.

WHITWORTH VALE & HEALEY BAND CLUB

The Club is pleased to announce a new three-year sponsorship deal with Marstons, which recently acquired previous sponsor, Daniel Thwaites. Marstons is the largest brewer of cask ale in the world and their extensive range of cask ales will complement the Club's support of the CAMRA LocAle initiative. The Club also has two more lagers available over the bar - premium San Miguel and Carlsberg – and has managed to reduce its lager prices, so now you pay £2.95 for San Miguel or Warsteiner and £2.65 for Fosters or Carlsberg. Don't forget the Club's 3rd Annual Beer Festival taking place from Thursday 3 – Sunday 6 September; up to 15 real ales available over the four days for as little as £2 a pint, price reductions on Fosters and Carlsberg and musical entertainment on Saturday night from 'the wonderful folk artist, Bernard Cromarty'. No entry fee and all are welcome.

To keep up-to-date with the Club visit www.facebook.com/WhitworthValeHealeyBandClub – whether Quiz Nights, Karaoke or regular Saturday night gigs, there is something for everyone. The Club's Quiz Teams and Games Teams also compete in local leagues. The Band Club is available during the day for events such as funerals and christenings, and a small meeting room is also available– all free of charge. Contact the Stewards on 852484 for further details.

SHAWFORTH METHODIST CHURCH

Everyone is welcome at Shawforth Methodist Church. To hire the Chapel or a room in it, please contact Christine (01706 854172). Regulars include Sunday Services (10.30am); Toddler Group (Mon & Wed, 9.30am-11.30am); Friday Drop-In (10.30am-12noon); Ladies Group (7.30pm last Tues in the month); Coffee & Lunches: (11am-1.00pm 2nd Sat in the month); exercise class (Tues and Thurs 9.30am), and Whitworth Community Choir (Tues 7pm – 9pm).

WHITWORTH NEWS



GET YOUR GROOVY GEAR READY, THE 60S FESTIVAL IS COMING

The Rossendale 60s Festival returns from 11 – 13 September, offering a variety of events taking place in numerous locations, including Whitworth. Events include Whitstock at the Whitaker museum in Rawtenstall and the Scootfest scooter festival at Haslingden Cricket Club. New additions include Rally in the

Valley at Marl Pits, an event aimed at VW camper van owners and enthusiasts, and a Vintage Retro Market and classic cars in Bacup. There'll also be a Magic Bus taking visitors to major events for just £2 per day. On Saturday 12 September, Berni Inn in Facit will be playing host to a very special event, as part of the 60s Festival. The evening, with a Blues theme and featuring a three-course meal, is being held in memory and celebration of local youngster Kayla, who passed away aged just 16 years. 12 September would have been Kayla's 18th birthday, and any funds raised on the evening will be presented to her family. If you'd like to attend the evening, tickets are £25 and can be purchased from Berni Inn by calling 07918 176723. For further updates on all 60s Festival events, visit www.rossendale60sfest.wordpress.com. PS: if you like all things 1960s, why not book for Rock Around The Riverside on 10 October? More info on page 3.

SERGEANT DAMIAN PEMBERTON, NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING SERGEANT

"I've been in Rossendale for a couple of months now and thought I'd take this opportunity to introduce myself. I'm the new edition to the Rossendale Neighbourhood Policing Team; my job is to supervise the Neighbourhood Policing officers and staff covering Rossendale, working alongside my boss, Inspector Paul Leigh.

I joined Lancashire Police in 1999 having served in the Army; I joined because I wanted a career where I could make a difference to people's lives and one that would offer me the unpredictability and excitement that working in the emergency services offers. I've worked in numerous roles over the years including immediate response, armed response, the operations support unit and various roles within Neighbourhood Policing, which is where my heart lies. For me, Neighbourhood Policing is all about grass-roots, day-to-day policing which often has the biggest impact on people's lives. Neighbourhood Policing underpins the rest of the force and we're fortunate to have close links within communities.

Having spent the last couple of months in and around Whitworth it's clear that this is a caring, busy community with pride in abundance and with a real, good old-fashioned community spirit. I'm looking forward to working with you all. If you need me, please email me at Damian.Pemberton@lancashire.pnn.police.uk or ring the Rossendale Neighbourhood Team on 01706 237367."



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WHITWORTH NEWS

WHITWORTH YOUNG PEOPLE'S CENTRE



The centre in the heart of Whitworth is still a popular place for young people to go. This summer members have engaged with the community, taking part in the Sports Festival and Scarecrow Festival as well as projects in the club, clearing the back yard for use and a six-week cooking project. Members have also enjoyed plenty of outings during the summer to the Sandcastle in Blackpool and Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Blue Planet Aquarium, Beastrampz and Pitch and Putt, and met for organised ball games in the multi play area. New members are always welcome to the centre from the age of 12-19 (25 SEN). The clubs opening times are Monday 7pm-9.30pm, Wednesday 7pm-9.30pm and Fridays 6pm-8.30pm. Keep a lookout too for the detached team driving around in a purpose built bus with this logo; they will be working with teenagers in known hot spots in the area. The staff will always have ID on them. For more information about what the club has to offer, please contact Gill Pearson on 01706 853646 during opening times or email gill.pearson@lancashire.gov.uk.



The retiring Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth, Councillor Jim and Mrs Susan Mellor

RETIRING MAYOR DISTRIBUTES MONIES RAISED DURING YEAR IN OFFICE

In May, the retiring Mayor and Mayoress of Whitworth, Councillor Jim Mellor and Mrs Susan Mellor, distributed the funds they had raised whilst in office. Jim and Sue managed to raise £3,715 on total which was shared between St Bartholomew's Church Tower Fund, Springhill Hospice, Cancer Research Whitworth Committee, Whitworth Vale and Healey Band, St Anselm's Church and Whitworth Young People's Centre. Jim says:

"I'm delighted we managed to raise a fair sum of money over the course of the year and that so many organisations have benefitted from the Charity Fund. Sue and I would like to thank everyone who supported us during our Mayoral year and who helped us to raise this amount of money."

CANCER RESEARCH - WHITWORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

Various fundraising events have been held recently including two golf tournaments at Lobden on 10 May and 15 July, which raised £1,035; the Committee thanks the Club and members for their invaluable support. The group also thanks the Rochdale and District Motor Club who generously donated £500 from their Boxing Day trial. In June, the group visited the newly opened Manchester Cancer Research Centre at the Patterson Institute. They witnessed the amazing work taking place and the advances being made in cancer treatment, and doctors and professors explained the new developments; although 1 in 2 will now develop cancer the same ratio will survive. The group also saw some of the pieces of equipment they had purchased over the years in action. A fundraising dinner took place at the Ashoka at the end of July and a further one will be arranged before the end of the year, and the annual sponsored walk in conjunction with Whitworth Band will be held on Sunday 11 October. If you'd like to join the committee, attend fundraising events, sponsor fundraising activity or would like information on the committee's activities, please contact Michael Whitby (01706 852613) or Joyce and Arnold Ashworth (01706 343424).

WHITWORTH NEWS



Winners!

ST JOHN WITH ST MICHAEL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

It has taken years of hard work for St John with St Michael CE Primary School to reach Gold level of the National Trust Green School Award. The school started work on the award in 2009, reaching bronze and silver levels and receiving points for submitting activities and experiences that have enhanced the children's knowledge and understanding of the importance of being 'Green'. The school has undertaken a number of activities to help them achieve this standard, including making a bug hotel and a herb garden, planting trees and fruit and vegetables, visiting woodland areas and going on nature walks. The school is thrilled with the achievement and thanks the

children, parents and members of the community that have worked so hard to help the school reach this standard. The school also reached the Royal Horticultural Society's level 5 benchmark, winning a fancy plaque and £200 in gardening vouchers.

The school also won the primary section of Lancashire County Council's prestigious Chairman's Challenge competition in June, winning £1,000 for the school. The Challenge encourages schools, children's centres and families to come up with innovative ideas to improve their school or local area, and the 17 school finalists went to County Hall to make a presentation in front of the judges.

WHITWORTH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

Thursday 24 September 2015, 6pm
Or book for the Year 6 Taster Day
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For more information, please
phone 01706 343218 or visit
www.whitworth.lancs.sch.uk



THE ROSSENDALE BEFRIENDING SERVICE

The Rossendale Befriending Service arranges for Volunteer Befrienders to visit Rossendale Hospice patients or people aged 75 or over who are registered with a Rossendale G.P. They provide a bit of company and can, if desired, accompany the Befriender to a local interest group, coffee morning, luncheon club or appointment. Volunteer Befrienders maintain regular contact with Sharon Rowland, the Befriending Coordinator, so that any additional needs can be identified. Sharon holds a monthly Befriending Drop-in at Whitworth Library from 2.15pm to 3.15pm on the 2nd Friday of each month - the next dates are 11 September and 9 October. The project is funded by the Clinical Commissioning Group with the aim of reducing loneliness and social isolation. If you would like more information about this and other Rossendale Hospice services or volunteer opportunities, Sharon can be contacted on 01706 253648, 07528 753085 or at sharon.rowland@rossendalehospice.org.

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WHITWORTH NEWS



PEOPLE OF WHITWORTH - ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL WANTS YOUR VIEWS ON FINDING NEW DEVELOPMENT SITES

Rossendale Council is asking for comments on proposed sites for future development, as part of a major public consultation. The Local Plan (Part 2) identifies sites which meet the Borough's development needs over the next 10 years (about 250 homes to be built annually in Rossendale and an additional 20ha of employment land). Identified sites take into account protecting the landscape, habitats, encouraging nature, recreational activities and maintaining or increasing the quality of life, and the Borough Council is asking for comments on the proposed sites, and for ideas for other potential sites. Land is also being identified for protection and changes are being proposed to the existing Green Belt and Urban Boundary. Council Leader, Alyson Barnes, says, "This is your opportunity to help determine where new development will take place within Rossendale. We cannot say we don't want or need new development. Under the Government's Planning rules, if we don't identify where new development can go, the opportunity for local decision-making may be lost." Consultation closes 5pm, Monday 7 September 2015. Documents, policies, maps and details of how to take part can be viewed at www.rossendale.gov.uk/land and at the Borough's libraries and the Council's One Stop Shop, and comments forms can be collected or requested from the Town Council Office (see back page for contact details). For queries, email forwardplanning@rossendalebc.gov.uk or phone 01706 252411 / 252415 / 252417 / 252418 / 252419.

HELPING KICK WONGA OUT OF WHITWORTH!

Every Friday from 12pm – 1pm, the Bacup Credit Union has its branch office open at Anglo Recycling on Tong Lane. The Whitworth branch is provided in collaboration with Anglo Social, a social enterprise based on the Anglo site which gives work experience to young adults with autism. Eddie Cartin, the volunteer supervisor for the project, says: "I'm from Ireland and I've seen firsthand there how credit unions can help to bring the local community together, and now it's happening here. The team at Bacup Credit Union has helped Arron Withnell from Anglo Social get a qualification in bookkeeping and to give him the chance to do a proper job and to contribute to society and gain a feeling of self worth rather than being stuck and isolated at home." You can benefit from the Credit Union too – why not start to save for Christmas, or for the dark day when the washing machine breaks down! You can join as a member for as little as £2 and then save from £1 a week; members can borrow from £3,000 to £7,500 at 6.5% interest – the best value on the market for an unsecured loan. No appointment needed – just turn up. For more information please phone Anglo on 01706 853513.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, FACIT

Christmas Bazaar: Sat 21 Nov, 10.30am – 1pm. Lots of stalls, including tombola and homemade cake stall. Turkey sandwiches on sale and a visit from Father Christmas.

Church News: Rev Lyn Woodall has been appointed as Area Dean for Rossendale, in addition to her duties as Vicar for the United Benefice of St Bartholomew, Whitworth and St John the Evangelist, Facit. She was licensed in a service at St John's, by the Bishop of Bolton, on 28 June.

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WHITWORTH NEWS

NEW RED LION MANAGEMENT

The Red Lion Inn in Whitworth Square has been taken over by local man, David Harry and his daughter-in-law, Harriet Murphy. Work is still in progress and many new ideas and projects will take place in the coming months. Vintage dining tables are ordered and a completely re-fitted kitchen is open for business. Food is served seven days a week from 12 noon and the new menu

features some old pub favourites alongside many new dishes including fresh seafood on the specials board. The new menu has been created by classically trained chef Scott Barclay, using locally sourced sustainable ingredients whenever possible. The inn has been receiving many favourable reviews about the food and the pleasant atmosphere; it gets very busy at peak times making booking advisable. Cask and keg beers and ciders and a large range of non-alcoholic drinks are available, as are five bed and breakfast rooms. Sky and BT sports are shown, Wednesday is quiz night and most Thursdays, Saturdays and Sunday evenings there is live musical entertainment. For more details and to view the menu, visit www.theredlionwhitworth.com or www.facebook.com/theredlionwhitworth. Tel: 01706 861441.



Photo by Mike Burgess, used with kind permission



Karen freezing her bits off at the Duck Race on New Year's Day. Photo by Jim Mellor, used with kind permission

GOODBYE...

"After eight years as Town Clerk, the time has come for me to pass the baton on. This is a unique job and no two days are ever the same – I'll miss the diversity of the role (and I'll even miss the councillors!). Over the years I've met some amazing people and had some wonderful experiences, and it has been an honour, a pleasure and a privilege to serve the Town Council and the Whitworth community. Whitworth is a fantastic, thriving, creative town - it is blessed with a community which pulls together when needed, celebrates its heritage and culture and loves life. Yes, all towns have their problems, but look at what we have! We can boast of schools providing fine education for our young people, all manner of sporting activities, community groups and volunteers working tirelessly to make our town better, mouthwatering eating establishments, beautiful countryside, and a town council which puts the interests of the community first and strives to get the best for Whitworth. There are a lot worse places to live... Celebrate

and rejoice in what is literally on your doorstep, support and respect your community and continue to make Whitworth a truly great place to live. Thank you for your support over the years, and I wish you all individually and as a town the very, very best for the future. I hope the new Clerk enjoys the job as much as I have. With all best wishes, Karen Douglas"

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madeline30950@btinternet.com

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

Ian Mycock (Labour): 01706 632823

Karen Ruane (Community First): 07772 534412
kriane@outlook.com

Alan Neal (Community First): 07817 414721
alanneal@rossendalebc.gov.uk

FORTHCOMING WHITWORTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Thurs 10 Sept, Thurs 24 Sept, Thurs 8 Oct, Thurs 22 Oct, Thurs 5 Nov, Thurs 19 Nov.

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 Officers (PC 424 Vinny Hopkins and PCSO 7356 Heidi Kirkbright): to speak to Vinny or Heidi, 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)

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

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Contact: The Town Clerk
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