

Walkies!

Do you love dogs? If so please help! There will be a short sponsored walk, approx 1 mile, for a charity called Canine Partners (www.caninepartners.co.uk). Canine Partners train puppies to assist disabled people. The walk will be held on **Sunday 20 April** at 10.30 at Badbury Woods near Faringdon. Unfortunately Canine Partners do not receive any government funding so every penny really does help.

If you would like to take part or sponsor the project please contact Sarah on Email: sarah-janemartin@fsmail.net or Tel: 07753 856446.



Summer Rugby League at Supermarine

Swindon's very own Rugby League Club, Swindon St George, had its first practice session at Supermarine in March. Francis

George Solicitor Advocate is the club's sponsor. The club's press officer, Barrie Matthews of Highworth, says: "This is a completely new launch of Rugby League in the area and games will be staged, for the very first time, in the SUMMER months, therefore minimising clashes with rugby union and with soccer. Indeed, it will be a great way for players of either of those two sports to keep up their fitness levels during the close season."

Supermarine Club is the venue with a 7pm Wednesday start time. Although the playing roster is already growing healthily, prospective players are welcome. Previous playing experience is an asset but it is not a pre-requisite, as the coaching system is set up to cater for beginners as well as for the more experienced player.

Swindon St George players will soon be able to experience the atmosphere of a live Super League game with tickets provided absolutely free of charge! This unique offer comes from the excellent relationships already built up between the club and the Rugby Football League, along with Harlequins RL, London's own Super League team.

To join Swindon St George, either as a player or supporter, contact Barrie Matthews on Tel: (01793) 764722 (home) or 07905 826987 (mob), or by e-mail: bpmsteelshoe@aol.com. To access the new web site, enter 'Swindon St George Rugby League' into a search engine.

Highworth Sailor Reaches Half Way Point

Nicole Roberts (pictured) from Bowmoor SC has reached Qingdao, China in the Clipper Round the World race.

Nicole wrote in her blog: "We arrived in China to a massive welcome. Big event, camera's everywhere.

Posters of all the skippers are all over town. As the Chinese boat we are currently minor celebs.

Banquets every night. Lots of work to do on the boat and lots of corporate days - not sure when I am supposed to sleep. We have now pretty much made it half way around the world, which is really cool."

Nicole is sailing to raise money for access2information, see www.justgiving.com/nicoleroberts.



Wiltshire's Number One



11-year-old Giles Waterson began playing tennis at Highworth Tennis Club when he was four and started playing in competitions a few years later.

When Fred Wells began coaching at Highworth he ensured Giles was chosen to play in the Wiltshire squad and he is currently number one in the County at 12 and under.

Giles plays many tournaments in the area and this winter has improved his game. At his last tournament he beat the UK number 19 in the quarter finals, then the number 13 in the semis, losing only to number 5 in the final. He also plays for Highworth in the junior league and enjoys practicing and playing for fun.

Giles is currently ranked number 50 in the UK in his age group and is hoping to improve his ranking over the summer.

For more information on Highworth Tennis Club, please contact Fred Wells on 07886 486259.

Archery, the sport for all ages!

Buscot Park Archers are running classes at Faringdon Leisure Centre from **Friday 4th April**, then further classes at Buscot Park from **Monday 19th May**.

For details, phone Adam Abbott, Tel: (01793) 764361.

Highworth half marathon

In the March edition, we omitted this fine picture of Highworth's Gary O'Brien who took third place in this water-logged run.



Photo courtesy of Swindon Advertiser.