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Issue No. 139
October 2016

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A man with short dark hair and a light beard is smiling broadly. He is wearing a black racing suit with white accents and a white star logo on the shoulder. He is holding a large, ornate silver trophy with both hands. The background is slightly blurred, showing a blue car and other people in a parking lot.

**Winning start
for Jamie**

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www.frodshamlife.co.uk for all the latest news

Editor's Comment



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WE are disappointed to learn that Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) has decided to restrict the ability of elected members to "call in" planning applications.

This power enables councillors to ensure, when they think it necessary, that a particular application is dealt with by elected members, sitting in committee, rather than officers. It is not a power which, in our view, is much abused – certainly not in the Frodsham and Helsby area. And it costs peanuts.

Yet it is to be at least partly removed, apparently in the interests of economy. Councillors can still ask to have planning applications "called in" – but officers can overrule them.

There will be those who will argue that there is nothing wrong in that. Officers are, after all, the professionals. But planning law can be somewhat quirky. Every day we see planning decisions made which would have benefitted from a bit more common sense and bit less input from professionals. All too often we see them only after they have been built and are causing problems.

The savings to be made by the changes are miniscule. The cost to the democratic process, on the other hand, could be considerable.

We do not yet know what impact they will have on the number of planning applications dealt with in open committee, but the early

signs are not encouraging. A year ago, 10 or more applications were regularly coming before the committee. One recent meeting dealt with only two.

It is common knowledge that CWaC, in common with other local authorities, is under pressure to make savings, but those of us who can remember when ALL planning applications were dealt with by councillors rather than officers, can perhaps be forgiven for thinking this particular economy amounts to penny pinching.

Finally I would like to congratulate Mayor Mallie Poulton on his Big Bees Breakfast Club which takes place on the first Monday of each month at Kash22 on Church Street at 8.30am.

I was honoured to be guest

speaker at the latest meeting and was delighted to meet up with numerous people from the local community.

It is a fantastic networking opportunity for local businesses and I would recommend turning up at the next meeting. It includes a hearty breakfast and the chance to meet like minded people with Frodsham close to their hearts.

Deadline for the November issue of Frodsham Life is October 25

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Life-saving defibrillators in 'adopted' phone boxes



LIFE-saving defibrillators have been installed in two redundant telephone boxes at Frodsham.

The Town Council "adopted" the kiosks some time ago and have installed the defibrillators in one in Bradley Lane and one on Chester Road, opposite the Netherton Arms.

The scheme was part funded by the Awards for All national lottery scheme and free paint was supplied by James Briggs and Co, as part of a scheme supported by the British Coatings Federation.

Councillors are looking for two other external sites for defibrillators to provide 24-hour cover.

After a heart attack, the chances of survival drop dramatically every minute. The UK Resuscitation Council recommends that a defibrillator should be available

when medical treatment is more than five minutes away, which would include most rural locations in the UK.

Lockable

Inside the phone box, in place of the telephone unit, the defibrillator is housed in a lockable steel box. When someone calls 999, they will be told there is a defibrillator in the local phone box, and will be given the code to open the box.

Once the electrode pads are attached to a casualty, the defibrillator will identify if a "shock" is needed and will instruct the rescuer using step-by-step voice instructions.



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Kath Kerry (seated) and standing (L to R) Val Ball, Audrey Boyle, Kelly White, Lesley Silcock.

A MODERN comedy 'Some of My Best Friends are Women' will be staged by Kingsley Players for four nights, Wednesday 19 - Saturday 22 October at Kingsley Community

Centre.

Written by Carole Tricker, this delightful, humorous play focuses on the women members of a book-reading group who get distracted

from the novel under discussion by several bottles of wine and a couple of men.

The five women, played by Kath Kerry, Audrey Boyle, Lesley Silcock, Val Ball and Kelly White, meet as the last remnants of a failed book group. One of the women, Lynn, is determined to keep the group going but faces an uphill battle, with unhelpful interventions from her four tipsy friends.

Amanda winds up fellow readers with her alcohol-fuelled observations. Elderly Dorothy storms off, gets lost and is rescued by Steve, a young, book-reading fireman who brings her back and sets pulses racing in Jill and Helen. Phil Murray plays the fireman and Neil Silcock holds the key to the

future of the book group in the role of Christopher.

The evening stumbles from one crisis to another but is the bond sufficient to keep them all together?

Director Colin Smith said: "This is a very funny play and we have assembled a brilliant cast. As a member of a book group myself, I was fascinated by the relationships that both pre-existed and develop during the play. This is a must-see for anyone who is or has been a member of a book-reading group. Ultimately the play is about friendship."

Tickets cost £7/£8. They may be booked in advance through the website www.kingsleyplayers.co.uk or by ringing the box office on 07925 516760.

Some Of My Best Friends Are Women

Kingsley Community Centre

Wed 19th until Sat 22nd October 2016 at 7:30pm

Ticket prices £7/8 (£5 concession.)

Tickets available at kingsleyplayers.co.uk or call the box office on (07925) 516760

Written by Carole Tricker | Directed by Colin Smith
An amateur production from Jasper Publishing

Inter-school football tournament

FRODSHAM Juniors FC in partnership with Cheshire Oaks School Sports Partnership is to run an inter-school football tournament for local primary schools.

The tournament – now in its second year - will feature boys and girls in years 3-6 from 14 primary schools from across the West Cheshire area, with the aim of supporting football for all in the community and of fulfilling Frodsham JFC's aim of providing footballing opportunities for as many local children as possible.

To support the schools' participation in the tournament Frodsham JFC's head of coach and player development Joe Bell and fundraising and volunteers officer Andy Loyden held a coaching masterclass with 14 sports leaders from Alvanley, Ashton Hayes, Aston by Sutton, Frodsham CE, Frodsham Weaver Vale, Horn's Mill and Kingsley Primary schools. This session was designed to equip the sports leaders with the skills and confidence to prepare their teams for the tournament.

Joe commented: "In 2015 we supported local schools by running a number of after-schools' football sessions for kids in Years 3-6. This year we decided to concentrate on supporting the schools' leaders directly. This masterclass has hopefully equipped the leaders with some practical sessions and coaching points to accelerate the development of their players in a fun and safe environment. Frodsham JFC is a FA Chartered Standard Club and this is part of our commitment to the community."

The tournament will be held on November 10th on the Frodsham Leisure Centre astroturf. Anyone wishing to check on their schools' involvement should speak directly to his or her school. For further information about the tournament contact Joe Bell on 07539 347 953.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Frodsham Juniors should visit www.frodshamjfc.org.uk

Pupils support Jeans for Genes

CHILDREN at Frodsham CE Primary School supported "Jeans for Genes" day by wearing their denim outfits for a donation.

The youngsters raised a fantastic £176 to support Genetic Disorders UK, a charity run by a small team that also organises the annual Jeans for Genes Day fundraising event.

The money raised will help to launch much-needed support services and increase the number of grants provided to disorder-specific charities.

Parent organiser Will Cook said: "A great result for a great charity which touches many lives, from celebrities to local families – thanks to everyone at Frodsham CE Primary for contributing this year."



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Question:

My long term partner is reluctant to discuss making a Will, neither of us are getting younger and I am worried about the future, what can you advise?

Answer:

I have been working as a Solicitor for over 30 years and every day that passes I feel like I sound like Victor Meldrew by saying 'I don't believe it'. Sadly that usually relates to cases of Inheritance Disputes when families fall out about the estate of a family member who has died. Many of these disputes wouldn't have arisen if a formal Will had set out their wishes.

A couple of recent examples highlight this:

1. A businessman had been with his partner for over 20 years. He had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and was advised to make a Will. He didn't and none of his estate went to his long-term partner but instead to the children of his former wife. The disagreement that followed between family members could have been avoided if he had made a carefully considered Will that made provision for the partner he loved.
2. Another businessman was in partnership with his brother. They both received professional advice to make Wills, and to update them from time to time. They did both make a Will to ensure the continuation of their business but failed to update their Wills when their business changed from a Limited company to a partnership. Therefore, the provisions in the Will relating to the company shares became invalid when one brother died unexpectedly.

We hear from clients that the loved one 'never thought that they would die' and so put off making a Will. There are steps that can be taken at this point, and we would always recommend that you seek professional specialist advice.

For legal advice concerning Will Disputes contact Stephen Lawson on 01928 739300 or stephen.lawson@fdrlaw.co.uk, to arrange an appointment to make a Will contact Ian Sydenham on 01925 230000 ian.sydenham@fdrlaw.co.uk

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Workforce expansion plans revealed at bed company



FRODSHAM and Helsby sleep specialists Land of Beds celebrated National Family Business Day by announcing workforce expansion plans.

The retailer's Director team spent the day itself – September 21 – at the International Centre in Telford – attending the National Bed Federation's (NBF) Bed Industry Awards with other family businesses including their suppliers Hypnos Beds and Duvalay.

There, managing director Mike Murray revealed that – to support their plan to open five new stores and a second distribution centre by 2020 – they are currently recruiting customer service colleagues in Helsby and delivery drivers in Runcorn.

He said: "The past 12 months have been exceptional for Land of Beds; highlights include winning the High Sheriff of Cheshire's 'Family Business of Excellence Award 2016' and being shortlisted as 'Business of the Year (11 to 50 employees)' and finalists at the Cheshire Business Awards."

"To build on this momentum, we need to rapidly grow our workforce and have therefore created exciting new employment opportunities within customer services and distribution so that we can deliver on our expansion plans."

In the UK, 19 million people are employed by family businesses, which contribute more than a quarter of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Land of Beds has grown its workforce from five to 30 people in the past three years alone –

appointing locals from Frodsham, Helsby, Cheshire and North Wales.

Halton Chamber of Commerce's Chief Executive, Paula Cain said: "We are delighted to see that our member and 'BID Business of the Year 2016' finalist Land of Beds is continuing to build on its 40-year

heritage by offering new work opportunities at its distribution centre in Astmoor and its Helsby showroom.

"Recruiting in Halton and Cheshire boosts our local economy and brings prosperity to other families in the area."

Mike Murray opens the refurbished store in Church Street, Frodsham.

For more information on Land of Beds' workforce expansion plans, visit www.landofbeds.co.uk/careers

Teenage volunteers wanted for work in the woods

TEENAGE volunteers are being invited to learn new skills at the Queen Charlotte's Wood scout camp between Frodsham and Helsby from October 24-28.

The work will involve some much-needed maintenance sessions, using skills such as green woodworking or bush craft, organised as part of the Earth Skills Project (TESP).

But in the evenings there will be time for fun, relaxing events.

Earlier this summer, TESP carried out an exciting conservation project at the Woodland Trust's Frodsham Hill Wood.

Teens taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme were invited to get involved in a wide variety of countryside maintenance and conservation tasks as part of a working holiday. Activities included path maintenance to improve access and general woodland management.

The eager participants cleared and repaired the steps at Frodsham Hill, replaced path edging on one of the popular routes there, added waymarker posts, cleared



holly, and performed general maintenance and litter picks in the area.

Woodland Trust site manager Neil Oxley said: "This was a great opportunity to have an enjoyable, outdoor-working experience and make a genuine contribution to protecting and maintaining the local area."

Kelly Coles at TESP, added: "Our aim is to encourage those of all abilities to get outdoors, and the work we do with the

Woodland Trust helps to make that aim a reality. It also gives our young volunteers experience, alongside a better understanding and appreciation of the importance of keeping these places of natural beauty accessible to all."

Further information and an application form can be found at: <http://www.theearthskillsproject.co.uk/residential.html>.

The Earth Skills Project can be contacted on 07580 293231 or by email at info@tesp.org.uk.

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Helsby stroke survivor receives regional recognition

A STROKE survivor from Helsby has received a Highly Commended Life After Stroke award from the Stroke Association in recognition of her courage and determination.

Grandmother of two, Vera Kelly, 83, was told it was unlikely she would ever walk again after she had a stroke in December 2012, which left one side of her body almost completely paralysed.

She was in intensive care for three days before being moved to the hospital's rehabilitation unit.

Vera said: "It was awful lying in hospital praying I'd be able to walk again. Before I had a stroke, I walked and rode my bike every day. I remember thinking, there's no way I am staying in bed; I'm going to fight this."

After intensive physiotherapy and a lot of determination, Vera proved everyone wrong by walking

out of hospital two months later, surrounded by her family.

Following her return home, she was supported by the Stroke Association service in Chester, and she began fundraising to raise vital funds for the charity. She took part in the charity's Step out for Stroke event in Chester alongside her family, before becoming the eldest participant to complete a fundraising firewalk in December last year.

Vera was nominated for the Adult Courage Award by Jane Fenwick, information, advice and support coordinator at the Stroke Association,

who helped Vera throughout her recovery.

Jane said: "Watching Vera take on her incredible fundraising challenges so soon after being told she would never walk again was truly moving. Everyone who meets Vera is touched and inspired by her determination and zest for life. I know that Vera's nomination will help inspire other stroke survivors and show everyone that there is life after stroke."

Vera received her Highly Commended certificate at a celebratory event at the AJ Bell Stadium in Salford which was

supported by Bayer. Her certificate was presented by ITV Granada Reports presenter Elaine Willcox.

Vera said: "I feel so proud. It's an honour to receive the Life After Stroke Award; it's given me a real sense of achievement."

The Stroke Association's Life After Stroke Awards recognise the courage shown by stroke survivors and carers as well as the great work and commitment shown by health professionals, groups and supporter organisations. For more information visit www.stroke.org.uk/LASA.



Big Bees Breakfast Club



FRODSHAM Life Editor Gary Skentelwy was special guest at the Big Bees Breakfast Club organised by local councillor and current Mayor of Frodsham Mallie Poulton.

Gary outlined the history of the free community magazine which has been in existence for more than 10 years as part of a group of six publications in and around Cheshire and nearby Warrington.

The BiG Bees Breakfast Club meets on the first Monday of each month at Kash 22 on Church Street at 8.30am.

It is open to all businesses in and around the Frodsham area.

For more details on the club contact Cllr Poulton on 07876 180175 or 01928 731817 or email driveashton@gmail.com

The next meeting take place on Monday November 7.

Former Helsby High student just misses out at Rio

FORMER Helsby High School student Nathan Maguire was one of the 264 athletes in Rio de Janeiro representing Team GB in the Paralympics.

Nathan and his team mates Richard Chiassaro, Moatez Jomni and David Weir - came second in the 4x400m but it was sadly not one of the four quickest times across the heats and they just missed out on the final.

Nathan returned to the school recently to present prizes to Year 9 students and gave an inspiration talk on how he contracted a childhood illness which left him using a wheelchair through his time at Helsby, between 2008 and 2013 and later in Higher Education.

Parallel to this Nathan developed his sporting excellence through many hours of devotion and commitment, including the support of his family, representing his country in athletic events and competing in the London Marathon were some of the highlights.

Hampton Vintage & Antique Emporium opens it's doors at Lady Heyes Centre

It was back in 2005 when Michelle and Dave Campbell started trading on the internet selling quality crystal and porcelain. In 2014 they developed the business further and expanded to include vintage and antique furniture quickly establishing outlets across Cheshire and North Wales.

In the summer of this year Michelle and Dave grabbed the opportunity to manage their own emporium on the Lady Heyes crafts and antiques centre in Frodsham. Following an extensive building refurbishment the Hampton Vintage and Antiques Emporium opened its doors for business on the 1st October 2016.

Hampton Vintage is one of three antiques emporiums at the Lady Heyes Centre. Michelle and Dave said " We see this as a great boost to the site and we welcome all customers to come and visit our shop and see what we have created whether just browsing or buying !! "

If you are looking for something special why not pay Michelle and Dave a visit where you will be assured of a warm and friendly welcome.

Hold a dinner party for charity



CHARITY group Marie Curie is calling on food fans in Frodsham to hold a dinner party with a difference this month to raise money for the charity that cares for people with any terminal illness.

Dinner parties are a great way to share memorable moments with friends and family.

By hosting a Dinner Down Memory Lane, local people can be adding something different to the mix. The meal enjoyed together with family or friends will also help fund Marie Curie Nurses, who care for people in their own homes. This means more people living with a terminal illness can spend quality time with their loved ones.

The evening can be simple, creative or fancy, experimental or a traditional favourite. It's all about sharing good times and supporting a great cause. Instead of asking guests to bring a bottle, ask them for a donation to Marie Curie – the perfect way to add meaning to the menu. The money raised from every dinner party will help Marie Curie provide more free care to people living with a terminal illness and their families.

Kaylie Chapman, community fundraiser for Marie Curie said: "We're really looking forward to seeing what the local community cooks up – whether it be a classic recipe from the past or a brand new culinary creation.

"We already have supporters planning a 50s themed dinner party, a Masterchef style competition, a school reunion and a family dinner party in memory of a much loved family member. If you haven't done any fundraising before this is the perfect opportunity to get involved and make a difference."

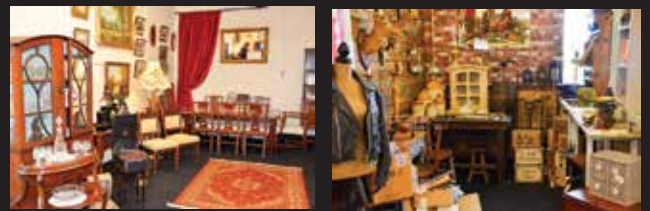
For more information and to sign up for a free fundraising pack visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/dinner or call 0800 716 146.

Soup and pub charity lunch

THE Inner Wheel Club of Frodsham and Helsby is holding a "Soup and Pud" lunch at Frodsham Community Centre on Friday, November 4, in aid of charity. Admission is £7, including a glass of wine or soft drink on arrival and are available from Ian J. Tickle estate agents of Main Street.



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Councillor banned from meetings - for the second time

CONTROVERSIAL councillor Tom Reynolds has been barred from attending committee and working group meetings at Frodsham Town Council – for the second time in nine months.

The council at its monthly meeting voted that he should not be allowed to attend or take part in meetings of any committees, sub-committees or working groups of which The Mayor, Cllr Mallie Poulton, and Cllr Donna Critchley are members, until he has attended Equality and Diversity Training.

Cllr Reynolds – who was last suspended in December following allegations of “bullying” – was not at the meeting but sent his apologies.

The new suspension follows Code of Conduct complaints against Cllr Reynolds by the Mayor and Cllr Donna Critchley.

Chairman Cllr Judith Critchley – who stressed that she was in a difficult position as one of the complainants was her sister – told the meeting that the Mayor and Cllr Donna Critchley had attended the Liverpool Gay Pride event in July, at the invitation of the Lord Mayor of Liverpool.

Subsequently, Cllr Reynolds emailed fellow councillors

objecting to Cllr Poulton’s “way” of “promoting” Frodsham and seeking to control and limit Cllr Poulton’s activities as Mayor, particularly in relation to matters relating to the LGBT community.

There were further email exchanges in which Cllr Reynolds showed disrespect to Cllr Donna Critchley and made further homophobic remarks.

On August 8, the two councillors made a formal complaint to the Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) monitoring officer. They claimed Cllr Reynolds was seeking to ensure Frodsham Town Council only served selected parts of the local community by restricting activities for LGBT residents in contravention of the Equality Act 2010.

The complaint also cited examples of previous homophobic comments made by Cllr Reynolds.

CWaC’s monitoring officer decided to refer the complaint to the chairman of Frodsham Town Council for informal action with a recommendation that Cllr Reynolds undertook Equality and Diversity Training in relations to his duties as a councillor.

Cllr Judith Critchley said she was liaising with The Proud Trust, which



had already carried out training for CWaC, to identify appropriate training. Cllr Reynolds would be asked to attend.

Several councillors expressed doubts about banning Cllr Reynolds in his absence, but the meeting was told he had refused to attend.

The chairman said the council did not have the power to prevent Cllr Reynolds attending full council meetings but could bar him from

attending committees and sub-committees.

Members voted to bar him until he had attended Equality and Diversity Training.

After the meeting, Cllr Reynolds denied being homophobic and said he had been completely unaware “homophobia” was to be discussed at the meeting.

He said he had questioned the way the Mayor was representing Frodsham simply because he appeared to be assuming authority to speak and act for the council without authority from the council.

Cllr Reynolds added: “What a disservice certain FTC councillors have done to the Frodsham LGBT community who just want to get on with their lives outside the ‘glare’ this will cause.

“Let’s now openly discuss homophobia in Frodsham because there’s an awful lot of Frodsham residents who are uncomfortable with the way the LGBT agenda is being promoted within our community.”

Later, Cllr Reynolds said he was prepared to undertake the training.

“I’m here for the Frodsham community. If some ‘training’ helps the community, I’ll do it.”

Council’s longest service employee stands down



FRODSHAM Town Council’s longest-serving employee has stood down after 13 years with the authority.

Officer manager Anne Scriven was presented with a bouquet of flowers by “father” of the council Frank Pennington at her last meeting.

Mrs Scriven has worked alongside no less than six Town Clerks during her time with the council.

She said: “I have enjoyed my time with the council and will miss everyone very much.”

Mayor Cllr Mallie Poulton praised Mrs Scriven for her years of excellent service. She had, he said, also acted as Mayor’s secretary and without her help he would have found things very difficult.

Several councillors praised her for her efficiency and knowledge of Frodsham and its council.

Miss English Rose

MISS FRODSHAM – 26-year-old Laura Wenton – is the new Miss English Rose.

She won the title in competition with more than 50 other hopefuls in the finals at the Vincent Hotel in Southport.

Actress, singer and dancer Laura will now fly to the world finals of Swimsuit USA in the Dominican Republic at the end of the month.

But she will be back in time to star in panto when she appears as the princess in Jack and the Beanstalk at Lytham this Christmas.

Laura also won a modelling contract, a £500 designer dress and a £1,000 portfolio and website.

Modelling, beauty competitions and show business run in Laura’s family.

Her dad is Bernie Wenton, winner of talent show Stars in your Eyes. Her mum, Tricia Liedl, was a Miss English Rose entrant in the 1980s and has also won Miss Lovely Legs of Great Britain, Coal Queen of Great Britain and Miss Pontins twice! She is now married to entertainer Bob Carolgees, famous for his comedy pet, Spit the Dog.

Last year, Laura appeared in Aladdin at The Brindley in Runcorn.



School bids to bag a massive cash boost

ALVANLEY Primary School is bidding to bag a massive cash boost from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

The supermarket has teamed up with Groundwork on its Bags of Help initiative, which see grants of £12,000, £10,000 and £8,000 – all raised from the 5p bag levy – being awarded to environmental and greenspace projects.

Alvanley Primary School is on a shortlist from across the country.

A spokesperson for the school said: "We are very excited to develop our outdoor area at the front of our school. It is very overgrown and we would like the children to be able to use this area as part of their daily lessons, as well as part of our exciting Forest School project this term.

Customers will cast their vote using a token given to them at the check-out in store each time they shop.

This is the second round of the initiative: the first round saw approximately eight million shoppers vote in stores up and down the country earlier this year.

Lindsey Crompton, head of Community at Tesco, said: "The first round of the Bags of Help initiative was a fantastic success.

"In total 1,170 community groups were awarded £8,000, £10,000 or £12,000 - that's a massive £11.7 million being invested into local projects.

"We are already seeing some great results from groups transforming their own environmental and greenspace areas.

"We are absolutely delighted to open the voting for round two. There are some fantastic projects on the shortlists and we can't wait to see them come to life in hundreds of communities."

Groundwork's national chief executive Graham Duxbury, said: "Bags of Help is giving our communities both the funding and the support to create better, healthier and greener places for everyone to enjoy.

"We've been thrilled to see the diversity of projects that have applied for funding, ranging from outdoor classrooms, sports facilities, community gardens, play areas and everything in between.

"They're all fantastic projects that make a real difference in our neighbourhoods.

"We're looking forward to learning the results of the customer vote and then supporting each group to bring their project to life."

MP launches Christmas card competition



WEAVER Vale MP Graham Evans has launched his annual Christmas Card competition.

He sees the competition as one of the highlights of his year and hopes children from across the constituency will put felt tip to paper and come up with a winning design.

Last year the winner was Emily Anderson, from Frodsham CE Primary School and her winning design was used on thousands of cards sent out by the MP.

The competition is open to all school and college age Weaver Vale pupils. All it needs to do is cover an A4 sized sheet, which can

be landscape or portrait and be a Christmassy scene of Weaver Vale.

Mr Evans said: "In previous years the standard of entries has been excellent and I know this year will be no exception.

"I am really looking forward to seeing what the terrifically talented pupils of Weaver Vale come up with!"

Entries need to be sent to the constituency office at The Innovation Centre, Sci-Tech Daresbury, Keckwick Lane, Daresbury, WA4 4FS by October 21.

Pictured: Last year's winner, Emily Anderson, and her card with Mr Evans.

Junior Mayors take up their posts

FRODSHAM'S new Junior Mayors have taken up their duties.

Jack Dewhurst and Lily Nicholson, pupils at Frodsham CE Primary School, were welcomed by the Mayor, Cllr Mallie Poulton, at the monthly meeting of the Town Council and introduced to members of the council.

After the meeting, Jack said: "I am very excited to be the junior Mayor of Frodsham.

Lily added: "I am proud to be able to help Frodsham and hope I can be a good Junior Mayoress."

Retiring Junior Mayors Josh Chow and Lily Brook, also attended the meeting and were thanked for their services during the last 12 months.



Ward meeting planned for Waterside

FRODSHAM Police Community Support Office Neil Flanagan is to hold a "ward meeting" in the town's Waterside Ward on Tuesday, November 8 at 6.30pm.

The meeting will take place at Frodsham Weaver Vale Primary School and local residents are invited to attend to raise any policing issues they wish.

PCSO Flanagan said he was hoping town councillors, Cheshire West and Chester councillors, Weaver Vale housing officers and highways officers would also be present.

If the meeting was successful, he would hold similar meetings in other wards, he said.

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MP meets survivors of the Holocaust



WEAVER Vale MP Graham Evans MP met Holocaust survivor John Hajdu at the launch event for Holocaust Memorial Day 2017.

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is commemorated each year on 27 January – the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death and concentration camp. HMD provides an opportunity for everyone to learn lessons from the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. HMD asks people to apply these lessons to the present day to create a safer, better future.

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) promotes and supports HMD activities in the UK. Each year HMDT selects a theme around which HMD activities can focus. The theme for 2017 is How can life go on?

John spoke about his experience of being forced to live in a Budapest ghetto at the age of seven but managing to survive, only to escape the subsequent Communist regime in Hungary in 1956. John recalled his long journey as a refugee with his mother which saw them settle in Great Britain - a distant country where neither spoke English. With determination, John made the country home and whilst sharing his experiences, he encouraged MPs and invited guests to mark the theme of HMD 2017: How can life go on?

Graham said: "John's story is a reminder of the importance of marking Holocaust Memorial Day – a day where we remember the millions who were affected by the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. I want to encourage people in Weaver Vale to mark HMD on 27 January 2017."

Olivia Marks-Woldman, Chief Executive of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, said: "We were delighted that Graham showed his support for Holocaust Memorial Day. We hope that many more people in Weaver Vale will use the free resources available through our website to organise activities for next year's HMD – adding to the record 5,590 activities which took place for HMD 2016."

Apartments approved

PLANS for 10 new apartment buildings, with associated parking spaces, have been approved at The Forge, Ship Street, Frodsham.

Holiday let approved

PLANS to change the use of an outbuilding at Mersey View Farm, Frodsham to holiday let accommodation have been approved by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Frodsham Town Council had opposed the proposals.

Patchwork exhibition

FRODSHAM Patchwork Group holds its annual Patchwork and Quilting Exhibition at Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin Lane, on Thursday, November 3 from 11am to 4pm.

In addition to the exhibition, there will be a "Crazy Quilt! raffle and tombola, an additional exhibition by the Cosmic Chicks, "The First Four years", trade stalls and a patchwork gallery.

Refreshments will be available and admission is £2.



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School's coffee afternoon

PUPILS and staff at Frodsham CE Primary School held a coffee afternoon and cake sale to raise money for the Macmillan Cancer Support charity.

Generous parents sent cakes into school with the children and then attended the coffee afternoon. The children were thrilled to buy cakes after school!

Teaching assistants Mrs Vicky Arnold and Mrs Sarah Richards co-ordinated the event said. "This is the fourth year we've run this event as this is a cause close to all our hearts. It is always very well supported by everyone at the school. This year we've raised a fantastic £195 towards Macmillan Cancer Support."



Recorded music group's 30th season

THE 30th annual season of Frodsham Recorded Music Group meetings has opened at Castle Park Arts Centre.

Chairman Colin Walker welcomed as guest speaker the distinguished music commentator and critic Bryce Morrison, who is an old friend of the Frodsham Group.

Very well known as an adjudicator in piano competitions across the world, and regular contributor to publications such as The Gramophone, Mr Morrison regaled the audience with a wealth of experiences and wisdom in illuminating his talk entitled "Great Young Pianists-??".

While thus opening up the chance of controversy regarding "better than before or not", Mr Morrison invited the group to listen to recent recordings of a range of pianists, offering many pointers as to how to listen, and to what.

Featured young artists included Lise de la Salle (Rachmaninoff First Concerto), Benjamin Grosvenor (Chopin D Flat Nocturne), Joseph v. der Moog (Moskovski Concerto), Antonio PompaValdi (Poulenc), Yevgeny Sudbin (Scarlatti) and Louis Pratz (Lacona, Cuban composer) amongst others.

The group's great appreciation of Mr Morrison's most welcome return and fascinating address was expressed by Peter Hodgson.

Community energy conference

CHESHIRE West and Chester Council's second annual Community Energy Conference is to be held at Ashton Hayes Primary School on Saturday, October 15 at 10am.

First part of the conference will provide an overview of the national picture and progress over the last year while the second part will consist of a series of informative and practical workshops.

Over lunch, those attending will be able to view the solar pv installation on the school roof and learn about the project.

Garage plan opposed

FRODSHAM Town Council has lodged objections to plans for a garage access from Middle Walk to a property on Hillfield.

The council's planning committee was told that Middle Walk is a private road, owned by the five properties on the road and gives vehicle access to them only.

The application is for a single garage on Hillfield, which does not have access on Middle Walk.

Middle Walk is a well-used bridleway and footpath, forming part of the Sandstone Trail.

The committee was told residents of Middle Walk had strong objections to the plan and had submitted objections to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Council hands out £1,883 in grants

GRANTS totalling £1,883.50 have been awarded to four local organisations by Frodsham Town Council.

Frodsham Opal Club received £360, Frodsham Junior Football Club were awarded £500, Frodsham Budo Federation received £523.50 and the Rotary Club of Frodsham and Helsby received £500.

The Opal Club will spend the money on exercise classes, musician and speakers, the football club's grant will go towards an FA Level 1 coaching course, the Budo Federation will spend the money on five new mats to meet Health and Safety requirements and the Rotary Club will use their grant to help refurbish Santa's float which tours the Frodsham and Helsby area during the Christmas period.

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Winning start for Jamie

Pictures: Eddie Whitham

Points were at a premium for Frodsham racing driver Jamie Jardine in the Avon Tyres Forula Ford 1600 Northern Championship Pre'90.

To keep his hopes alive to win the championship Jamie has to finish in the remaining six races of the championship.

The BRSCC Race meeting at Oulton Park gave him the start he wanted taking first place in his race.

Jamie was driving his Formula Ford Pre'90 Reynard 84FF car. His covered the 11 laps in a time of 20:30.413 mins at an average speed of 86.63mph.

Top: Jamie leads while tackling Britons bend

Below: Here he takes the air while using all the track to stay in front
Right: Jamie shows off the winners trophy



Do We Need a No Fault Divorce in the UK?

By Linda Hunter from Rowlinsons Solicitors

When deciding to separate from your spouse, the last thing you are thinking about is the legal process and grounds for divorce. But this can be a stumbling block for a lot of couples facing a relationship breakdown, and one a lot of people are still confused about.

We share a lot of things in common with America, but our legal systems are not one. We see so much on the news and in the media about quickie divorces and irreconcilable differences, and with the internet providing you with so much information about divorce, it is often difficult to see the wood from the trees. That is where Rowlinsons can help.

So can I get divorced due to irreconcilable differences?

In short, no! this is an American phrase, and not one that we have in our legal system in England and Wales. The equivalent here is the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, and it is important to understand what this means,

and what the options are.

There are five grounds for divorce in England and Wales, and anyone who wants to get divorced has to use one of these grounds. They are: -

- Adultery (although only for opposite sex couples)
- Unreasonable behaviour
- Living separately for two years and both parties agreeing
- Living separately for two years, where one party has deserted the other
- Living separately for 5 years

Why can't we just say we have fallen out of love, or drifted apart?

This is a very common question that we get from clients going through a relationship breakdown. In this day and age, it is hard to understand why adults who decide they no longer want to live together have to go through onerous legal and court processes to end their marriage. But it is a fact, we

don't currently have a no fault divorce.

If you have not lived separately for more than 2 years, one party has to effectively be blamed for the breakdown of the marriage. This can sometimes cause more animosity for couples already in a stressful and difficult situation.

Lobbying for a No Fault Divorce

The last thing we as family lawyers want is to make things worse for a couple. That is why at Rowlinsons we are lobbying the Government to introduce a no fault divorce. Separating couples should be free to bring to an end a marriage that has fallen apart, without having to resort to blame, or the onerous requirement to live separately for more than two years.

Under new proposals an amendment to family law would enable couples to say there was no fault for the break-up, provided they both sign a declaration stating that the marriage had broken down



"irretrievably." This won't make divorce easier but it will give couples the option to divorce without pointing the finger of blame.

If you feel you need advice on family disputes or are considering separation, divorce or dissolution of a civil partnership, then contact our Family Law team on 01928 735333 and book a no-obligation FREE 30 Minute Consultation to discuss your needs.

Divorce can be difficult for everyone involved

Don't know where to go for **honest, professional expert** advice?

At Rowlinsons, we understand this can be a difficult and confusing time.

Our dedicated team of family law experts not only offer the full range of family law services but have the added advantage of being trained in **collaborative law** and **mediation** and will give you the support and professional advice that you need.

The benefits of using **collaborative law** and **mediation** are that they provide the opportunity to achieve a non-confrontational and amicable solution without going to court and are often more cost effective.

If you have questions regarding separation or divorce matters including the option of using **collaborative law** or **mediation**, then why not give our friendly and understanding **specialist family law** team a call to help you make the right decisions for your future.



For an informal chat and to arrange your **FREE 1 HOUR CONSULTATION** call Linda Hunter on 01928 735333 or email linda.hunter@rowlinsons.co.uk

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