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WARRINGTON businessman Paul Taylor has expressed his concerns over the proposed devolution deal being considered by Warrington Borough Council.

A special Task Group set up by the council is narrowly (4-3) in favour of Warrington doing a deal to become part of the Liverpool sub region, instead of Cheshire.

The controlling Labour group on the borough council appear to be fearful of doing a deal with Cheshire because it could involve having an elected Mayor, who could very well be a Tory.

I agree with Mr Taylor that any deal done for Warrington should be based on the economic benefits rather than one based on politics.

Whether we like it or not Warrington is already part of Cheshire with many existing partnerships and connections. Surely this makes more common sense than being swallowed up by the Liverpool sub region.

Warrington would have a much bigger part to play as part of Cheshire than being swallowed up the Liverpool sub region. Hopefully

common sense will prevail – although common sense and politics doesn't always go hand in hand!

Meanwhile on a more positive note I would like to congratulate all those who have been involved in helping organise the Warrington Festival.

The Icons of the 80s and Viola Beach tribute gig headlined by

Starsailor, were both memorable events and certainly helped boost the local town centre economy.

These were followed by the English Half Marathon, which proved to be a truly spectacular sight as around 5000 runners converged on the town.

All three events helped put Warrington well and truly on the map – long may they continue.

Deadline for the November issue of Warrington Worldwide is October 11

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Musical twins on the road to success in Warrington!

WARRINGTON has been chosen as the backdrop to promote a new album for an international music duo the **Mona Lisa Twins**.

Local photographer Paul Jackson, helped convince The Mona Lisa Twins to use his home town to help promote their new album and website, after becoming sick and tired of negative headlines and comments about the town.

The girls, aptly named Mona and Lisa Wagner, are originally from Austria but now have settled in the North West and have recently finished a very busy time at Liverpool's famous Beatle Week where they played eight gigs in 7 days. In the past nine years the Twins have notched up four albums, 92 music videos, 10 million YouTube views, tens of thousands of subscribers and a lot of blood, sweat and tears later, they are living and working in the UK.

With a host of live shows in Europe, the USA and Australia, a UK tour with Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel, a recording session in Abbey Road Studios, a weekly residency at the legendary Cavern Club and regular features on BBC and international radio stations under their belt, they have come a long way since daydreaming about the future at the age of 13.

They said: "Doing this photoshoot with Paul marked our first visit to Warrington. We had a wonderful time walking through town and getting to see the charming town centre as well as the industrial parts, with colourful container storage places, which all made for wonderful photo backdrops.

"Shooting in the Lizard record

store on Legh Street was our personal highlight and we couldn't leave that place without our bags full of new old vinyl.

"For us the main focus at the moment is on finishing our new album which will contain lots of original music, heavily inspired by the songwriting style of the 60s. Other parts of town used in the shoot included the Alice in Wonderland statue in Golden Square, The Guardian statues at Market Gate, the fountain area

near the Bluebell pub, Dawsons Music Shop, The White Hart, The Barley Mow and Winwick street for a recreation of a Quadraphenia style shot, complete with a 1963 Lambretta supplied by Les Ireland from Warrington Scooter Club.

Paul who runs Unit 8 Photography added: "I was born and bred in Warrington and do love the place. There are many places which are great for me to use and there is also a very vibrant art and photography scene in the town.



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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

Mirror mirror on the wall...

When you look into the mirror are you pleased at what you see? Are you comfortable with the reflection looking back at you? If you can say yes to those two questions you're in the zone, in the place where you should be. Because we should be comfortable with ourselves, and in ourselves. One thing I often say to my clients is that no one is perfect, but you can be perfectly you!

Perfection does not exist. The world does not like perfection, it likes tryers, if we strive for perfection all the time, and we often miss many things in life, because our focus is elsewhere. So often in life we focus on what we don't have, rather than what we do have.

Many people however are unhappy when they look in the mirror, unhappy with how they look, they are reminded they are unhappy in a certain relationship, unhappy in their job, unhappy with how life is generally going for them. And the sad thing is, they often become so absorbed with the things they don't like about themselves, they often turn to comparing themselves to others. But that really

is flawed thinking. In the wonderful poem 'Desiderata' there is a line "If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself".

So instead of comparing yourself to others, compare yourself to yourself. What are you doing differently today, to make you a happier, healthier, more relaxed and a more contented person? Until the day the creator decides otherwise, you will continue to look into mirrors, so it is really important that we feel comfortable with the eyes peering back at us each morning.

So what should you do, if you are not happy with the image in the mirror? The answer is quite simple. You do something different. If you do things differently, the outcomes will be different. Do things today to help you to move on to a better tomorrow. If you don't know how, visit my practice and let me help you. I can help you take the path you want to take, I have helped tens of thousands of people through my practice work, and through my self-help audio recordings at www.healthyaudio.com there is always something you can do differently.

Michael Mahoney is a Clinical Hypnotherapist. He has research, and patient trials experience. He is a member of the Hypnotherapy Association, an associate of the Primary Care Society for Gastroenterology, based at Woolston Surgery, Neighbourhood Hub, Warrington WA1 4PN.



Tel: 01925-658322 email mikeforhelp@gmail.com www.michaelmahoneyhypnotherapist.com

There are always solutions, if you are honest about what the problem is.

There are plenty of questions you can ask yourself to start getting some direction. Such as: what do I really want out of life? What are my strengths, what are my weaknesses? What's stopping me from taking action or moving on? When you ask yourself these types of questions you have to be honest with your replies – usually the first thing that comes into your mind is the one to take notice of, however uncomfortable it might feel.

As always, I'm here to help, whether a problem is a physical or emotional, simple or complex, after 30 years in-practice experience I have often have come across similar problems in the past. Work towards self-development, to make yourself a better person today than you were yesterday. And when you do, your mirror will reflect it back to you.

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Warrington's changing landscape

by Steve Park

It's October already and just as the seasons change, so does Warrington's landscape.

The transformation of Warrington Town Centre took a demonstrable step forward recently with the overnight demolition of the market multi-storey car park on Academy Way. The clearance of the site is making good progress with local company I&H Brown making ready to construct a state of the art car park that will have over 1,100 spaces, scores of charge points for electric cars, designated disable and parent/child bays within an architecturally striking building. The construction of the temporary Warrington Market building is coming on apace and gives an early indication of the sheer scale of the development that is to come. Tenders will shortly be received from construction companies to build the restaurants, cinema, offices, retail space and market building which will transform Time Square into a thriving and energetic landscape, perfect for families to spend time together.

The Council and Warrington &

Co. have been working over the summer months to develop a refreshed masterplan for our Town Centre. The masterplan will reflect on recent achievements and describe how priorities will be delivered, both short-term and longer-term transformational investments. The masterplan will build upon what is special about Warrington Town Centre, particularly cultural assets and its standing in the North of England. The masterplan will not stand alone, it will sit in the context of the wider economic growth programme 'Warrington Means Business'. Councillors and other stakeholders will be invited to feedback on the masterplan in the coming months.

In 2013 Warrington Skills Commission found that compared with other EU countries, the UK suffered from a shortage of technical skills and identified technical and engineering skills as being top priorities for future skills development in Warrington.

The future success of Warrington's

economy will be partially dependent upon the availability of young people with technical skills, so I am delighted that last month saw the opening of the brand new University Technical College in the Stadium Quarter. The UTC will work with several businesses to deliver essential training and skills for around 200 pupils aged 14-19 from across Warrington and neighbouring towns.

The UTC is a key addition to Warrington's education and skills provision. UTC Warrington offers an additional choice and vocational based learning for young students and ultimately will develop a rich source of well-qualified and 'work ready' students for Warrington businesses.

I am proud to announce that Warrington Borough Council and Warrington & Co. will be joining several key public and private sector organisations across Warrington in signing up to the Warrington Disability Partnership 'Accessible Warrington Pledge'. By signing up to the Accessible Warrington Pledge, the Council agrees to engage with disabled people and carers to use their life experiences to influence exemplar disability access and facilities to the built environment.

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Steve Park
MD of Warrington & Co.

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MOST folk tend to use their weekends as a rare chance to relax, take time to 'smell the roses' and generally recharge themselves for the coming week.

Not cycle up and down the infamously harsh and brutal Anglezarke Hill in Lancashire riding up 39,000 feet in 36 hours.

But for Mark Brocklehurst, Director of Warrington-based document management company the Sharples Group, this was a chance for a practice ride for his up-coming quest to beat the world record in May next year, which currently stands at 95,000 feet in 48 hours.

It may have only been a practice run but 54 years old Mark's effort has only been beaten by six others and only one of those was over 50 years of age!

Mark is a sponsored athlete for Bolton University and is undergoing

a strict training programme to ensure he is at peak fitness, both physically and mentally, to face the challenge next year.

He was supported on part of his practice ride by keen cyclist Colin Barnes who is not only a riding buddy but also the Service Director at Sharples and has been at the company for over 20 years.

Born in Bolton, Mark is aiming to raise £50,000 next May towards Bolton Lads and Girls Club's new Westhoughton Centre which he campaigned to get off the ground.

When prolific fundraiser Mark was asked what keeps him going when things get tough, he replied: "I always put something out there so that people know what I am currently doing to raise money. Once you tell people, you never want to fail and you just have to make it happen!"

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Woman bypasses gastric surgery

Local resident Sarah Jones had always struggled with her weight and decided to take action after recognising that she could no longer live her life the way she had been and was strongly considering gastric surgery.

Now eight stone lighter she has been inspired to launch her own Slimming World group in Warrington.

Sarah said "For me, being massively over weight was never just about the size of clothes I was in, but more importantly the impact it had on my self esteem.

I was so low in confidence as I was desperately unhappy with my weight and appearance and the overall impact this was having on

my life. If I didn't make this work now, I was going to be referred for gastric surgery which was an even scarier option. This was my time to make the change!"

"I already knew that Slimming World was a friendly place to be as some of my friends were already there, but I was still nervous as I went along to my first group! During those first few weeks I did doubt that I could actually change my life but every time I would have

those thoughts my Slimming World group kept me motivated."

Sarah had the support of her consultant and her group, she is now 8 stone lighter and is loving her life.

She added: "I've loved filling up on tasty and filling meals such as spaghetti carbonara or homemade burgers and chips. Sarah is happier, healthier and even following her dream of helping others to manage their weight as she now becomes a Slimming World Consultant herself. "It seems a world apart now when I think about the desperation I felt and the changes in my life are purely down to losing weight. I can't wait to help others!"

Sarah's brand new Slimming World group opens on Friday October 7th at 9.30am at the One to One Advice Centre, 30 Sankey

Street in Warrington town Centre.

Centre Supervisor Rachel Pitson said: "One to One Midwives are proud to be hosting a Slimming World group at their Advice Centre in Warrington. The group is open to any member of the public who wishes to manage their weight."

Sarah says "I would love to see you there! You can call me on 07968183907; I'll see you there and we can manage your weight together".



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Digital agency Carpe Diem continuing to grow

Carpe Diem are celebrating several new clients in recent months, including Warrington based Certas Energy, a leading North West business.

The client wins follow on the back of the company being ranked in the Top 100 agencies in the country.

The company is targeting further growth in coming months and is looking to further grow their team.

To support the continued success Carpe Diem have appointment a new Head of Development, Ryan Robinson, and are looking to grow the team further with the appointment of new developer, digital marketing and client services.

Applicants interested in applying, should contact Carpe Diem on 01925 299842 or email careers@carpe-diem.co.uk.

Carpe Diem focus on working with clients that are looking to grow their business online and has helped many of their clients receive in excess of 400% increase in engagement. Companies able to apply for grants of 40%*, up to a maximum of

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MD Bill Carr said: "We specialise in website design and development; but this is only a small part of the overall strategic services we provide to clients as their digital partners. It is our strategic approach to consider the wider aspects of your business, services and industry landscape that we can really deliver far more benefits. Ultimately, it is the customer that is key. By focusing on the customer experience and CRO (Conversion Rate Optimisation) we help clients to better meet their needs."



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Heritage Open Days unearth Warrington's hidden gems

VISITORS to this year's Heritage Open Days in Warrington were given a rare chance to explore some of the town's hidden gems and celebrate their community's history, heritage and culture.

Numerous buildings opened to the public as part of England's national 'Heritage Open Days' festival.

Venues across the town who opened their doors included Warrington Town Hall, St Elphin's Church, The Warrington Club, Warrington Masonic Hall Museum of Freemasonry, Cairo Street Chapel, Church of St John The Evangelist Walton, St Mary's Shrine Church, Holy Trinity Church, Friends Meeting House and Warrington Museum who, amongst others, all took part in the annual festival.

One of the most attended open events was the 'Museum of Policing in Cheshire', based inside Warrington Police Station on Arpley Street, which saw over 900 visitors.

A huge array of items and information, both past and present are on display at the Police Museum and the day also included a police

crime scene and displays by the forces drugs 'sniffer' dogs and handlers, showing how the forces four legged team members are helping to combat the problem of drugs in the area.

Other festival highlights included various events and workshops at Warrington Museum including a Time Travel Day complete with Stormtroopers and Daleks and a talk by local author Gill Hoffs on her book about historic shipwrecks, one being the Tayleur which was built at Bank Quay.

Each year the number of venues open across Warrington as part of the Heritage Open Day festival grows with this years having had the largest number open so far due to better coordination and the hard work of all the volunteers and groups involved.



Mayor of Warrington Faisal Rashid welcomed visitors to the town hall.



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What's On

Fri 23 Sep	Marlin Stephenson Well-travelled singer-songwriter gets better with age
Wed 5 Oct	Russell Kane Unleashing another blisteringly funny stand-up performance
Thu 6 Oct	Wilko Johnson Bringing his new zest for life to Warrington
Fri 7 Oct	This Might Hurt Bold physical theatre with breath-taking grit
Fri 7 Oct	70s Disco National DJs take you back
Sat 8 Oct	Northern Soul Another night of monster Northern Soul oldies
Fri 14 Oct	Hannah Butterfield: 21,000 Miles of Rail (Warrington Contemporary Arts Festival) Confronting the realities of the morning commute
Sat 15 Oct	FILM: The Violators (Warrington Contemporary Arts Festival) With live Q&A with novelist and director, Helen Walsh
Fri 21 Oct	Justin Moorhouse Everyone's favourite northern chamer is back
Sat 22 Oct	Comedy Sportz Fast, feel-good and funny improvised show for kids and adults alike
Mon 24 Oct	Alfie White: Space Explorer An epic mission to find his dad
Wed 26 Oct	UFO All the hits from the classic rock band

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 Visit www.culturewarrington.org for more information on exhibitions.

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Family vows to save historic school building

A 150-year-old former school, originally built in memory of a little girl tragically killed in a horse riding accident, has been bought by a local family who have pledged to restore it to its former glory.

The landmark Manna House, in Warrington Road, Penketh, is to be restored and renovated and will be converted for a private hire function venue.

Penketh locals Andy and Jade Mulholland bought it after it was put up for sale by St Paul's Church. They have committed to investing

in the building, sympathetically restoring the interior and uncovering the rich heritage.

The building was originally commissioned by Robert Gaskell of Penketh House in memory of his eight-year-old daughter, Margaret Ann Gaskell who died in a horse riding accident in 1859.

It opened as Penketh Infant School until it became too small for the growing population and closed in 1908 when a new larger school opened on Stocks Lane.

Robert donated it to the local church and it became known as St Mary's Institute.

Andy said: "My dad is really great at investigating and since we bought it, he has been doing a lot of research to uncover the heritage. We would love it if anyone has any further information, photos, stories or documentation they could share it with us."

Over the years and since it was last refurbished in 1985, the Manna House has been used by the church as a meeting house and private hire function venue. In late 2014 the church took the decision to sell the venue to help contribute to the new church building fund.

It has stood unused for almost two years.

The Mulhollands who have drafted in their parents and even their two-year old son Charlie

to help with the project, plan to relaunch the venue as an intimate, exclusive private hire function setting.

Andy who has lived in Penketh all his life said: "It's a real labour of love for us. We were delighted when the sale went through and since we have had the keys, we have had the whole family down there clearing up."

"We've taken the ceiling tiles off to display the beautiful vaulted beamed ceiling and we are relocating the kitchen in order to put the original stone arches on display."

Jade added, "We are keen to restore the building to its former glory. We want to give it a period feel linking to the Victorian roots of the property but with some contemporary twists. From a local perspective, we are pleased to be able to protect the future of The Manna House."

It is hoped the venue can be launched in the autumn.



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Local pupils' outstanding GCSE results

TWO local students who attend Withington Girls' School are amongst the top performers in this year's outstanding raft of GCSE results.

Ella Slater, from Grappenhall, and Grace Bodha, from Lymm, both achieved 10 A*'s, and also secured one A grade each.

Ella, who hopes eventually to become a journalist, enjoys writing. She has written for the Guardian newspaper for which she has achieved a Young Critics Award and she has regularly contributed to the School magazine, Scrawl. She has also had work experience

at the Economist magazine.

Delighted with her results, Ella comments: "Withington's small size has made it easy to connect and engage with others and to form great friendships."

Grace, a talented sportsperson, is the School netball Captain, and is also a member of Tameside Netball Club. The 16-year-old is also Captain of Withington's rounders team and is currently

working towards her Silver award in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

Hoping eventually to pursue Dentistry or a career in Marketing, Grace says she enjoys the supportive environment Withington offers as well as the friendship between pupils and between girls and the teaching staff.

Withington's Year 11 cohort of 83 girls attained A* grades in 72.2% of GCSE papers taken this year, with an exceptional 96% attaining grades A* to A. All GCSE and IGCSE papers taken were passed, with 65 girls earning 6 or more A* grades and 14 girls sweeping the board with straight A* grades in all their subjects.

Every Withington girl also achieved at least one GCSE in a modern foreign language, with the majority being awarded an A* or A grade: French (96%), German (85%), and Spanish (79%). These exceptionally high standards were maintained in English Language and English Literature, where 98% and 90% of entries respectively were graded either A* or A.

Withington's newly appointed Headmistress Mrs Haslam comments: "We are delighted with the girls' exceptional results and just as proud of everything they achieve and contribute outside the classroom."

Council praise for GCSE youngsters

A SENIOR councillor has praised Warrington's young people and their teachers after most of the town's schools bucked the national trend by achieving improved GCSE results.

Cllr Jean Carter, the borough council's lead member for children's services, said: "I would like to congratulate our young people on this fantastic set of results".

In a statement, the council said that, following on from A-Levels success, Warrington's GCSE results yet again looked to be high, with most schools having significantly improved on last year's five A*-C grades.

Seventy one percent of Warrington Year 11 pupils achieved five A*-C grades, a three per cent improvement on last year. Nationally, the proportion of entries achieving A* to C has declined by 2.1 per cent to 66.9 per cent, placing Warrington well above this national average.

Sixty two per cent of pupils achieved five A*-C grades (including English and Maths), a four per cent improvement on last year.

Schools and local authorities are also judged on key progress indicators in English and Maths. The number of students making expected progress in English has improved significantly from 73 per cent in 2015 to 81 per cent this year.

There is a similar improvement in Maths, where 69 per cent of students made expected progress, compared to 67 per cent last year.



Withington Girls' School pupils Ella Slater, from Grappenhall, and Grace Bodha, from Lymm, celebrate outstanding GCSE results, each achieving 10 A*'s and 1 A grade.

"The artist is nothing without the gift, but the gift is nothing without the work" Emile Zola

OPEN DAYS

Junior School

For girls aged 7-11

Senior School

For girls aged 11-16

Sixth Form

For girls aged 16+

Thursday 3rd November

4.30pm to 6.30pm

Saturday 5th November

10.00am to 12noon

An Open Evening for Sixth Form students will be held on Thursday 13th October, from 6.00-8.00pm



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Newsletter 2016

Brainwave Sunshine Lunch

ON a gloriously sunny afternoon in June 70 ladies arrived at The Mere Court Hotel near High Legh for the annual Brainwave Charity Ladies Lunch.

Sitting out on the Terrace overlooking the Lake and the beautifully landscaped gardens, the ladies enjoyed a glass of Prosecco before going through into the Conservatory Suite where a delicious two course lunch was served. This year's lunch was raising monies for Brainwave's Milestone Appeal and guest speaker, Zoe Lancaster, from Health-Enrich spoke about her personal milestone challenges and how we all should have dreams to which we should aspire. During the afternoon, Catrina and Lynne from Catlyn Italian

Everybody involved with Brainwave would like to give a BIG 'Thank You' to all the Warrington Community for their continued support

Giftware sold their lovely Italian scarves, shawls and leather goods. After lunch the ladies were treated to a fashion show by Suka, now based in Altrincham's old Post Office building.

The event raised £1500 for the Brainwave Milestone Appeal thanks to the generosity not only of our wonderful ladies but also to the many people and organisations who donated raffle prizes. Our special thanks go to Beech's Chocolates for all their support and to High Legh Garden Centre and, of course, to all at Mere Court Hotel who made the afternoon so enjoyable for all.

First Brainwave Northwest Charity Golf Day

LYMM Golf Club was the venue for the first Brainwave Northwest Charity Golf Day earlier this month.

Twenty teams played in the event and enjoyed a round of golf followed by dinner and a presentation of prizes as well as refreshments along the way at Half Way House. The winning team members each took away a golf shirt along with a round of golf for 4 at Mere Golf Club.

The day raised £7400 towards Brainwave's Milestone Appeal. Brainwave, based in Birchwood, works with children who have significant developmental delay. Their therapists work with each individual child and their parents via very structured programmes to help that child reach his or her full potential.

Olivia's father, Ian, gave a moving speech at the dinner telling us about Olivia's journey with Brainwave. Ian's talk made us all realise how extremely hard some children have to struggle to do the simplest of tasks that most of us take for granted.

Our key sponsor for the day was Mark Poulton from Key Integration Services. Mark, who is based in Lymm was awarded a prestigious Business Award at the Warrington Business Awards later in the day.

Brainwave are extremely grateful to Mark for his generosity and also to Tim Stimpson, ex England rugby player now running The Sports Partnership Business, who compered the evening for us.



Very great and sincere thanks go to all those teams who took part in the event and to Lymm Golf Club for hosting the event for us.

For more information about the work Brainwave does or forthcoming fundraising events please contact Joanne Freeman, the Community Fundraising Manager at joannefreeman@brainwave.org.uk

Help us to support children with disabilities and additional needs to achieve their milestones.

Pictured below is Olivia Stewart, Young Brainwave Ambassador for the Milestone Appeal with Tony Smith, Kurt Gidley and Roger Draper from the Warrington Wolves

Warrington Wolves help launch our Milestone Appeal 2016

What we do at Brainwave

When a child attends Brainwave, they, their parents and families spend two days at one of our centres. Here they are assessed by our dedicated team of physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists and educational therapists who focus on what a child can do and not what they can't.

Together, they work with the family to devise a unique programme,



specifically designed to suit that child's needs, which will help and encourage them to unlock their potential. This could mean anything from a child walking to feeding themselves, to counting or forming sentences. Our attitude is 'let's see what can be achieved'.

How the programme works

The programme is based on the principle of neuroplasticity. It aims to help the brain find new pathways in the 'neural network' by providing regular repetition of newly acquired skills. The

programme can cover physical, educational and social abilities.

All funds raised in the Milestone Appeal will underpin the essential support services delivered by the therapy teams at our UK regional centres.

Eva's story

Eva first attended the Brainwave Centre, North West with her mum and dad, when she was 2 years 7 months old.

Their main aims were to help increase Eva's independence and to help her to walk.

Eva was born at 38 weeks weighing 6lb 8oz.

It was when Eva was 7 months old that her parents noticed that her development was delayed.

At 16 months old Eva was given a diagnosis of Angelman syndrome. At 19 months old Eva began with severe epilepsy which was not controllable with medication so she was put on a ketogenic diet which helped stop her seizures. When Eva initially visited Brainwave she was able to roll to both sides, sit unsupported and was using commando crawling as her main form of mobility around the floor. She was unable to stand up on her own and had to use a walker for mobility.

Eva had weakness in her legs and core which restricted her abilities such as getting up and down from the floor.

Eva's most recent visit to Brainwave was her third to date and she has already made some significant improvements. With the help of her home exercise programme provided by Brainwave:

- Eva is now able to move on her own from sitting to standing
- She is now crawling around the floor and can walk holding an adult's hand
- Eva is more confident and is cruising around the furniture at home on her own

Eva is achieving her milestones!



Join us for the BakerMallet Brainwave Santa Dash 2016

JOIN us on Sunday 11th December, for the Baker Mallet Brainwave Santa Dash. This is the perfect chance to get yourself in the Christmas spirit whilst raising money to support disabled children.

We are delighted to gain sponsorship this year from local quantity surveying practice Baker Mallett and are supported by Birchwood Shopping centre. Gary Jones, Shopping Centre Manager Said: "The dash is a unique sight, everyone gets into the full Christmas spirit, dressing up in festive costume, from families to corporate teams. "

The event involves a 5k run, jog or walk around a selected route, either as Santa or his little helper. Full Santa outfits are provided for adults and a hat for children. Walkers and runners are most welcome.

The dash starts at 9am, and all children must be supervised by an adult over the age of 18.

Joanne Freeman, Community Manager, said: "The 5k Santa dash is very much part of the local festive season, a great opportunity to get fit and have fun for a great cause. This event is a proven success so don't miss out and secure your place today by going online to enter the dash." www.brainwave.org.uk

Chairman of Baker Mallett, Neil Griffiths commented "We are delighted to support Brainwave in this event. We endeavour to support local charity events wherever we can and this is something special"

The event costs £10 Per adult and £5 Per child all of which goes straight into funding the milestone appeal at your local brainwave centre in Birchwood supporting the local therapists. For more information or to request a leaflet on the Milestone appeal please do not hesitate to contact Brainwave community manager, Joanne Freeman by phone: 07872411580 or email JoanneFreeman@brainwave.org.uk.

Come and join our events for 2017

- February 1st: Cardamon Curry Night in Stockton Heath
- June 16th: Charity Golf Day, Lymm Golf Club
- May 19th: Cycle Challenge - Bridgewater House, Birchwood to Bridgewater, Somerset.

For more information please contact Joannefreeman@brainwave.org.uk

Donate to our Milestone Appeal

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**if applicable*

Donation

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To get involved or simply find our more information about Brainwave please contact Joanne Freeman, Community Manager:

North West Centre
 Unit 602, Birchwood One Business Park
 Dewhurst Road, Birchwood, Warrington WA3 7GB
 Tel. **07872 411580**
 Email. **JoanneFreeman@brainwave.org.uk**
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The Birchwood Santa dash costs £10 for adults & £5 per child, and free for under 5's when accompanied by an adult. Your entry fee covers a 3 piece Santa outfit for adults and a Santa hat for children.

Advertiser's announcement

Personal training tips

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In the coming months we will be dropping in different hints and tips for both your training and nutrition plans.

This months Tip of the Month:- STOP THINKING QUICK FIX !

If you're putting a short time period onto your success then I hate to break it to you but you are setting yourself up for a long term fail. Wanting to crack on is all very good and making a commitment is fantastic but habits that usually occur when you rush things along include under-eating, under recovery, poor nutrition and probably slowing down the rate that you body breaks down calories, in turn making you put more weight on when the short term target passes. For information on how to manage your time in the gym correctly and what foods to eat and also to take up the offer of a FREE 30 minute personal training taster session then please do not do not hesitate by calling 01925 730 000 or alternatively email at parkroyalleisure@qhotels.co.uk.







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Author's travels bring novel to life

AFTER spending the best part of a year doing desk-based research for his novel 'Silver Llama' Warrington author Lewis Kingston decided a fact-finding mission was essential.

The novel is set in Bolivia – so Lewis set off for the landlocked South American country to gain the local colour that would bring his story to life.

The trip added a valuable insight into the country and an important sense of "being there" – especially experiencing the oxygen sapping atmosphere at more than 4000 metres above sea level.

As an independent traveller he had no tour guide to turn to if things went wrong. Fortunately nothing did – except when he was "arrested" by a bogus policeman who tried to bundle him into an unmarked car. Lewis escaped by outrunning his pursuer through the congested pavements of La Paz – the country's administrative capital.

Safe back in Warrington, Lewis revised and completed his novel.

The story begins in 1537 with an Inca family and the Silver Llama – a mystical piece of jewellery. It fast forwards to Victorian times, when there was a now forgotten dispute between Bolivia and Britain which led to Queen Victoria ordering that Bolivia be removed from the map!

There's a love a story and then, as the story moves on to modern times, plenty of adventure and

intrigue as a group of friends who visit Bolivia get tangled up with various problems arising from the rediscovery of the Silver Llama.

The book is available from Waterstones, WH Smith and Amazon.



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Town set to retain two seats under new boundary proposals

WARRINGTON looks set to keep both of its Parliamentary seats after the 2020 elections, after the Boundary Commission for England published its initial proposals recently.

The only change to the current map would see the Latchford East ward (which covers the Westy estate) being transferred from Warrington South to Warrington North.

In 2011, the Commission published proposals which would have seen Warrington split between three constituencies and merged with parts of Halton.

A consultation on the initial proposals has now begun and residents have until 5 December to view and comment via bce2018.org.uk

Welcoming the proposals, Warrington South Tory MP David Mowat said: "I'm pleased that the Commission has put forward proposals which preserve the integrity of the town instead of attempting to merge it with various other parts of the region."

"I will still be the Member of Parliament for Latchford East until the next General Election and I will continue to serve the residents there to the best of my ability."

Labour's Helen Jones is the current MP for Warrington North.



OPEN EVENTS

WED 5 OCT 5:30pm - 8pm

THU 6 OCT 5:30pm - 8pm

SAT 15 OCT 10:30am - 12:30pm

WED 9 NOV 5:30pm - 8pm

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Supermarket plan for pub site is thrown out

PLANNING bosses at Warrington have thrown out the controversial plans for a new supermarket on the site of the landmark Sportsman's Arms pub at Penketh.

But the decision had nothing to do with the fact that the application came from Danish cut-price retail Netto who – since the plans were drawn up – have pulled out of the UK, closing all their 16 stores.

Members of the borough council's development management committee were not happy with the scale of the proposed store nor with the proposed parking provision.

They also believed the pub – said to be no longer viable – was an attractive building.

Local people – backed by Penketh Parish Council – had mounted a campaign to save the pub.

The Victorian Society, who described the pub as a "handsome building, an attractive and characterful example of a late nineteenth century public house" also opposed the plan, as did local

borough councillors.

Nearly 90 residents opposed the scheme – although 48 supported it.

The pub has successfully been listed as a community asset. But brewery chiefs said it was no longer viable as a pub and would be closed whether or not the application to demolish it was approved.

Planning officers said the residents of Penketh were currently well served by pubs, with eight within 1.2 miles and one, the Red Lion, immediately opposite. The site was also appropriate for a retail store.

However, they accept it was an attractive, traditional pub which formed part of the area's history and made a positive contribution to the local street scene.

If the plan had been approved, another retail firm could have taken over the store.



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Financially yours

By David Watkinson

Tax free income

Last month we looked at how recent tax changes could have unintended adverse effects on some people. However, the good news is that you can now receive £23,100 of income totally tax free. You will need to plan your affairs very carefully, though.

To do so, you will need to make full use of your personal allowance, the new savings nil rate band, and the dividend allowance. To get to £23,100 you will also need to be married to someone, or have a civil partner, who themselves have unused personal allowance.

The personal allowance for the current year is £11,000 meaning that the first £11,000 of income, irrespective of source, is tax free. Secondly, there is a savings allowance which means that the first £1,000 of savings income is tax free. And finally, there is a dividend allowance which means that the first £5,000 of dividend income is also tax free.

The above allowances come to a grand total of £17,000 and provided you receive at least £1,000 in savings income and £5,000 in dividends in order to utilise those allowances then that much income is available to anyone tax free. In addition, if your spouse or civil partner earns insufficient to cover their personal allowance then they can transfer 10% of that allowance to you, resulting in a further allowance of £1,100 which gets us to £18,100.

So how do we get to £23,100? Well now comes the tricky bit. Provided that taxable non-savings income does not exceed £5,000 then there is an additional savings nil-rate band of £5,000. Why is this tricky? Because to get to £23,100 your taxable non-savings income must be £5,000 but if it exceeds this amount by as little as £1 then this band is not available and that extra £1 in income will cost you £1,000 (and 20p) in tax!

There is, however, a much simpler solution in the circumstances described above. Transfers of assets between spouses and civil partners are free of Capital Gains and other taxes. Therefore, the couple above, rather than attempting to keep taxable non-savings income to exactly £5,000 should simply ensure that dividends and savings income is split between them in such a way as to make full use of both parties allowances. That way they can get up to £44,000 tax free, but that's another story!

WatkinsonBlack are pleased to advise on these and other matters. They have considerable experience in all areas of taxation and business services, including providing a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. If you want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting on any taxation or accounting matter then please contact us. Please note that these ideas are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always obtain professional advice before taking any action.

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David Watkinson and Margaret Black

Devolution deal should be on economics not politics!



A business leader is calling on a devolution deal for Warrington to be based on economics – not politics.

Paul Taylor, MD at Taylor Business Park and Vice Chair of Cheshire Business Leaders, believes the decision is based on political reasons and fears of a Tory Mayor being elected – not economic ones.

He was responding to reports that a task group set up by Warrington Borough Council is to recommend the council to join forces with Liverpool rather than Cheshire.

Mr Taylor said: "While I have the utmost respect for our local councillors and MPs I feel the reason for their desire to do this must be justified."

He says Warrington is currently part of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and is enjoying a great deal of sustained investment from it. Funds that are released from central government are utilised by the LEPs which must put forward economically viable cases to receive the investment.

"Warrington has enjoyed an important seat at the table at this LEP which is currently made up of the three Cheshire councils, including Warrington and is chaired by local business leaders. They have secured four enterprise zones in Cheshire, one of which is right here in Birchwood. Liverpool secured just two- the city itself and the Mersey Waters – if you don't count Daresbury which was actually bid for by the Cheshire and Warrington LEP."

Mr Taylor points out that other boroughs, Halton, Sefton, Knowsley, St. Helens and Wirral, have received nothing from the Liverpool City Region in the way of enterprise zones and the Liverpool LEP was much slower to get started compared to the way Cheshire's began its journey and Liverpool was publicly criticised by the government and other bodies for this at the time. As a result they have received a lower than expected proposed level of income after devolution compared to areas such as Greater Manchester.

"In Cheshire we are one of three regional areas that can argue our need for investment. Should we join the Liverpool City Region we would be one of six, all of which are in much greater need than we are due to their poorly performing economies and inherent social and council funding issues. Even St Helens would be higher up the pecking order for funds.

"Warrington combined with

Cheshire has an impressive economy with a GVA per head of £22,750 and growth per annum of 3.5% compared to Liverpool City Region's deteriorating £15,600 GVA per head and 1.6% annual growth. We would effectively be boosting their economy while dragging ours down."

He says National averages (including London) for the above are £21,350 and 4.1% respectively.

"We are the jewel in the Crown in Cheshire when it comes to growth and investment thanks in no small part to the work done to date by the council and Warrington & Co. Our economy mirrors those in the rest of the sub-region with a focus on energy and manufacturing that the Liverpool City Region simply does not have the same level of success with. It may be investing in these but only due to the fact that they have seen such low levels of growth over the years.

"The concern is that this looks to be a political decision for the panel, rather than an economic or commercial one which would not bode well for the people and the town of Warrington, which after all is what all this should be about to our local politicians.

"Their main concern seems to lie in the worry that we may end up with a Tory mayor in a Labour stronghold but as we have seen in the recent election of a Labour Police Crime Commissioner for Cheshire these concerns may be unfounded. The key is to put forward the best candidate for the role and to campaign well. Yes, it will be a challenge as any election is, but taking the "safe" route of a guaranteed labour mayor at the sacrifice of the town's best interests is very concerning. Especially if a Liverpool mayor does not have Warrington's best interests at heart.

"Their efforts may be better focused on considering how we can argue the need for Cheshire and Warrington as a whole to govern itself without a mayor while still enjoying the benefits of devolution."

Mr Taylor concluded: "I strongly believe we should be more focused on maintaining our current status as a big fish in a small pond rather suddenly becoming one of many different local authorities in a region that will be focusing on its own city and the struggling outlying authorities that have signed up in the hope of turning their declining economies around."

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Burtonwood stars and stripes success

A special "stars and stripes" event at Warrington gave visitors a chance to see what life was like at the former US air base at Burtonwood from 1940 to 1993.

The event was organised by the Burtonwood Association at Gulliver's World.

In addition to turning back the clock to the days when Burtonwood was the biggest military base in Europe, there were classic cars, stylish vintage stalls, military vehicles, living history groups, music and dancing, along with displays from Cheshire police and fire service.

The whole event was a tribute to those who served at Burtonwood during the war and afterwards – and to today's emergency services.

For more pictures visit warrington-worldwide.co.uk



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WHAT was the first sports match you went to?
 Mine was a Super League game between Warrington Wolves and Paris St Germain at Wilderspool in 1997.

Things have changed just a little bit since then! Sport is one of the constants in life. As much as people say "it was better in the old days" that's not always true.

Sport is one of the very few things that people still watch live. Everything else is on catch-up or on demand. But live sport still pulls in the viewers, be it on TV or at the grounds themselves.

Culturally, sport has changed. With the world getting smaller and people moving around more readily, it is no longer just a case of you go and watch your local team because that's what everyone does.

I'm sure the Wolves growth in the past decade has been aided by several out of towners being attracted by their brand of rugby and the facilities, as well as the firm status now as one of the game's big four - something that felt quite far away even as recently as 15 years ago.

The die-hard element of a team's fanbase will be around forever. The challenge for clubs in the modern age is making that as big as possible. It's a lot harder to build a club on the back of a casual fanbase.

Working in "American" sports such as basketball and ice hockey, opens my eyes to that. Whereas in football and rugby league, 85% of the crowd may be season ticket holders, in basketball and ice hockey the reality is that this is the other way round.

Local people don't have that connection with franchises that they do with say Warrington rugby, which has been around for more than a century.

But on the flip side, a lot more people are intrigued by the basketball and ice hockey as an all-round night of entertainment, more so than perhaps the cut throat atmosphere of a football or rugby match.

A lot of traditional clubs sit around and expect people to come and watch them, as if it is their right. These clubs won't survive with that attitude. Sports clubs now have to operate as businesses and have to market themselves in the same way.

Certainly under the stewardship of Roger Draper, the Wolves have taken a step to another level in terms of their marketing.

Things like the club website, in-house TV channels, social media management and fan engagement are things that weren't even dreamt of 15-20 years ago. Now, they are a crucial part of any club's strategy. The ability to communicate with fans and potential fans 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Such has been the development of technology and the boom of social media in the past five years, to "do" is no longer enough. You must do it well.

Some naive club owners are in denial. Because they don't get social media, they don't prioritise it. There is a club not a million miles away from here that carries that attitude. But when the majority of the younger generation is on social media, why wouldn't that be your part of call?

And it gives smaller clubs the chance to grow.

That's where Warrington Town FC find themselves. The power of social media and the club's own output can generate interest, even without spending thousands on marketing campaigns.

The world has changed. Sport has changed. But it's certainly not going anywhere.
 James Gordon



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Icons of the 80s and Starsailor bring 4000 music fans to Warrington

Pictures: Paul Jackson



More than 4000 music fans descended on Warrington town centre to help kick start this year's Warrington Festival.

During a musical weekend of activity Go West, Nik Kershaw and special guests, T'Pau came together as the Icons of the 80s for one special concert experience on Warrington's Bank Park.

T'Pau opened the show playing some new material and their biggest hits; Heart and Soul and China in Your Hand, which spent five weeks at number one back in 1987.

Go West and Nik Kershaw came together to play an amalgamated set of their own hits including We Close Our Eyes and I Won't Let the Sun Go Down on Me and also a number of rock and indie covers.

The crowd went wild for the 80s legends with many gig goers wearing leg warmers and tutus and waving neon glow sticks.

Then Warrington paid an official tribute to local band, Viola Beach



who tragically lost their lives while on tour in Sweden earlier this year.

Starsailor, along with 13 regional artists, came together for an all-day music event on Bank Park.

Starsailor, who were performing their first outdoor headline set in Warrington, paid their own tribute to the band by performing one of their tracks, Swings and Waterslides.

The gig also included sets from Manchester indie four-piece, The Rainband who appeared at Glastonbury in June, PSYBLINGS, who played the Viola Beach celebration event at Parr Hall with The Coral and Courteeners earlier this year, and Ellie Dibben who was a support act at last year's Warrington Festival alongside Viola Beach.

An exclusive video tribute to Viola Beach was also shown as part of the event with unseen footage of the band performing some of the tracks from their posthumous album, Viola Beach, which went to number one last month.

These two events launched a two week celebration of culture, sport and entertainment across the town which lasts until 2 October.

For video and picture coverage check out warrington-worldwide.co.uk





Curtain comes down on sporting double act

WARRINGTON based Eddie Hemmings and Mike 'Stevo' Stephenson, the Sky Sports double act synonymous with rugby league for over a quarter of a century, are finally calling it a day.

As the curtain comes down on their 28 year partnership they have written a book, 'It's Been Grand,' telling the story of how their on-screen partnership was formed through a chance meeting.

They relate many of their tales of adventure, mayhem, mishap and success from their early days at BSB through to the present day with Sky TV.

The stories include losing a Mercedes and gaining a Ford, creating 'Boots 'n' All' by pester-power and an inebriated invader on the TV gantry.

They also relate many of their tour down under adventures such as a confrontation with a drunk former girlfriend, birthday celebrations with the Great Britain Test team and a bedroom with clean sheets but no walls. And others are not spared the Stevo and Eddie treatment either with tales of a free lunch at the expense of John Kear, the story of five Martin Offiah's and Maurice Lyndsey and the knife-throwing Apache.

Alas, with Stevo's retirement at the end of the 2016 season, the partnership is coming to an end.

Check out warrington-worldwide.co.uk for all the latest news on Warrington Wolves and Warrington Town FC

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