

Parish Newsletter – 15 May 2017

Council pledges its commitment to raise awareness of mental health

We have joined more than 450 other organisations across the country by [signing a pledge](#) which aims to remove the stigma associated with mental health in the workplace.

The signing of the 'Time to Change Employer Pledge' by the council's corporate leadership team was the centrepiece of a series of events marking Mental Health Awareness Week (8 to 12 May).



A number of staff workshops were held to highlight the signs, symptoms and effects of common mental health illnesses and to encourage staff to feel able to talk about mental health issues and perhaps prompt earlier access to support and treatment. Staff were also given daily tips to help promote positive mental health and wellbeing and had the opportunity to read some real-life stories about how colleagues have dealt with their own experience of mental ill-health. So far, more than 500 council staff has also made a personal pledge to promote positive mental health amongst their teams.

Operation clamps down on rogue traders

We've joined forces with Wiltshire Police and Swindon Borough Council's Trading Standards and other partnership agencies in a bid to target rogue traders and forceful doorstep sellers as part of a week-long [crime prevention initiative](#).

The national Operation Rogue Trader campaign involved a week of action (Monday 8 May until Friday 12 May) from police forces and agencies across the UK, with a specific day of enforcement on Tuesday 9 May 2017.



Big Pledge is back and people of all ages and abilities can join in

Wiltshire's [Big Pledge](#) is back for 2017 and this year's free challenge, which encourages people of all ages to get more active, has a World Athletics Championships theme.

Wiltshire's Big Pledge: London Calling is celebrating the World Athletics Championships coming to London for the first time this summer, with a series of challenges to help encourage individuals and teams of all ages and abilities to get active, get out and have fun.

The challenge starts on 5 June and runs right through to 30 July and we want you and your colleagues to get involved.



Foster Care Fortnight

Wiltshire foster carers have been sharing their thoughts about the rewards and challenges of providing a home for children and young people as part of national [Foster Care Fortnight](#) which starts today.

Wiltshire currently has 189 foster carers and has a target to recruit 30 more by April 2018 to ensure children and young people can continue to stay in their local area. In Wiltshire currently there are 443 children in foster care.



What's on



If you would like to promote an event in your area to staff and the wider public why not use the [events calendar](#) on our website. You can find the link to the calendar on the home page under ['What's on'](#).

Check what else is on at Wiltshire Music Centre in Bradford on Avon:

www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk and City Hall in Salisbury: www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk

Quick links

Area Board information - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areaboards.htm

All the latest news releases - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/latestnews.htm

A blog for the heritage community of Wiltshire - <https://heritageinwiltshire.wordpress.com>

Community virtual notice boards - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/ourcommunitymattersblogsites.htm

Recycle for Wiltshire - www.recycleforwiltshire.com

Roadworks - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/roadshighwayspavements/roadworks.htm

Tree wardens for Wiltshire - www.wiltshiretreewardens.co.uk

What's on in Wiltshire - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandrecreation/whatson.htm

What's on at City Hall in Salisbury - www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk

A blog for Wiltshire's arts community - <http://theartsinwiltshire.wordpress.com>

The latest news from the council is available on the [full newslisting](#) pages of the website