VILLAGE Your Community Magazine Terro 195 August 2016 FREE FREE

Your Community Magazine

Issue 185 August 2016



Stockton Heath • Appleton • Grappenhall • Thelwall • Stretton and surrounding areas



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The EU Referendum Result & Financial Markets

Will leaving the EU mean more risks for Britain than opportunities? Well we are about to find out. One thing is for certain is that risks will be priced into assets very quickly, but the opportunities will remain well into the future. The UK economy will probably struggle for a while, and will possibly need all the help that it can get. Which is why the Bank of England have already said that it will do whatever it takes. George Osborne too has said he is considering lowering corporation tax to 15%, and he needs to, in an effort to help the smaller businesses get through this period.



Don Wernham, Financial Planner

The Global markets have done rather well in the wake of the referendum, as has the FTSE 100 index. But it is not the FTSE 100 that you should trust to measure real performance for the UK. The FTSE 100 index is a benchmark of global companies exporting all over the world and indeed largely unaffected by the UK as a whole. It is the FTSE 250, FTSE 350 and the AIM listed market that is likely to be the better barometer in times like these. And these indices have suffered significant falls in the aftermath of the EU referendum result. And it is these markets where the Chancellor will be trying to help the most.

The global economy is still the best place to provide the opportunities for growth. Ironically the weakening of the pound will provide opportunities for foreign companies and there could be a lot of mergers and acquisitions as a result, and this could further drive the UK markets higher. As always though, it is all about investment funds. And more to the point having the right ones in your portfolio. The commentators can comment all they like about a particular market or asset class. But, if you have a good fund in that market, with a great stock picking manager then you will more likely succeed.

In our own model portfolios, I am really excited at the potential opportunities in certain asset classes that the BREXIT decision has opened up, and I really believe that these will materialise over the next few years. Regarding the UK, I also think the future is bright as a result of this decision. It may just take a while longer for the UK to realise its full potential.

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

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 Pensions are changing due to the March 2014 budget and you now have a lot more options to consider'

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Distribution

Village Life is distributed freely to selected homes throughout the area as well as being available to pick up from various outlets, some of which are listed

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Village Hall, Co-op

Grappenhall:

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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

Editor's comment

THE prospect of some 180 houses being built on open land at Stretton is causing concern not only within the village but also in neighbouring Appleton.

Houses mean traffic – and the proposed new homes would be accessed not only from Stretton Road, in Stretton, but also from Pewterspear Green Road, Appleton. Residents of both villages believe, and not without good reason, that they already have more than enough traffic.

The land is owned by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), who have been consulting with residents and parish councils.

Biggest worry for residents is that HCA own a great deal of land in the area – inherited from the days of the Warrington New Town project of the

1970s/1980s - and including a large site at Appleton Cross.

Add to this proposals for 80-90 houses in the centre of Appleton Thorn village and a picture begins to emerge of future traffic gridlock – although this is not a HCA site.

As yet, planning applications have not been submitted for any of the proposals, which means that objections cannot yet be lodged. Frustrating for residents and local councillors.

The worrying thing is that consultation is being carried out in a piecemeal manner, denying local people the opportunity of studying the whole development picture. Surely one's views on the Stretton proposals, for instance, could be fundamentally altered if one had some knowledge of what might be



proposed at Appleton Cross?

In an ideal world, the pleasant green landscapes of Appleton and Stretton, which do so much to enhance the character of the area, could remain in perpetuity.

We have known for 40 years that this was unlikely to happen but we would have much greater confidence that development might take place in a sympathetic manner if all the pieces of the jigsaw could be looked at before work started.

Open garden in memory of business partner

THELWALL couple Wendy and Howard Platt opened Laskey Farm garden to the public in honour of Howard's business partner Bill Spencer who passed away in January.

Bill was managing director of Locker Group in Warrington and the event was organised by his widow Marguerite in Bill's memory and in aid

of St Rocco's Hospice.

Wendy is the driving force and opens the gardens each year for the National Garden Scheme in August and over the past four years has raised £20,000 through that scheme for charity.

The spectacular garden includes fascinating water features consisting five interconnected containing about 50,000 gallons. A highlight for children is the Turtle

Pond, home to 32 Terrapins.

This year a feature treehouse has been constructed as part of the continuous garden project and co-ordinates with the existing flower beds, lawned areas, greenhouse and extensive planted borders.

Laskey Farm has been featured as Garden of the Week in Garden News Magazine.

The event raised £2,500 for St Rocco's.



Wellies were order of the day at the steam fair

DUE to the heavy rain this year's Cheshire Steam Fair resembled a Glastonbury festival and wellies were certainly the order of the day.

Several cars and steam engines became bogged down but help was on hand with tractors coming to the

assistance of the stranded motorists. This didn't deter the crowds though. Established for over 30 years the event at Daresbury is a popular attraction for steam enthusiasts from

across the county and further afield.

Performing in the Main Arena were Flyin Ryan's Stunt Show – an amazing show of motorcycle tricks and freestyle jumps. Attempts were made to jump steam engines, plus a show stopping fire stunt which kept the whole family on the edge of their seats.

Also performing in the main arena were Birds of Prey Displays. The free flying magnificent eagles and vultures

thrilled the crowds.

Performing over the two days live on stage were the Crazy Bears, Smarty, Rocky, Candy, Honey, Popsy, Sweet Tooth and Mr Keiron, a fun-packed extravaganza for the whole family.

There was a full programme of top

steam fair attractions including, Wall of Death, Steam Engines, Classic Cars, Vintage Tractors, Classic Motorcycles,

Fairground Organs, Miniature Steam Engines, Stationary Engines and Vintage Commercials.

The event also included trade stands, Autojumble, Craft and Fine Food Marquee, Old Time and Modern Funfair, Non-stop Arena Entertainment, Catering and Licensed



Prayers answered at Grappenhall Walking Day

Report and pictures: Paul Jackson

UMBRELLAS were the order of the day at the start of Grappenhall Walking Day as Reverend Jane Proudfoot from St. Wilfrids Church was on hand to conduct the service - and to ask for better weather.

This year's Rose Queen Gabrielle Groves, and Rose Bud Natalie Finegan

Groves, and Rose Bud Natalie Finegan were joined by their predecessors, Izzy Collins and Mia Gilby at the village hall to prepare for the day.

Also joining them was their retinue of attendants Katie Lowe, Lucia Marshall, Tilly Trimble, Lilly Weall, Annie Axon Hazel, Imogen Fitzpatrick, Emily Davis, Claudia Rudkin, Rose Derbyshire and Crown bearer Brian Swindell.

As Rev. Proudfoot led a rousing rendition of "all things bright and beautiful" it seemed that the prayers had been answered, the rain stopped,

had been answered, the rain stopped, sunglasses replaced brollies and the procession through the village streets got off to a bright and sunny start.

The Queens and their attendants were joined on the walk by the Dobcross Youth Band, Church members, The Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Grappenhall Rainbows, Grappenhall pre school, St. Wilfred's School, and many local residents. Local people came out to show their support for the walkers. After parading through the village it was back to the school field for the crowning of the new Queen and Rosebud.

the formalities complete it was time for some good old fashioned family fun and wellearned refreshments. With tombolas, a coconut shy, hook a duck, cake sales, BBQ, beer tent, face painting, a demolition zone, The great Grappenhall bakeoff, Dragon Martial Arts, School choir, dance stars, budding gymnasts and many more stalls, activities and entertainments there really was something for everyone and the sunshine was a





Rose Bud Natalie Finegan and her retinue.



■ Rainbows enjoying the walk



Selfie time for the new Grappenhall Rose Queen.



■ Rose Queen Gabrielle Groves and her retinue.



■ Crowning glory for Rose Queen Gabrielle Groves.

'Always a Bobby at Market Gate'

IT is more than 30 years since Harry Hayes, of Grappenhall, retired from the police so his fascinating book "Always a bobby at Market Gate" could be said to be overdue.

But it has been worth waiting for because it provides a picture of a Warrington that few now remember – a Warrington which, for Harry, is a place of chosts.

place of ghosts.

He writes: "Almost every street brings back a memory of accident or incident. I can still see the Co-op milk horses who knew their round; the knocker-up; the Crown and Sceptre; noises, creaks and wild life from the old market at night, fish and potato market, fire station, et al."

Harry Hayes started his police career with the old Warrington Borough Force. He served briefly with Lancashire Police when they "took over" Warrington and ended as an Inspector with Cheshire Police.

When he retired, the Chief Inspector said: "Inspector Hayes is one of nature's gentlemen." Harry's comment was: "So was Tarzan."

His book is peppered with names which are well remembered by a reporter who, in those days, was free to wander around the police station, getting to know so many officers by first name and earning their trust. And places too, many of which have fallen to the demolition man's hammer.

It has pictures of Warrington's first police car – a Sunbeam loaned by a local dealer – and of police football and cricket teams

Today, police have radios, mobile 'phones and communicate on Facebook and Twitter. When Harry started it was a pillar in the street with its flashing light to summon the nearest officer.

He reluctantly admits Warrington is, in many ways, better today. But he regrets the diminished role of "service" in a bobby's job.

But he concludes his story with a forecast that the "village shop" will return. In 50 years' time he says, someone will earn a knighthood for proposing that we have smaller police forces, where everyone knows each other, and efficiency abounds.

"People will wonder why no-one every thought of that before."

He dedicates his book to the bobbies of Warrington Borough Police, who gave 30 years of their lives to patrol the streets of this once small town. Excellent loyal servants to the police service as a whole.



Mayor's record-breaking charity fundraising

OUTGOING Mayor of Knutsford Tony Dean raised a record-breaking amount of £12,155.28 for his chosen charities - Knutsford District Scouts and The Salvation Army.

Over a period of 12 months he raised money with a treasure hunt, a golf tournament, competitions at the town's Christmas Market, a pub quiz and the highlight of the year, the Mayor's Charity Ball.

Cllr Dean said: "I'm astounded by the wealth of support and generosity of the businesses and people of Knutsford and beyond.

"My thanks and appreciation go out to all those who joined me at my events, to those who gave up their time to sell raffle tickets and to the numerous businesses who so generously provided sponsorship and prizes to ensure the success of each event."

The Mayor's final event was "An Evening of Song" with the Mancunian Singers at Knutsford Methodist Church.



Cllr Dean with Captain Becky Ward, of the Salvation Army, and District Scout Commissioner Martin Belton.

A competition for budding authors

STOCKTON Heath Writers Group is offering any budding J K Rowling, Stephen King or Catherine Cookson the chance to kick-start their writing career with prizes worth £150.

The main cash prize, of £100 for the best short story, is being sponsored by local company Knight Corporate Finance, of Warrington.

Company director Paul Billingham said: "As a company, we are always keen to support local projects that bring people together. It's also exciting to think that there could be a best-selling author of the future, right here in the North-West, which is full of talented people. Good luck to everyone who enters!"

Another local business, Fifth Day, which provides project management consultancy is putting up £50 for the best poem, submitted by a writer aged 18 or older, maximum length is 40 lines.

Entries for the short story competition must be under 1,200

words, family-friendly in terms of language and can be on any subject. They should not have been published before. Anyone aged 18 or over can enter and there is no entry fee.

Writers should be working, or living, within 25 miles of Warrington.

There is a special Young Writer of The Year Prize, which is a £25 book token, and this is open to any writer aged under 18, who submits a poem or story. Poems must be under 40 lines, short stories under 500 words.

Mike Jackson, from Stockton Heath Writers said: "It's great to launch our 2016 anthology with this competition. We welcome all writers, of any age, background and ability and meet once a month to encourage new talent, share tips and ideas and have a refreshing cuppa! We are looking forward to seeing some excellent stories and poems."

Entries should be emailed to mjshortstories@gmail.com and the closing date is 1st September 2016.



Village festival celebrates another success

ORGANISERS of the Stockton Heath Festival are celebrating yet another huge success which, over the three days of the events drew thousands of people.

The popular scarecrow competition

 which had an Alice in Wonderland theme this year – was judged by the public who decided the winner was Maddocks Funeral Directors.

Runners up was the Red Lion Hotel and third, Smart's Carpets. The competition was sponsored by Grangeside Joinery

Meanwhile special guest on the festival field was Mayor of Warrington Faisal Rashid and his Mayoress wife Aleeza, who both had a go at bell ringing with the team from St Thomas' Church.

Entertainment on the field included "mad scientist" Professor Seltsam, while local bands provided musical entertainment, with Abba's Angel's bringing the curtain down on activities with a sell out show sponsored by FDR Law.



lacktriangle Local youngsters with the scarecrows on the festival field.





Professor Seltsam entertains the crowds.



■ St Thomas' bell ringers who are looking for more recruits.



A local band entertains the crowds.

To all our clients

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of you who voted for me in Retailer of the Year Awards recently. It was a fantastic achievement to win this and now sits in pride of place in the shop.

I would like to let you know that as from 1st July 2016 we were taken over by Hays Travel who are the largest Independent Travel Agent in the UK. Havs Travel offers the widest choice of holidays, including package holidays, all inclusive holidays, cruise holidays and long haul holidays. We are sure that this is going to benefit all our clients. To assure you that nothing will be changing, the name above the shop will still be Stockton Heath Travel and the staff will remain the same ie Jacqueline will still he Manager and I will be working part time. We look forward to your continuing support and remember the kettle is always on!

River Cruises

A fantastic way to explore more of Europe with its history and enchanting scenery ie travel through Russia and discover its jaw-dropping treasures and stunning rural landscapes or take the opportunity to visit a kommunalka to experience a living part of Soviet past and Russian culture. River cruising is perfect for

everyone especially those who have an interest in culture and history or just an opportunity to visit various cities and want a relaxing time on a small ship with like minded people. Cruising down the Rhine and the Danube visiting cities like Koblenzz, Vienna etc You will see astonishing 'fairytale' castles and learn about the mystical legends, historic strife and triumph. Or the Moselle with its impossibly steep, riverside vineyards and lesser known, yet equally beautiful River Main, twisting through Germany's rural heart. In France the Rhone flows majestically from almost the Burgundy vineyards to Avignon and Van Gogh's Arles, in the heart of Provence, whilst the Seine from Paris runs through the countryside to medieval Rouen and historic Baveaux. There is also the Douro with its dramatic terraced vineyards etc

The River Cruise Ships are a lot smaller than the Ocean going cruise ships ie a ship's crew of 44 serve just 169 guests so are more



Keep the village alive support your local traders!

intimate that the larger cruise liners. If you want to take part in brilliant cooking demonstrations, cultural discussions etc or just totally relax a river cruise would be for you. Various River cruise destinations to choose from ie Amsterdam-a canal tour of Amsterdam for 5 days visiting the bulb fields experience or cruise from Amsterdam via Cologne etc through Strasbourg, Breisach final destination would be Basel in Switzerland. Most tours include return flights from your regional airport, 6 guided tours, all meals on board, specially selected house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board, free Wi-Fi on board with certain ships.

Other cruises take in Rhine & Moselle or Rhine, Strasbourg & Heidelberg, Rhine Cruise to Switzerland, Medieval Germany from the Main to the Danube, Cruise the Heart of Europe from the Rhine to the Danube, Vienna & Budapest, The



■ Linda Crowder – Stockton Heath Travel

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Stockton Heath Walking Day dodges the showers

torrential rain earlier in the day Stockton Heath Walking Day managed to dodge the showers for the annual Walk of Witness through the village.

Following a service on Alexandra Park with a theme of Journeys, this year's walk was led by Bethesda

Church.

The walk was slightly delayed by some technical issues with a sound system but eventually got under way.

Hundreds of villagers lined the streets along with the Mayor of Warrington Cllr Faisal Rashid, Warrington South MP David Mowat and Parish Council Chairman Cllr Peter and Parish Council Chairman Cllr Peter



■ Joshua Oates, enjoys his first walking day with dad Carl, sister Harriet and mum Rachael.



■ St Thomas' Sunday Rose Queen Amelia Smith aged 9, with attendants Bella Thornton (8) and Alice Emery (4).



St Monica's Church





■ The tradition of handing money to youngsters taking part in the walk.



■ Mayor Faisal Rashid, David Mowat MP and Parish Chairman Peter Walker.



■ Bethesda Church had the honour of leading the walk.







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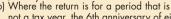
Keeping tax and accounting records

Question: How long must you keep tax and accounting records. Answer is as follows: <u>Individuals</u>

Individuals

People carrying out a trade profession or business must keep records until the later of the following:

a) Where the return is for a tax year, the 5th anniversary of the 31st January next following the year of assessment. For instance, records for the year to 5th April 2015 must be kept for 5 years from 31st January 2016, ie 31st January 2021.



years from 31st January 2016, le 31st January 2021.
b) Where the return is for a period that is not a tax year, the 6th anniversary of either:
i. The completion of an enquiry into the return; or
ii. The day on which the enquiry window into the return closes without an enquiry being opened
People not carrying out a trade, profession or business must keep records until the later of the following:
a. The first anniversary of the 31st January next following the year of assessment:

b. The completion of an enquiry into the return; or
c. The end of the day on which the enquiry window closes
PAYE & NIC records should be kept for 3 years from the date that they were created

Companies

Tax and Accounting records should be kept for a minimum of 6 years from the date that the records were made. These records include:

VAT invoices sent & received

VAI invoices sent & received
 Documents relating to supplies to & acquisitions from both other EU states and non-EU states including all import & export documentation
 Documents supporting special VAT treatment
 Bank statements, cheque books, paying-in books, cashbooks, & other accounting records
 Documents relating to SDLT should be kept until the latest of:

 The 6th anniversary of the effective date of the transaction

The 6th anniversary of the effective date of the transaction

The date on which an enquiry is completed, or
The date on which the window for opening an enquiry closes
Records concerning the purchase of own shares, copy Board minutes & resolutions, and copies of shareholders meetings should all be kept for 10

Directors service contracts should be retained for 1 year from the termination of the contract.

All other records should generally be kept for 6 years from the date of

reation.

Maternity pay records and sickness pay records should be kept for a minimum of 3 years from the end of the tax year in which the payments were made. With a few other small exceptions, all other records should be kept for a minimum of 6 years from the end of the tax year to which they relate.

Remember, paper makes an excellent loft insulation, though care should be taken to keep away from sources of ignition.

We are pleased to assist with these and other relevant matters where

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Parish to consider taking over grass cutting

APPLETON Parish Council is to consider the possibility of taking on grass cutting operations in the village next year following complaints from residents about the state of grass verges this

In the short term, the parish has agreed to pay Warrington Borough Council to carry out an extra cut this

But they are also to investigate various costing options for the parish council next year.

Chairman Cllr Brian Axcell said: "Residents have expressed outrage at the state of grass verges in the parish this year. The problem is that the borough has reduced the cutting cycle and we have had a lot of rain and relatively warm weather which has caused the grass to grow more rapidly.

"The borough says it will cut the

verges once every 6-8 weeks, but this is not enough. Hedges have also been growing more quickly, resulting in many footpaths become narrower.

"We have agreed to fund an extra cut by the borough this year but we are also looking into options for next year – possibly paying the borough to carry out more cuts or possibly taking on the work ourselves



Area board rejects funding bid

AN application for funding for two business location maps to be located on Stockton Heath's Forge car park has been turned down by Warrington Borough Council's South Area Board.

The board rejected the application on the grounds that traders and the parish council should exclusively pay for the signs, which would be in the form of maps showing the location of businesses.

Parish councillors say they would like to see the design of the signs before reaching a decision on whether to make a financial commitment.

Birthday celebrations at fertility clinic

FERTILITY clinic which helps patients across Warrington has celebrated its second anniversary with a special birthday party.

Reproductive Health Group held the event at their Daresbury Park centre and held a prize draw for three lucky couples who won free cycles of IVF treatment.

Among the guests at the party were many couples who have been helped by the group who now have babies following IVF treatment.

Kelly, whose daughter was born in March this year, said: "What better way to celebrate my husband's first Father's Day than helping celebrate Reproductive Health Group's second anniversary.

"Without their help, it simply would not have been possible. What an amazing day and a great opportunity to meet and speak to other patients and see all the success that RHG are enjoying.

"It was great to finally introduce our daughter to the team that created her.

Clinical director Luciano Nardo said: "It was a hugely rewarding experience seeing many happy families who attended the celebration for the second anniversary of our centre.

"The value of the daily work we do lies not in the treatment we offer but in the outcome our patients achieve.

"Meeting so many children whose life started in our laboratory was truly sensational. Today was a very special moment for my team and I together with the families and their children to remember for many years to come.



Alice leads search for malaria cure

A FORMER Appleton woman who now lives in Australia is playing a leading role in the world's search to find a cure for malaria.

Alice Williamson, who discovered her passion for science while studying at Priestley College, was recently named one of Australia's most promising young scientists due to her work with the Open Source Malaria project.

On a recent visit home Alice, aged 30, said: "We are designing new medicines to tackle malaria and rather than writing down our findings in a secret notebook we publish it all online.

"Anyone can see our findings and not just those who pay for it as happens in some laboratories when big companies are involved. It means other scientists around the world can learn from our discoveries and hopefully it will lead to a cure being found sooner."

The Open Source Malaria project shares all data and welcomes contributions from anyone, no matter what their expertise.

It promises not to patent any of its research—making it the world's first completely open drug discovery project

Alice is the lead experimental chemist for Open Source Malaria and was recently named one of Australia's Top Five scientists Under 40.

Jan Costello, director of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths at Priestley, said it was obvious that Alice was destined for high achievements.

"Alice was an exceptional student who studied a wide-ranging curriculum.

"I've enjoyed watching her progress and being able to see the difference she is making in worldwide research leaves me bursting with pride."

Malaria kills as many as half a million people every year.



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Benches to be refurbished

SEVEN benches in Victoria Square, Stockton Heath, are to be refurbished at a cost of £2,450.

The work will involve stripping off existing wood, replacing it with hard wood and staining the wood and re-painting the metal frames.

Parish council chairman Cllr Peter Walker said: "This is specialist work – they

Parish council chairman Cllr Peter Walker said: "This is specialist work – they are not just ordinary benches but were made specially for Stockton Heath and bear the council's coat of arms."

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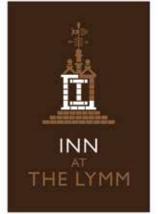
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GOLD & SILVER BULLION DEALER

Hazeldine Home & Garden celebrate 1st anniversary

LOCALLY based Hazeldine Home & Garden is celebrating its 1st Year in Business.

"It's been a steady start" said Paul. "I am learning all the time and I've made a few mistakes but we pride ourselves on our finished work.

work.

"We have had some great projects to work on as well as the traditional 'mow and go' garden maintenance. We work very fast; the investment in the essential tools and equipment makes our operation more efficient."

Paul said the customer feedback they receive is so positive and makes the hardest projects very rewarding.

"We made one customer cry when she saw the transformation, not because we'd made a mess of it, but simply she couldn't believe how different her garden was."

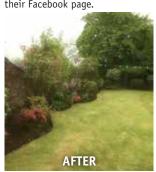


Another one of HH&G's customers said "I cant believe it, I've got a brand new garden, thank you so much."

"Many of our customers apologise for the state of their garden, but people have busy lives which means they are starved of free time; that's where we come in, we are there to help. We can transform a neglected garden and help the customer fall back in love with it. Once we have done our job the home owner can enjoy their garden once again" said Paul.

Hazeldine Home and Garden has a variety of customers, from large gardens, Churches, Community Centres to small gardens that need a bit of TLC.

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History in the making at Stretton Walking Day



HISTORY was in the making at Stretton Walking Day, as for the first time the new Rose Queen was joined by a Rose King!

As local school girl Grace Edwards was crowned the new Rose Queen, local school boy Kai Jamson became the first ever Rose King in the parish of St Matthew's Church, Stretton.

Rev Alan Jewell explained: "When children ask questions, I believe that it is right to give them the best answer you can. So, when a child recently asked why, if we had a Rose Queen, we didn't also have a Rose King, I decided I would give the matter some thought. It's a good question!

"When I was newly-arrived in this parish, never having had much to do with Rose Queens in the past, I did a bit of research. Some people imagine that it's an ancient pagan tradition,

with its origins lost somewhere in the mists of time... Steve Roud, however, in his book "The English Year[1]", tells the story of a vicar in Bury who, in 1989, announced that he was banning his church's Rose Queen ceremony, because, he said, it was rooted in pagan rites and not appropriate to a Christian community.

Roud pointed out that the hapless vicar: "had fallen rather publicly into the trap of believing that all traditional customs must be extremely old and are therefore linked to pagan activities.

"The Rose Queen was in fact a late Victorian invention encouraged, and perhaps even created, by clergy and respectable churchgoers as a piece of safe and controlled pageantry."

Rev Jewell added: "There is,

Rev Jewell added: "There is, however, a possible precedent to the Victorian notion of a Rose or May Queen. It is to be found in the medieval tradition of 'Church Ales'. The Church Ale, often held around Whitsun (the feast of Pentecost), and therefore sometimes called the 'Whitsun Ale', was a fundraising event for the upkeep of the parish church, which involved food, drink, dancing and games. Not that different from our current Walking Day, in fact. King James I listed Whitsun Ales as suitable entertainment for Sundays, but, with a change in the religious climate, they were banned by parliament in 1644.

"Now, this is where it gets interesting! The 'ale' festivities were ruled over, not by a May Queen, but by a 'Lord' and 'Lady'. So, if our Rose Queen has a precedent in the Lady who presided over the parish 'ale', she should be accompanied by a Lord!

"Ladies and gentlemen, boys and

girls: it's not just political correctness to have a Rose King, alongside the Rose Queen. It has historical precedent!







www.village-life.co.uk

in the villages

August 8 GRAPPENHALL & THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL Recess Committee Council Offices, Bellhouse Lane. 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,

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

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

LADTES' FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.

8nm. Details: 01925 264099

8pm. Details: 01925 264099
HIGH LEGH 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.

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
London Bridge Inn, 8pm
Contact: Grahamclisse58@outlook.com. Tel 01925
262669
BOOK CLUB

BOOK CLUB Bizzie Bean ns Coffee House, Bridge Lane, Appleton

Bizzie Beans C 11am-12 noon

Every Wednesday
APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB
September - July at Hall Drive, Appleton. 7.3010pm.
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

Decans: 01923 200340 Every third Wednesday HIGHER WALTON WIT, 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

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

GRAPPENHALL PROBUS CLUB Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane,

Details: 01925 264427.

Details: 01925 264427.
Every third Thursday
NORTH EAST CHESHIKE 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.

Note: Stockton Heath and Appleton parish councils do not meet during August

To list your event call Village Life on 01925 623632





What's on MP honoured by government appointment

AFTER believing he was destined to be on the back benches in government Warrington South government Warrington South MP David Mowat says he is "honoured" to be a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health.

Mr Mowat is the first Warrington MP to hold his own ministerial portfolio, although some parts of south Warrington formed part of the Runcorn constituency when it was held by the then Secretary of State

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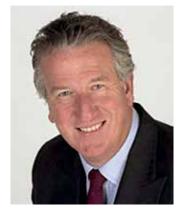
for Education Mark Carlisle.

In his new role which has formally been approved by the Queen, Mr Mowat will be responsible for social care and older people.

Mr Mowat said: "I'm delighted and honoured to have been asked to join the Government and the new team at the Department of Health.

"There are huge challenges ahead, both for the NHS and our care services, as we deal with the effect of a population which is growing older."

Grappenhall DENTAL PRACTICE



Church volunteer issued with parking ticket

A VOLUNTEER unloading equipment for an event at St Thomas' Church, Stockton Heath was issued with a parking ticket – just six minutes before parking would have been free anyway.

The incident took place on The Forge car park and it angered parish councillor Celia Jordan when she heard about it.

She told a meeting of the parish council that the individual had been issued with the ticket at 17.54 - just six minutes before it would have no longer necessary for the motorist to pay to park or even obtain a free onehour pass.

The council agreed to write to Warrington Borough Council, who control the car park, highlighting the issue and requesting that parking attendants adopt a "sensible approach" in such circumstances.

Cllr Helen Dutton pointed out that individual parking attendants had different attitudes. She had recently witnessed one waiting for the owner of a car to return as the window had been left open and items were on display.

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TWO community stalwarts at Stockton Heath are to be offered the freedom of the village.

Members of the parish council agreed to offer the honour to former councillor Tudor Pole – founder of the popular Stockton Heath Festival - and local community worker Helen Curwen.

Chairman Cllr Peter Walker said: "I can't think of anyone more deserving

of the honour.
"Without Tudor we would not have had the festival, which is now one of the most popular events in the village calendar and Helen could almost be regarded as an unofficial member of the parish council.

'She attends nearly all our meetings and helps the community in so many ways, taking on so much work simply because she loves Stockton Heath.

Meet your MP David Mowat

David Mowat, MP for Warrington South, holds regular surgeries throughout the constituency. If you would like to arrange an appointment to discuss an issue of concern to you please

e-mail him at david.mowat.mp@parliament.uk or telephone 01925 231267.

David Mowat

Member of Parliament for Warrington South www.davidmowat.org

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

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