

VILLAGE life

Your Community Magazine

Issue 183 June 2016

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Page 3

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BREXIT – In or Out? – That is the question

There is only one subject up for discussion this month and that's BREXIT. Personally I have never seen anything so important that I am being asked to make a decision on, but nobody can give a straight answer. I suspect that is because nobody actually knows the answers.

When I have attended Investment fund groups recently they tend to be guiding away from a leave vote. The main reason for this is uncertainty, because financial markets hate uncertainty. However, you do have some 'heavyweights' like Peter Hargreaves cofounder of Hargreaves Lansdown publicly campaigning for a decision to leave.



Don Wernham,
Financial Planner

So will there be market volatility on the lead up to June 23rd? Yes, there will be. And if there is a leave vote there will be further volatility, both in the UK and in European markets. But, short term volatility comes and goes in financial markets. There is risk for the economy if we leave the EU, and that is why institutions like the Bank of England and the CBI are warning of this risk, as they should do. But to exactly what those risks will eventually look like I am not too sure that anybody really knows the answer.

I think that there is a distinct possibility of a leave vote, despite Cameron and Osborn's (and more recently Obama's) scare stories. I also think that when politicians only give you a scare story, it does make you go away from their own argument. I also think if Cameron thinks a leave vote would be so catastrophic for us then why would he let us vote anyway? It does not make sense.

There are other issues for ordinary people as well as financial markets and trade. There is security, control of our own borders and immigration, and of course the biggest issue of all – democracy. We have a right to get rid of bad governments and unjust laws if we so choose to vote to get rid of them. But the United Kingdom's Parliament or Courts are no longer sovereign, supremacy resting instead with European Union & The European Court of Justice. EU law takes priority over conflicting laws enacted by individual Member States. And at a time when governance is being handed down more locally to regions, here we are centralising it in Brussels.

I think this race is too close to call personally, despite opinion polls and bookmakers odds saying the remain camp are well in front. But just remember on June 24th if there is a vote to leave, the sun will still come up, firms will still make things and people will still want to buy things. We may just have to sell things a little further afield, that's all.

Disclaimer - Please note views are my own and do not constitute advice

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@SimpSolsIFA

www.simplesolutions.financial

Editor
Gary Skentelbery

Production
Paul Walker

Account Executives
James Balme

Advertising
Freephone
0800 955 5247

Editorial
01925 623632

Email
info@warrington-
worldwide.co.uk

Websites
www.culchethlife.com
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Address
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Editor's comment

TWO things occurred to us after studying the results of last month's parish council elections.

Firstly, the number of candidates who were elected uncontested – in some cases whole councils being elected without a contest taking place.

Secondly, the number of candidates who chose not to align themselves with any political party, nor even describe themselves as "independent." In some cases, these were well known political figures who DID represent political parties when they also stood in the borough council elections.

The first point is worrying because it indicates, even more than generally low turn-outs by the electorate, just how few people are interested in their local communities. Parish

councils, we are told, are becoming more important as more and more responsibilities are devolved to them from the borough council.

But a council that is elected uncontested really has no mandate from the electorate – unless it be one to do whatever it likes!

The second point is, however, encouraging. We have argued for years that party politics have no place on parish councils. Indeed, seldom if ever, do they play any part in the decisions parish councils make. Once elected, councillors tend to forget their political differences and, generally, let common sense prevail.

So it has always seemed strange that at election time they fly party colours, wage aggressive campaigns and sometimes even say nasty things about each other.



**Deadline for the
July issue of
Village Life is
June 21**

Village fit for the Queen after Spring clean

LOCAL schools teamed up with Stockton Heath Parish Council to ensure the village was fit for the queen.

Youngsters from Stockton Heath Primary School, St. Thomas' Primary school and students and staff from

Appleton College joined forces to "clean for the queen" in and near the village centre.

The younger children designed posters which are on display in the Forge while the college students performed a thorough spring clean around the Village.

Following the clean-up operation members of the Stockton Heath Parish Council, students and teachers delivered leaflets to traders, visitors and residents to encourage them to help keep the village clean.



Rare lambs born at Walton Zoo

ZOO ranger Peter Cookson is celebrating the birth of rare twin Herdwick lambs at Walton Gardens Children's Zoo.

Now Peter will be inviting local school children who visit the zoo to come up with names for the lambs.

"It is rare to have twins born, and even rarer to have one which has brown wool," said Peter.

The Herdwick Sheep are mostly found in the Lake District and provide wool used in carpets.

"If you get a Herdwick wool carpet it will generally last a lifetime," added Peter.

A total of three lambs were born recently, including the twins and they are now on show.



Something for everyone at village festival

THE ninth annual Stockton Heath Festival gets under way on Thursday, June 30 offering a wide range of fun and entertainment for all ages.

For four days there will be music, drama, theatre, comedy, exhibitions and much more spilling out of Stockton Heath into neighbouring Appleton and Grappenhall.

As usual, the main Festival Field will be on the QEII Diamond Jubilee Field in Parkgate Road where some events will run for most of the festival.

The festival - estimated to cost about £35,000 - is run by a team of about 50 volunteers and sponsored by a number of local businesses and organisations.

Brief details of the festival programme are listed below. More details can be found on the website www.stocktonheathfestival.co.uk

Thursday, June 30

11am - 4.30pm Art exhibition at St Thomas' Church
2pm-3pm Story time and craft

session at Stockton Heath Library
7pm Primary Schools Gospel Concert, Hill Cliffe Baptist Church
7.30pm Choral concert, Cheshire Chord Company and Haydock Male Voice Choir, St Thomas' Church

8.30: Comedy Night at the Slug and Lettuce

7.30pm Stockton Heath Methodist Dramatic Society: Blue Remembered Hills. Methodist Church Hall

Friday July 1

2pm Local History Talk, Appleton Parish Hall.

7.30pm The Swing Commanders at the Festival Marquee

7.30pm Musical Magic Gemini Musical Company. St Thomas' Church Hall.

7.30pm Two Talking Head, Appleton Parish Hall.

Saturday July 2

7.30pm Tripitaka soul band at the Festival Marquee

7pm A Midsummer Night's Dream, Illyria Theatre Co at Grappenhall Heys Walled Garden.

10am Amazing Stephen magic and

puppet show, Festival Marquee

11am Poetry reading at Stockton Heath Library

2pm The Jungle Book at the Festival Marquee

1pm-4pm Model railway exhibition, Grappenhall Community Centre

10am-12.30pm Art class workshop, Scout Hall, Parkgate Road

1pm and 2.45pm Express Youth Theatre, fun drama workshop, Scout Hall, Parkgate Road.

7pm AIM Community Choir, Appleton Parish Hall.

7pm Children's Cinema, Hill Cliffe Baptist Church.

11.30am Craft session, Stockton Heath Library.

12 noon to 4pm. Pop-up tennis with Stockton Heath Tennis Club on the Festival Field.

10am-5pm Photography competition in the Arts Tent

10am-6pm Arts, crafts and Farmers Market on the Festival Field.

12 noon and 3.30pm. Professor Seltsam, the mad scientist. Festival Field

7.30pm Stepping Out vocal harmony group at St Thomas' Church Hall.

Sunday July 3

7.30pm Abba's Angels at the Festival Marquee.

10am - 3pm Allotments open day at the Red Lane Allotments.

10am-4pm Canal boat trips at Thorn Marine, London Bridge

10am Wonderslide World Interactive Story Telling, Scout Hall, Parkgate Road.

1pm Yoga taster session, Scout Hall, Parkgate Road.

2pm Doodle, children's entertainer, Scout Hall, Parkgate Road.

2pm Fashion Show at the Festival Marquee

4pm Songs of Praise, St Thomas' Church

1pm-4pm Tower Tours. Climb the tower at St Thomas' Church.

12 noon Dog Show on the Festival Field

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It's Simply Amazing!

Iconic 'Mad Men' car coming to Lymm Historic Transport Day

AN iconic TV car will make its inaugural British appearance at Lymm Historic Transport Day 2016 on Sunday, June 26.

The 1965 Cadillac Coupe DeVille, owned by Don Draper in hit US drama 'Mad Men', will be on public display for the first time since arriving in the UK last year.

A local businessman and fan of the critically acclaimed and wildly successful show, bid for the car in an auction of memorabilia.

The classic Coupe DeVille will be just one of around 350 cars on show at an event that will also feature for the first time a full size aircraft – a replica spitfire with original cockpit. A Lego Transport Exhibition will be another first for the show which will also feature all the regular favourites including dozens of

historic working boats, traction engines and model railways. In fact Lymm is fast turning into the region's "go-to" event for historic transport enthusiasts.

The event is run entirely by local volunteers for the benefit of the community with 50% of this year's profits being passed on to help set up the new Lymm Heritage Centre. The core team need over 100 helpers on the day – each doing a three hour stint. If you could give a little time to be part of a great community team email transportday2016@gmail.com or call Trish Cockayne on 01925-751646. More info at lymmtransport@gmail.com



Cooking up a recipe for success at JD Kitchens

DEPUTY Mayor of Warrington Cllr Faisal Rashid was on hand to demonstrate his cooking skills – or lack of them – as local kitchen company JD Kitchens held an open day to celebrate 15 years in business.

Fifteen years ago owner Dave Charlton started off from his back bedroom selling relatively basic kitchens and work tops but over the years his business blossomed into one producing mid to high end kitchens, from a showroom on Gorsey Lane, Warrington.

To mark the 15th anniversary the showroom has recently been refurbished with the latest Next125 line of kitchens from Germany.

The Deputy Mayor, who by coincidence is Dave's business manager at the Nat West Bank, said it was "brilliant to see a local business doing well."

During his mayoral year, Cllr Rashid will be focusing on the local business community, with a new project he has been working on which will also help raise funds for his chosen charities.

Meanwhile Dave, who is also a director on the Kitchen, Bedroom Specialist Association (KBASA), which helps regulate the industry, is the only outlet in the local area to supply modern and contemporary style German manufactured kitchens, whilst also offering a more traditional style kitchen from UK manufacturer, Mackintosh. He is also the local Neff Master Partner.

To find out more about JD Kitchens why not visit their showrooms at 4 Gorsey Lane and see first hand the quality of their workmanship or visit www.jdkitchens.co.uk



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Bermuda

Bermuda is located 1000 miles north of the Caribbean, 7 hour flight from London and 2 hours flying time from the East coast of America. Turn this trip to Bermuda into a twin centre by adding on a stay in New York, Boston or Toronto with flights connecting from Manchester. Bermuda is famous for the pink sand beaches and turquoise seas. Bermuda is made up of 181 islands, islets and rocks. The eight largest islands are all linked by bridges and causeways. There is a good transport

system throughout Bermuda consisting of ferries, buses and taxis. Car hire is not possible in Bermuda only scooter hire and the speed limit is 20mph!

Ferries operate from Hamilton to the Royal Naval Dockyard where there are museums, art centres, glass-works etc. Bermuda is Britain's oldest colony from 1615 - this is obvious by the range of old style British pubs, telephone boxes etc.

Bermuda is also famous for 'Bermuda Shorts' which have to be no shorter

than 6" above the knee!

The best time to visit is spring, summer and autumn. Take advantage of the clear waters, fine coral reef, beautiful fish and numerous shipwrecks.

The winter months give way to walking, exploring and golf.

There are extensive range of restaurants, cafes and bars throughout Bermuda. At most of the hotels you can experience the English afternoon tea and fine dining. A trip to Bermuda would not be complete with tasting the amazing dark'n'stormy Gosling Black Seal Rum 80 proof format or stronger 151 proof. This rum is the main ingredient in the popular rum swizzle!

Retail therapy is found in the designer shops in Hamilton while you can experience the local craft market at Royal Naval Dockyards Clockwork-shopping mall with unique stores for you browse round. Take a trip through Somerset Village. Scaur Hill Fort, Heydon Trust Chapel and take time to visit the smallest drawbridge in the world - Somerset Bridge.

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Pupils growing seeds from outer space

PUPILS at Grappenhall Pre School are getting a taste of becoming space biologists after embarking on a voyage of discovery growing seeds which have been into space.

Last September, 2kg of rocket seeds were flown to the International Space Station (ISS) on Soyuz 44S where they spent several months in microgravity before returning to Earth in March 2016. The seeds have been sent as part of Rocket Science, an

educational project launched by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and the UK Space Agency.

Grappenhall Pre School received a packet of 100 seeds from space, which they are growing alongside seeds which haven't been to space so they can measure the differences over seven weeks. The children won't know which seed packet contains which seeds until all results have been collected by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and analysed by

professional biostatisticians.

The out-of-this-world, nationwide science experiment will enable the children to think more about how we could preserve human life on another planet in the future, what astronauts need to survive long-term missions in space and the difficulties surrounding growing fresh food in challenging climates.

Stacey Seed, the setting manager – with the perfect name for this experiment, at Grappenhall Pre School, said “We are very excited to be taking part in Rocket Science. This experiment is a fantastic way of teaching our children to think more scientifically and share their findings with the whole school as well as the community”.

Rocket Science is just one educational project from a programme developed by the UK Space Agency to celebrate British ESA astronaut Tim Peake's Principia mission to the ISS and inspire young people to look into careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) subjects, including horticulture.

Follow the space experiment with Stacey Seed and her future space biologists on Pre School's Facebook page or you can follow the project on Twitter: @RHSSchools #RocketScience.

For more information on the Rocket Science project or RHS Campaign for School Gardening, contact the Campaign at schoolgardening@rhs.org.uk



Lib Dems claim 'domination' after the elections

THE Liberal Democrats claimed “domination” of borough and parish council seats south of the Manchester Ship Canal after the results of the “all out” elections were declared.

Cllr Bob Barr, leader of the Liberal Democrat group on the borough council said the party held the 10 borough council seats in Appleton, Stockton Heath, Grappenhall and Lymm North and Thelwall with substantial majorities.

Their representation on parish councils – increasingly important as environmental services were increasingly devolved from the borough – was also very strong.

He said: “When we are judged on our service to the local community, voters have turned to us in large numbers because they know that Liberal Democrats work hard and keep in touch through local newsletters whether there is an election or not.

“Following the major set-back of last year's General Election the Liberal Democrat fightback nationally is based on being best at representing our communities.”

In fact, a number of well-known Liberal Democrats, notably at Thelwall, chose to be nominated as individuals, dispensed with the party description and were elected uncontested.

Cllr Barr said this was not inappropriate as party politics seldom, if ever, were an issue at parish council level.

The results of the elections were as follows:

BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Appleton
Brian Axcell (Lib Dem) 2191 – elected; Nick Bent (Labour) 556; David Bilton (Green) 447; Sharon Harris (Lib Dem) 1640 – elected; Ian Houghton (Cons) 731; Basil Mitchell

(Cons) 1075; Barbara Price (Cons) 891; Judith Wheeler (Lib Dem) 2034 – elected.

Grappenhall

Ryan Bate (Lib Dem) 1119 – elected; Mike Biggin (Lib Dem) 1306 – elected; Iona Gillis (Cons) 421; Andy Heaver (Lab) 380; Olivia Reilly (Cons) 565.

Stockton Heath

Sandra Eaves (Labour) 522; Harry Gibbins (Green) 147; Jonathan Levy (Cons) 581; Laurence Murphy (Labour) 614; Stephen Taylor (Cons) 675; Peter Walker (Lib Dem) 1089 – elected; Graham Welborn (Lib Dem) 813 (elected).

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Appleton

Cobbs and Hillcliffe ward: Ken Arnett (Lib Dem) 1837 – elected; Brian Axcell (Lib Dem) 2275 – elected; Irina Axcell (Lib Dem) 1875 – elected; Sandra Benger (Lib Dem) 1865 – elected; Jane Bilsland (Lib Dem) 1736 – elected; Valerie Goulden (Labour) 535; Sharon Harris (Lib Dem) 1805 – elected; John Price (Lib Dem) 1765 – elected; Tim Stansfield (Lib Dem) 1961 – elected; Judith Walker (Lib Dem) 2035 – elected; Judith Wheeler (Lib Dem) 2078 – elected.

Hillcliffe North ward: Peter Walker (Lib Dem) Uncontested – elected.

Thorn ward: Richard Chapman (Labour) 89; Andy Cross (Independent) 370 – elected; Dorothy Edwards (Independent) 344 – elected.

Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council

Grappenhall ward: Ryan Bate (Lib Dem) 873 – elected; Mike Biggin (Lib Dem) 1017 – elected; Dave Cundy (TUSC) 155; Ian Fountain (Lib Dem) 702 – elected; Dave Hockenhull (Lib Dem) 658 – elected; John McQuillan

(Lib Dem) 683 – elected; Graham Welborn (Lib Dem) 676 – elected; Paul Wenlock (Lib Dem) 731 – elected; Chris Worsley (Lib Dem) 688 – elected.

Thelwall ward: All elected uncontested: Andrew Bennett; Louise Fernyhough; Raymond Fisher; Wendy Johnson; Clifford Taylor; Patrick Warner; Elaine Welborn.

Hatton Parish Council

All elected uncontested: Roger Dickinson; Judith Godley; David Jones; Stuart Tranter; Margaret Winstanley; Julian Wrigley.

Stockton Heath Parish Council

East ward: All elected uncontested: Sonia Boggan (Cons); Helen Dutton (Labour) Pam Todd (Lib Dem).

West ward: Nick Bent (Labour) 600 – elected; Sheila Dean (Lib Dem) 928 – elected; Wendy Emsley (Lib Dem) 856 – elected; Angela Fell (Labour) 561 – elected; Joanne Freeman (Cons) 457; Chris Jones (Lib Dem) 865 – elected; Celia Jordan (Lib Dem) 953 – elected;

Jonathan Levy (Cons) 477; Phil Marshall (Cons) 409; Laurence Murphy (Labour) 602 – elected; Olivia Reilly (Cons) 422; Dorothy Robb (Lib Dem) 903 – elected; Susan Barlow (Labour) 636 – elected; Stephen Taylor (Cons) 521; Peter Walker (Lib Dem) 1026 – elected; Graham Welborn (Lib Dem) 885 – elected; Judith Wheeler (Lib Dem) 870 – elected.

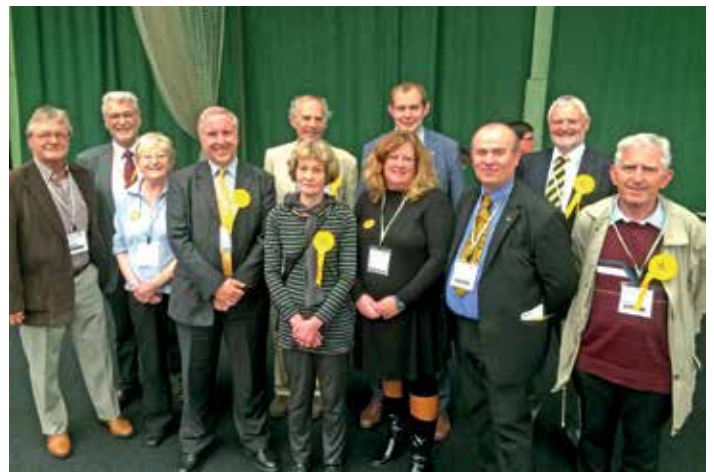
Stretton Parish Council

All elected uncontested: Dennis Buckley; Jill Higgins; Bryan Jones (Independent); Linda Jones (Independent); Tony Lyons.

Walton Parish Council

All elected uncontested: Higher Walton ward: Richard Bennett (Independent) Denise Karalius; David Meacock.

Lower Walton ward: Ann Hardie; Bob Hardie (Independent); Barbara Price; Yousuf Shaikh; Jolyon Ward (Independent).



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Money Column

By Margaret Black

Take advantage of tax free loans from your company

DIRECTORS LOAN

Provided a director sticks to the rules they may borrow money interest free from their limited company. This action may generate tax bills for both director and company, provided it is executed properly, this can be avoided, how useful.

When a director borrows from their company, there are two potential tax charges. A comparatively small one for its director, and although short - lived, a much greater one for their company, however, the rules which determine when each charge applies are very different. Since 6 April 2014, the most a director can borrow interest free from their company without it being considered as a taxable benefit is £10,000 (this was previously £5,000) so provided the borrowing is kept below the limit at all times there will not be any tax payable by them. The position of the company is a bit more complex.....

COMPANY TAX

The company must pay tax equal to 25% (32.5% for advances after 5 April 2016) of the amount owed to it by each director on the last day of its financial year, unless..... the director repays what they owe within the next nine months. Example below:

At end of Limited Company A's financial year 31 March 2016, on that date its only director owes the company £9,500. On 20 September the director uses their overdraft to repay their loan to company A. On 21 October 2016 the director then borrows £9,500 from company A and repays their overdraft. By using this arrangement the company side-steps any tax charges, and because the amount borrowed is less than the £10,000 it is also tax free to the director.

There used to be a method which enabled the director to work around the 9 month rule and thus avoid the tax charge as follows:

At the end of the company's financial year (31 March 2012), if the director shareholder owed say £12,000 to the company the potential tax charge of £3,000 could be avoided by lending the director a further £12,000 this was done by 30 September 2012 and used to repay the initial loan. By 30 September 2013 the trigger point for tax on the replacement loan, the company could have repeated the process again to avoid the subsequent tax charge. This method, christened bed & breakfasting, would have meant the company could dodge the tax charge indefinitely.

Predictably, the government introduced anti-avoidance rules to put a stop to the 'bed and breakfasting' of directors' loans. These new rules have applied since 20 March 2013. Now if a company makes a loan in the 30 days before or after a director repays a previous loan, the repayment is ignored for the purpose of working out if a tax charge arises.

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David Watkinson and Margaret Black

M&S draw the crowds – but footfall drops in the village

AN extra 10,000 drivers used Stockton Heath's Forge car park in the first two months after Marks and Spencer opened in the village.

But they all made use of the free one hour period – and did not visit other shops.

In fact, all other traders have noticed a distinct drop in footfall since M&S opened, according to local businessman Paul McIntyre, a member of a joint parish council/ borough council/traders parking group which is studying parking issues in the village.

He wants the borough to consider an emergency measure of offering a free 20 minute parking period and then a charge of £1 for three hours to encourage people to extend their visit into Stockton Heath village.

Mr McIntyre said: "People are coming into the village to visit M&S and parking for an hour for free.

"But this doesn't give them time to visit any of the other shops. Every trader I have spoken to has complained of a drop in footfall."

Mr McIntyre and parish councillor Sue Barlow had walked the village with a borough council officer looking for places where existing parking restrictions could be removed or relaxed or parking bays provided to make more parking space available. Their recommendations will be studied by highways chiefs.

But in the long term, Mr McIntyre believes more radical measure are necessary – including a second tier of parking on the lower section of the Forge car park.

He said: "The upper tier would be about the same height as the upper section of the car park so it would not be overbearing. This would obviously cost a lot of money, but there are ways of raising money, including, of course, the additional revenue there would be from parking.

"The days of free parking are over. But I think if people could have three hours for £1, giving them time to do their shopping, look around our great village shopping centre and perhaps have a coffee or a snack, they would be prepared to pay."

Counsellor launches new grief support group

A COUNSELLOR from Stockton Heath has launched a new free grief support group based at the Fairfield and Howley Neighbourhood Project which has opened its doors to those seeking bereavement support.

Marsha Roberts established Warrington Grief Support Group which is based on Fairfield Street, Warrington, after realising there was no other service in the Warrington area offering a group support format led by a trained counsellor.

Marsha said: "Having experienced the loss of my mother seven-and-a-half years ago I understand how hard a bereavement can be and the feelings of isolation that can follow.

"Sometimes you need to speak with others in a confidential and non-judgemental setting who understand

exactly what you are going through to realise you are not alone in your grief.

"So far the feedback I have received for the group has been very positive as not everybody wishes to have one to one therapy and would prefer to share their feelings with a supportive group."

Marsha who completed her counselling training at Warrington Collegiate last year will also be assisted by trainee counsellor and Warrington Inspiration Award nominee Gemma Ellison.

The group meets on the last Thursday of the month from 6:30PM – 8:00PM.

For more information visit Warrington Grief Support Group on Facebook or contact Marsha on 07714267000.





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Gardens to open for charity

A NUMBER of local gardens are being opened to the public this summer to raise money for charity as part of the National Gardens Scheme.

Nationally, the scheme raised more than £2.6 million last year which was distributed to Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Hospice UK, Carers Trust, Queen's Nursing Institute, Perennial, Parkinson's UK and Cavell Nurses Trust.

This year, the NGS hopes to raise even more.

Among local gardens to be opened will be Laskey Farm, in Laskey Lane, Thelwall on Saturday and Sunday, August 13-14 from 11am-5pm, Winterbottom House, in Winterbottom Lane, Mere on Friday June 3 (6-9pm) and Sunday August 14 (1-5pm), 10, Statham Avenue, Lymm, Saturday and Sunday June 18-19 (11am-5pm), Parm Place, High Street, Great Budworth on Sunday, June 26 (1pm-5pm), Holly Mere, Radley Lane, Houghton Green, by arrangement June to August, Free Green Farm, Lower Peover, on Sunday, June 5 (2pm-5.30pm), Dingle Farm, Dingle Lane, Appleton, every Saturday and Sunday July 23 to August 7 (10am-5pm), Bluebell Cottage Gardens, Lodge Lane, Dutton, Saturday and Sunday June 25-26 (10am-5pm) and Cogshall Grange, Hall Lane, Antrobus, Sunday August 7 (11am-5pm).



Stars come out for an evening At The Races

THE Jockey Club Live has been introducing new audiences to the sport of Kings by using their world-class facilities as outdoor music venues, putting on show-stopping headline performances by some of the world's biggest artists.

This year the iconic Aintree and Haydock Park Racecourses will be playing host to their 'An Evening At The Races' brand.

National legend Tom Jones is a perfect fit for Aintree with a career that has spanned over half a century and has seen him win many accolades including a BRIT Award for Outstanding Contribution to Music and a Silver Clef Award for Lifetime Achievement. A favourite at The Jockey Club Live events he visits Aintree on June 10. He said, "I always have a fantastic time performing to

audiences at Jockey Club Live events as they are such a great night out for everyone."

Irish sensations The Corrs will be opening up the summer outdoor season at Haydock Park Racecourse on June 18. Since releasing their debut album 'Forgiven, Not Forgotten' in 1996, they have sold over 30 million albums worldwide with hits including 'Runaway' and 'Breathless'. Their success is a testament to their unique sound, which is an enchanting mix of traditional Celtic music with a pop rock twist.

Jess Glynne will be the next to perform at Haydock Park on July 1. Since featuring on Clean Bandit's Grammy Award winning and number one hit 'Rather Be', she has had a number-one charting debut album, 'I Cry When I Laugh', which has now turned double platinum in the UK. Jess will also be donating a portion of her fee to the charity 'Retraining of Racehorses' of which The Jockey Club Live will match.

Lastly for the picturesque Haydock Racecourse is Lancashire's own, Lisa Stansfield, who headlines on August 5. One of the coolest pop stars 'All Around The World' throughout the 90's; her seductive, soulful vocals and timeless dance-pop songs saw her top the charts on both sides of the Atlantic, duet with George Michael and Queen and win multiple Brit and Ivor Novello awards. Lisa's albums were international hits, selling more than 15 million copies and spawning over 20 hit singles.

The picturesque settings, the thrilling racing and the sublime headline performances all combine to give a value for money experience unlike any other this summer. Fans are advised to buy their tickets soon

to avoid disappointment as many of the shows are set to sell out.

Aintree Racecourse:
10th June, Tom Jones
Haydock Park Racecourse:

18th June, The Corrs
1st July, Jess Glynne
5th August, Lisa Stansfield

Tickets for all shows are available now from thejockeyclublive.co.uk



What's on in the villages

June 14
STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath. 7.30pm

June 16
GRAPPENHALL & THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL
Council Offices, Bellhouse Lane. 7.30pm

June 21
APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm

LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S
Metropolitan Brass. Classic music for brass quintet
St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall, 7.30pm.

Every Sunday
GRAPPENHALL HEYS WALLED GARDEN
Witherwin Avenue, Grappenhall Heys, WA4 3DS.
Café open from 12 noon-4pm serving teas, coffee,
home-made cakes and savouries.

Every Monday
COFFEE TIME, St Mary Magdalene's Church, Appleton,
9-11am.

COUNTRY DANCING CLUB
St Thomas' Primary School, Parkgate Road, Stockton
Heath.
8-10pm. Details: 01925 262356

BRIDGE CLUB
Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm. Details
01925 262534

LADIES' FRIENDSHIP CLUB
The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road,
Thelwall.
8pm. Details: 01925 264099

HIGH LEIGH BRIDGE CLUB
Village Hall, 7-10pm. Rubber, Duplicate and Chicago
played. Details: Audrey Greaves 0161 904 0120

Every second Monday
PARK (APPLETON) WI
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm

Second and fourth Monday
WARRINGTON ART GROUP
Bellhouse Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane,
Grappenhall. 7-9pm.

Every third Monday
NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY
Cheshire District meeting
Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club, Chester Road,
Grappenhall. 8pm. Details: 01925 265773.

Every fourth Monday
MARLFIELD WI
Grappenhall Community Library, Albert Road,
Grappenhall. 7.30pm

Every Tuesday
COFFEE MORNING
St Cross Church, Appleton Thorn. All welcome.
10am-12 noon

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
Quays Community Centre,
Thelwall New Road, Thelwall. 7.30pm.
Contact: 01925 757582.

COFFEE MORNING
Appleton Independent Methodist Church
Appleton Parish Hall, 10am-12 noon

Every second Tuesday
STOCKTON HEATH LIONS CLUB
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BOOK CLUB
Bizzie Beans Coffee House, Bridge Lane, Appleton
11am-12 noon

Every Wednesday
APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB
September - June at Hall Drive, Appleton. 7.30-
10pm. Details: 01925 262356

Every first Wednesday
WALTON WI
St John's Church Community Hall. 7.30pm
Details: 01925 604384

STOCKTON HEATH PROBUS CLUB
Warrington Sports Club, Walton Lea Road, Higher
Walton. Details: 01925 268540

Every third Wednesday
HIGHER WALTON WI, St John's Community Hall,
7.45pm. Details 01925 262001.

Every fourth Wednesday
ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY
Support Group, Brampton Lodge Day Centre, Bridge
Lane, Appleton. 6.30-8.30pm

Every Thursday
THE SILVER QUAYS Senior Citizen's Club
The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road,
Thelwall. Details: 01925 753474.

BRIDGE CLUB
Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm. Details
01925 262534

Every second Thursday
STRETTON WI
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 2.30pm.

GRAPPENHALL PROBUS CLUB
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane,
10am. Details: 01925 264427.

Every third Thursday
NORTH EAST CHESHIRE FLOWER CLUB
Warrington Golf Club, London Road, Appleton. WA4
5HR 2pm. Details: 01925 740419

GRAPPENHALL WI
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane
2.15pm

Every Friday
APPLETOTS TODDLER GROUP
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.
9.45-11.30am. Details: 01925 268153.

To list your event call Village Life on
01925 623632



Russian culture on its way to Warrington

A PIECE of Russian culture is on its way to Warrington thanks to a Russian language school in Grappenhall following dialogue between the Mayor of Warrington and the Russian Embassy.

Last February Konstantin Shlykov, Head of Press and Culture Office from the Russian Embassy wrote to the Mayor of Warrington Cllr Geoff Settle, saying "The renowned Russian sculptor Leonty Usov from Tomsk has approached us with the proposal to donate his wooden portrait of the Russian Nobel prize laureate in Literature Mikhail Sholokhov to a town in Britain."

Mr Usov is an acclaimed artist, who

has had a number of international exhibitions, including in Britain. Previously he donated his wooden sculpture of Shakespeare to the Shakespeare birthplace Trust in Stratford. As it happens Warrington has an Avenue named in honour of Shakespeare whose birth 400 years ago is currently being celebrated. Another coincidence is that Shakespeare Grove backs on to Cossak Ave and Sholokhov, best known for the epic "And Quiet Flows the Don", which he wrote about the fate of the Don Cossacks.

Cllr Settle said: "I was delighted as we already have two famous sculptures in the Town Hall lobby one of Lord Winmarleigh and one of Gandhi. I thought that if we

could accommodate the sculpture of Sholokhov we would have a wonderful addition. I googled the artist and the Nobel Prize Laureate and realised the exciting potential and provisionally accepted."

The Mayor had recently opened a new Russian Language Saturday School at St Wilfrids CE Primary School in Grappenhall and asked their advice.

Yuliya Crane immediately wrote back saying "I am very happy to hear that the sculpture is likely to find its place in the Town Hall, which is a wonderful location for it. Warrington Russian Language School would be very happy to join unveiling ceremony for this sculpture (and if appropriate can prepare a song/dance/poem reading by our pupils)."

Konstantin Shlykov informed the Mayor that "2016 has been declared UK-Russia Year of Language and Literature, run jointly by the British Council and the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This gift is a fantastic opportunity for a friendly and non-political gesture that such a donation would represent."

The Mayor has sent a formal letter of acceptance and received the following reply from the Russian Embassy "This is excellent news indeed. We are now talking to the sculptor to find out when exactly he'll be in Britain - most likely it'll be in late May-early June. As soon as we have specific dates, I'll get back to you to arrange the donation."



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David Mowat

Member of Parliament for Warrington South

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Produced by David Mowat MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA



Long-serving councillors step down

TWO long-serving members of Appleton Parish Council decided to stand down and did not seek re-election at the recent elections.

Val Davies, who represented Cobbs and Hillcliffe ward, was chairman of the Environment Committee and Brian Smith, who represented Thorn Ward, was editor of the council's newsletter. Both had served on the council for 21 years.

Both were thanked on behalf of the council by chairman Cllr Sandra Benger at the annual parish meeting.

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Reader's Letter

Please send correspondence c/o The Editor Village Life, Orbit News, New Media Centre, Old Road, Warrington WA4 1AT or email: info@warrington-worldwide.co.uk

Stockton Heath Festival

Tudor Pole, Stockton Heath

THANK you for your kind remarks regarding the Stockton Heath Festival and for the bit about me in your May edition.

If I remember rightly your magazine was the first to give publicity to the idea of a festival so a big thank you to everybody at Village Life for your loyal support to the festival over the years.

Long may you prosper - Stockton Heath needs you and would not be same without you.



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