

Frodsham Life

FREE EVERY MONTH

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May 2017

Peers.



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Picture: Richard Linnett Photography

**Mayor goes
back to his roots!**

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**GRAHAM
EVANS**

See advice
surgery
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Editor's Comment



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WE will soon be bidding a fond farewell to Mallie Poulton as Mayor of Frodsham and I would like to go on record congratulating him on his outstanding year in office.

Mallie has been a fantastic ambassador for Frodsham and has well and truly put the town on the map.

Having been a regular attendee at his monthly Big Bees Breakfast Club I have seen first hand the time, effort and energy Mallie has put into promoting Frodsham and encouraging people to embrace the town and local businesses.

In my career spanning more than three decades I have seen many Mayors come and go, some, good, some not so good. Mallie is right up there as one of the best and he will be a hard act to follow.

He has had his critics – haven't we all – but from what I have seen Mallie has been a great



ambassador for Frodsham. Hopefully once he has recharged his batteries he will be back representing his ward and continuing with the great networking opportunities provided by the Big Bees Breakfast Club. If you are a local business and you haven't attended yet I would

urge you to do so. It is a great way to promote your business and meet like-minded people who all have Frodsham at heart.

Finally I would like to wish incoming Mayor Alan Oulton all the best for his year in office and we look forward to reporting on his endeavours in the local community.

Deadline for the June issue of Frodsham Life is May 23

Charity shop needs stock

CANCER Research UK is in urgent need for stock at its shop in Eddisbury Square Frodsham. Homeware, bric-a-brac and clothing are needed for the shop which raises money for charity.

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Pupils raise £800 for NSPCC



PUPILS at Frodsham CE Primary School have raised more than £800 for the NSPCC's "Speak Out, Stay Safe" campaign.

The NSPCC visited the school recently, delivered a presentation to the whole school and then worked with Year 5 and Year 6 children to raise awareness of Childline and how to stay safe and get help if things get tough.

The positive response from the children impressed the NSPCC – as did the amount of money they raised. They were full of praise for the school.

Pupils also found the event interesting.

Erin, from Year 6, said: "I thought the workshop was interesting I enjoyed learning about other people's situations and how to deal with them."

Jack, also from Year 6, said: "I learnt the number for Childline and how to deal with situations like bullying and how to help my friends if they were in trouble."

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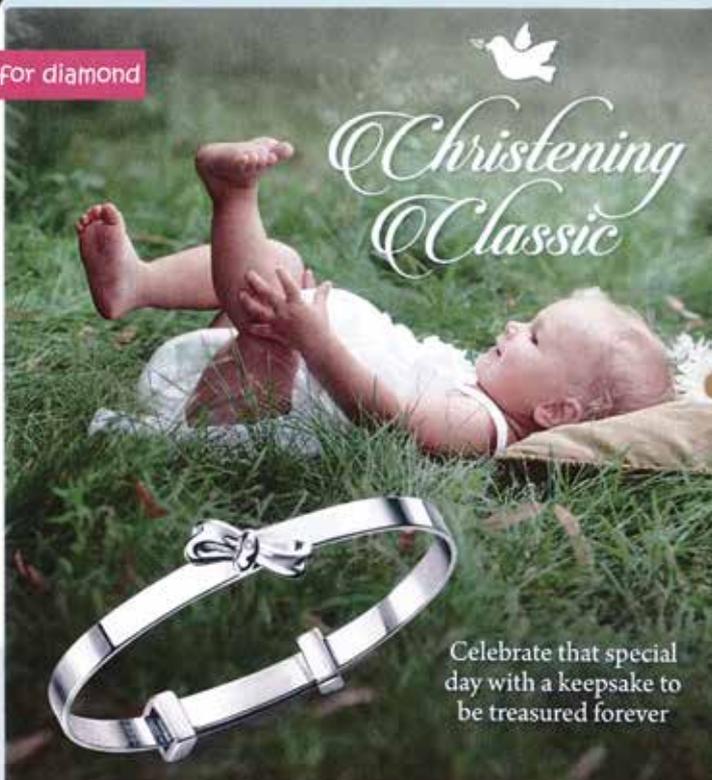
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Village groups receive community grants

FOUR groups who were awarded funding from Kingsley's first-ever Community Fund received cheques at the monthly meeting of the parish council.

They were the 1st Kingsley and Newton Scout Group, Kingsley Players Youth Theatre, Kingsley Youth Group (formerly KU17) and Kingsley Garden and Produce Club. Council chairman Cllr Danny Moores said: "Kingsley is so lucky to have so many incredible volunteers who give up their time to organise and run groups, put on events in the village, for the benefit of all its residents. The parish council values the work of all those who make such a positive contribution towards village life, which is why we are especially pleased to be able to provide some much needed funding to these four groups via our first ever Community Fund. We look forward to working with and supporting the work of other local groups in future years."

The Community Fund came about when in February 2016, the parish council established a working group to look into the possibility of providing a community fund which would allow groups within

the parish to undertake projects which they could not afford to fund themselves and which would benefit the residents and children within the parish of Kingsley.

Following on from the work undertaken by the working group, in April last year, the council formally approved the creation of the Community Fund and in November the council invited groups or organisations within the parish to submit a bid for a grant of up to £1,000. The application process required groups to provide details of their structure, constitution, previous year's accounts and details of the project they wished to undertake. The closing date for bids was January 31.

Bids were received from four organisations, were reviewed and assessed by the Community Fund working group and approved by the parish council in February.

Kingsley Parish Council hopes to run the Community Fund each year subject to future priorities and budget demands, providing further funding for projects within the village from a wide range of community groups.

Remembering the Battle of Passchendaele

MEMBERS of Frodsham Town Council's World War 1 working group are organising events to mark the 100th anniversary of Passchendaele - a major campaign to capture ridges near Ypres.

At least seven Frodsham men are known to have taken part in the campaign and more than 30 died during 1917 and the working group want to ensure they are never forgotten.

A cascade of poppies, last displayed at Frodsham Health Centre, will be on show at Frodsham Community Centre from September 13 to October 25. On October 4, the film "Passchendaele" will be screened at St Laurence Church.

Anyone with WW1 memorabilia - documents, photographs, medals etc. - are invited to Frodsham Library on Saturday, October 21 to have the memorabilia scanned or photographed for preservation for posterity. The event will include a talk by Paul Knight, a major in the Army Reserves and a history scholar. Talks are going on with Cheshire West and Chester Council over the creation of a poppy/wildflower bed in Castle Park.

For information about the WW1 working group, contact Pammi on 01928 731932.

Farmyard themed summer fair

LITTLE Overton's Preschool are to hold a farmyard-themed summer fair on Saturday, May 13 from 1pm.

There will be a range of activities and games, craft stalls and refreshments. Face-painting, a bouncy castle, raffle and tombola will contribute to the fun and there will be an animal-themed fancy dress competition and picture search. For those looking for some more active fun, there will be a penalty shoot-out. Mini Mello will also be offering free yoga demonstrations for children and adults.

All proceeds from the event will help support Little Overton's Preschool which has recently been rated by Ofsted as "good" with outstanding provision for the well-being of children.

Pubwatch digital scheme launched to help reduce anti-social behaviour

A DIGITAL scheme to help reduce anti-social behaviour and public space violence has been set up by a Pubwatch group in Frodsham and Helsby with the support of officers from Chester Local Policing Unit.

Pubwatch online – an internet and text message based communication and information sharing portal designed specifically for Pubwatch schemes – has been introduced to help members of the group including licensees and PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) to better engage with each other and share information.

The new system will help to improve the identification of revellers who cause trouble and prevent them from entering licensed premises. It will also include photographs and information of people who are known for causing

anti-social behaviour or violence making it easier for members of the group to recognise them.

The scheme can be operated from and accessed through computers, mobile phones, social networking and real-time communication, which will help to move the Frodsham and Helsby Pubwatch scheme forward.

Protect

Working with licensees Pubwatch is part of the force's county-wide 'Street Safe' initiative, which aims to protect communities from anti-social behaviour and public space violence.

Sergeant Ian Wilson, of Chester Local Policing Unit and responsible for managing the night time economy in Frodsham and Helsby,

said: "We fully support the new Pubwatch online scheme, which will help officers and partner agencies work better together to combat anti-social behaviour and violence.

"We want to ensure people who come to socialise in Frodsham and Helsby can do so safely and not have their time spoilt by those who behave violently or anti-socially. Those who choose to drink irresponsibly and cause trouble can expect to be banned from all of the pubs.

"This new online system will give licensees the knowledge and confidence to identify and prevent offenders entering their premises as well as notify all other licensees to give them the opportunity to reinforce the ban too.

"I want to further reassure



communities in Frodsham and Helsby that we will continue to make it a safer place to visit and will deal with those who choose to behave or intend to behave badly."

Pubwatch online will also enable licensees and PCSOs to communicate and share information with neighbouring schemes such as Chester City Centre and Runcorn.

To follow the work officers carry out to protect communities from anti-social behaviour and public space violence under the Street Safe initiative follow @CheshirePolice and the local policing accounts or #streetsafe

Partnership brings high speed broadband to 100 homes

A PARTNERSHIP between local residents and BT is to make high-speed fibre broadband available to around 100 homes on the Kingswood Park estate in Frodsham.

Openreach, the local network business which is part of BT Group, will install new fibre optic cabling and a new green road-side cabinet equipped with the latest Fibre-to-the-Cabinet (FTTC) technology as part of BT's Community Fibre Partnerships scheme.

Speeds of up to 80Mbps will be available for the first time to the Kingswood Park community from a wide range of broadband service providers.

The partnership is benefitting from funding through the Government's Better Broadband subsidy scheme and will see local residents get the high-speed service by Spring next year.

The scheme allows households and businesses with internet speeds of less than 2Mbps, who are not included in any current programme to rollout high-speed fibre broadband, to get funding for better broadband using any technology. The Kingswood Park residents were awarded £350 per eligible household for a new fibre broadband network.

The cost of bringing fibre broadband technology to residents in the community has been covered by the Government scheme and Openreach's investment.

Dr Peter Simpson, who led the local community group to campaign for faster broadband, said: "BT approached us proactively to help find a way to upgrade our slow broadband and I'm very pleased that we have been able to work together to come up with a solution to vastly improve on our current poor broadband speeds.

"Not only do we have families living on the development who need high-speed fibre broadband to watch internet TV, shop online and do homework, but we also have people working from home needing it to enable them to do their jobs efficiently. The arrival of high-speed broadband will make a big difference to all our lives."

Kieran Charleson, BT's regional director, said: "We have been working closely with the people of Kingswood Park to agree this funding solution to bring superfast fibre to the local community and it's great news that the contract has now been signed and the service will be up and running by Spring 2018. We're keen to have conversations with other communities who might be able to benefit from this approach."



Left to right: Kieran Charleson, BT's regional director for the North West, Dr Peter Simpson and Nigel Gilding of Kingswood Park Community Association.

Actress Emma to appear on West End stage

FRODSHAM'S award-winning actress Emma Cuniffe will be appearing in London's West End this summer in the title role in the critically-acclaimed "Queen Anne."

She played the role during the play's sold-out season at the Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon last year and will continue when it re-opens at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket on June 30.

Emma lived in Frodsham for most of her life, attending St Luke's Primary School and the former Frodsham High School before transferring to the specialist Tring Park School for Performing Arts.

She now lives in London. Her first major role was in the BBC television series, The Lakes but since then she has appeared in many different roles on stage, television and cinema.

These are as varied as parts in The Crucible and Great

Expectations to Coronation Street and Doctor Who.

Queen Anne, written by Helen Edmundson, is a gripping play of corruption and intrigue.

It is 1702. William III is on the throne and England is on the verge of war.

Princess Anne is soon to become Queen, and her advisers vie for influence over the future monarch. Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, a close friend with who Anne has an intensely personal relationship, begins to exert increasing pressure as she pursues her own designs on power.

Contending with deceit and blackmail, Anne must decide where her allegiances lie, and whether to sacrifice her closest relationships for the sake of the country.

It's a far cry from the days when Emma played opposite Gary Barlow in a panto in Frodsham.



Looking for something worthwhile to do with your free time?

Catalyst Science Discovery Centre & Museum is a charity (that gets no public funding) and is looking for new volunteers to join the small, dedicated team:

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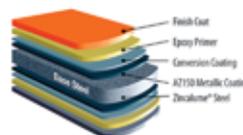
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All set for MP's Sixth annual Jobs Fair

THE sixth annual Weaver Vale Jobs and Apprenticeship Fair organised by local MP Graham Evans (pictured) takes place at Mid Cheshire College on May 18.

"I'm passionate about helping people into work," said Graham.

"Last year's fair saw hundreds through the doors, some were looking to get on to the jobs ladder, others wanted new jobs and skills opportunities and others were hoping to get back into work.

"One of my promises before the General Election in 2015 was to continue prioritising helping people back into work" said Graham, "My Jobs fairs help do just that - by getting employers and potential employees together in one room it can often cut through some of the red tape which can be so unhelpful when searching for a job.

Graham has welcomed the latest figures which show employment is up by 2.8 million since he became an MP in 2010, and the unemployment rate hasn't been lower since the 1970s.

Commenting on these statistics, Graham said: "These figures are excellent news for families across Weaver Vale, marking an important milestone in the road to full employment.



"Each new job means a worker and their family with the security of a pay packet."

Any business currently recruiting who would like a free stand at the fair should email mail@grahamevansmp.com for more information or phone 01925 606500.

Admission is free and the fair will run from 3pm - 7pm.

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A client was divorced but discovered his mother's Will left the estate to him, however provision had been made that if he died before her then his share would pass to his 'lovely wife'. His mother had lost capacity to deal with her financial affairs and changing her Will would be a difficult process even though the relationship with her former daughter-in-law had broken down. Some people will, of course, still want to make provision for a former son or daughter-in-law after a divorce but in our experience this is a rare event.
2. If a relationship breaks down and the parties were never married, gifts to one party in the other's Will are not affected. A client discovered that his father's Will pre-dated a relationship breakup with the girlfriend being the sole beneficiary. They were no longer in contact and she had moved overseas. The current situation meant that his father's ex-partner was entitled to administer the estate and benefit from it, and in the event of his death our client would need to track down and locate the former girlfriend and pass the estate to her.

Our advice is to always review your Will, and take specialist legal advice.

For legal help and advice concerning a Will Review contact Heather Lally in our Frodsham office on 01925 739300 or by email heather.lally@fdrlaw.co.uk

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Nominate your child's school to receive FREE book tokens

FRODSHAM and Helsby retailer Land of Beds are celebrating National Share a Story Month 2017 with another book giveaway to local school children.

Throughout May, customers shopping in-store at either 14 Church Street or 98 Chester Road will be asked to nominate a local primary school to receive a complimentary book voucher from the bed and mattress specialist.

"Last year, we donated £300 of Amazon and WHSmith vouchers and National Book Tokens to six local schools - helping to improve literacy, which experts says has a significant relationship with a child's happiness and success," says mum-of-two Caroline Murray, Director at Land of Beds.

"We had such a fantastic response - both from the schools and our customers who supported the giveaway - we've decided to run the promotion once again.

"Storytelling is proven to be especially helpful as part of a soothing bedtime routine; we believe all children should have access to as many books as possible."

Schools eligible for nomination include: Frodsham C of E Primary School, Frodsham Manor House Primary School, Frodsham Weaver Vale Primary School, St Luke's Catholic Primary School, Horns Mill Primary School and Helsby Hillside



Primary School.

The promotion begins from Monday May 1 until Wednesday, May 31.

National Share a Story Month is an annual celebration of the power of storytelling and story sharing, with the core aim of bringing children and stories together. The theme for this year is 'Picture a Story'. Organisers the Federation of Children's Book Groups (FCBG) hope to inspire children of all ages to draw, illustrate, sketch and tell a story, however simple, through their

own pictures and the comic format.

"This giveaway is also our way of saying thank you to all the local people who took the time to vote for us to win the national Family Business of the Year Award 2017," added Caroline.

"We have been overwhelmed by peoples' support and kindness these past few months while the public vote has taken place."

The award winner will be revealed at The May Fair Hotel in London on June 8.

High school joins the Great British Spring Clean

TWENTY five youngsters from Year 7 at Helsby High School joined in The Great British Spring Clean - a national campaign which brings people together to clear up litter.

During their Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) the pupils worked in conjunction with Helsby Parish Council clearing up an area on each side of Chester Road from Bates Lane to Godscroft Lane including the school frontage, field and car park.

They had lots of fun in their high visibility vests and plastic gloves, enjoying the fresh air and supporting the local community - so much so the school is now looking to incorporate this event into a regular activity as part of the PSHCE curriculum for Year 7 and Year 8.



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Kingsley Players make a 'Grand Gesture'

KINGSLEY Players return to the stage with a hilarious black comedy 'The Grand Gesture', Deborah McAndrew's witty adaptation of the 1928 Russian play 'The Suicide' by Nikolai Erdman.

Set in a port 'somewhere in North West England', the play sparkles with dazzling dialogue delivered by a hotchpotch of misfit characters.

The plot revolves around Simeon Duff (played by Chris Newman), a man down on his luck, who jokingly decides to 'make a statement' by shooting himself. Many people turn up – not to dissuade him – but to take ownership of his 'grand gesture' for their own dodgy reasons.

The play calls for a 'choir of angels' which has been supplied by Ashton Sings community choir. Their musical director Martin Jones arranged several pieces especially for his own heavenly voices and recordings of these pieces form an important part of the show.

Director Ed Green explained: "The Grand Gesture is hilariously

absurd and one of the finest comedic plays to come to Kingsley. The biting Russian satire is tempered with Scouse humour in a show which is darkly funny and rich in bonkers, madcap characters. The play is a parody on society and governments as relevant today as a hundred years ago.

"We have assembled a great cast. We are also grateful to the Ashton Sings choir and their musical director for responding magnificently to the demanding request for angelic, heavenly voices. The music is an important part of the show and we could not have staged this without them."

The Grand Gesture will play for four performances at Kingsley Community Centre, Wednesday 17h – Saturday 20th May, 2017, 7.30pm.

Tickets cost £7 (£5 concessions) available on Wednesday and Thursday, £8 (no concession) on Friday and Saturday. Book in advance through the website www.kingsleyplayers.co.uk or by ringing the box office on 07724 892154.



Frodsham Photographic Society host competition

EACH Year Frodsham Photographic Society enters a 3-Way Competition with Mid-Cheshire Camera Club and Northwich Photographic Society.

It was Frodsham's turn to host the event, the Judge being Tillman Kleinhans, ARPS, EFIAP, DPAGB, BPE and Forest Hills Hotel the venue.

It was a very close battle but in the end F&DPS came into second place with Mid-Cheshire the winner. One of the highest scoring images was a monochrome presented by Andrew Williams, 'Working the Land', and shown here.

A challenging internal Competition had the theme 'Low Light' – not too challenging judging by the stunning images! 'Cake by Candlelight' taken by Delena Harris is a beautiful still-life with half an eye on the great master painters.

The Society's website, www.frodshamphoto.org.uk, holds other work and it would be remiss not to mention 'Red Sails in the Sunset' by Lynda Haney and 'Chester at Night' by Rosalie Watkinson.

Janice Alamanou, LBIPP, from Wells, gave the month's Presentation. Her interesting work features 'black on white panoramics' of the

Norfolk coast, her specialities being 'Nature and the Environment' and the 'Human Form'. www.coastalphotography.co.uk provides an insight into her oeuvre. She is exhibited worldwide, recently won the Moscow International Foto Award 2016, and is shortlisted for the British Institute of Professional Photography's National Awards.

Meanwhile can keep up to date with latest eventson the F&DPS website www.frodshamphoto.org.uk





The Mayor's Charity Page



OH WHAT A YEAR!



It would take the whole of this publication to tell and show what a Year the Mayor of Frodsham has had.

From local events of every type to national to International he's promoted Our Town on so many levels and raised the identity of a place he loves.



Its not all been plain sailing but with his strong belief, his family who have been most generous to the town and his close friends, he's made it his perfect year as these various photos show.



The Mayor would like to thank everyone who has helped. Special mention to all his Consorts the Junior Mayors and their families, the Chair of Frodsham Town Council Cllr Judith Critchley, Town Clerk Hazel Catt and staff, also a very special thanks to CWAC Cllrs Lynn Riley and Andrew Dawson.



The Mayor will give up office at the next Town Council meeting and wishes Cllr Alan Oulton all the very best as Mayor and Freeman Cllr Frank Pennington as his Deputy.



Now the Mayor will go away alone to reflect and recharge before coming back to serve his Waterside Ward as best he can and The Children's Charity of which he is an ambassador Speaker.



Finally a word from the Mayor.
"That's it from me folks! Thank You and bless you it's been a Blast!"



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Local chimney sweep wins business award for the second time!

LOCALLY based Chimney Sweep John Baldacchino, owner of Wilkins Chimney Sweep (West Cheshire) has been awarded the Wilkins Chimney Sweep 'Franchisee of the Year' award for the second time. John swept aside stiff competition

from his 13 fellow franchisees to win the award, which he was presented with at the company's annual franchise conference, in Newbury. Despite developing the blood infection cellulitis in 2016, which

resulted in him being unable to work for over six weeks, John was still able to show a double-digit growth in profits, returning his best financial results ever.

John bought his Wilkins Chimney Sweep franchise in 2012 and sweeps chimneys and fits cages caps and cowls to properties from Northwich to Tarporley and from Warrington to Wrexham.

Wilkins Chimney Sweep franchisors used a 'Balanced Scorecard' to mark franchisees on a variety of subjects including innovation, marketing mix, adherence to brand, treatment of colleagues and head office, customer satisfaction, financial management and telephone handling. John's support of the

franchisor and the entire network was recognised alongside his willingness to help develop new technologies for the group.

In response to winning the award John said: "I'm delighted to have won the award for Franchisee of the Year for the second time. It's lovely to be recognised by the business for all of my hard work over the last 12 months but I'm especially pleased about the number of congratulations I've received from my customers."

Franchise Director Louise Harris said: "We were delighted to award John his second and much deserved 'Franchisee of the Year' award. He is a terrific franchisee for so many reasons and is an outstanding brand ambassador."



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Mayor goes back to his roots with fund-raising Ceilidh

Photographs: *Richard Linnett Photography*

FRODSHAM Town Council's Mayor Cllr Mallie Poulton raised a total of £2,172 for local good causes at his civic ball which involved a Ceilidh at Frodsham Golf Club.

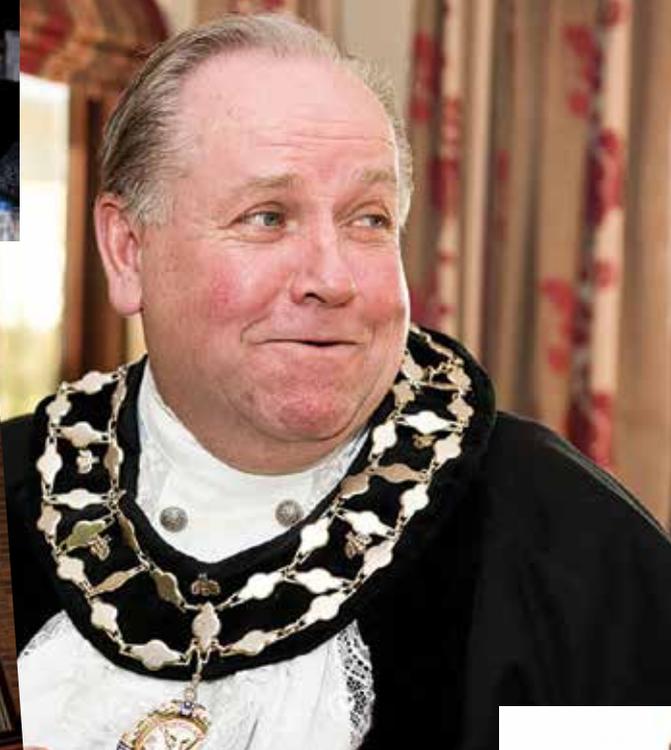
The event was attended by a host of VIPs, the like of which has rarely been seen before in Frodsham, in support of the Mayor who represents Waterside ward.

Guests of honour included the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire and Vice Chancellor of the University of Chester Professor Tim Wheeler and Mrs Wheeler, the Irish Ambassador to the Court of St James's representative Ms Ann O'Donogue, the Lord Mayors of Liverpool and Chester, seven Mayors and Frodsham's two junior Mayors.

The Mayor's Irish roots led him to the unusual choice of a Ceilidh for his Mayor's Ball – and the whole evening had an Irish theme.

Guests were entertained by musical accompaniment during the meal from a Celtic harpist and afterwards from the ceilidh band The Irish Crew.

The raffle, auction and other fundraising events raised funds for the Mayor's charities: St Laurence Church and Frodsham Community Centre.



Katy has three chances of reaching Miss England final



FRODSHAM'S Katy Case has won through to the semi-final of the Miss England contest – after winning three awards.

The 17-year-old Helsby High School sixth former was the top fundraiser and won the public and social media votes in the semi-final of Heat Four.

She raised £700 for the Miss World charity Beauty with a Purpose after being selected for the competition.

Katy was Frodsham Life's "cover girl" for the February issue.

She is studying A-levels in English Language, Theatre Studies and English Literature Drama and English.

"Studying this has transformed me from a shy, introverted child into a confident actress and writer who can successfully connect and communicate with other people," she said.

Katy is looking forward to using these skills to promote Miss England and the Beauty with a Purpose charity.

She said: "Miss England celebrates charity, talent, intelligence and health and fitness - not just Beauty!"

Katy now has three chances of making it to the Miss England final. She's in the Miss Popularity and Social Media finals and the Miss England semi-final - all which take place in May and June this year.

One of the events in the semi-final is the "eco-fashion" round and Katy is currently making herself an outfit from recycled materials, the theme of which is "Lady in Red."



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Reader's Letters

Is Frodsham a safe place? Susan Hancell, Frodsham

SURELY our pets should be safe when we let them out?

I rescued two black and white cats (brothers) and brought them back to the safety of Frodsham (or so I thought).

Jack is now three and-a-half and has already had two life changing incidents.

This morning he underwent surgery to remove three pellets from his body.

One had entered his body and travelled across his throat, another hit his back leg and the third was in his front leg.

The vet who operated noted that two of the pellets removed were from an older injury and the one in the throat was inflicted this week.

How can people do this?

Why should they be allowed to get away with causing harm to animals and upset to their owners?

The vet commented that the situation was "gravely worrying" when I asked him how I could ever feel confident enough to allow Jack to go outside again. But why should I have to keep him inside?

Frodsham a safe place?

Really?



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Daresbury WA4 4FS

t: 01925 606500

e: help@grahamevans.org.uk

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