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Issue: 167  
February 2017

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# Editor's Comment



**POST Brexit and post Donald Trump and plenty of predictions of doom and gloom it is pleasing to note there is plenty to be positive about in the local community.**

It is fantastic to see local family businesses like Bents Home & Garden going from strength to strength with their latest £700,000 investment to help improve working conditions for their 300 strong workforce.

On top of that they have sponsored a new speed indicator device to help make our roads safer.

Meanwhile Newchurch Parish Church are close to raising £5,000 of the £19.5k required towards improving drainage in the churchyard after highlighting the issues in Culcheth Life.

More positive news appears to be on the horizon with hopes high that Culcheth Library can be saved although a final decision is not expected until March.

But the draft report seen by **Culcheth Life** suggests the library should remain open while ongoing discussions take place with a working party which has been set up. This could involve local volunteers helping run the service.

Add to this all the great community work taking place in the villages by various groups, organisations and individuals we have plenty to remain positive about – and here at Culcheth Life we love promoting your good news stories – so don't be shy – let us know what you are up to and we will do our best to spread the good news.

Of course it is not all good news as ongoing roadworks on Wigshaw Lane are giving us a taste of what the future could be like with the proposed works which will take place creating the HS2 railway.

The decision to move the railway line has also impacted on the plan to relocate Wild Wings Birds of Prey to Taylor Business Park, although business park boss Paul Taylor is working hard to turn a negative into a positive. Hopefully if a new planning application is approved it could see this fantastic facility being given a new home in the not too distant future.

We have also of course lost ALL our village banks in Culcheth, which

sadly is just the way banking is changing these days.

But on the whole there is plenty to be positive about and if we all work together to make Culcheth and the surrounding areas a positive place to live and work we can survive all the doom and gloom being predicted following the Brexit vote and the election of Donald Trump.

Let's focus on what we can influence, not what we can't – which just so happened to be by New Year resolution!

**Article deadline for the March issue of Culcheth Life is February 14**



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# New set back for Wild Wings Birds of prey

**A bird sanctuary which has been struggling to find a new home has been dealt a further setback following changes to the proposed route for HS2.**

Wild Wings Birds of Prey have now had to submit a new planning application as the proposed HS2 route which will go right through the land adjacent to Taylor Business Park at Culcheth, where they were looking at moving to.

## Safeguarded

The field became a safeguarded part of the route and now they have had to redesign the plan for the layout of the land they will hopefully be using in the future.

Paul Taylor, managing director of Taylor Business Park, who has been attempting to find the sanctuary a new permanent home commented, "I can't believe Wild Wings have had yet another set back. They have had no luck whatsoever in this process. Let's hope that the council looks favourably on this new planning application and gives them a location to effectively run their not for profit organisation here in the village.

"A presence here will be a great attraction and other businesses in the village should do well from it."

"They're very aware that this isn't a permanent solution as it doesn't take an expert on high speed trains or birds to know that they don't mix well together but they're hoping for a solution for the next five years or possibly more before work starts on our part of the route."

The Wild Wings Bird Sanctuary has had a nomadic existence in recent years after moving on from two local garden centres and is currently in a temporary home on farm land in Appleton.

Wild Wings Birds of Prey is a family owned 'not for profit' rescue, conservation and education centre housing approximately 90 birds of prey.

## Relocate

Many of their birds have been rescued and rehabilitated. They are not currently open to visitors while they seek to relocate but continue to run a vast selection of educational and experience days.

For more info visit [www.facebook.com/WildWingsBirds/](http://www.facebook.com/WildWingsBirds/)



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## New CCTV at primary school proving effective

NEW CCTV at a local primary school is proving to be an effective deterrent thanks to Taylor Business Park who are providing free monitoring for a number of schools in the area.

Over the weekend of January 21-22, police responded to reports of youths outside Newchurch Primary School.

Taylor Business Park provide free monitoring of the cameras and their security spotted the intruders and informed the police.

Managing Director, Paul Taylor, was happy with the result.

He said: "Our guards spotted the youths and immediately called the police who quickly arrived and the youths fled the scene. We're very happy that the new cameras and the monitoring is working as intended."

"This was a minor incident but it's a good test and shows that our schools are no longer easy targets."

The Business Park now monitor CCTV for a number of schools in the area.

# Bridge Works are 'just a taste of things to come'

**BRIDGE** works taking place on Wigshaw Lane where the road crosses the linear park are a "taste of things to come" when HS2 is being built.

Paul Taylor from Taylor Business Park who is part of CADRAG, the Culcheth and District Railway Action Group said, "This is just a taste of things to come. When HS2 is being built then we'll see Warrington Road closed for extensive bridgeworks as well as Wigshaw Lane where HS2 passes through."

"At least traffic can head up Glaziers Lane to meet Warrington Road while this work is being done."

"Their best option during and possibly after HS2 works are being carried out (if they even build a bridge or underpass for Wigshaw Lane, there's no mention of one in the plans) will be able to use Cross Lane, cutting Croft off from the

village completely."

Paul added, "Last time this road was closed it had a big impact on our local businesses. The reduction in passing traffic through the heart of the village was definitely noticed by our local shops. It's impact should be monitored this time as evidence for when we are arguing the case with HS2 about Wigshaw Lane and its need for an underpass or bridge."



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# Bents Garden and Home sponsor new speed indicator device

**CULCHETH and Glazebury Parish Council have been given a boost with a £1000 donation from Bents Garden & Home to help fund the first Speed Indicator Device to be installed as part of the Council's wider drive to tackle speeding.**

The new sign, sponsored by Bents, will be fitted on Warrington Road and positioned in a location designed to target cars leaving the A580 East Lancashire Road.

Cars leaving what is a 60 mph speed limit will be reminded they have entered a 30 mph zone, encouraging them to slow down

as they head in the direction of the village of Glazebury.

Cllr Joan Grime, Chair of the Parish Council, said: "We would like to thank Matthew and Bents for their very generous donation which helps launch our drive against speeding in the villages. Many people think that because of the

rural surroundings as they leave the East Lancs Road, they are still in a high speed area, but they're not.

"They are very quickly approaching a residential area so we hope the new sign on Warrington Road will encourage motorists to check their speed"

Matthew Bent, Managing Director at Bents Garden & Home added: "Drivers are quite often unaware of the speed they are travelling, but speed limits are there for a reason. These types of signs

are very effective in letting people know how fast they are going and encouraging them to slow down and we hope the new installation on Warrington Road will prove to be an effective deterrent."

The new sign, which will be positioned between Jennets Lane and Bents Garden & Home, will be solar powered so will require no extra energy supply once installed. It is hoped it will make a substantial difference to the communities of Culcheth and Glazebury.

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# Churchyard drainage programme gaining momentum as it approaches £5,000

**ALLCHURCHES Trust Limited, the insurance owners of Ecclesiastical Insurance Group and Warrington Borough Council's Neighbour Fund have both recently awarded Newchurch Churchyard Project £1000 each (totalling £2,000) towards the cost of installing the much needed drainage system.**

Chris Jones, Rector, said; "Awards of this kind really boosts our fundraising and together with donations from the local community

we are now heading towards £5,000. I'm personally humbled by the way people are getting behind this project clearly demonstrating

that the churchyard is something they really care about.

## Waterlogged

"As local gardeners will know, the local soil is heavy clay and during prolonged or heavy rainfall the churchyard becomes waterlogged. Ground conditions often present major difficulties during burial services and during late autumn and winter months the Churchyard is often inaccessible to the many visitors who tend the graves of family and friends and to the wider community wishing to visit. Our group of volunteers spend many hours attending to the Churchyard keeping it tidy and well maintained, however, the waterlogged areas is a challenge

well beyond them."

To complete the drainage a total of £19,500 is required.

To find out more about this project please visit the church's website at [www.newchurch-christchurch.co.uk](http://www.newchurch-christchurch.co.uk) and look at Newchurch Latest News.

## Donations

A JustGiving site can be found at [www.justgiving.com/newchurchcy](http://www.justgiving.com/newchurchcy). Donations can be sent by cheque to The Rectory, Jackson Avenue, Culcheth, Warrington WA3 4ED (cheques payable to Newchurch PCC (drainage fund) or make a cash donation at Newchurch Parish Church (please identify any donations as being towards the drainage fund).



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# Bents launch new £700

**BENTS Garden & Home in Glazebury has celebrated the start of 2017 with the opening of its new £700,000 colleague facility making its back of house operations as high quality as its customer facing store.**

Bents, which remains a family owned and run business, now employs over 300 colleagues whose previous facilities and offices were housed in a number portable cabins. The new facilities are located above the Centre's £10m phase 2 development and include a combination of new office space and colleague amenities.

Managing Director Matthew Bent said "Over the past few years we have invested a lot of time and money, creating the ultimate garden, home and leisure destination for our customers with new departments and dining areas, but now that these have become more established we have been able to focus on our colleagues and work with them to create this fantastic new space."

A working group was put together in early 2016 with 10 colleagues representing the various Bents teams, who have worked alongside their colleagues in store and Matthew, to mould and guide the new development.

Central to the new facilities is the Bents' Bistro, a brand new dining area with relaxed seating, quiet zones and bar style seating with views over to the distant hills of Rivington and beyond. The Bistro is run by Bents' in-house chefs who provide a variety of home-made meals including soups, salads, jacket potatoes and a range of breakfast options. The menu is soon to be expanded with further homemade options planned for the future.

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# 0,000 colleague facility

to providing new toilets, lockers, shower rooms as well as extensive new offices which include training facilities, casual meeting areas and hot desks. Small scale meeting pods are in the form of quirky internal sheds and larger meeting rooms have been named after Bents' original founders Alfred and Margaret Bent with a third named after 95 year old garden centre consultant, Ernest Wertheim who has played a pivotal role in the development of Bents Garden & Home over the past 20 years.

Matthew added: "We have

always had a long term plan in place and our colleague facilities were always an integral part of that plan, creating a bright and modern working environment for our office colleagues and a warm and welcoming destination where everyone can spend their breaks."

Future plans include the further transformation of the existing Centre, creating a larger contemporary retail space with a two storey high glazed atrium and escalators leading up to 3,800 sq m of retail, leisure and educational space.



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# Culcheth Players all set for Panto extravaganza

**CULCHETH Players are bringing the children's favourite Cinderella to life in their pantomime production by Ben Crocker.**

Rehearsals are well underway; costumes are made and sets are built ready for what should be a fantastic show for all the family.

The performances will be in the 200-seat main hall at the Culcheth Sports and Social Club where the Players have been treading the boards since their formation in 1958. The amateur dramatic society are members of the Cheshire Theatre Guild and their plays and shows have earned many of the Guilds nominations and awards for the quality of their productions over the years, in both acting and non-acting categories.

Each season the club aims to put on three plays, usually in October, February and May and they hold regular weekly meetings and rehearsals every Monday night from 8pm until 10pm.

They try to be as varied as possible with their works and include drama, period plays, comedy, whodunits and now pantomime.

They are always seeking new members both actors and other disciplines as there is also a lot to be done behind the scenes as well as on the stage. There are no age limitations and any member of the Culcheth Sports and Social club may join. The Players do not include plays unsuitable for children in their repertoire. If you wish to join in the

fun as either an aspiring Benedict Cumberbatch, Dame Judy Dench or even a Bob the Builder you can either contact Chair, Rosemary Powell on 07824424538 or simply turn up on Monday evening. Tickets are available for the

current production 'Cinderella' which runs from February 17-19 from the Club at only £7 or you can book by phoning 07548 598 898.

## Cast:

Cinderella – Jane Lyne  
Prince Charming – Gill Elliot  
Fairy Godmother – Sue Rogers  
Buttons – Hannah Mitchell

Dandini – Justine Domville  
Ugly Sisters – Dave McManus and Phil Ratcliffe  
Evil Stepmother – Ayesha Morris  
Snitch and Snatch – Layla Buxton and Katie Sutton-Wilson  
Baron Hardup – Laurence Harrison  
Culcheth Charm – Rosemary Powell  
Major Domo – Graham Wood  
**Director** – Sue Rogers.



Pictures: Paul Jackson





# Hopes high that village library can be saved

**HOPES are high that Culcheth Library will stay open following the major public consultation carried out by library operator LiveWire last year.**

But the way the service is provided may change – with one possibility the use of volunteers to support the service.

The people of Culcheth, Croft and Glazebury made it clear in their responses to the consultation that they did not like any of the options suggested as a replacement facility.

They were opposed to any form of locker system, they were concerned about the effect on elderly residents and on children's reading and learning.

And they believed the loss of the existing library building would rob the area of a much-valued focal point for social events.

A working group, which included local ward councillors, parish councillors, business owners and residents considered a number of options, including a community asset transfer, an increased parish precept to fund the library, relocation of the library to Culcheth Community Campus and a LiveWire managed library supported by volunteers.

The working group discounted all the options other than the LiveWire managed library supported by

volunteers.

A draft report on responses to the consultation, seen by "Culcheth Life" suggests that the Culcheth Library should remain open while ongoing discussions with the working party continue. One possibility is that the library would remain open, with volunteers helping to keep the service going.

A joint statement on behalf of LiveWire and the borough council – who will make the final decision – said: "This report is currently in draft form and awaiting final comments and feedback from both the LiveWire board and senior council officials."

"As the report has not yet been finalised, it would be inappropriate to comment on its findings or recommendations. Further information on the report will be made publicly available in the near future."

It is understood it is likely to be March before any final decisions are made.

One problem specific to Culcheth Library relates to the condition of the building, which is understood to require costly repairs.

## Climbing a mountain for charity

A CULCHETH Dad and his two daughters are planning to raise money for a charity that aims to spread happiness – by climbing Mount Snowdon in May.

Craig Pryce and his daughters Daisy, 6 and Faye, 5, pupils at Newchurch Primary School, are raising money for the Flying Seagull Project, a charity which operates in 15 countries, including the UK.

Daisy and Faye decided they wanted to raise money for children who don't get to have fun very often after they had a great time at last year's Wilderness Festival.

They learned about the Flying Seagull Project and decided they wanted to help by raising some money for them.

"We will hike to the top of Snowdon – the highest mountain in Wales," they said.

The Flying Seagull Project does a variety of things to spread happiness, such as providing pre and post-operative therapy for children undergoing surgery, putting on shows in various venues such as hospitals and refugee camps to make people laugh and organising workshops where people can learn circus skills, music, dance and games.

Anyone who would like to sponsor Daisy and Faye should visit their Just Giving web page at [www.justgiving.com/Daisy-Faye](http://www.justgiving.com/Daisy-Faye)



















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## Traditional Values



# Soccer club's festive treat for pensioners



**MORE than 100 pensioners from the Culcheth area attended a Christmas dinner organised by Dagen Football Club.**

The event – which included a meal and musical entertainment – marked the start of a year of celebration to mark 70 years of football by Dagen in the local community.

## Rocket scientist who became a guitarist

FORMER rocket scientist turned guitarist Neil Smith was the speaker at the monthly meeting of Culcheth WI – and started by entertaining members with examples of rock, jazz and classical guitar.

He has travelled the world with his music but his original “day job” was as a rocket scientist.

After spending three weeks in Rome, and being asked to play for Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, he decided to give up his job and concentrate on music.

During his long career, he had many adventures in Germany, Russia, Greece and South America.

In Russia, the authorities knew that he had been a rocket scientist. He was followed, and they tried to coax him into indiscretions with a female. Luckily he did not fall for that!

Neil's stories were interspersed by some magnificent playing.

In May 2000 he travelled to Glamis Castle to play for the Queen Mother on her 100th birthday.

He ended by saying that his job was “unlike any other” and was the best job in the world!

Members are looking forward to trips to see “Stepping Out” at the Brindley Theatre and “The Tenant of Wildfell Hall” at the Octagon.

The annual osteoporosis testing will be on April 20 and the Fashion Show May 31.

Ileyne Hutchinson gave details of Warrington Disability Partnership who are organising sessions at the Community Centre on Jackson Ave. These are held from 2 – 4pm on Friday afternoons, and are to help anyone with a disability or who is just finding life a little more difficult.

The next WI meeting is on February 21 at 2pm in the Parish Hall. Visitors and new members will be made very welcome.

## Major road works will last for 15 weeks

MAJOR road works, involving a number of road closures are taking place in the Croft and Culcheth areas.

Roads affected include Mustard Lane, Heath Lane, Sandy Lane and New Lane, Croft and Wigshaw Lane, Culcheth.

A collapsed sewer along Mustard Lane is being replaced, repairs are to be carried out to Wigshaw Lane Bridge, Culcheth and resurfacing work is being carried out to Sandy Lane and New Lane, Croft.

The work is expected to take about 15 weeks to complete.

The sewer replacement started in early January.

Wigshaw Lane will be closed from January 23 to April 13.

Resurfacing of Sandy Lane will be carried out from January 23 to 27 while in New Lane, the work will be carried out between January 29 and February 17.

Alternative routes will be signposted and changes to bus services will be displayed at bus stops.

Every effort will be made to minimise disruption to traffic, but some delays are inevitable.



# CULCHETH & GLAZEBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## Your Parish Councillors

### NEWCHURCH WARD



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**Jacqui Johnson**  
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**Margaret Webber**  
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### GLAZEBURY & MEE BROW WARD



**Anne Roberts**  
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**Joan Grime**  
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### CULCHETH WARD



**Peter Holmes**  
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**Keith Bland**  
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**Sue Bland**  
01925 766641



**Valerie Allen**  
01925 767274



**Ileyne Hutchinson**  
01925 765131

## HS2

On January 10th HS2 held an information event at Culcheth Sports Club. Although the route has been revised or refined we are still opposed to the Golborne Link. The revised route will still have a huge adverse impact on residents and businesses in our area without any benefits. We will continue to oppose it and to argue that the route at this stage should be along the West Coast Main Line.

There are two consultations by HS2 with comments by March 9th.

One is on the route refinement which moves the Western Leg Rolling Stock Depot away from Golborne and down to Crewe.

The other is on the property consultation document, question 1 asks for opinions on the package of assistance and compensation to communities along "our" 2b section. If you have opinions on these please let us know. Information can be found on [www.gov.uk/hs2](http://www.gov.uk/hs2) and in Culcheth Library.

As well as responding to these consultations we will be collecting information on the route in terms of present and past problems, so please let us know if you have information. We work with CADRAG- (Culcheth and District Rail Action Group) and other groups along the route. You can help by contacting your elected representatives and supporting your local action group.

## Culcheth Library

We believe the library service should remain in the present building with an expanded use that conforms with the covenant. We are part of a group set up to examine this. Any suggestions are welcome- remember the library is still open, although at limited times, so please keep using it.

## Culcheth and Glazebury Community Day

Community Day will go ahead on Monday May 1st. It will be on Culcheth Village Green, Plan A, unless there are problems with the weather or the state of the ground. In that case we will use Shaw Street as Plan B, but NOT the pitches. Both plans will be fully organised in advance with participants kept informed.

## Police Liaison

The Police attend the Parish Council meetings as well as our Law and Order sub- committee. We raise the problems within the villages and set monthly policing priorities. Let the Police know about any incidents. Dog fouling should be reported to the Borough Council. The details are on the Borough website [www.warrington.gov.uk](http://www.warrington.gov.uk)

## Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Plan

In 2012 we produced a Parish Plan having established a group of Councillors and residents to do this a few years earlier. This was delivered to residents but is also available on the Parish Council website, [culchethandglazebury.org.uk](http://culchethandglazebury.org.uk) in the information section.

The aim was not only to consult and bring together information about our villages but to provide help and justification for community groups applying for grants. Our aim was that after 5 years we would set up a monitoring group to review the Action Plan, which we are now doing. If anyone would like to join this group, particularly if you intend to apply for community grants, contact us.

## Planning Policy

We comment on Policy and Planning applications outside our Parish when they are going to affect us. Main issues are increased traffic, loss of gaps between settlements and precedents being set that could apply to us. We have recently commented on the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and proposals which put more traffic on the M6 and local roads.

The Borough Council has had to review its Core Strategy with respect to housing and employment land. We expect to see some proposals in May. We have already said that infrastructure is the important consideration, for example.

Next Parish Council meeting is on Tuesday February 14th at 7.30 pm at Glazebury Methodist Church. Details are on the Parish Notice Board

**Our Parish website is [www.culchethandglazebury.org.uk](http://www.culchethandglazebury.org.uk)**



# Work Experience confirms student's dream to become an Engineer

As the top Sixth Form in the country for A Level progress, student performance at Carmel is consistent. However, academic progress isn't Carmel's only focus, with personal development a high priority too!

Students are also encouraged to find work experience with the help of Carmel's dedicated Work Experience Coordinator, Ian Kennedy. "Employers and many university courses expect candidates to have some form of work experience or volunteering evidence" explains Ian.

"With this in mind, we have made vital links with many charities and businesses and we ensure our students are aware of these opportunities that can support future preparation for employment."

An excellent example of this is student Chloe Sutch, who took the opportunity to be involved with the Mersey Gateway Project recently when she spent a week working with the Merseylink Engineers who are currently building Halton's new river crossing.

Chloe, who is studying BTEC Science and A Levels in Maths and 3D Design at Carmel, has always been interested in architecture and engineering and was keen to get some practical experience on her CV.

"The Mersey Gateway Project is right on my doorstep and I've been watching the construction for months," said Chloe. "I thought that getting some relevant work experience would help me with future job applications and interviews. I'd really like to apply for an advanced apprenticeship where I can learn on the job and study for a degree at the same time."

Construction joint venture Merseylink is a keen advocate of women in engineering. There are around 60 women working on the project in civil engineering, health and safety, as well

as environmental and administrative roles, and Chloe was able to spend valuable time with some of them during her placement.

During the week, Chloe met graduate engineers Hannah Grainger and Rosey Thurling who took her to see some of the specialist site equipment being used. She said "It was great to have the opportunity to talk to some of the younger female engineers. They gave me an insight into what it's like to work on an engineering project of this scale as a woman. It's been an amazing experience and it's helped me realise that I definitely want to pursue a career in civil engineering."



Merseylink graduate civil engineer Rosey Thurling (left) with Carmel student Chloe Sutch (right) on the Mersey Gateway construction site.

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\*ALPS 3 Year T Score A Catholic College for the Community



# Unbelievable fashions from history

**THEME of Jacki Mali's talk to members of Croft WI at their monthly meeting was a journey through time, concerning the practices carried out in the name of fashion and beauty. Amusing, scary and utterly unbelievable were some of the things of which she spoke.**

In ancient Egypt eye make-up was extremely important, as flies were a constant problem alighting on the eye and causing many eye diseases. The solution - eye make-up containing lead which acted as an insect repellent, but in the long term could cause blindness. In the time of Elizabeth I, pale skin was fashionable and again lead was used as a cosmetic, which initially gave a good result, but the eventual consequences could be muscle paralysis and death!

Pale skin remained a goal over many centuries, as, due to outdoor work, only peasants had tanned skin, the opposite of today's "healthy tan". The Victorians even painted blue veins on their faces to give the appearance of translucent skin.

Italian Signora Toffana was famous in the early 18th century for her cosmetics and she suggested brushing her make-up on the cheeks when husbands were around. Unfortunately her ingredients included arsenic which resulted in the "Kiss of Death" and the demise of 600 men! After the discovery of the cause of these untimely deaths, she was executed!

Another trend in the 18th century was the use of wigs and skin

patches. The wigs were often used to cover hair loss, due to diseases such as Syphilis, and were rarely cleaned, consequently they were infested with lice and sometimes even mice! Skin patches were used to cover scars on the face, again often the consequence of diseases such as plague. These patches became extremely popular and in France wearing a patch resulted in a secret language. Wearing a patch on the right meant you were married, the left engaged, the mouth flirtatious and so on.

Many more weird and implausible crazes were included in Jacki's talk and she concluded by posing the question, "Will the use of the poison Botox, the practice of enlarging chests by inserting bags of silicone etc., be construed as crazy at some time in the future?" President Anne Lamming thanked Jacki for an extremely interesting and enlightening evening.

The competition was won by Colette Barker, 2nd Doris Fryer, 3rd Alison Morley.

Croft WI meet at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of each month and welcomes new members. For more information ring 01925 817019.

## Pupils join Rotarians to plant crocuses



CHILDREN from local schools joined Rotary Club members and other helpers to plant crocuses in various parts of Culcheth, Croft and Winwick.

Pupils of Locking Stumps, Glazebury CE, Newchurch and St Lewis' Croft primary schools joined in the exercise which results in more than 7,000 crocus corms being planted and will help brighten the villages and also remind people of the Rotary campaign to "end polio now."

Purple crocuses were chosen because the index finger of a newly immunised child is dipped in purple dye to distinguish them from children yet to be immunised.

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# Are we becoming a nation of renters?



**W**ell, since 2002 the private rented sector has almost doubled and the proportion of families with children privately has almost tripled in 10 years.

So, who and what type of people are renting?

Due to rising house prices in this period and higher deposits required, first time buyers are one sector that have declined to purchase and opted for rental.

People who plan to relocate within 5 years, or people looking to add to their family and needing more space.

Those who need to downsize.

Those who struggle to save for deposits to buy!

## And Why?

Renting means no legal fees, lower estate agency fees and no buildings insurance to find.

Flexibility is also a 'lure' to the renting sector, move instantly within 6 or 12 months, without having to buy or sell, and without the responsibility and burden of property maintenance. It's just so simple!

## So, if renting is so great, why buy at all?

Great Britain is still a nation that upholds tradition and it takes time for us Brits to change our ways. Many of us still see property as a 'financial nest egg' for our pension funds and to aid our dependents as they struggle to save in the current economic climate.

We still see property as an 'investment for our future' and let's face it, in order for landlords to let a house they have to buy it first, right?

And... once a mortgage is paid off, the home is yours - no worries of being 'moved on'. Also if your home increases in value, you could use the equity to help fund other things!

So are we likely to become a nation of renters? Well maybe not quite the whole nation, but as demand for rentals grows and landlords are forced to make certain home improvements to their properties, it is likely that more and more people opt to rent over buying.



Article written by  
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