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# Warrington worldwide

Issue No. 224 May 2018 FREE EVERY MONTH



## Pub honours RAF veteran

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# Editor's Comment



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New Media Centre  
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## HARDLY a day passes without seeing negative comments appearing about Warrington town centre on social media.

I wonder if those complaining have actually taken the time to visit the town recently?

In fact I know for a fact some are saying they refuse to come into the town centre! How can you be critical of something without even giving it a chance?

Yes it is still far from perfect and yes there are still plenty of issues, none more so than the traffic problems we constantly face.

But if you choose your visiting times wisely there is plenty to be positive about and in time it will hopefully get even better.

The cultural quarter has some outstanding restaurants with more to come which are more than a match for Liverpool and Manchester.

The Parr Hall consistently hosts good events.

The new temporary market has some quality traders, especially in the food court.

There is three hours free parking in the new Time Square car park.

A new bowling alley is soon to open in Golden Square, a new town centre cinema is taking shape, a new Town Centre Bid backed by many town centre businesses will generate around £1.8m to help promote and market the town.

The town centre hosts the annual English Half Marathon which brings more than 20,000 people into

Warrington and is set to celebrate 10 years this September, boosting the local economy.

Some of the troublesome bars at the lower end of Bridge Street have closed down.

Last but not least we have groups of hard working Warringtonians who are proud of their town and are rolling up their sleeves, working hard to ensure our town continues to prosper.

Remember negative thoughts can

lead to negative outcomes so let's try and be a bit more positive about our town centre and look to the future with optimism.

Lots of city and town centres are struggling due to the changes in shopping habits, but here in Warrington one thing our council can not be criticised for, is ignoring the needs of the town centre.

**Deadline for the June issue of Warrington Worldwide is May 15**

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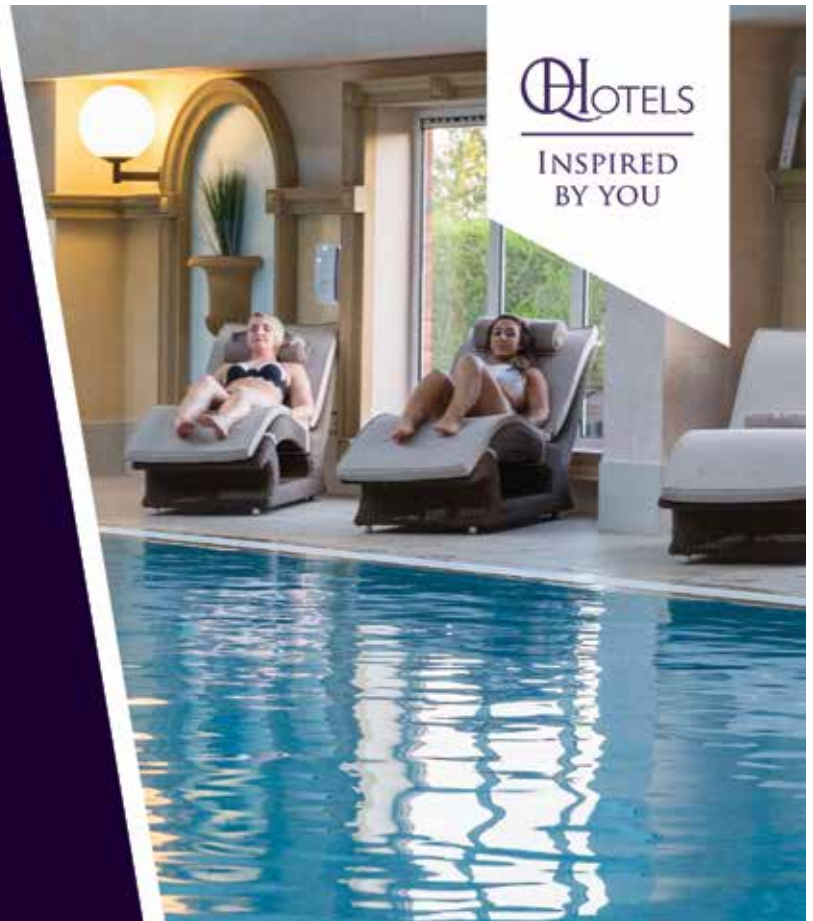
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# Sport students help deliver more than 4,000 rugby league sessions

**SPORT students from Warrington & Vale Royal College have teamed up with Warrington Wolves Community Trust to bring more than 4,000 rugby league sessions to primary school children from across Cheshire.**

The week-long event saw level 3 students direct a number of refereeing and training sessions, all with the aim of helping youngsters better understand the popular sport.

Each student was given a role to play, whether that be co-ordinating the "round robin" style event, or officiating individual sessions.

Among the students taking part was former University Academy Warrington pupil, Zoe Finnerty.

Zoe said: "Supporting this event

has given us all great experience of coaching and officiating that will definitely help us in the future. It was great to be able to take part in such a fantastic event – everyone had a really good time."

Fellow student Kieran Bellamy, a former Bedford High School pupil, said: "The event allowed us to put the skills and knowledge that we are learning in the classroom to the test, and gain experience of coaching children of a younger

age."

The event was organised as part of the college's continued partnership with Warrington Wolves and its charitable foundations.

Other students from Warrington & Vale Royal College involved in the week were: Josh Saxon, Callum Mac, Ben Hesketh, Callum Barnett, Liam Clark, Jared Bouch, Jade Harrison, Caitlyn Williams, Matt Rudd, Mike Rushton and Cameron Gater.

Ryan McNeely, lecturer in sport at the college, said: "This event was a prime example of the work our sport students get to participate

in on a regular basis. Being able to take part in such an event gives our students the opportunity to get first-hand experience of coaching young children – something that many of them will go on to do as they embark on a career in the industry.

"It also gives our learners fantastic experience of leading a large scale event, with multiple activities running at the same time, and also shows that they can work well as part of a team. Every single one of the students that took part did an absolutely fantastic job, and we look forward to continuing to enhance their learning experience through our partnerships with external agencies like Warrington Wolves Community Trust."



Student group photo (L to R), Josh Saxon, Callum Mack, Zoe Finnerty, Ben Hesketh, Callum Barnett, Liam Clark, Jared Bouch.

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# Spitfire set to return to Historic Transport Day

A BATTLE of Britain Spitfire is set to return to Lymm Historic Transport Day which takes place on Sunday June 24 this year in the centenary year of the RAF.

Event organiser Alan Williams said: "Almost everyone who was there agreed that the heart stopping moment at last year's Lymm Historic Transport Day was when the distant sound of an aircraft engine materialised into the distinctive shape of a Battle of Britain Spitfire as it

made the first of three passes over the May Queen field.

"So it is not surprising that the organisers are delighted to be able to announce that they have received confirmation that the Spitfire will be back this year!"

Bruce Thomas, a member of the organising team, and a commercial pilot said: "We are especially honoured to have been given this flypast in the centenary year of the RAF and on British Armed Services



weekend. Blue skies this year would be a bonus!"

It is not the only anniversary that will be celebrated at this year's event. Seventy years ago to the very day – June 24th – the Soviet Union imposed the blockade on Berlin which quickly gave rise to the Berlin Airlift and the air-ferrying of masses of supplies every day to feed a city. Burtonwood was one of the key supply bases for the operation and the Burtonwood Association will have a display to mark the anniversary.

At the same time the event's "artist in residence" for the day Steve Williams of the Aviation Art Society will be producing an original painting recalling the airlift.

The aerial theme is completed with two real aircraft cockpits – from a Lightning a Provost jet, the latter provided by the local ATC squadron, as well as the ever popular large plane models.

And the attractions don't stop there. All the usual favourites will be there – classic cars, model rail, LEGO, traction engines historic boats, drive-a-digger, live music, great food, plus a brand new exhibition at the Heritage Centre. But moviegoers

will also love the movie themed cars like ECTO-1 from Ghostbusters, the Batmobile and Lightning McQueen. The dinosaur makes a return visit but this time bringing the Jurassic Park 4x4 tour bus along with it, hard on the heels of the release of the new Jurassic Park movie earlier in June. There is even a stunt bike performance. "We have everything booked in and are raring to go" said Alan. "The biggest challenge now is to fit everyone in... We never dreamt when we started in 2013 that we would run out of space on a huge field like the May Queen but this year we were pretty much fully booked within a week of opening and could probably have filled it twice over."

If you would like to see the event from the other side sign up as a volunteer for a minimum of three hours and receive a free pair of tickets and an invitation to a free after-party. An event on this scale needs 100 volunteers to make it run smoothly and it is said to be a great "buzz" being part of the team that makes it happen.

Find out more at [www.lymmtransport.org.uk](http://www.lymmtransport.org.uk)

## JD Kitchens making designs on the future

JD Kitchens have been designing and installing beautiful kitchens, bedrooms and studies in homes across the North West for over 16 years, and now they're turning their design talents on themselves, launching a new brand and updating their Padgate showroom to showcase the latest interior designs.

Specialists in German manufacturers Schuller and NEFF, the team pride themselves on the quality of their finish, and project management from end to end.

Dave Charlton, MD said: "We're just putting the finishing touches to our displays, vans and signage so that they reflect the latest designs from the kitchen catwalk held in Milan this April.

"We'll be hosting some great events and baking workshops with the Room Forty bakers over the summer to showcase the latest technology, so keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages to find out when".

JD Kitchens is on Gorsey Lane, Warrington. Drop in Monday to Saturday or make an appointment by calling 01925 636997.

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# Annual Property Review reflects 20 years of robust and buoyant performance

By Steve Park

IT'S remarkable that the Annual Warrington Property Review has now reached its twentieth year. It's an invaluable and independent analysis of Warrington's economy.

Twenty years of statistics reflect the robust and buoyant performance of Warrington through the highs and lows of national and indeed international periods of growth and recession.

Development in and around Warrington continues at a considerable pace. Omega as an industrial location is now full, by the end of 2018 a remarkable 10,000 people will be employed on the site. The housing element is also well underway with Miller Homes and Redrow on site.

Warrington Market successfully moved out of its old (and now demolished) building into its temporary home in Time Square last summer and is thriving. The 1160 space multi-storey car park also opened just before year end in 2017. Vinci is pressing ahead with the construction of the final phase of Time Square; the construction of the

13 screen multiplex for Cineworld, restaurant units, a permanent market hall, civic offices and the square itself - all set for a grand opening in Summer 2019. At the time of writing the steelwork for the cinema block had just been erected giving an idea of the size and scale of the £130 million project.

Warrington continues to offer a very solid investment opportunity as every report over the 20 years has testified and topping that investment list was Warrington Borough Council's purchase of the 49 hectare Birchwood Park for £205 million. Indeed this represents one of the largest investment deals made in 2017 in the UK.

Warrington & Co. is the delivery agent for Warrington's framework for growth, Warrington Means Business and as such leads and drives Warrington Borough Council's ambitious growth vision. Warrington Means Business exists to ensure that the Borough's enviable economic position is protected and indeed, enhanced for the future.

It is very reassuring to see that the projects under Warrington & Co.'s remit including Time Square; Omega, Warrington Waterfront; Stadium Quarter; Cabinet Works and Central and Western Link are attracting the notice of investors and developers.

It is particularly noteworthy that the town centre regeneration projects are attracting private sector development and investor interest. A residential renaissance is underway with over 600 residential units, conversions and refurbishments in the pipeline. Local developer Emerald Bay's £5 million conversion of Kings Court from a former office into 33 loft style apartments is a prime example. Kings Court was 50% let within 12 weeks, a tangible indicator of demand for town centre living.

Warrington town centre is no longer on the cusp of a renaissance. That renaissance is underway. These are exciting times and Warrington & Co. is proud to be at the helm.



The partnership for driving growth



Steve Park  
MD of Warrington & Co.

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Sat 19 May	Thank You For The Music presents ABBA
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Fri 8 Jun	The Dreamboys
13 & 14 Jun	Bill Bailey - Larks in Transit
Fri 15 Jun	Alter Eagles
Sat 7 Jul	Comedy Store
Sun 15 Jul	The Overtones Summer Special

## LiveWire High Voltage rock 'n' roll set to return to Parr Hall



HIGH voltage rock 'n' roll is set to return to Warrington Parr Hall by popular demand with LiveWire AC/DC being joined on stage by Whitesnake UK in December.

The ultimate battle of the bands is back as top tribute acts LiveWire AC/DC and Whitesnake UK go head-to-head on the Parr Hall stage in a true rock-and-roll-style showdown.

Back by popular demand, For Those About to Rock is set to deliver another unforgettable night of live music featuring the very best hits from these iconic bands.

Livewire AC/DC is a unique six-man tribute band that offers two hours of high voltage rock 'n' roll, complete with cannons and a wall of Marshall amps.

Both "Bon" and "Brian" are present on the rock 'n' roll train, while "Angus Young" takes his bow in the rhythm section, giving an uncanny performance with meticulous detail in both appearance and energy.

Delivering hit-after-hit of showstopping classics, including Back in Black, Whole Lotta Rosie, and Highway to Hell – as well as one or two gems thrown in for the bona fide aficionados – this sensational show guarantees a night you will never forget.

And if that's not enough, Livewire AC/DC will also be sharing the stage with Whitesnake UK – who will be reviving all the band's greatest hits from the early classic Moody/Marsden line up to the present day US incarnation.

Faithfully recreating timeless classics such as Fool For Your Loving, Is this Love, and Here I Go Again, Whitesnake UK concentrates purely on reproducing the immortal sound of Whitesnake without the need for artificial backing tracks, gimmicks, or wigs.

For a 100% live experience that will leave you shouting for more, For Those About to Rock is sure to deliver!

Tickets are on sale now at [www.pyramidparrhall.com](http://www.pyramidparrhall.com), or by calling our Box Office on 01925 442345.

Saturday 15 December 2018, 7.30pm, £20

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## New church still needs £90,000

ANOTHER £90,000 is still needed to complete the new, partly-built St Paul's Church, Penketh.

The main building is completed, but some electrical installations, external lighting, security and fire alarm and plastering and painting of internal walls has still to be finished.

Local contractors and volunteers are carrying out much of the work.

Kieran Layfield, of the church's building group, said: "We're about to work on the ceilings and lighting in the corridors and foyer and on installing toilets. The garden will be looking very different soon."

The original St Paul's Church was demolished in 2016 and since then work has been ongoing on the new community church. More than £835,000 has been raised by the parish.

But church treasurer Denis Bamber said: "Although many people have

given generously, we still need a further £90,000 if this church is to be completed to the standard appropriate for the 21st century."

Members of the church are still hoping to be able to start using the building this year.

A special outdoor service was held outside the church on Easter Sunday but in the meantime, regular services are being held at the Oaks Centre on Stocks Lane, Penketh.

A large, metal cross has been donated by a local family with connections to the church and was in place for Easter.

Team vicar, the Rev Sarah Peppiatt said: "We will welcome ideas from community groups on how the building can best meet their needs when it is finished. Churches have always served many functions, as part of their purpose in serving God in the World."



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# Pub honours RAF veteran with key to the door and free pint for life after 60 years loyal service



Assistant Manager Paula Crowther and Manager Jack Barnes.

WWII flying ace Jim Weston has been given the key to the door at his local pub and a free pint each visit for the rest of his life after 60 years loyal service.

The owners of the recently refurbished Ring O' Bells pub on Church Street, Warrington, decided to reward the former RAF Pilot Jim in recognition of his service to country and loyal custom.

Now aged 95, Jim is the last surviving member of 23 Squadron and completed 35 missions in a Mosquito plane during the war and then flew 220 flights on Dakota planes during the Berlin Airlift from June 1948 to August 1949.

He has now been "given the key to the door" at the pub he has been a regular at for 60 years during the 70th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift and the 100th anniversary of the RAF.

Ring O Bells assistant manager Paula Crowther said: "When we heard about Jim's remarkable service in the RAF and his loyal custom at the pub we decided to reward him with the key to the door and a free pint on every visit for the rest of his life.

"He is a great character, remarkable for his age and is a regular at our weekly pub quizzes. It is the least we could do in recognition of his loyal service not only for his country but also for his local pub."

Jim from Willis Street, Warrington, originally joined the RAF in 1941 and on completion of training was sent as a pilot with 23 Squadron at Little Snoring. Flying Intruder flights their job was to target German night fighters over North West Europe.

Jim was also recently special guest at the packed out lecture marking the 70th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift he was part of, presented by Burtonwood Association founder and honorary lifetime president Aldon Ferguson at Gullivers World, Warrington, next to the association's heritage centre.

Aldon said: "This year is the 70th anniversary of the Soviets blocking all road, rail, river and canal access to the city, totally besieging it and trying to force the British, American and French forces out.

"Fortunately the air routes were kept open and the three Allies decided to provide everything



A young Jim.

for the city by air. This was very difficult so long ago as there were no purpose-built transport aircraft and the world was recovering from all out war. A massive operation, known as the Berlin Airlift, was started and everything from coal, flour, newsprint, food, fuel, clothing etc had to be flown in. Massive building projects were necessary at the airports and a new one had to be built. Aircraft of this period had to be regularly maintained and all the American aircraft forming part of the Lift were serviced at Burtonwood.

"Burtonwood was only just being re-opened by the Americans after WWII and immediately had to go into overdrive working 24 hours a day 7 days a week and eventually servicing over 1,500 aircraft in a little over a year. Without Burtonwood it could not have happened!"

Jim never flew out of Burtonwood during the airlift but did visit a couple of times during the war.

Recalling his many missions to Berlin he said: "I used to take things like flour, coal and medical supplies and we would then bring containers or people out to live outside the Russian zone."

He sometimes worked 23 hour days from his base at Lunbeck, with two daily flights taking up around eight hours.

Following his loyal service Jim was told for his final three months he could choose where to be posted. He said he wanted to be based near his home town of Warrington.

Somewhat puzzled he found himself posted at Cranwell just about as far away from Warrington you could be! He later discovered that Cranwell was near Waddington!

On retirement Jim returned to work at Chadwick's paper mill at Howley.



Aldon Ferguson with Jim.

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# Duck Race raises record breaking £8,250 for good causes



**MEMBERS of the public came out in force to support Lymm and District Round Table's annual duck race - helping to raise more than £8,250 for charity in the process.**

Nearly 70 local businesses – led by main sponsor Co-op Food - also supported the event by purchasing either a corporate or super duck, helping to make it the most successful duck race ever. Along with the race and kids entertainment, the Easter Food Fest, organised by Lymm Ladies Circle, also proved highly popular and contributed £1300 to the charity kitty.

Round Table member Gary Parsons, who organised the event, said: "Some of our ducks tried a break for freedom down the stream but thankfully our team were able to rescue them when they got caught in the eddies further downstream."

"We're really grateful to everyone who got involved this year, from the people who bought ducks, to the stall-holders who helped to ensure the crowds had a great day. As a result of such generosity we're delighted that such a huge sum of money will be making its way to local charity and community groups this year."

The winning ducks were numbers 723 (first), 212 (second) and 89 (third). The Super Duck winner was The Coffee House, and the corporate duck race was won by Orb Jewellery.

Lymm and District Round Table are now seeking charities and community groups to donate to – email [charity@lymmroundtable.co.uk](mailto:charity@lymmroundtable.co.uk) with nominations.



from **Warrington's** 

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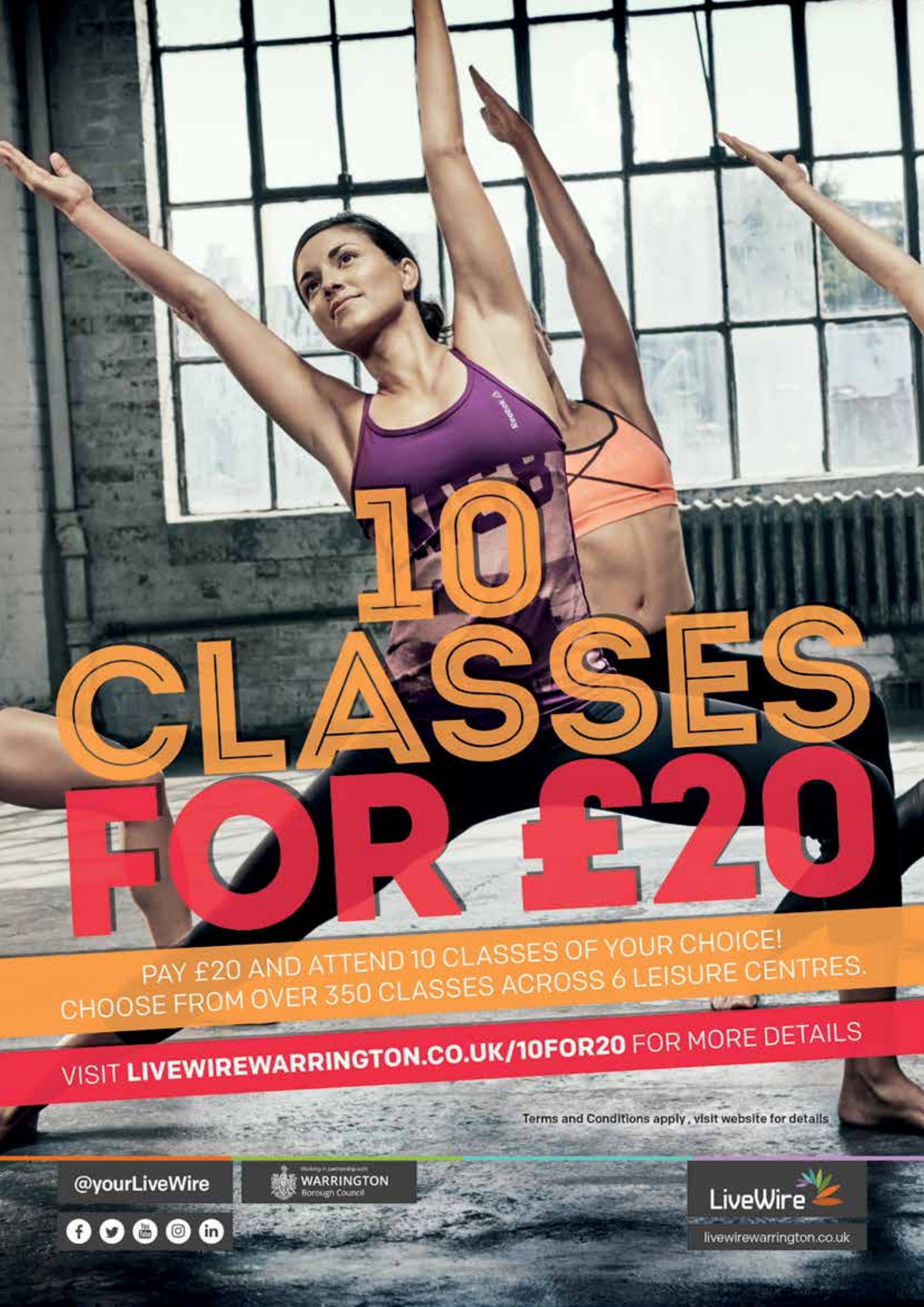


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# Women Weight Watchers aim to sparkle for St Rocco's

**A GROUP of women weight watchers who aim to improve their fitness by taking part in St Rocco's annual Starlight Walk helped reveal the 2018 t-shirt with the aim of bringing some added sparkle to the event.**

So far nineteen women from Michelle Garvin's Weight Watchers groups all over Warrington have set themselves the goal of improving their fitness and taking part at the event on Saturday, June 23.

"As part of the sessions we give out 'Sparkle' awards so we decided to call our teams the Weight Watchers Sparklers. We couldn't believe it when we heard that this year's theme for the walk is 'Sparkle for St. Rocco's,'" explained Michelle.

## Sponsorship

"Some of us have taken part before and we're really looking forward to this year's event. We're going to do some practice walks and we also have activities at group to help raise funds towards our sponsorship, so even the ladies who aren't walking get involved."

Having got a taster of the t-shirts the ladies are now working out how they are going to accessorise them in the most sparkly way possible.

"We know that our ladies often spend lots of time and effort to look absolutely amazing on the night of the walk, at the same time as raising lots of sponsorship towards patient care," said Rachel

Ingham, Fundraising Manager at St. Rocco's.

"We can't wait to see everyone

with loads of sparkle this year to go along with our lovely 2018 t-shirts."

The Starlight Ladies Walk is the biggest fundraiser for St. Rocco's. It costs over £3.6 million a year for the hospice to continue to provide its care, which is completely free

of charge to patients, but it relies on the generosity of the local community for 75% of that amount.

Women can sign up by going to [www.starlightladieswalk.co.uk](http://www.starlightladieswalk.co.uk) or calling 01925 575780.



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## Express Arts youth theatre presents 'The Superhero Ultraferno'



SUPERHEROES have taken over Express Youth Theatre in Warrington as members prepare to stage their new show.

The Seniors for ages 11-18 and Juniors for ages 7-11 are joining forces to perform 'The Superhero Ultraferno' by Don Zolidis at the Pyramid Arts Centre, Studio Theatre on Saturday, May 12.

The story presents a series of sketches sharing the origins of the heroes and villain's everyone knows and loves, through the world of tights-wearing crime-fighters, from the 1960s TV Batman to the soap opera insanity of the Fantastic Four to a bizarre, German opera of Spiderman.

Co-Artistic Director Hollie Wimpenny said: "Our members have thoroughly enjoyed working on this production, wanting to do something fun and light-hearted this year. We were fortunate enough to receive funding from The Aviva Community Fund to go towards costumes, props and set. So, everyone should expect a full spectacle!"

Express Arts was founded in 2012, focusing on using the arts to enable young people to build self-esteem, learn new skills and meet new people, priding themselves in supporting their members to realise their potential. They run three youth theatre groups in Warrington, two based at the Pyramid Arts Centre and one based at Lymm Village Hall.

Tickets for the performance can be booked at the Pyramid Box Office on 01925 442345, £6 for adults and £4 for concessions. If you would more information about Express Arts you can visit their website: [www.expressarts.co.uk](http://www.expressarts.co.uk)

# Scooter Club relive the Mod era

WARRINGTON was transported back in time to the 1960s when dozens of scooter enthusiasts descended on the historic Saracen's Head pub on Wilderspool Causeway.

Members of Warrington Scooter Club, who meet at the pub every Wednesday at 7.30pm, organised the annual start of season rally when other clubs from around the area are invited to attend.

### Enthusiasts

The event which transported Warrington back in time to the Mod era, attracted around 100 scooter enthusiasts who proudly showed off their machines, many

dating from the 1960s and now worth thousands of pounds.

Warrington Scooter Club is one of several in the town, with others travelling in from Wigan, Widnes and St Helens.

During the event there was music from the Mod era as many revisited their childhood.

One of the organisers Les Ireland from Latchford said: "We are a very informal club and anyone with an interest in scooters is welcome to join us."

To see video coverage of the rally visited [www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk](http://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk) and search for Warrington Cotter Club.



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# Five generations celebrate Annie's 100th birthday

WARRINGTON born Annie Cooper, who has lived in the town all her life, celebrated her 100th birthday with her "big caring family."

She was joined by her loving family spanning five generations - consisting of three children, four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild!

## Independence

Annie joined Catalyst Choices just under three years ago and thoroughly enjoys her independence still whilst residing at the assisted living service at Woolston Hall in Warrington.

It was a week of partying for Annie. Catalyst Staff threw Annie a big party to celebrate her milestone, where over 60 people

attended to join in with the fun and toast to Annie's achievement.

Woolston Hall's day room was completely decorated in balloons, banners and streamers covered in 'Happy 100th Birthday' messages. Annie popped open the champagne and enjoyed lots of fun and laughter surrounded by her friends.

A further party was held when Catalyst staff at Woolston Hall, members of Annie's family and all of her friends enjoyed a lovely tea party, accompanied by a number of fabulous renditions of 80's songs by George Lowery - with Annie enjoying a dance along to Tom Jones's classic The Moonlight Hours. Following the Happy Birthday song and 3 cheers, there was plenty of bucks fizz and birthday cake to go around - followed by a round of Baileys!

Annie was delighted to receive her birthday card on behalf of The Queen, which read "I am pleased to know that you are celebrating your 100th Birthday. I send my congratulations and best wishes to you on such a special occasion."

Annie said "she is so lucky to be blessed with such a big, caring family".



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# Robbie Fowler expands his academy through Sandymoor School and Warrington Town Football Club

**Sandymoor School and the Fowler Education & Football Academy (FEFA) are launching a new course at Sandymoor in conjunction with Warrington Town Football Club in September 2018. Emma Simpson, Principal at Sandymoor School stated, "This is an exciting moment in the development of our sixth form through our partnership with FEFA and Warrington Town Football Club; giving local young people a route into future careers in the football and sporting industry both locally and internationally."**

It's three years since Robbie Fowler launched his grand plan to help Merseyside youngsters.

The anniversary has been celebrated in style with a host of success stories both on and off the field for FEFA. The Wavertree Sports Park-based centre provides 16 to 19 year olds with a variety of courses, which combine football coaching with classroom work.

The Fowler Academy has around 60 students but that figure will exceed 100 come September when they expand into a second site at Sandymoor School following a link up with Warrington Town. There are close ties with the club as Warrington Town's assistant manager Mark Beesley is also in charge of FEFA's under-17s. Further expansion is planned with other sites in North Wales under consideration as well as a potential partnership in the Middle East.

FEFA are taking a 20-strong squad out to the Dubai Super Cup in April. Scott Fowler, Robbie's younger brother, is the Academy's head of operations. He said; "It's a four-day tournament with Brazilian Ronaldo's Academy being one of the other teams taking part so it will be a really good test for the lads."

On the field, FEFA's first team have just won the English Colleges Premier League. The second team are well placed to retain their Merseyside Elite title they won last season. The under-17s are five points clear at the top as they bid to retain the title they won last season. FEFA could actually win five trophies this season which would surpass any other college in the UK.

Academy Principal Brian McGorry, the former Bournemouth and Peterborough midfielder, is a qualified Sport Scientist and Teacher. He also has 20 years of teaching experience and working as a performance expert. He says, "We've already taken near our maximum of students for the next intake in September in Liverpool. We are the only College in the

UK offering the high standard of football and qualifications. The level of coaching rivals professional academies. Added to this is player analysis, heart rate and GPS data. It really is impressive."

The course will offer students the following pathways:

- Scholarships to the USA
- University
- Coaching in the USA
- Employment within the Sport and Leisure Industry

The list of qualifications that FEFA offer are impressive and unique within the UK:

- BTEC Sport and Exercise Science Extended Diploma
- Gym Instructor
- Personal Trainer
- Lifeguard
- FA coaching qualifications

McGorry continues, "Added to this is our Sports Science expertise, A licence coaches and Outstanding Teaching. The overall package that is offered to students is extremely strong."

The education results are highly impressive with some 80% of graduates moving on to university last September after two years with FEFA. This isn't a case of Robbie Fowler just putting his name to something and leaving us to it. We get brilliant support from him and he's very passionate about the education side. It's why he wanted to get involved."

Warrington Town Chairman Toby Macormac added, "This is a great opportunity for the club to partner up with a progressive local school and work with FEFA to provide a pathway to semi and professional football for the students. Recently nine FEFA students featured in First Team cup fixture's underlining the possibilities open to them and to enable Warrington Town FC to bring through some future stars."

Sandymoor School look forward to welcoming their new students in September.



Brian McGorry, Toby Macormac, Robbie Fowler, Emma Simpson.



Steven Gerrard and Robbie Fowler.

**First Trial - Wednesday 25th April  
5pm - 7pm  
at Orford Jubilee 3G Pitch.**

**For further details on future dates  
all interested students can contact  
Scott Fowler: [scott.fowler@thefefa.co.uk](mailto:scott.fowler@thefefa.co.uk)**





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## SATURDAY 23RD JUNE



# Sparkle for St Rocco's

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# Apple Jacks Adventure Farm - fun for all the family

Review by Editor Gary Skentelbery



**IF you are looking for something to do with the children at a weekend or during the school holidays Apple Jacks Adventure farm at Stretton, Warrington provides fun for all the family.**

There are plenty of activities to entertain youngsters and even older members of the family and with the special 2-1 ticket deals, offers excellent value for money.

In fact if you book your tickets for the summer school holidays before the end of May you even get an extra 10 per cent off!

There are soft ball play pits, go-karts, climbing frames, play areas, archery and even a haunted house to help keep you entertained whatever the weather.

There is also a tractor ride around the farm as well as on site fast food outlet and plenty of areas to enjoy your food.

When we visited the weather was not too clever but it didn't stop the whole family having fun, especially my granddaughter Olivia, who was not quite two at the time of our visit.

She had a great time and was rather reluctant to leave after more than a couple of hours of entertainment.

In fact she has been back for seconds and spent half a day there and was still reluctant to leave!

It is certainly a place we will be visiting again over the summer. The go-karts and the soft ball play area with cannons proved a big hit with all the family!



Book online now at [www.buytickets.at/applejacksfarm](http://www.buytickets.at/applejacksfarm)

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# With a ring and a prayer Pamela bids to trace her GI dad's lost love

**THE daughter of an American GI based at Burtonwood airbase during the war is bidding to trace his lost love and her namesake Pamela, on a "ring and prayer!"**

Pamela who now lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, is attempting to trace her namesake, who would now be aged in her 90s or members of her family.

Her dad George Thomas Storey, who died in 1977, was based at Burtonwood from 1943-45 and although she doesn't know if they were just friends or lovers, he was given a ring which he kept for the rest of his life.

Having only recently discovered the story behind the ring (pictured below) Pamela, who she now knows was named after her namesake, is keen to trace her, or members of her family.

She said: "Who among you remembers the "friendly Invasion" during WW2? Or dinner table tales of when the Yanks came to town? Some of your ladies became GI Brides. Others may have been left behind with only a memory of love that was secretly stored away to cherish forever.

Pamela added: "For anyone that would be willing to assist with the search for Pamela and help us piece together the story of dad's life while he lived in England, this background information might help."

George Thomas Storey was

born in April 1916 and lived his life in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In the early 1930's he was a soldier at Selfridge AFB is Mt. Clemons Michigan. In 1936 he married his first wife Elizabeth, and my brother Jimmy was born in 1938. Sometime during 1940 he divorced Elizabeth but maintained custody of Jimmy. At this time, he was a Captain in the Grand Rapids Fire Department.

"After the attack on Pearl Harbor, he was accepted and graduated from the Army Air Corp Officer program as a Bombardier. (Servicemember Number 6725246). We know for certain he was with the Mighty 8th aboard a B17 Flying Fortress in central or southern England.

"Sometime during 1944 or 1945 he was diagnosed with diabetes and was re-assigned to the Supply Division at RAF Burtonwood as a Corporal. This unit did exactly what its name implies; which was to supply anything and everything to the base and satellite units. We know this as we have documentation dated June 25, 1945 where he was promoted from Corporal to Sergeant. And we have copies of letters George mailed to his son Jimmy from RAF Burtonwood showing he lived in Section 43.

"All Americans had left the UK by June 1946, and George went back to the U.S. He married my mother Doris, also from Grand Rapids Michigan. They had custody of Jimmy, and had three daughters Pamela, Paula and Patrice (Patti). George died on August 8th, 1977.

"As far we know George and Pamela didn't remain in contact with each other, but maybe Pamela might have told a close friend, or family member about him? We would be interested in any information whatsoever. If your mother, grandmother, auntie or friend is named Pamela pass this

on."

If anyone thinks they know the Pamela from Warrington or members of her family they are asked to contact Burtonwood founder and lifetime President Aldon Ferguson at [aldonpf@aol.com](mailto:aldonpf@aol.com).

All contacts will be acknowledged and the information will be shared with the Storey family.



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### Warrington Market's Right Royal Knees Up

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### Warrington Market's Ukulele Fest

Join as we celebrate the life of Warrington based Ukulele legend George Formby on his 114th Birthday with live performance of Formby classics to modern takes on contemporary music from some the countries best Uke players. We'll be hosting Ukulele workshops, free style jam sessions and family fun.



### Warrington Artisan Market

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# My Warrington Remembers... Warrington Grammar School 1526

by Gordon Gandy



**IN a regular feature, Radio Warrington's Gordon Gandy highlights the town's history. This month he looks at Warrington Grammar School.**

Thomas le Boteler, the 15th Baron of Warrington, was outstanding in his personal service to the town.

One of the greatest gifts to the town in his will was the founding of

Warrington Grammar School.

He left 500 marks to purchase land for the building of a free grammar school and to pay for the education of six "poor boyes of the parishes", and for it to endure forever.

This foundation later developed into the Boteler Grammar School for Boys, serving the whole of Warrington.

He died on the 4th of July 1522 during the 14th year of the reign of King Henry VIII.

In 1526, a house in Back Lane (later School Lane/School Brow), and an adjoining croft, was set apart for the schoolmaster



and to be called "The School House of Warrington". This was the beginnings of Warrington Grammar School.

The location was close to the parish church and is consistent with the original foundation as many English Grammar Schools both before and after the Reformation were linked to churches and monastic institutions, with the clergy acting as teachers.

It was rebuilt on four occasions – 1688, 1707, 1829 and 1862.

By the 1930s, the Boteler school educated girls as well as boys.

In 1936 a new school for boys

only was planned at Latchford, to be built by the Warrington Education Committee. The new boys' school buildings opened on the school's current site in 1940, while the girls remained at the town centre site.

They were later moved to a new High School for Girls, on a site now occupied by Priestley College.

The 19th century building at School Brow was then used as a storage depot for the works department of the town council until it was demolished to make way for a new housing estate, Sixpenny Fields.



## Volunteers wanted on May Queen Day

VOLUNTEERS are being sought to help on Lymm's May Queen Day – Saturday May 12.

The countdown for the day is already well advanced, but organisers would welcome more help.

Anyone who can spare some time to help in any way on the day should email [kbuckley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kbuckley@hotmail.co.uk).

To book a stall or an event on the May Queen Field, contact [dianekerfoot@gmail.com](mailto:dianekerfoot@gmail.com).

The village will come alive with colour and activity on the day as it welcomes the traditional procession of floats and attractions throughout the village – including fair rides, stalls and food and drinks.

The theme for this year is "Celebration" with the procession commencing at 1pm.

Established in 1889, the May Queen festival is a long-established community event, and a major highlight in Lymm's cultural calendar.

But it is the first time for many years it has actually been held in May.

Previously it has been held in June to avoid clashing with other events but now it is hoped that bringing it forward will avoid the poor weather which frequently dogs the event and led to it being cancelled last year.



# Pub backs Friends of St Elphin's Park

**WARRINGTON'S Ring O' Bells Pub is supporting the local community by donating 5p from every pint sold of "Bellringer Beer" to Friends of St Elphin's Park.**

It is just one of a number of initiatives being carried out by the new owners of the recently refurbished historic pub on Church Street, to support the local community.

Manager Jack Barnes, said: "We are looking forward to becoming a community pub again."

"This is one of the oldest pubs in Warrington and is right at the heart of the community."

As well as donating 5p from every pint sold of their exclusive Coach House Bellringer beer, the pub is also upgrading local street furniture and taking on management on the village green outside the premises and another area of land.

They have also raised over £1,000 from fundraising for the Motor Neurone Society to support a local person suffering from the condition.

Local Cllr Jean Flaherty and other volunteers from the Friends of St Elphins Park are delighted to be receiving support from the Ring O'Bells.

Money raised will go towards looking after the local park, where volunteers carry out regular litter picks and weeding.

They also run a tea room which is now open on a Tuesday,

Wednesday and Thursday, serving simple refreshments from 9am-1pm. Then in August it will open five days a week, Tuesday-Friday and Sundays from 10am-4pm.

The group is working closely with Warrington Borough Council and a number of big events are planned later in the year, including the popular Spooky Park and Christmas Festival.

### Fund-raising

They are also fund-raising to support the 13th Warrington Scouts and hope to raise £2,500, so eligible members can attend a "Shamboree" later in the year.

Cllr Flaherty (right) is pictured toasting the support from the Ring O'Bells with St Elphin's with volunteers Jean Pownall and Ian Smith and pub manager Jack Barnes.



## Head boy joins World War 1 commemorations

JAMES Hyde, head boy at Warrington's Sir Thomas Boteler CE High School, was among a party of Air Cadets who visited Belgium as part of the celebrations to mark the end of World War 1.

He was the only member of 1330 Warrington Squadron, who were with cadets from Greater Manchester on the trip.

They visited Commonwealth War Graves, Dunkirk beach, St Omer Airfield and the Menin Gate where they laid a wreath in memory of men who fell while members of the Royal Flying Corps – predecessors of the RAF.



# Why every business should embrace competition to their own advantage

**When setting up Morgan Branding I was aware that I was entering an already busy and competitive market. We certainly weren't the first marketing agency to open, nor did we have a back catalogue of work to showcase. However, what we did have was bags on enthusiasm, a small, but skilled team and an open mind.**

Rather than fearing our competitors I chose to research them and in some cases reach out to them to see what I could learn from them as individuals and their businesses. I listened to podcasts, watched videos, read blogs, articles in order to grow and learn. By taking this approach I was able to quickly develop an understanding of the challenges competition faced day to day and saws how they tackled them. It was through this research that I was able to identify an opportunity for us to stand out from the crowd with our state-of-the-art 360° Virtual Tour technology.

An example of this was when I first took on the marketing and management of Plas Colwyn, a luxury self-catering holiday let in Beddgelert, North Wales. My initial thought was to look at how other properties were being managed and marketed and reach out to those owners who I could see were ahead of the game. The responses I received were mixed, as some holiday let owners were not interested in sharing their experiences, whilst others

welcomed my call and were happy to share their wealth of knowledge with me as the new kid on the block.

I kept in touch with many who opened their doors to me and now I repay those favours given through supporting them in this digital era with modern day marketing techniques and strategies. Ultimately, it was this experience that led to my investment in the virtual tour equipment that is an integral part of the business here at Morgan Branding. I now work with many of the same people who helped me in the past through the utilisation of our 360° Virtual Tour service, supporting them with websites that attract more direct

bookings and by offering social media management support and advice.

Ultimately, my advice when considering your competitors is, embrace them. Work out how you can differentiate yourself, but whatever you do be aware of what they are doing, as it will benefit your business in the long run.



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# Old Rectory Care Home voted one of top 20 in the North West - again

**THE Old Rectory Care Home at Grappenhall, Warrington, has been voted one of the top 20 care homes in the North West for the second year running.**

The award is based on reviews of the care home written by residents, as well as their friends and families.

The award has been presented by [carehome.co.uk](http://carehome.co.uk).

Chairman Davina Ludlow said: "It is the residents and their families 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."

Proprietor Elizabeth Lawrence is pictured receiving the award

and said: "We are thrilled to be recognised as one of the top 20 Northwest Care Homes for the second year running. This is a tribute to our wonderful staff and the outstanding care we pride ourselves on."

One review read: "My father began living at The Old Rectory in November 2017. I am extremely satisfied with his care by all the staff. His room is lovely and we were able to make it look like his own home with pictures and furniture. There is a feeling of shared ethos among the staff from Matron to the cleaners. I cannot think of any criticism, only praise for this excellent nursing home. Five stars in all aspects."

Another said: "Mum has been at The Old Rectory for four years now and we have nothing but praise for the home.

"Mum has always been treated with the utmost care and respect while making the environment a happy place to be.

"A great deal of trouble is taken to celebrate special occasions and also plan everyday activities which Mum thoroughly enjoys.

"The home and gardens provide a lovely nurturing atmosphere."



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By David Watkinson

## Data Protection

Only someone living on a desert island without a TV or radio could avoid being aware at present of "Data Protection". The effect that a data breach has had both on Facebook's share price and their reputation is immense. However, the "General Data Protection Regulations" ("GDPR") which becomes law in May will affect any business, however large or small, which holds personal data.

Personal data is basically any data that enables a data subject to be identified. This is considerably wider than may at first appear. For instance, a file which identifies a subject as "the fellow in Warrington who is an accountant and speaks with a Brummie accent" would be covered by the regulations even though the individual is not named.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has produced a guide which they describe as "living" as they "are working to expand it in key areas". Currently, the guide runs to a mere 120 pages!

- Article 5 of the GDPR requires that personal data should be:
  - Collected lawfully, fairly and transparently
  - Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
  - Adequate, relevant and limited to the data necessary for those purposes
  - Accurate and kept up-to-date
  - Kept no longer than necessary for those purposes
  - Processed in a manner that ensures security of the data

It is necessary, therefore, to identify why you need a specific piece of personal data, what personal data is necessary, inform the subject of the data of the above, keep it relevant, ensure that it is used for no other purpose and is stored securely, and destroy it as soon as the need for the data ceases. A very simple example is that, normally, you would breach the regulations by sending an email to a group of recipients using the "cc" field rather than the "bcc" field as you would be passing someone's personal data to other people without their knowledge and agreement.

Not only must you comply with these regulations but Article 5(2) requires that you must be able to demonstrate compliance.

Clearly a detailed analysis of this topic, and what is required to comply, is impossible in an article of this length (120 pages remember!). Also, the detailed requirements will vary between businesses. We have recently discovered a web based application which we feel will ensure compliance. If you may be interested please contact us for details.

WatkinsonBlack have considerable experience in all areas of taxation and business services, including the provision of a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. If you want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting on any business 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

# School boy gets the chance to Access All Areas at Warrington Wolves

LOCAL school boy Ollie Larkin was given the chance to "Access All Areas" from the viewpoint of the media at a Warrington Wolves' home game.

Organised by the Warrington Wolves' Foundation in conjunction with [warrington-worldwide](http://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk), it provided Lymm High School pupil Ollie the chance to enjoy a media match day experience.

Ollie writes about his experience here:

"My name is Ollie Larkin and I attend Lymm High School. On Friday March 9, I was given a great opportunity to go behind the scenes at the Wire to take part in the full game experience from the point of view of the match day media.

"We arrived at the stadium at 6pm and greeted by Shaun Briscoe with two 'access all area' passes and were given the hot of the press team sheets! From there we went down the players tunnel direct to the pitch where we were able to listen in on Phil Clarkes pre match interview with the team captains Chris Hill and James Roby.

"We then went to where the Sky Sports presenters do their tactical game analysis on the touch screen TV but we didn't dare to touch it! Over in the camera gantry over looking the pitch opposite the tunnel in the clouds of South Stand we saw all the different TV cameras ready to capture the action. The stadium announcer said the Sky team had been setting up since 6am that morning.

"As the game got closer the stadium began to fill and the rain began to fall on the glossy green grass. Both teams came out to warm up and prepare themselves for battle! We accompanied the social media representative from Wolves who walked around the stadium taking various snaps of the turnstiles, the band 'Sly Digs', the growing number of fans and not forgetting Wolfy, instantly displayed on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Just before the match we took our seats just behind the journalist and could see Wire FM and Radio5 live commentators discussing the eagerly awaited clash.

"The game was fiercely contested and Warrington were in it for long periods but two tries at



the beginning of both halves was a hammer blow and Warrington did not recover going down 30 points to 12 with Saints the deserved winners.

"After the match, we were able to take some pictures with a number of players, with Benny Westwood still able to raise a smile for us! We then saw the man of the match trophy being awarded to St Helens player Mark Percival, hat trick try scorer on the night!

"Although the players night was over the managers still had to face the media.

"The assembled press squeezed into a tight room firing questions at both Justin Holbrook and Steve Price. Their assessments of the games were honest and insightful, the time was now 10pm and the press went away to write their match reports.

"All in all a really good night despite the result, thank you to everyone at Warrington Wolves for the opportunity!"

**Ollie Larkin**





# Wolves' Head Coach impressed by "fantastic" Peace Centre

WARRINGTON Wolves' Head Coach Steve Price was impressed by the "fantastic" Peace Centre following a tour of the pioneering facility with his family.

Steve, who visited the home of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace with his wife and three young daughters, described the facility as "outstanding" and a "great concept."

He was given a tour by the charity's Chief Executive Nick Taylor – a St Helens fan!

Describing the Peace Centre as "fantastic" he added: "It is a great concept and I think it is outstanding for what it is doing."

"There have been a lot of good outcomes. I am very passionate about trying to help people and credit to Nick and the Foundation for what they are trying to do changing lives around the world."

Putting rugby rivalry to one side Nick said: "Rugby League is about playing the game hard and then getting up and shaking hands."

A lot of the Foundation's work now takes place within the Rugby League heartlands along the "M62 Corridor" including Leeds, Huddersfield and Bradford and Nick says he would like to explore working alongside the Wolves' Foundation.

Meanwhile Steve says he is "loving" his time in Warrington and has offered to support the Foundation as and when he can.

The tour coincided with the 20th anniversary of the "Good Friday Agreement" which was a major turning point in the troubles in Northern Ireland following on from the Warrington Bombing 25 years ago.

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