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# Warrington Worldwide

**Issue No. 208 February 2017 FREE EVERY MONTH**

Picture: Paul Jackson

**New face of the WI!**  
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**Livewire  
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# Editor's Comment



**IT would appear to be a victory for common sense – with the controlling Labour Group of Warrington Borough Council voting in favour of a devolution deal with Cheshire instead of Merseyside.**

While this will still have to go through council and public consultation it is still a huge step in the right direction in my opinion and various other members of the business community. Congratulations to Council leader Terry O'Neill for sticking to his guns and persuading the majority of his group to vote in favour of Cheshire over Liverpool.

Now I hope those with differing opinions "bury the hatchet" and work together in a positive way to ensure we get the best devolution deal possible for Warrington, with or without an elected Mayor.

Talking of common sense – I recently had the pleasure of joining a group of volunteers in a litter pick on Winwick Road, with seven of us clearing 10 bags of rubbish in 90 minutes and helping improve the appearance of a major gateway into our town. This followed in a lengthy bit of lobbying the council to clear an eyesore in the town centre. Clearly with austerity and various council cutbacks street cleaning is one of the areas to suffer.

Sometimes instead of complaining about issues, it is better to tackle them head on. If we all take some responsibility for our neighbourhoods hopefully it will help educate those who are dropping litter to take it home or use waste bins.

A special Common Sense Party Warrington Facebook Page has now been set up, with the aim of recruiting more people to get involved in the community, helping make Warrington a better place for us all.

If you are not on facebook and would like to get involved email me at [GaryS@warrington-worldwide.co.uk](mailto:GaryS@warrington-worldwide.co.uk) and I will make sure you are advised on future events.

Many hands make light work and we should all take some responsibility for where we live.

Finally it looks like being good news on the library front, although the draft report still has to be ratified. If the recommendations are followed there will be no actual library closures, with some increased provision. If these proposals are accepted it is now down to the public to ensure the libraries are used.

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# Meet Kim Smith the new face of the WI!

By Paul Jackson

**THE last thing you would expect your local WI Chairman to be involved in would be promoting a pop concert featuring 80's icon Toyah!**

Well meet Kim Smith, a woman with so much going on she makes a hive of bees look lazy.

A local girl born and bred in Warrington she is this year the Chair of the Lymm Women's Institute, on the May Queen committee, runs a successful health food business, is a qualified nurse who specialises in cosmetic treatments, presents a radio show and now is dipping her toe into the concert production game. It seems her talents are endless.

## Passionate

Her first love is music, specifically the sounds of the 80's, which she is passionate about. Performers such as Bowie and Steve Strange were her idols, and countless other musical acts have had her dancing ever since they were in the charts. She still loves the look, fashions and hairstyles of the period which make her not exactly your typical W.I. chairperson, but if she brings the same drive and ambition to that post as she does with everything else, they are in good hands.

Along with her friend Amanda she is responsible for bringing an amazing 80's extravaganza to the Parr Hall on January 28. The show

stars film, music and literary icon Toyah Wilcox who will be belting out her chart toppers from the decade of decadence.

Kim aged 57, said: "We are the next generation of the WI and need to attract new members. It is also important to keep traditions going like the Lymm May Queen."

But the "most exciting" thing going on for Kim at the moment is the "gig of all gigs" featuring icons of the 80s Toyah.

"Toyah has been in the industry for 40 years and is an amazing woman and an inspiration," added Kim.

With Toyah will be fellow 80's chart toppers, Tight Fit who began their performing career on the same stage at the Parr Hall. Jenny from the Bellestars is also featured on the bill. Electro 80's will bring their amazing sound to the party with their versions of some of the decade's greatest hits.

There will be a cabaret promising decadence and comedy from Lala Shockette, DJ Caz Williams from fab Radio will spin an awesome playlist, Chris Griff from Vivienne Westwood will be on hand to help make everyone glamorous and Tommy Mack will be presenting the show.

warrington-worldwide's photographer, Paul Jackson, will be setting up a studio on site with an amazing Westwood backdrop so glam it up. Tickets are available from [pyramidparrhall.com](http://pyramidparrhall.com) priced £30 but be quick.

So what next for Kim? Well she is already producing a Modfest in the summer along with plans to produce more fab music shows in Warrington, as well as being a wife, mum, daughter, nurse, volunteer and entrepreneur!



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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

# Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

## Not a farewell, just au revoir

**Regular readers will remember I often mention that each moment is an end and a new beginning, each thought creates a physical response and that change is a constant in life.**

As 2017 begins I have had an opportunity given to me, which will allow me to complete several new audio programs which will help not only my clients in my medical centre practice at Woolston Surgery – Woolston Neighbourhood Hub off Manchester Road, but also many people who are unable to visit my practice for a variety of reasons.

It is a great opportunity and I am going to take it, which is exciting but also a little daunting, however fortune favours the brave as they say! Regular readers will also remember that I often mention, if you say yes to one thing you have to say no to something else, and that is as always true.

For me to complete my projects on time, I am having to allocate my time differently, and unfortunately it means I will be taking a break from this Hypnotes column for a few months, but I plan to come back as soon as possible, hence the title of this month's writings. It is not a

farewell it is a good-bye for the present.

I have been writing this column for more years than I can remember, and I have enjoyed it immensely. The feedback, the kind comments and knowing that I have made a difference to a few lives. It is these feelings and gratitude that will bring me back again later in the year.

So as 2017 gets into its stride, make sure you do to. Do the thing you want to do, make plans and stick to them. Do something to make a positive difference to your life and to the lives of others, it is a great feeling and once you get the bug of self-development and helping others it is with you for life.

When problems and struggles enter your life, reach out to friends and family, they are often pleased to help, just as you are when people ask for your help. When you are going through difficult times, remember they are making you stronger, and you are going through them, you are not stuck in them. Do not give your problems your fear, it only empowers the negatives. Refuse to give fear to anything, saving the emotional energy for working through, for clearer thinking, and finding a new

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.



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path.

We are all given talents and gifts and skills, and we should use them to help ourselves and others. Be creative in your thinking, identify your options of choice, and do something, do not just wait for the universe to bring your dreams and wishes to you, go out and get them, stretch yourself, and learn new ways of thinking, feeling and acting.

Each and every one of us has it within us to overcome problems. If you need help make an appointment and let's work it out. So dear reader thank you for your support over the years. I look forward to returning after my projects are completed, and sharing my thoughts and giving encouragement where I can.

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Until next time, Bye for now!

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# Air of optimism in Warrington

By Steve Park

**I always think that there is an air of optimism about February, it's the first time that the days are getting visibly longer and the promise of Spring isn't too far away.**

Business wise I never fail to be buoyed by the attitude and entrepreneurial spirit in Warrington. Warrington stands out as recording the highest employment rate in the country and sits very closely behind Manchester for the level of new business creation, but there is always room for improvement.

Facilitating growth through building networks and sharing best practice has been shown to work exceptionally well in places like London and Manchester and I know Warrington has the entrepreneurial

capability to match them.

There are already a number of excellent networking groups in Warrington and last month saw the formal launch of an innovative networking platform, specifically designed to bring people from ambitious, high-growth firms together.

The network operates from The Base, on Dallam Lane, which is also home to Warrington & Co. and has been formed largely through the enthusiasm of entrepreneurs who have made The Base their business

home in 2016.

Called BaseConnect, the group already has 50 members and the team behind the initiative believe that figure will hit 200 before the end of 2017.

BaseConnect is free to join for any company involved in the Warrington area and allows members to check and register for events, keep up to date with news relating to The Base and the wider tech sector, and network with other members.

At Warrington & Co. we offer support and direction to businesses large and small, new and established. Through our remit to implement Warrington's ambitious growth framework, Warrington Means Business, we are not only creating the physical aspects to facilitate growth but can assist businesses towards advice, apprenticeships, premises, training and guide towards where grant funding might be available. I hope to be able to provide further information in a couple of months on a grant scheme that will be available to businesses through Warrington & Co, so watch this space. In the meantime, please do contact us if we can be of help. Our details are on our website [www.warringtonandco.com](http://www.warringtonandco.com) and you can follow us on Twitter @warringtonco

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## Law firm bolsters team with key hires



WARRINGTON based full service law firm, FDR Law is kicking off 2017 with the announcement of the appointments of clinical negligence expert, Daniel Lee and wills trust and probate lawyer, Heather Lally.

Daniel joins the firm, which has offices in Warrington town centre, Stockton Heath and Frodsham, from Slater Gordon where he was a partner for three years. He will work alongside the firm's injury experts, Stephen Lawson, Brian Owens and Howard Porter.

A member of the Law Society and the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL), Daniel qualified in 1993 and specialises in cases involving spinal injury, brain injury and serious orthopaedic injury.

He is passionate about helping people whose lives have been tragically and adversely affected due to debilitating accidents, and is

also a member of Headway South Manchester, a charity set up to help those with brain injury. Daniel has previously been recommended in the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners.

Daniel said: "Things can sometimes go catastrophically wrong and people's lives are destroyed overnight by accident and injury. When we get involved we can potentially deliver life-changing outcomes for the victims who may have lost their income and ability to work again."

"Rehabilitation is key to the process and we work tirelessly to raise awareness of such issues in the hope that lessons are learnt and the same mistakes do not happen again."

Heather Lally has also joined the firm's Frodsham office as an associate solicitor specialising in Wills, Trusts and Probate.

## Council set to invest £30m in new bank

WARRINGTON Borough Council will invest £30 million in a new challenger bank, known as Redwood Bank.

The council will have a 33 per cent share in the bank, which would have a regional head office in the borough and is expected to be launched around July or August.

Its main aim will be to provide loans to SMEs – small and medium enterprises – in Warrington, the North West and nationally.

Redwood Bank will be a joint venture between the council and the owners of an established bank – the main shareholder would be a major city financier who already owns a successful international bank.

It will provide secured lending to SMEs in Warrington, Northern Powerhouse authorities and nationally. But it will also have a national presence so the council would not be able to direct that funding only to Warrington businesses.

The council has already allocated money for the scheme, which would be invested in £10 million increments over a three year period.

\*Acorn Global Investments, the majority shareholder in Redwood Bank, was established last year by property investor David Rowland and his son Jonathan Rowland, who would be chairman of the new bank.

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# A New approach sees Active Cheshire go local

**ACTIVE Cheshire are going hyperlocal with the introduction of place teams; working to improve lives in communities across Cheshire & Warrington through physical activity.**

For the past few years Active Cheshire has worked on a sector basis with staff spread across the whole of Cheshire & Warrington working in specific sectors. However, from February 2017 Active Cheshire will adopt a place-based focus, respecting the very different communities that the team work amongst.

This approach will enable place focussed teams to build a holistic picture of their areas, identify cross sector opportunities and develop a fully cohesive strategy for improving lives through physical activity specific to the local community.

Local teams will support Local Authorities and partners from all sectors to:

- Understand the active and inactive communities, their needs and the barriers preventing regular movement.
- Change the sedentary habits of local communities by building physical activity into everyday life. This may be through school or workplace initiatives but will also include the development of active infrastructure, public realm, housing and transport.
- Support the development of the local provider market across all sectors to ensure that it remains

resilient, relevant and accessible.

- Secure investment to test new interventions and develop partnerships.
- Promote information that will educate, enable and empower people to build physical activity into their everyday lives themselves.

Active Cheshire CEO, Anne

Boyd, said: "We recognise that there is a strong team of partners and providers in existence already within each locale, and we are confident that with their combined energy, ambition and resources, we can affect change in a sustainable way."

"I am certain that our local guys would welcome an opportunity to meet and learn more about the ambitions of communities and organisations locally and to understand how we might add

value. We are very much looking forward to strengthening our relationships locally across Cheshire & Warrington in 2017."

Active Cheshire remain dedicated to getting residents and employees more active on a regular basis; improving the health, wellbeing and prosperity of communities in the boroughs of Cheshire & Warrington.

Active Cheshire Warrington team are Senior Partnership Manager Paul Kendall and Partnership Manager Charles Maines.



Active Cheshire getting Active in Warrington as Warrington Town's new community sponsor.

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## New Bruce Foxton tour to feature The Jam classics

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From The Jam have gained a reputation for the kind of incendiary live performances that sealed the reputation of The Jam all those years ago.

The Parr Hall audience can expect to hear classic The Jam hits such as Down in the Tube Station at Midnight, Going Underground, Town Called Malice and The Modern World as well as some live favourites and songs from Bruce's solo career.

The Jam exploded onto the punk scene in 1977 delivering their ferocious mission statement in the form of debut single In the City.

With a catalogue that includes 18 UK Top 40 singles, The Jam became the sound of the British youth and one of the greatest and biggest-selling bands in British history.

In 2000, Q magazine placed The Jam's third album All Mod Cons at Number 50 in its list of the 100 Greatest British Albums Ever.

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## Former LiveWire chief awarded British Empire Medal

JAN Souness, former managing director of Warrington's LiveWire and Culture Warrington, has been awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours list.

A former senior officer with Warrington Borough Council, she has worked in the town for more than 12 years. She retired from LiveWire and Culture Warrington earlier in the year.

Since 2012, LiveWire has been responsible for leisure, libraries and lifestyle activities across the borough while Culture Warrington has run arts and heritage activities.

Ms Souness, who transferred to the two organisations when they took over services formerly run by the borough council, had previously held senior positions with a number of local authorities after starting her local government career in her native Liverpool.

Another British Empire Medal was awarded to a resident of the Warrington area. Kathleen Elizabeth Hanley received her award for services to the community in Antrobus.

Tom McKenna, chairman of Crewe United Football Club, in Northern Ireland, who also receives the BEM, also has links to Warrington. He helped organise the annual Peace Cup competition between Warrington Town and Crewe United, which was set up after the Warrington bombings.

Also honoured in the New Year's Honours list is Kevin Jones, from Warrington, who receives the MBE for voluntary services in the North West of England.



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## What's On

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| 4 Feb, 4 Mar, 1 Apr, 6 May | Comedy Store                                            |
| Sat 4 Feb                  | Omid Djalili: Schmuck for a Night                       |
| Fri 17 Feb                 | Al Murray the Pub Landlord: Let's Go Backwards Together |
| Tue 21 Feb                 | The Sooty Show                                          |
| Tue 21 Feb                 | Rob Beckett: Mouth of the South                         |
| Sat 25 Feb                 | Circus of Horrors                                       |
| Thu 2 Mar                  | G4: Live In Concert                                     |
| Sat 11 Mar                 | Seth Lakeman                                            |
| Thu 16 Mar                 | An Evening with Levison Wood                            |
| Fri 17 Mar                 | 70s Disco                                               |
| Sat 18 Mar                 | Northern Soul                                           |
| Thu 23 Mar                 | The Dublin Legends                                      |
| Tue 28 Mar                 | Marc Almond                                             |
| Thu 30 Mar                 | You Win Again                                           |
| Fri 31 Mar                 | Dave Spikey: Juggling on a Motorbike                    |
| Thu 13 Apr                 | Psychic Sally: Call Me Psychic                          |
| Thu 13 Apr                 | Mark Radcliffe                                          |
| Sat 22 Apr                 | That Manchester Night                                   |
| Fri 28 Apr                 | From The Jam                                            |
| Sat 6 May                  | Walter Trout                                            |
| Sat 13 May                 | The Lancashire Hotpots                                  |
| Sun 14 May                 | Vienna Festival Ballet presents... Cinderella           |
| Fri 19 May                 | Shakin' Stevens: Echoes of Our Times Tour               |
| Fri 26 May                 | KT Tunstall                                             |

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- 14 Jan - 4 Mar: Us and Them and Way Back When •
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# Sarah's Slimming World success

**Local resident Sarah Jones, who was inspired to set up her own Slimming World group after losing an incredible eight stone, is celebrating again after her group has gone from strength to strength.**

Sarah said: "I launched my Slimming World group in October after successfully losing eight and a half stone with Slimming World and this has changed my life."

"I absolutely love being a Slimming World consultant and can't wait to see my lovely group on Fridays to celebrate their amazing achievements and to watch them grow in confidence as they become happier with themselves and their appearance."

"Already the weight loss that my group have experienced has had a life changing and far reaching impact on their lives. Many members have reported improvements to their mobility and pain after losing 10% of their body weight."

"Another member has reported significant improvement in migraines and head pressure whilst another member has halved her diabetes medication due to losing almost a stone and a half. Others have commented on how they have improved their relationship with food and now feel liberated from old ideas about food."

Sarah says that as a group they have enjoyed an outstanding weight loss of 468 lbs (33 stone) in total since 2007 and are totally committed to changing their eating habits.

"My members have said that the support they get from the group is second to none and that my support has been keeping them on track on their weight loss journey."

Sarah loves the role she plays seeing the profound impact that her position is having on her members. Sarah added: "It is so satisfying and I am honoured to be part of this journey with them."

The group meet every Friday morning at 10am at the Pyramid Centre, Palmyra South, Warrington.

Anyone interested in joining Sarah at her Slimming World group and starting the New Year on a journey of weight loss call Sarah on 07968 183907.





# Civic Society welcome decision to buy historic Cabinet Works

**WARRINGTON Civic Society has welcomed the decision by the borough council to purchase the old Garnett's Cabinet works site which has fallen into disrepair in recent years.**

The Civic Society sees the purchase as being in the best interests of the town and look forward to a sensitive development of the Conservation Area site.

Chairman John Shipley said: "We are confident that the full planning process will be followed and that the change in ownership will bring an improved approach to the security and safety of the buildings."

Warrington Borough Council's executive board unanimously approved a plan for Warrington & Co to buy the currently unused site in Warrington town centre, which features the iconic Garnett's Water

Tower feature on the town's skyline.

It was necessary to buy this site as part of the wider developments on Time Square and Bridge Street but also as a matter of public safety as the building had fallen into considerable disrepair.

All funds used to buy the site will come from Warrington Borough Council's capital funding programme.

The site has steadily fallen into disrepair under the ownership of Scotland based PTS Property services.

Earlier this year a 13-year-old boy was seriously injured after falling off the roof of the building.



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# People power helps clear town centre eyesore

**PEOPLE power has helped ensure a town centre eyesore has been cleared by Warrington Borough Council – five weeks after being first reported.**

Fly-tipping at the rear of the old Woolworths store on Barbauld Street, outraged town centre visitors after a huge, overflowing skip was left over following renovation works on the former Carlton Club, which is being converted into apartments.

It became so full that a huge amount of waste built up around the area causing an unsightly mess and serious environmental health issue with sightings of vermin.

Most of the waste was discarded cardboard packaging. When asked about the cause of the mess local businesses claimed that it was the result of fly tipping.

The eyesore has sparked outrage on social media from people visiting the town centre, with many urging the council to take action.

Local resident Harry Tranter first flagged the eyesore on social media on December 2nd and soon dozens of people were calling on the council to clear the eyesore.

warrington-worldwide joined the campaign and were assured work was ongoing to have the site cleared.

The site was eventually cleared on January 6.

A source close to the council said: "This was a long and complex

investigation involving several private companies. Because of limited resources and the detailed legal process that has to be followed with incidents of this type it has taken a considerable amount of time.

"Although investigations are ongoing, our street cleaning teams have visited the site and cleared it. It is unfortunate that council tax payers are left to foot the bill for commercial businesses who should be taking care of their own waste."



## Everyone likes to feel important

**A lot of marketing advisers talk almost exclusively about 'client acquisition', but what about client retention and maximising the relationships we already have?**

In my opinion, the business community is all too often caught up in the scramble and frenzy to gain a bigger slice of the pie, without appreciating the value in their existing customer base.

Surely it makes sense to match, if not exceed, marketing efforts on maximising engagement with existing fans rather than constantly seek new clients.

There's really no excuse not to implement even the most basic of communication strategies with existing clients, and no I don't mean sending them an overburdening monthly newsletter.

Contemporary CRM and website systems should be able to make this kind of communication easy for you, especially for the retail and eCommerce sector.

Having an in-depth understanding of each of your clients can be an overwhelming task without assistance from IT. The good news, is that by harnessing the power of



Bernard McCabe - MD of Dreamscape Solutions

modern website and marketing systems, much of this can be automated.

Having a joined up, integrated and cohesive approach to marketing is a key differentiator for businesses that will continue to succeed and grow.

These businesses understand that marketing is a holistic process that transcends across

all operations and should be considered in every single interaction with a customer, whether that be an invoice process or a parcel through the door.

**If you'd like to talk to a local agency that understands the importance of your existing client base, speak to Dreamscape for some joined up thinking.**



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## New Membership options launching January 2017



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Take the first step on your health and wellbeing journey with LiveWire. The **FREE** Starter membership gives you access to your local LiveWire leisure or library facility.



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The Saver membership rewards you for increased usage of LiveWire's facilities. Join as a Saver member for a small annual fee and receive a range of discounts across LiveWire activities.



### Select

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## #JoinUs this January and take advantage of the brand new additional member benefits:

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| Dual use card – Leisure & Libraries         | ★       | ★     | ★      |
| Free 3 day trial leisure membership         | ★       | ★     | ★      |
| Quarterly external members exclusive offers | ★       | ★     | ★      |
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For further information about LiveWire benefits visit [livewirewarrington.co.uk](http://livewirewarrington.co.uk)

Restrictions apply and all benefits are subject to change.



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# Memory Café for people living with dementia

**PEOPLE and their families living with dementia are invited to experience a special Memory Café based in Warrington run by local charity MacIntyre.**

The MacIntyre Community Memory Café is a fun, welcoming and relaxing environment for people to take part in social activities, make new friends and enjoy fantastic cake and cups of tea and coffee.

The Café is open to everyone; people living with dementia, those caring for someone that is, friends, families, and those that are just curious to find out more.

MacIntyre established the Community Memory Café in July last year so that anyone, whether they are living with dementia or not, can come along to a friendly and inviting setting, feel safe and have a good experience.

The Café runs on the last Friday of every month from 11am until 1pm. Each month, the Café will have a different theme and activity. Booking isn't required, and it costs just £2.50 to attend which includes a hot drink and cake.

The 2017 Memory Cafés will run on the following dates:

27th January, 24th February, 31st March, 28th April, 26th May, 30th June, 28th July, 25th August, 29th September, 27th October and

24th November.

You can find the Memory Café in The Old School Dining Room, Fairfield and Howley Community Centre, Warrington, WA1 3AJ.

For more information, please contact Fay Walker, Administrator and Co-Founder of the MacIntyre Community Memory Café in Warrington by emailing [fay.walker@macintyrecharity.org](mailto:fay.walker@macintyrecharity.org) or calling 01925 234 443.



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# Emma takes trip to No 10 to raise awareness of rare cancer

**A YOUNG Warrington woman attended a "once in a lifetime" charity event at No 10 Downing Street highlighting awareness for Sarcoma, a rare cancer of the bones and soft tissue.**

Emma McCloskey, aged 30, was invited to the special reception by Sarcoma UK – who were No 10 Downing Street's charity of the year, due to the fact that Chris Martin, Private Secretary to the Prime Minister passed away from the disease in 2015.

To mark this occasion Prime Minister Theresa May hosted a Sarcoma UK reception at 10 Downing Street, bringing together people who can help transform the landscape for sarcoma.

Emma attended, alongside carers, health professionals, scientists, researchers MPs, and supporters of Sarcoma including Sarcoma UK patron and double Paralympic Gold Medalist, Richard Whitehead MBE, who was awarded The Points of Light award by Theresa May. Sarcoma is a cancer of the bones and soft tissue and research shows that people visit their GP more times than those with any other form of cancer before being diagnosed. The cancer is one of the least understood by the general public and GPs.

Commenting on the event Emma said: "I was amazed when I opened the envelope and saw I'd been invited to Number 10. I was so excited. Number 10 was far more impressive than I ever imagined – very luxurious

and plush.

"I had a wonderful evening meeting others affected by sarcoma, talking to medical professionals, seeing Richard Whitehead again and obviously our Prime Minister herself. I loved hearing how Theresa May's colleagues are fundraising for Sarcoma UK."

Emma was diagnosed in 2012 when she was looking forward to going to Thailand on holiday.

"I had a large lump on my right thigh (which was only noticeable when I tensed my leg) and was slightly concerned about taking a long flight. I visited my GP who immediately instructed me to cancel my trip, and referred me to an Orthopaedic specialist. I started to worry at this point as I genuinely didn't think it was anything serious. I had broken my big toe in April on my left foot and assumed that this leg was stronger as a result.

"The specialist conducted an MRI scan and rushed the results within three days for me. After the scan, the specialist confirmed that he could no longer care for me and referred me to the Sarcoma MDT at Liverpool where I was under the care of Dr Chandrasekar. I was sent for a biopsy, which confirmed that I had a soft tissue sarcoma,

and required immediate surgery to remove the tumour. Prior to meeting Dr Chandrasekar I had been on the internet to 'self-diagnose' and sarcoma had popped up a few times so I had an idea what it was – although to hear an official diagnosis of something so rare was extremely shocking and upsetting.

"On 16th October I was admitted to Broadgreen hospital where Mr Chandrasekar successfully removed the tumour, along with 1 and 3/4 of the muscles in my thigh. The vastus lateralis was completely removed and most of my intermedius muscle. The tumour was a whopping 7.7lb, was 31cms in length, grade 3 and the official diagnosis was a 'Mixed Soft Tissue Sarcoma'.

She then started a six-week course of radiotherapy at Clatterbridge

Cancer Centre.

"This experience has really changed me – I'm a lot more patient, understanding and caring. I live life to the full (even more than I did before!!) and am always looking for the next adventure!

"One thing that I did struggle with was talking about my illness, especially as I was confused, scared and so emotional, and had so many friends and family who wanted to know what was going on, so I wrote a blog. It's had over 30,000 views so far and I have had other Sarcoma patients and carers etc contact me via this channel which has been so lovely.

"My Clinical Nurse advised me of a Sarcoma Support Group which I now help run, added Emma."



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# Young film buffs help Buddy Up project flourish

**A "Buddy Up" befriending project established at Warrington Youth Club in 2011, has gone from strength to strength complimented by a very successful Film Night project run by two young members.**

Both Zak Cameron and Kyle Webster, both aged 15, bring their own unique style, passion and above everything fantastic sense of compassion, empathy and humour in running the Buddy Up Film Nights.

Originally starting in 2013, they not only support children and young people with disabilities but also ensure that the project supports families, encouraging parents, carers and siblings of disabled young people, also to attend.

The Film Nights started to flourish in 2014 thanks largely to the efforts of Zak and more recently Kyle, who will now be working in partnership with [warrington-worldwide](http://warrington-worldwide.co.uk) providing regular film reviews.

The Buddy Up Family Film Nights are held twice a month, and provide a simply wonderful family experience, allowing children and young people with disabilities along with their families to enjoy a film in a calm, and relaxed environment. Both Zak and Kyle further compliment the nights by hosting, compering and also running regular quizzes, with prizes donated by both the Village Hotel Warrington and the Odeon Westbrook.

Through the support of a national charity by the name of Into Film, the "Buddy Up" Family Film Nights have further grown and developed and during 2016 both Zak and

Kyle and the project itself, were recognised at both a national and regional level, receiving accolades to include the "Into Film Club of the Year 2016" for the over 13 years category, together with recognition at the O2 Think Big Awards. The boys also picked up further awards at the recent Key 103 Time To Shine Awards, being recognised as the "Young Community Heroes of the Year".

At Warrington Youth Club, the ethos is 'Inspiring Young People to

Achieve'. Established in 1952, it is the largest voluntary sector Youth Club in Warrington, providing services that meet the needs of a wide range of groups, helping and empowering young people to make positive changes for themselves and their communities.

They offer high quality personal and social development opportunities to children and young people from across Warrington aged 7 to 19, and up to 25 for young people who have a disability. Throughout their programmes, they embed the values of learning, choice, participation, diversity and community into everything they do

in order to give the young people they support the confidence and skills to reach their full potential.

Through the support of a volunteer "Buddy" every young person, referred to the project is supported on a one to one basis, within a social setting, allowing them to develop skills in the areas of improved social skills, friendship groups, enhanced self-esteem and also the opportunity to develop a level of independence within their peer groups.

For further information on Buddy Up or the Family Film Nights, please contact [NuvvyS@warringtonyouthclub.co.uk](mailto:NuvvyS@warringtonyouthclub.co.uk)



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## Swimmers make a splash in championships



WARRINGTON Swimming and Water Polo Club is celebrating winning a series of titles in regional championships.

Following a string of success in division three, the swim teams have been promoted to division two of the Merseyside and District League. Additionally, last month the 14 and under swim side won the Cheshire County trophy.

On the water polo side, the senior men's team were crowned champions of the Liverpool and District Grade One tournament – their highest position for many years, and at the same event the 16 and under side won the Liverpool District and Cheshire County trophies.

Earlier this year, the 16 and under team won the Bolton and District league and knockout competitions while being able to stay undefeated all season. Each of the players were able to collect four medals. They are also currently top of the Manchester and District league, with only one game remaining this season.

Over the last year, the club have picked up more than 70 trophies which were presented to the teams at their annual presentation evening at Padgate Community Centre.

LiveWire are now hoping to display the trophies at Orford Jubilee Neighbourhood Hub where the teams do their training.

Neil Musgrove, from the club, said: "Whilst it is great to see so much success, we are still looking for children in the 10-12 and 13-14 age ranges who would like to try their hand at this great team game and join our water polo squads so we can build on these achievements."



# Warrington



## NEW Indoor Market Opening June 2017



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# Best friends from Warrington have The Voice!

By Paul Jackson

**TWO best friends from Warrington had the judges in a spin on popular TV talent show The Voice.**

Mo Adeniran and Max Vickers were among talented hopefuls hoping to break through into the world of music and they certainly did themselves and the town proud – where less than 12 months ago they were performing at a charity concert following the tragic death of their teenage friend Mike Carter.

The show began with the 4 presenters singing Under Pressure and despite the fact that they must have been feeling it the boys showed little nerves as they both performed amazingly well progressing through to the next round. The two singers share a house and are best friends

and supported each other throughout their performances.

Max just missed out on the X-Factor in 2011 when judge Gary Barlow sent him home saying his voice was "too different."

Both local lads have come a long way in such a short space of time and it was less than a year ago that they were performing an acoustic set together at Eagle Sports Club at the memorial gig for their friend and fellow musician, Mike Carter, who sadly passed away aged just 19. This year the gig For One Mike Only is at the Auction Rooms, Leigh Street on April 28.



## Litter pickers achieve victory for common sense

A group of volunteers secured a victory for common sense after giving up their free time to clear litter which has been blighting a gateway to Warrington.

The litter pick was organised by local resident Dan Warren, who was joined by [warrington-worldwide's](http://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk) Editor Gary Skentelbery and other local residents who answered Dan's appeal on facebook for people to join him.

They spent around 90 minutes clearing litter on the A49 Winwick Road near Warrington Collegiate and have now launched a Common Sense party to tackle other issues in

the town.

Dan said: "I walk down the A49/Winwick Road quite regularly and see the amount of litter in the bushes and along the verges and felt I had to do something."

"As a gateway to Warrington, I am embarrassed that this is the first thing visitors see driving in, so wanted to start a campaign to create a town to be proud of and make a difference."

To find out more about the Common Sense Party or to join in future litter picks visit [www.facebook.com/warringtoncommonsense/](http://www.facebook.com/warringtoncommonsense/)



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# Take photos of our lovely town says schoolboy snapper



**SCHOOLBOY** photographer Adam Hanglin will start the New Year with an invitation from Mayor of Warrington Faisal Rashid – to take pictures at some civic events.

Adam, aged 16, is a student at University Academy Warrington where his love of photography has resulted in him becoming school photographer.

His hobby takes him all over Warrington – which he believes offers plenty of subjects for photography.

He said: "Warrington is such a good place to take photos of. We have great places and loads of history in our town such as Walton Gardens so I can take pictures of Walton Hall, the Golden Gates and the Town Hall.

"The mayor has invited me to some events to photograph them for him."

Adam believes the Manchester Ship Canal also offers good subjects for pictures and has an app on his phone which gives him 30 minutes warning of when the bridges are to be swung so he can get there in time to take a photograph.

He also takes advantage of Warrington's location half way between Manchester and Liverpool to visit the airports and take photos of aircraft taking off and landing.

His advice to other keen photographers is this: "Get out there and take photos of our lovely town."

Pictured below: Some of Adam's photographs.



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## Financially yours

By David Watkinson

### Consequences of the vote to leave

We have said before that, whilst we all have our own personal opinions, it is not our place to comment on whether or not we should leave the EU. However, we shall be looking at the effects of some of the consequences of the vote to leave.

One of the most immediate of these is the substantial fall in the value of sterling. Immediately before the June vote £1 was worth about 1.3 Euros. Whilst the value is fluctuating quite wildly on a day by day basis, the overall effect has been a reduction in that value, and as we write £1 is worth about 1.13 Euros, a fall of more than 12%. Whilst we will all notice an increase in the cost of living due to this there is one group of people for whom this drop in sterling is both good and bad news, and that is people who have property abroad.

Firstly, the good news (we always try to look on the bright side of life, etc!!). That property is now worth more in the UK even if the value in the foreign currency has remained stable. In fact, even if the value overseas has fallen the sterling value could have risen. For instance, a holiday apartment in Spain that is worth 150,000 Euros had a sterling value last summer of about £115,000. Today, the sterling value of that same apartment has increased by over £17,000 to about £132,750.

However, we must now turn to the bad news. Anyone living in the UK is subject to UK Capital Gains Tax on the disposal of assets anywhere in the world, and that gain is calculated in sterling. Taking the example above, that apartment may have been acquired 10 years ago for 145,000 Euros when £1 was worth about 1.45 Euros. The sterling cost of the apartment would therefore have been £100,000. Had the property been sold last summer then there would have been a Capital Gain of £15,000 and a resulting tax liability of about £800. If it was sold today then the gain would be £32,750 with a resulting tax liability of about £6,200!

But, I hear you say, he is getting more sterling back. But that may not be the case. That additional tax is a tax on holding an asset in property rather than cash. Had the proceeds of sale in the summer been held in a Euro account until now then the gain resulting from the drop in sterling would still be achieved, but currency gains are tax-free!

For every silver lining there is a cloud somewhere.

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

## Warrington karate champion claims European gold



**YOUNG karate champion, Joanne Phelan has won another gold medal, this time in the WUFK (World Union of Karate-Do Federations) European Cup.**

The 23-year-old was crowned champion in the shitoryu kata event and then went on to win silver in the open kata which includes all styles of kata.

It follows her success in the senior female kata event in Romania earlier this year which also saw her bring home a gold medal.

At the latest event which also took place in Romania, Joanne represented Great Sankey based club, SSK England along with five other members of the club. Fellow LiveWire talented athlete scheme member, Annabel Mooney, achieved a credible fourth place in the 15-17 years category at the event.

It's been a successful year for Joanne who lives in Whittle Hall. She also achieved fourth place at the WUKF World Championships in Dublin in June and was crowned double UWK National Champion last month in Sheffield.

Joanne has just been accepted onto the LiveWire talented athlete programme for the third year running.

Over the next year, she will continue to receive support and guidance from the scheme which offers one-to-one support for strength and conditioning programmes as well as advice on nutrition and goal setting.

Joanne said: "It's been a great end to a really tough but successful year and to come home to the news I've been invited onto the talented athlete scheme at LiveWire for another year was just the icing on the cake."

Steve Nelson, chief instructor of SSK Karate who has produced World and European Champions over the past three years, added "Joanne outworks her peers day in, day out and I feel she's finally starting to get the results to show it. I'm really proud of her."

## Wanted: a new Member of Youth Parliament

IMPACT – Warrington's Youth Council – is looking for the borough's next Member of Youth Parliament (MYP).

MYPs are elected in every part of the UK as part of the UK Youth Parliament and there are currently hundreds of MYPs.

The most important aspect of any MYP's job is to make sure they represent the views of the young people in their constituency.

Warrington's MYP has a two year term, is the lead member of IMPACT and helps to ensure the voice of local young people is heard.

Any young person aged between 11 and 18 has the right to stand for election as an MYP and the right to vote for their local MYP.

Cllr Jean Carter, the borough council's executive board member for children's services, said: "If you are a young person who is passionate about promoting the rights of young people this could be the perfect role for you."

"Being a member of youth parliament gives you a great opportunity to gain experience in the world of politics, develop your leadership skills and make a real difference to young people."

To apply, anyone aged 11-18 can send IMPACT a short promotional video of themselves (1 min max) explaining why they want to be MYP.

They can send a link via YouTube, email the file, or drop it in on a memory stick at Warrington's Youth Café on Buttermarket Street.

Anyone who doesn't want to apply by video can choose another method (e.g. letter, social media, PowerPoint).

Applications should be sent to [impact@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:impact@warrington.gov.uk) by Friday, February 13.

For more information visit [ukyouthparliament.org.uk](http://ukyouthparliament.org.uk) or [warrington.gov.uk/impact](http://warrington.gov.uk/impact)





## Latchford Albion youth plans get green light

**LATCHFORD Albion are set for the 2017 rugby league season after undergoing a complete overhaul of its youth section.**

Albion, who celebrated their 70-year anniversary in 2015, play at the impressive Victoria Park Stadium which also hosts Warrington Wolves reserve and academy fixtures.

Returning Wolves player, Mike Cooper, was last month appointed as the club's new Director of Rugby.

Steps were needed to meet the requirements of the North West Counties league's committee regarding pathways, and the club confirmed in a statement that it has now received verification that their plans have been verified.

The first age group to be accepted will be under 9s, with further announcements expected soon regarding additional age groups.

A club statement said: "Following the Appointment of Latchford Albion's new Director of Rugby Mike Cooper, the emphasis was to focus on development and youth to ensure the club can continue with its recent progression and following an overwhelming response where well over 100 people expressed an interest, the club is currently ensuring a secure foundation and gateway for players of all age groups.

"Any players, coaches, volunteers who are looking for a new challenge or even a return to the game can make contact via the official twitter or Facebook pages where all will be made welcome.

"The club is committed to assisting any interested individuals in any way possible and can offer a fantastic support network with regular guidance from current super league players who will be on hand to pass on their knowledge.

"With the close links Latchford have developed with Warrington Wolves it is hoped that the club will continue the fine tradition in supplying players to the professional ranks and are proud to have two current England internationals who started as juniors with Latchford Albion."

Those two players are Cooper and Leeds centre Kallum Watkins, while Widnes half-back Joe Mellor also came through the ranks at Latchford Albion.

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