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**New kids on the block**

Page 3

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## The ISA deadline approaches: making the most of your allowances



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It may seem as though the year has barely begun, yet the month of March is already upon us. That means that spring is just around the corner. It also means that the ISA deadline of 6th April is rapidly approaching.

Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) are tax-free savings accounts open to anyone over the age of 16 to deposit their savings each year. With attractive savings allowances, ISAs have become very popular with people across the UK intent on building a nest egg for their future.

As of the end of the 2017/2018 tax year, the maximum amount you can deposit in an ISA in one financial year is £20,000 per annum, up from £15,240 in the previous tax year.

This limit will remain unchanged into the 2018/2019 tax year. However, as those in the know will tell you, any tax savings are dependent on the amount you deposit into your ISA over the course of the tax year. Deposits cannot roll over from one tax year's allowance to the next, meaning that you can't 'top up' your savings in 2018/2019 using any unused portion of this tax year's allowance. When it's gone, it's gone!

Maximising your ISA allowance is therefore a great way to save for your future. This is further highlighted by the fact that ISA allowances can

be split across different financial products, including cash ISAs, stocks and shares ISAs, innovative finance ISAs and lifetime ISAs (LISAS).

Lifetime ISAs, for example, were first launched in April 2017 to help first-time buyers under the age of 40 buy their first home and/or savers to build a nest egg to use in retirement once they reach the age of 60. Borne of research into economic and behavioural psychology, the Lifetime ISA tackles two problems simultaneously: that many people between the age of 18 and 40 are not saving for a home and nor are they contributing a significant portion of their earnings to a pension.

Making use of an ISA allowance is typically one of the features of sound financial planning. ISAs, though, are just one of many 'tax-wrappers' available – meaning investors can 'wrap' their investment, sheltering them from paying tax on all, or a portion, of their assets. Your adviser will likely talk to you often about the wrappers you are using, how to maximise them and which are the most appropriate for your current circumstances. If you have any questions around this topic, please feel free to get in touch with us directly.

Disclaimer: None of the above article constitutes advice.

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# Editor's comment

**WE may be jumping the gun, but borough council officers are said to be reviewing community recycling provision and an ugly rumour is circulating that the closure of the Sandy Lane Recycling site in Stockton Heath is on the cards.**

It is only four years since the last attempt was made to close the site. It caused an uproar then and it is likely to do so again.

All the parish councils in the south of the borough objected and many individuals also protested. The arguments then were the same as they are today – that the “Sandy Lane tip” is vital for all the communities of South Warrington.

Its closure would mean people in Stockton Heath, Appleton, Grappenhall, Thelwall, Walton, Stretton, Hatton and even Lymm who wanted to dispose of rubbish would be left with the choice of travelling either to Gatewarth tip or Woolston tip. The majority would choose Gatewarth, which would mean hundreds of people making the cross-town journey in vehicles laden with all sorts of waste.

The already heavily congested town centre would become even more so.

In addition, there would almost certainly be an increase in fly tipping across the south of the borough. And closure would also fly in the face of the drive to recycle more waste.

We accept that Sandy Lane is not an ideal location for a community recycling centre and that a few people living near to it would be delighted to see it closed. But in the absence of any other suitable site, it is all we have got.

The borough has to save money – we know that. But we would urge officers reviewing provision for recycling waste to think very carefully. Any savings made in that area are likely to prove a false economy.

**IT is good to see the seven parish councils south of the Ship Canal joining forces to fight the borough council's proposals to allow the building of around 6,000 new homes on Green Belt land.**

A working party representing the parish councils – Appleton, Grappenhall and Thelwall, Hatton, Lymm, Stockton Heath, Stretton and Walton – is already preparing battle plans to oppose the borough's “Preferred Development Option.”

It is not often that the seven councils come together in this way, and indeed, they may well have different reasons for opposing the development. Some are mainly concerned about increased traffic and pressure on already inadequate infrastructure. Others are more worried about loss of open, green,



spaces.

But they are united in saying that development on the scale being suggested is unacceptable.

We congratulate them on their resolute stance – and hope that individual residents will join them in mounting a strong defence of green fields which once lost can never be regained.

**Deadline for the  
May issue  
of Village Life is  
April 17**

## Five new kids on the block including rare triplets

**FIVE new baby African pygmy goats have arrived at the zoo at Walton Hall and Gardens, including rare triplets.**

The triplets were born to mum Rose on Monday March 5 while another goat Eve gave birth to twins.

It is a rare occurrence for triplets to be born with this particular breed of goats and the Walton zoo rangers are thrilled with the new arrivals.

Peter Cookson-Dean has been a ranger at the zoo for 35 years, he said: “In all of my 35 years at the children's zoo this is only the 3rd set of triplets I've seen. The new

mums surprised me by giving birth at sensible times during the day and not in the middle of the night which has happened previously. The twins were born at 9.30am followed by the triplets at 1.30pm. I'm so proud of Rose and Eve and the kids are just beautiful. We're hoping to have them on show to the public in time for the Easter holidays.”

Peter plans to organise a competition for school children to win the chance to name the new arrivals.

Children of all ages and school groups are welcome to come down and see all the animals, from new-

born to long in the tooth, at the zoo.

There are a range of educational tours, for children of nursery age up to high school age. They can find out about animal senses, predators and prey and learn about rabbits, goats, donkeys, alpacas, ferrets, chickens and more.

For more information see [warrington.gov.uk/waltongardens](http://warrington.gov.uk/waltongardens). The children's zoo opens daily at 10.30am and closes at 5pm in the summer and 4pm in the winter. Entry is free of charge.

Animal feeding times are 2pm in the summer and 1pm in the winter.





# Former soldier embarks on Holidays for Heroes fund-raising campaign



**A former soldier from Appleton who is bidding to compete at a future Winter paralympic games has embarked on a charity fund-raising campaign for Holidays for Heroes.**

Steve Hughes, aged 48, who suffers from a degenerative spine condition after being injured while serving in the army, has himself experienced the benefits of the Jersey based charity.

As well as organising the charity events Steve is next year planning to attempt the official Guinness World record from Lands End to John O'Groats in a manual wheelchair.

He will also be raising funds for the Armed Forces para snowsports team as a stepping stone to the winter paralympic games.

Steve spent four years in the army, serving in Germany and Northern Ireland before being discharged on health grounds.

He said: "First off I am raising funds for Holidays for Heroes in Jersey who send sick and injured

veterans and service personnel on holiday along with their families. We benefitted from a one of these holidays, so I know first hand the benefits they bring."

"As part of my fundraising year I've organised two charity functions. First one is an 80s concert at the Parr Hall with Nathan Moore and Owen Paul with special guests Electro80s.

"The second fund-raising event in July is a comedy night with Lee Lard as Peter Kay tribute act, with support from local band The Unholy Wino at The King's Head pub in Warrington.

"I am looking for as much support as possible to make these events a success."

The Parr Hall event takes place on Thursday May 10 and tickets are priced £25.

The event at the Kings Head takes place on Saturday July 7 and tickets are priced £12.50

For tickets or to offer support for Steve's fund-raising events email [stehughes@ntlworld.com](mailto:stehughes@ntlworld.com)



## Heading for the Kitchen catwalks in Milan

This April the team at Warrington based JD Kitchens will take off to Milan to view the very latest in kitchen cabinetry, hot from the Italian culinary catwalk.

The design team led by Managing Director Dave Charlton, have always had a keen eye for form and function and the Milan show is the perfect opportunity to stay abreast of the latest developments, and invigorate the homes of their customers with the hottest looks.

The team favour super sleek German kitchen manufacturer Schuller and are particularly interested in finding out what will be revealed in their luxury brand NEXT 125 range.

Dave said: "I am an engineer by

trade, so the designs from Schuller really appeal to me. Exacting standards, with precision finish and beautiful workmanship. That, and their eco credentials are why we've chosen to be the only supplier in Warrington, and we're keen to stay ahead of the game.

"We love that whether you want cool and contemporary, or warm and functional Schuller have an eye for detail that screams quality, but without the hefty price tag you might expect".

"We think that's a great combination, don't you?"

To learn more about the latest in kitchen design visit [www.jdkitchens.co.uk](http://www.jdkitchens.co.uk) or contact Dave on 01925 636997 [dave@jdkitchen.co.uk](mailto:dave@jdkitchen.co.uk)





## Costa Rica - Through the eyes of our lovely clients!

*A bespoke guided tour through five locations in Costa Rica. Inspiring, enlightening and educational.*

**Costa Rica is perfectly positioned between the warmth of the Caribbean and the vastness of the Pacific.**

Our clients visited in January this year and have been kind enough to write a short blog for you all to read. They flew into San Jose for the start of their journey, then to Tortuguero, Arenal which is dominated by the spectacular Arenal Volcano. Monteverde followed, which takes you 1400 metres high and the final destination of Playa Quisales for a relaxing beach stay. Please enjoy!

Our journey began in San Jose and the mountains above the Central Valley. On our way to 5000 feet we visited a coffee plantation then climbed to a spectacular high valley with torrential waterfalls that strides the continental divide. Water flows east to the Caribbean west to the Pacific. Exotic butterflies, hummingbirds and huge diversity of bird life.

Tortuguero in the Caribbean rainforest. Hotter and much more humid than the central valley. Our jungle lodge was on a 200m wide strip of land between the Caribbean Sea and the Tortuguero river. Last leg of our arrival was a ninety minute flat bottomed boat

through the rain forest with plenty of wildlife to watch out for. We saw the previously unimaginable sight of tree sloths at close quarters in the wild. We met with an 'Attenborough-worth' of rainforest biology; birds, bats, trees, flowers in species and varieties too numerous to list. We got up close with iguanas, spider monkeys, howler monkeys and white faced capuchins.

From the Caribbean coast we headed back towards the central mountains then north to the volcanic area of Arenal. Our stay in Arenal was perfect with more time hiking through rainforest though at a slower more considerate pace with an outstanding guide who saw everything and spent time to ensure we did too. On our own - or in a large group - we would have been lucky to see 10% of what he revealed to us. On our second day we went hiking alone trying to put into practice the observation skills we'd learned. Throughout our stay in Arenal the volcano stayed almost entirely free of cloud. We shot a thousand pictures but could never reproduce what we saw with our own eyes.

We left the rain forest on the foothills of Mount Arenal to climb to the cloud forest of Monteverde. A lovely journey beginning with a long boat ride across lake Arenal then a 30km climb on unmade road to Santa Elena. Bumpy,

but unforgettable views.

The cloud forest sits atop the continental divide and its unique environment is maintained owing to the interaction of the Caribbean and Pacific wind systems that collide there creating an almost permanent mist. Rainfall here is about a third of the rainforest area but the cloud forest is bathed in moisture creating a unique atmospheric environment in which to walk and observe the incredible complexity and genius of nature.

The cloud forest of Monteverde was our fourth of five locations on this wonderful trip. From there we drove down to the Pacific coast and sailed across to the Nicoya Peninsula to indulge in a few days of beachside relaxation at Tango Mar - truly a

paradise on earth.

Throughout our trip we stayed in beautiful locations with first class accommodation as we experienced the magic of this extraordinary country. We were guided through all of the key areas of the trip by accredited private guides and drivers who were all super professionals and gave us a real education. Costa Ricans are enthusiastic and passionate about their country. They truly believe in the leadership position Costa Rica has in ecology, environmentalism and conservation and they are all proudly and fiercely protective of it.

Get in touch today; call, send an email, drop in to see us to obtain your quote and follow us on Facebook.

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**BEFORE**



**A FRESH NEW LOOK**

**JD Kitchens**

**JD KITCHENS**

# Seven parish councils unite to fight Green Belt housing

**ALL the parish councils in the South of Warrington have agreed to unite to fight the borough council's proposals to allow the building of about 6,000 new homes on Green Belt land.**

A working party representing the seven councils – Appleton, Grappenhall and Thelwall, Hatton, Lymm, Stockton Heath, Stretton and Walton – has already met twice this year.

Chairman Cllr Cliff Taylor, of Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council, said: "We have agreed to unite on this issue and to prepare for battle."

It was in July last year that the borough council issued its "Preferred Development Option" – a precursor to the Local Plan.

It proposed taking a large part of South Warrington out of the Green Belt and to allow the building of about 6,000 homes over a 20-year period.

The public consultation which

followed revealed deep seated anger among residents.

All seven parish councils opposed the proposals and there were more than 4,000 responses from members of the public and local organisations.

Cllr Taylor said: "There was enormous public anger at the proposals themselves and also at the unsatisfactory way in which the consultation was handled, with a deadline that was too tight and with queues forming to view the proposals. The borough council now intends to issue an amended plan, which is expected in the autumn or winter.

"When the revised plan is issued for consultation, we will have a fully-briefed professional planning consultant already in place and ready to argue our case.

"The existing Green Belt was only put in place by the borough council itself in 2015 and the united parish

councils have already prepared a brief for the consultant with the objective of defending the Green Belt as it stands today.

"The consultation made it very clear that our Green Belt is highly valued by the people of South Warrington. We all know that if it goes, it will be gone for

ever. That is simply unacceptable.

"If the borough council decides to push ahead with its original proposals in spite of the feelings of residents, we are determined to be in a position to defend the Green Belt to the very best of our ability."



## Residents celebrate after bus route altered

RESIDENTS of All Saints Drive, Thelwall are celebrating after bus chiefs announced that the Number Six service would no longer go down their road.

The announcement by Network Warrington, at a special roadshow

at Stockton Heath, to introduce their new Cheshire Cat service in the south of the borough, came after an 18-month campaign by residents to get the service re-routed.

It was originally introduced as a cost-cutting measure to turn down All Saints Drive, instead of continuing

along Stockport Road, turning left down Lymm Road and then past the Pickering Arms.

Over the past 18 months, residents and local councillors have opposed the decision to use the residential avenue, calling it "disruptive."

Now residents have expressed relief

that the bus company has listened to their concerns.

A spokesman said: "We wish Network Warrington well in the future in providing a comprehensive and hopefully profitable bus service with both the existing and new Cheshire Cat services."

## Care home wins place in the Top 20

A GRAPPENHALL care home has been named one of the top 20 homes in the North West.

The award, given by care homes guide [www.carehome.co.uk](http://www.carehome.co.uk) is based on reviews written by residents and their families.

There are 1,914 homes across the region, and Heathfield Residential Home was named in the top 20.

Davina Ludlow, chairman of [carehome.co.uk](http://carehome.co.uk), said: "It is the residents and their families and friends who have first-hand experience of what a care home is like, which is why we use their reviews to find the best care homes in the UK. Their reviews reveal that many care homes are warm and sociable places, where residents can interact with others and take part in stimulating activities, looked after by staff who are caring and compassionate.

"Heathfield Residential Home proved that they provide a high standard of care and we would like to congratulate them on being a Top 20 care home in the North West! It is such an achievement to be recognised for being a top rated care home by the very people you care for.

"Finding the right care home can be very hard. We hope our awards help to make people's search for a care home a little bit easier."

Paul Rowley – owner of Heathfield Residential Home said: "At Heathfield, our standard is 'to exceed expectations' on all levels. We want this to be 'a stand out chapter' in the lives of our residents, and our team work tirelessly to deliver the standards you would expect from a home rated 'Outstanding' by CQC"

To view Heathfield Residential Home Care Centre Reviews, go to <https://www.carehome.co.uk/carehome.cfm/se/archazref/10003523HEAA#reviews>





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speeds of 'The Racing Zip-Wires', or double-up as mum's and tots on the 'Quad Karts'.

Please note the attraction does NOT include a petting farm. Kid's 3 and under go free.

To take advantage of this special offer book online now at [www.buytickets.at/applejacksfarm/r/orbit2018](http://www.buytickets.at/applejacksfarm/r/orbit2018) and use the promotional code ORBIT20.



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\*If you book and visit before end of April Code: ORBIT20

**Early Bird Offer 2:** Buy your ticket online for the school summer holidays, before the end of April, and get an extra 15% off your 2 for 1 tickets  
 Code: ORBIT15

Opening dates/hours: 28th March to 9th September  
 (ONLY open during weekends and main school holidays)  
 10:30 - 16:30 (to 17:00 during school summer holidays)

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# £115,000 refurbishment at Alexandra Park

**STOCKTON** Heath families can look forward to more active fun-filled times thanks to the opening of the revamped play area at Alexandra Park.

The £115,000 project has seen the popular play area undergo a much-needed refurbishment.

Catering for children aged two to 13, the upgrade has transformed a basic and tired area into a modern, exciting play zone, with a range of new, inclusive equipment, to ensure access for disabled children.

Significant improvements have been made to the hardstanding play area, including a repositioning of the basketball court with new markings, colourful graphics for alternative play games and new bicycle and scooter routes.

Warrington Borough Council's executive board member for leisure and community, Cllr Tony Higgins, joined children from St Thomas Primary School and representatives from the Friends of Alexandra Park, to admire the sparkling new equipment and celebrate the completion of the project.

Cllr Higgins said: "We continue to invest in our parks and green spaces, and this project is the latest example of how we are delivering inclusive play facilities in every part of the borough.

"Alexandra Park is very popular and well-used by local people, so I'm looking forward to the new-look play area benefiting many, many

local families. Best of all, the area has been designed to break down barriers to play and to be accessible to the widest possible range of young

people. It will be a fantastic asset for the Stockton Heath community."

Grant funding of £50,000 was awarded by FCC Environment through

WREN's FCC Community Action Fund for the scheme, with the council contributing a further £65,000 towards the project.



■ (L-r): Cllr Graham Welborn, Mary Fortune (Chair of Friends of Alexandra Park) and Richard Smith (WREN) with Year 1 pupils from St Thomas CE Primary School and Cllr Tony Higgins (far right), celebrate the official opening of the new play area.



■ Year 1 Pupils at St Thomas CE Primary School, Stockton Heath, enjoy the new play equipment.





## Artist's unique exhibition

A unique exhibition by self-taught Canadian born artist Stephen Davison went on show featuring the traditions of the First Nations people that have inspired him for the past 25 years.

Now resident in Appleton, Stephen spends six months of the year in near isolation on fire watch duty in the Rocky Mountains, where he finds time to do his paintings.

He had a desire to bring to England a touch of the art and traditions of the native Indians who have inspired him on a remarkable journey, which included divorcing his first wife, moving back to Canada, re-marrying, divorcing again and then reconnecting with his England based family, with his former wife now his

partner!

Stephen grew up in Northern Canada, surrounded by Indian Reservations.

"I grew up hearing their stories which inspired me," said Stephen. "I have read about their history and studied them and they have been my inspiration."

"I work on a fire lookout in the Rocky Mountains watching out for forest fires. I am isolated for up to five months which is when I find the time to do my paintings, inspired by the backdrop of the Rockies!"

The exhibition took place over two weeks at Picturesq in Latchford village with Indian artifacts within the exhibition kindly loaned by another Appleton resident Elizabeth Benson.

## New bus service launched to Knutsford



BUS company Network Warrington is to operate an extended service through Lymm and High Legh to Knutsford.

The current 47 route will be extended from Monday, April 9, Monday to Friday.

It will service the Broomeedge area of Lymm, High Legh and then Knutsford.

Network Warrington says the service will be provided in partnership with Warrington and Cheshire East councils.

Ben Wakerley, managing director at Network Warrington, said: "I'm pleased to announce that, with assistance from local authority colleagues, we are able to improve

and extend the operation of another valuable bus service for our residents.

"The extension of the 47 bus route came from customer feedback at our Cheshire Cat roadshow in February and we're delighted that on this occasion we could put feedback into action."

"We try and operate the most extensive bus network possible and in some areas do operate less economic services to ensure our communities stay connected as much as possible."

"This is why support from local authorities is essential – without it, there would be many residents who wouldn't have access to any forms of transport."

For more information go to [networkwarrington.co.uk](http://networkwarrington.co.uk)

## Money Column

By Margaret Black

### Trading and private income

**When in business, best practice is not to have a bank account which contains a mix of trading income and private income. Why you may ask?**

We have dealt with HMRC enquiries into the tax affairs of many clients. Clients who are business owners and have a bank account which is used for both business and personal purposes (and in some cases just personal account(s)), in the event of an enquiry the bank statements would be requested together with any evidence to support where unidentified, untaxed income has come from.



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

The amount(s) discovered may have been legitimately received from non-business sources, i.e gifts or loan(s) from friends or family during the tax year of enquiry. If you are unable to show to the complete satisfaction of HMRC that these amounts are something other than untaxed, undeclared business income, the end result on those amounts not proven could be as follow, tax payable, possible class 4 National Insurance, interest, and penalties. Worse still, HMRC may assume that the same circumstances arose in earlier and subsequent years which have already been reported. They can then raise assessments for tax etc. An example of this is shown below:

HMRC opened an enquiry into a taxpayer's tax return for 2009/2010. The taxpayer had moved from Ghana to the UK, with family members still living in Ghana and two brothers living in London. A bank account existed in the name of one brother, the taxpayer had been granted access to the account for his business income. HMRC determined that this bank account was a business account and that cash receipts of £6,740 and bank deposits of £14,160 paid in during 2009/2010 were undisclosed taxable earnings.

The tax payer advised the Inland Revenue that the £6,740 had been deposited by members of his family in order to support him whilst in the UK. His mother, a teacher, had set up a school in Ghana to which he had contributed £21,000 towards the cost of setting it up. Additionally a friend of his wife's made a loan of £14,160 to help toward the contribution he had made for the school and had been deposited in the bank account, his father subsequently agreed to repay the loan.

A tribunal concluded that the tax payer had demonstrated that the monies paid into the bank account in 2009/2010 were not undeclared taxable earnings. It was also their view that the other years could only be assessed on the 'presumption of continuity', if there had been a pattern of conditions established. In this case the tribunal were unable to see any such predictable patterns.

NOTE: It is prudent to keep records and documentary evidence supporting the source and nature of any non-business income, reducing the possibility of HMRC attempting to argue that the receipts signify undeclared business income, possibly seeking to charge additional tax, interest and penalties.

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## If the hat fits!

WITH the wedding and raceday season fast approaching it's time to delve into our wardrobes and plan those special outfits.

Finding the right hat or fascinator is crucial as this can make or break your entire look.

At The Hat Barn they have put together a few simple tips which were relevant for past generations when hats and gloves were a mainstay in everybody's wardrobe and are still relevant right up to present day.

Firstly when trying on a hat it's imperative to see the whole outfit together in a full length mirror preferably in daylight. This is the only way of seeing if the whole outfit coordinates and looks balanced.

If you are petite, avoid hats with a large brim. These can overwhelm a small frame. Instead choose a narrower brim or a fascinator. Details like feathers on the crown can add inches to a shorter frame.

If you are fuller figured choose a wider full brim to add balance to a curvier figure.

If you are tall. Choose a hat with a

wide brim. Avoid tall narrow angular shapes.

And finally if you are broad shouldered choose a bigger rimmed hat to balance out the shoulders.

However never forget, if you find a hat you love then wear it with pride, as wearing a hat with confidence is the most important rule of all.

Make an appointment today at The Hat Barn and they will be delighted to show you their world of hats and help you find the perfect hat for all your upcoming events.



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## What's on in the villages

**April 10**  
STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL  
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath, 7.30pm

**April 12**  
LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S  
National Youth Jazz Orchestra Ambassadors. A sextet led by Mark Armstrong, trumpet, professor of jazz at the Royal College of Music, playing music from the Great American Songbook.  
St Wilfrid Church, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

**April 17**  
APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 7.30pm

**April 19**  
GRAPPENHALL & THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL  
Council Offices, Bellhouse Lane. 7.30pm

**Every Saturday & Sunday**  
GRAPPENHALL HEYS WALLED GARDEN  
Witherwin Avenue, Grappenhall Heys, WA4 3DS.  
Café open from 10am-5pm serving teas, coffee, home-made cakes and savouries.

**Every Monday**  
COUNTRY DANCING CLUB  
St Thomas' Primary School, Parkgate Road, Stockton Heath.  
8-10pm. Details: 01925 262356

**BRIDGE CLUB**  
Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm. Details 01925 262534

**LADIES' FRIENDSHIP CLUB**  
The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.  
8pm. Details: 01925 264099

**HIGH LEGH BRIDGE CLUB**  
Village Hall, 7-10pm. Rubber, Duplicate and Chicago played. Details: Audrey Greaves 0161 904 0120

**Every second Monday**  
PARK (APPLETON) WI  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm  
PHILOSOPHY IN PUBS DISCUSSION GROUP  
Red Lion pub, Stockton Heath 7-9pm  
Contact: Bill Cooke cwncooke@gmail.com

**Second and fourth Monday**  
WARRINGTON ART GROUP  
Bellhouse Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, Grappenhall.  
7-9pm.

**Every third Monday**  
NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY  
Cheshire District meeting  
Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club, Chester Road, Grappenhall.  
8pm. Details: 01925 265773.

**Every fourth Monday**  
MARFIELD WI  
Grappenhall Community Library, Albert Road, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

**Every Tuesday**  
COFFEE MORNING  
St Cross Church, Appleton Thorn. All welcome. 10am-12 noon

**PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**  
Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall. 7.30pm.  
Contact: 01925 757582.

**COFFEE MORNING**  
Appleton Independent Methodist Church  
Appleton Parish Hall, 10am-12 noon

**Every second Tuesday**  
STOCKTON HEATH LIONS CLUB  
London Bridge Inn, 8pm  
Contact: Grahamclisse58@outlook.com. Tel 01925 262669  
**BOOK CLUB**  
Bizzie Beans Coffee House, Bridge Lane, Appleton 11am-12 noon

**Every Wednesday**  
APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB  
April- July at Hall Drive, Appleton. 7.30-10pm.  
Details: 01925 262356

**Every first Wednesday**  
WALTON WI  
St John's Church Community Hall. 7.30pm  
Details: 01925 604384  
**STOCKTON HEATH PROBUS CLUB**  
Warrington Sports Club, Walton Lea Road, Higher Walton.  
Details: 01925 268540

**Every third Wednesday**  
HIGHER WALTON WI, St John's Community Hall, 7.45pm. Details 01925 262001.

**Every fourth Wednesday**  
ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY  
Support Group, Warrington Lodge Day Centre, Bridge Lane, Appleton. 6.30-8.30pm

**Every Thursday**  
THE SILVER QUAYS Senior Citizen's Club  
The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.  
Details: 01925 753474.

**BRIDGE CLUB**  
Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm. Details 01925 262534

**Every second Thursday**  
STRETTON WI  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 2.30pm.  
GRAPPENHALL PROBUS CLUB  
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, 10am.  
Details: 01925 264427.

**Every third Thursday**  
APPLETON AFTERNOON FLOWER CLUB  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road 2pm  
Details: 01925 740419

**GRAPPENHALL WI**  
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane 2.15pm

**Every Friday**  
APPLETON TODDLER GROUP  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.  
9.45-11.30am. Details: 01925 268153.

To list your event call Village Life on

**01925 623632**



# Historic lodge requires restoration

**PLANS have been submitted for repair work on a historic single-storey lodge building in Chester Road, Walton, Warrington.**

The Grade 2 Listed Walton Hall Lodge is actually the lodge to Walton Lea Crematorium.

Repair work is necessary because of weathering and subsidence and will consist of repairs to a wall and re-setting of a sandstone corbel.

Historic England have welcomed the proposals, put forward by Warrington Borough Council.



## U3A to celebrate first "birthday"

THELWALL Parish Hall will be the venue for the annual general meeting of Lymm and Thelwall branch of the University of the Third Age.

The date is Thursday, May 17 and the meeting – which will mark the first "birthday" of the group – will start at 10am.

The organisation – popularly known as the U3A – was only launched in April last year but already has more than 200 members.

A charity, it is for people no longer in full-time employment and provides educational, creative, leisure and recreational opportunities locally. Membership is £25 a year.

Lymm and Thelwall U3A meet on the third Thursday of each month at Thelwall Parish Hall when there is a

guest speaker delivering a wide range of talks.

Afterwards there is socialising and making new friends over a cup of tea.

There are 16 interest groups, spanning outdoor activities such as canoeing, walking and cycling, as well as music and art appreciation, philosophy, IT, flower arranging and stitch and natter.

There are no tutors. Members learn together, drawing on the pool of talent, knowledge, skills and enthusiasm within the membership.

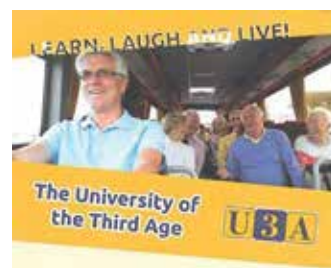
Guest speaker at the annual meeting will be actor and storyteller Derek Poulson, former head of performing arts at Stoke College, who will talk about regional accents.

There will also be a performance by

the U3A ukulele interest group.

New members are welcome and more details of what is on offer can be found on the website [www.u3asites.org.uk/lymm-thelwall/welcome](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/lymm-thelwall/welcome)

A spokesperson said: "New interest groups are forming all the time and it is likely you will find something of interest."



## Councillor walks into a row over Green Bin charges

AN Appleton parish councillor has vowed to fight on for pensioners and other people who cannot pay their Green Bin charge online.

If you can't pay the online charge of £31 you have to pay an extra £3, even if you go into the borough council's town centre contact centre and try to pay in cash.

Cllr John Price made the discovery himself after walking into Warrington from Appleton and handing over £31 in cash, which was accepted by council staff.

But he had no sooner walked back home when he received a phone call

from the council to say: "You owe us £3."

An indignant Cllr Price protested – but to not avail. Eventually he walked back into town and handed over £3 cash.

He said: "The council staff were very polite and nice about it – but they insisted I had to pay the extra £3."

"I fought a little battle over this last year – the first year there had been a Green Bin charge – and hoped I might have persuaded the borough council to think again. But it would appear I have to fight on."

"I have put in a formal complaint

on the basis that the borough is discriminating against a section of the community – largely the elderly and vulnerable.

"If I don't get some satisfaction I shall be complaining to the Local Government Ombudsman."

A borough council spokesman said: "In common with many services, a discount is offered for online transactions as there is a cost to the provider attached to purchases made over the phone or in person."

"Customers could subscribe to the scheme in libraries and Golden Gates Housing Trust offices. Here, staff would support customers to subscribe online, reducing the cost to the online fee."

Last year, 88 per cent of people who subscribed to the Green Bin service, paid online.

## Meet your MP

## Faisal Rashid

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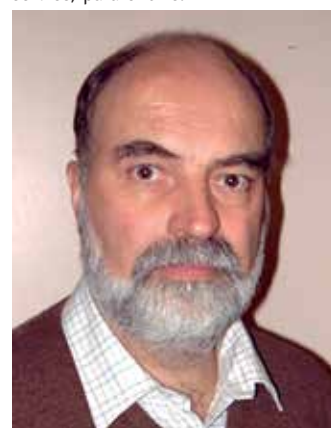
Stay up to date with all current news, policies, and events at [www.faisalarashid.com](http://www.faisalarashid.com) and keep an eye out for regular roving surgeries coming soon to a doorstep near you!

Follow Faisal on [@faisalarashid6](https://twitter.com/faisalarashid6) and [facebook.com/FaisalRashidMP](https://facebook.com/FaisalRashidMP) where you can find out about current issues, street surgeries and more.

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