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Issue: 101
August 2011

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Editor
Gary Skentelbery

Production
Paul Walker

Advertising
Freephone
0800 955 5247

Editorial
01925 623633

Email
info@culchethlife.com

Websites
www.culchethlife.com
www.frodshamlife.co.uk
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Address
New Media Centre
Old Road Warrington
WA4 1AT

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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

Editor's Comment



IT is always a matter of regret when we have to report acts of mindless vandalism in the Culcheth area.

Unfortunately it is a topic we have to return to time and time again.

Elsewhere in this issue we report on the latest incident - a particularly nasty attack on Glazebury Cricket Club's ground in Hurst Lane which left the club counting the cost of a wrecked sightscreen and damaged net

practice facility. Bottles and cans were strewn around the ground

It is believed the culprits were young people of an age that should not be out and about at 2.30am.

This makes the incident all the more regrettable as one of the club's main aims is to provide recreation for young people - and in recent years it has done this extremely well. Last season it was promoted to the first division of the Cheshire Cricket Alliance, largely as a result of young players who have come through the club's own coaching system. This season they have been acquitting themselves well in this higher tier of the game.

The club will bounce back. The volunteers who keep it going through

fundraising, through hours of work on maintaining the ground and the pavilion will see to that. But the hooligans who ran amok on the ground in the early hours of the morning have made their task much harder. It means the club's fundraising Fun Day at the Chat Moss on August 7 has a new sense of urgency. We hope local people will support it generously.

In the meantime there remains the issue of the culprits. As usual, there are suggestions from some that those responsible are not local and from others that they are.

Whoever they are it is unlikely that, in these times, they will receive a punishment that fits the crime.

Parish to press for traffic calming

CULCHETH and Glazebury Parish Council is to press for additional traffic calming measures on the A574 Warrington Road as it enters the village centre from the Risley direction.

A number of accidents occurred on the bend near the former New Inn, resulting in vehicles running into roadside railings.

Cllr Keith Bland said: "The borough council is to repair the railings, but we are asking them to also consider additional traffic calming to slow down vehicles as they approach the bend."

The area affected is between the junction with Lansdown and the junction with Common Lane.

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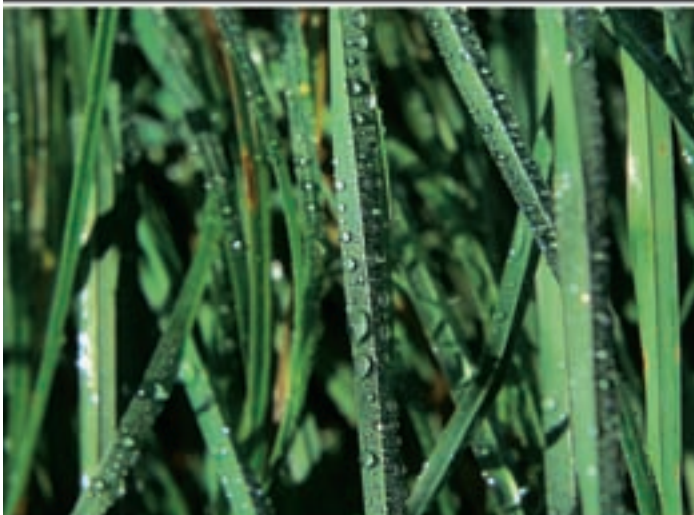
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Council to enforce after 18-year planning row

PLANNING chiefs have resolved to take enforcement action against a Culcheth householder requiring him to close an unauthorised access to his home.

They are also to add extra planning conditions requiring the householder, Mr Peter Houghton, of Twiss Green Lane, to remove an area of hardstanding in a neighbouring property which he also owns and replace a double gate between the properties with a single gate.

The decision follows a long-running dispute between Mr Houghton and two of his neighbours, the Heaton and Webb families, of nearby Marton Close.

Members of the borough council's development management committee decided on enforcement action after receiving advice from a top planning lawyer who said: "I am firmly of the view that enforcement notice against the

unauthorised access to Marton Close can and should be pursued."

But the committee decided to take no action over two other issues arising from the 18-year dispute - an access from Twiss Green Lane which is alleged to be too narrow - and the construction of a new house in Twiss Green Lane.

They took the advice of the council's director for environment and regeneration, Andy Farrall, (pictured) who said although the Twiss Green Lane access was narrow and two cars could not pass, it is clear that cars would be travelling so slowly that the chances of a head-on collision were virtually nil.

There would also be a minimal risk of an accident involving pedestrians.

He added that the new house did not result in any significant failure to comply with the standards and guidance of the Warrington Unitary Development Plan.

Mr Houghton will be able to appeal against the committee's decision, but if he was unsuccessful would be required to close the access.

Arguments between the neighbours have been going on for some years, resulting in police being called to the area on several occasions.

The Local Government Ombudsman, Anne Seex, was eventually called into the affair by one of the residents and found the borough council guilty of maladministration because records of planning applications had been unlawfully destroyed on the authority of

a senior planning officer who had since left the council.

The Ombudsman has recommended that the council apologise to the Heaton and Webb families and pay each £5,000 in recognition of the negative impact of the development on them and for their time and trouble at having to pursue the complaint.

As a result, the council has decided to hold an independent, external inquiry into the issue.

The committee decided enforcement action was justifiable because use of the access between Marton Close and Twiss Green Lane resulted in an increase in noise and disturbance for the two residents of Marton Close.



Facelift for Millennium Garden

CULCHETH'S Millennium Garden is to be given a make-over.

The sundial is to be repainted, bollards repaired, stonework and block paving cleaned.

Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council is to go out for tender to have the work carried out.

Cllr Keith Bland said: "The Millennium Garden is beginning to look a bit rundown but it has lasted quite well. It will benefit from a bit of a clean up."

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Carnival attracts over 3,000 visitors



Laurence Knipe aged 12 gets an Archery lesson from instructor Nigel Williams

A group of dedicated young villagers pulled together to organise and deliver Winwick's annual carnival which attracted more than 3,000 visitors.

The 10-strong carnival committee, all under 30, have worked tirelessly since Christmas – volunteering their free time to assist life-long Winwick resident Chairman Pete Howard (56) of Falcondale Road, to ensure that local people had a fun-packed day.

Event secretary Kathryn Winders, 25, of Waterworks Lane said: "Our committee is made up of younger people who all have full-time jobs and who have made a conscious effort to be a positive part of village life here in Winwick. We have all had a brilliant time and doing this has really strengthened our friendships with each other and our links with the wider community of Winwick as a whole. From organising the event to litter-picking afterwards we loved every minute of it."

Together with her crew of hardy souls Reverend Canon June Stevenon spent the night of the carnival sleeping in St Oswalds' church tower. Her sponsored sleep-over was just one initiative on the day that helped raise much-needed funds for its beetle-infested roof.

"We sold 2,000 programmes and gave people the chance to take part in activities such as clay pigeon shooting, archery, climbing and paintballing," says Kathryn, who moved to Winwick from Warrington town centre in August 2010.

Winwick Park Resident and May Queen, Kate Jenkinson (12) officially opened the carnival after her show-stopping arrival in a 1930s Rolls

Royce - kindly loaned by Decadence Wedding Carriages of Culcheth.

Entertainment was provided by The Funky Monks, the Elaine Hill Sheepdog Display, Amanda and Tony Brutus Strength Speciality and the Wild Wings Birds of Prey.

More than 30 stall-holders attended selling everything from jewellery to cakes and promoting a variety of charitable organisations.

"I hope that other young people will be inspired by the members of Winwick Carnival Committee to get more closely involved in their local communities and to help keep these important traditions alive," says Chairman Pete.

"We are especially grateful to everyone who made the effort to come along, get involved and to help safeguard the future of St Oswalds in the process."



Georgia McEvoy aged 8 has a go on the climbing wall run by Mountain Monkeys



Five year old Isabel Roycroft has her face painted by Anne Marie Glavin

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Charlotte's world-class bronze

SCHOOLGIRL Charlotte Newton competed in the world powerboat championships for the first time - and picked up a bronze medal.

Charlotte, aged just 13, is a member of the Top Cat Racing team sponsored by Cheshire IT company Comcare Technology Ltd, of Lymm.

She competed in the UIM World GT15 Championships at Stewartby Water Sports Club, Bedford.

A pupil at Culcheth High School, Charlotte has been involved in the adrenalin charged world of powerboat racing at junior level for four years.

She was introduced to the sport by her father, Andrew, who has been involved in powerboat racing for 30 years as a rescue diver, travelling the world with the Osprey Rescue Team.

He now concentrates on

Charlotte's racing and they are both members of Lancashire Powerboat Racing Club at St Helens.

Charlotte also competes in the RYA British National Championships at venues all over the country.

Since 2008 she has achieved considerable success, winning seven club races and several second and third places at national level.

Her bronze medal success was achieved very much against the odds.

Top Cat team manager Mark Andrews took delivery of a new Tohatsu GT15 engine just 48 hours before the event and it was only with help from fellow UK teams BRM Racing and Jelf Racing that he and Charlotte's dad managed to get her boat up and running in time.

Then the competition was held up for several hours due to dreadful weather conditions, strong winds and

torrential rain.

When racing started, Charlotte, competing against drivers from the UK, Sweden, Norway and Estonia, started fourth on the grid after the qualifying heat.

She got a great start in the first heat and finished second behind UK driver Ben Jelf.

Unfortunately she was washed out at the start of the second heat and finished fourth.

With only three of the four heats to count, all was not lost and she went into the third heat with confidence and determination. She finished second again - making her level on points for second place with Estonian Reio Kasnapuu.

Everything was to play for in the fourth and final heat but weather conditions changed and favoured the Estonian boat. Despite great efforts,



Charlotte could not pass him and finished third overall.

All three heats were won convincingly by fellow UK driver 11-year-old Ben Jelf.

Charlotte's bronze medal was presented by UIM Commissioner Pelle Larson - a very proud moment indeed.

Lois Andrews, of Comcare, said: "We are all very proud of Charlotte. She showed great determination, courage and maturity for one so young and was not at all fazed by the grandeur of the occasion. Comcare are very proud to be associated with Top Cat Racing as are all the other sponsors."



Get your weekends back

OVEN valeting specialist Paul Clark is offering his professional oven cleaning solution to hard working professionals who want their weekends back.

Paul is the Ovenu franchisee for Warrington and is providing oven cleaning services to those who are looking to save their leisure time during the summer.

Paul says: "The working days are so much longer with many people not returning home from work 12 hours after leaving the house."

I understand most people want to spend quality time with family and friends at the weekend and not worry about how long it will take to clean and tidy the house.

"Oven cleaning is a dirty, time-consuming job and not the way to spend a sunny Sunday."

Paul is also reminding local residents of the health and safety issues of leaving an oven dirty for too long.

"If grease and grime is left to fester for months it can potentially result in an oven fire which can lead to serious injury or even death. Giving your oven a thorough clean can eliminate the risk of a potential fire and your oven will also run more efficiently."

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Our Open Days will be held on Thursday 13th October and Tuesday 15th November. We will be showing people round school at 2pm & 6pm with refreshments available.
It will be a chance to see our school at work and ask any questions you may have.
(If you are unable to make this date, please contact the school)

If you would like to come and visit our school, or you would like to reserve a place for your child, please ring the Headteacher, Mrs A. Smith

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70 years married to 'the best woman in the world'

AFTER 70 years of marriage, Alan Cleminson still maintains that when he married his wife Marjorie, he chose the 'best woman in the world.'

He should know - because the former aircraft engineer confesses to have been "very popular with the ladies" when he was a young man.

But he met Marjorie at a dance 71 years ago and decided: "Nobody else will do for me."

To mark their Platinum wedding anniversary, Alan, 94 and Marjorie, 89, enjoyed a celebration party at the CLS Holcroft Grange care home in Culcheth.

Friends and family were present as the couple were presented with a special message from the Queen.

The couple moved to Culcheth in 2006. Alan now lives at Holcroft Grange, but Marjorie still lives independently in the village.

Employed by the Air Ministry until 1960, Alan later worked for British Telecom before retiring, aged 64.

During the war, when goods were scarce, Alan made the furniture for the family home and later the couple ran a DIY shop together.

Alan and Marjorie believe their greatest achievement over the last 70 years was having their son, Robert.

They now also have two grandchildren and one great grandchild, all of who were at the anniversary party.

Pauline Shaw, manager at Holcroft Grange, said: "It was an honour to celebrate Alan and Marjorie's Platinum Wedding Anniversary with them. Although Alan now lives at Holcroft Grange and Marjorie lives independently in Culcheth, you can feel the love between them every time they are together."

"We love having Alan with us. He has a lot of time for the other residents and spends his days chatting, singing along to music and sharing his sweets with everybody."



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Glazebury Gala n

THE annual Glazebury Gala maintained a tradition that dates back to 1928 as local schoolgirl Jenny Cleworth was crowned Gala Queen.

Jenny was crowned at All Saints Church by local residents Dorothy and Allan Graham. Retiring Queen was Bethan McDermott.

Following the crowning Jenny walked to the nearby school grounds where a gala continued for the rest of the day.

There were a number of fund-

raising stalls such as tombola, lucky dip, flowers, fruit and vegetables, etc. as well as a fun fair with rides suitable for younger children.

The day raises funds for Glazebury Church, Glazebury Primary School, Scouts and other local community groups.



Glazebury Gala Queen 2011 Jenny Cleworth walks around the events arena



Visiting Queens to the Glazebury Gala from left, Croft Carnival Queen Hannah Manley, Winwick Rose Queen Kate Jenkinson and Newchurch Rose Queen Catherine Stafford



20th Warrington 1st Glazebury Scouts Barbecue kept the scouts and crowds fed



Retiring Glazebury Gala Queen and Retinue from left, Bradley Dean, Finlay Patterson, retiring Gala Queen Bethan McDermott and Heather Carnochan.



Setting off for the Glazebury Gala Queen crowning in an open top Bentley are left, retiring Gala Queen Bethan McDermott and Gala Queen 2011 Jenny Cleworth

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Glazebury Gala Queen 2011 and Retinue from left, William Patterson, Megan Ellison, Libby Bowers, Gala Queen Jenny Cleworth, Emily Jane Berrido and Ben Cleworth



Glazebury Gala Queen Jenny Cleworth is crowned by Dorothy and Allan Graham at All Saints Church

The Gardening Guide

August...



- Take cuttings of tender perennials such as fuchsias & pelargoniums.
- Stop feeding roses now as any new growth will be soft & prone to disease.
- Warmer temperatures mean houseplants will need misting & watering more.
- If you are going away mow the lawn & leave the cuttings on top to retain moisture.
- Autumn/winter vegetables can be planted now.

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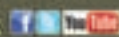
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CULCHETH & GLAZEBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Your Parish Councillors

CULCHETH WARD



Keith Bland
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Paul Campbell
01925 766658



Mrs Lilian Houghton
01925 762935



Mrs Ileyne Hutchinson
01925 765131



Roger Rankin
01925 766038

NEWCHURCH WARD



Mrs Jacqui Johnson
01925 763435



Mrs Christine Rankin
01925 766357



Mrs Helena Campbell
01925 766658

GLAZEBURY & MEE BROW WARD



Mrs Sue Bland
01925 766641



Peter Caswell
01942 671938

Refurbishment of the Millennium Garden

The Parish Council has agreed that repairs to the plinth, painting of metalwork, resetting and cleaning of the block work should be costed and ordered separately.

It also noted a quotation of £538.00 for essential upgrade work to the Sundial Clock automatic re-start unit.

Homewatch Scheme

The police actively promoted Homewatch at a recent "Crime day" event and three new groups have been formed in the area. They will be spreading the word again at an "Open Day" at Risley Police Station on the 21st August 2011.

If any residents would like to start a Homewatch scheme in their area, please contact the police on the following Email address wendystanley@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Look of the Parish

I think everyone will agree that the wild flowers on Culcheth Village green look quite stunning and have brightened up the centre of the village. Also we have now had the 2 milestones & 1 boundary marker painted, as well as repairing and painting the Parish Council bus shelter on Warrington Rd.

We have also had the Parish Council notice boards refurbished and the scruffy area of land opposite the shops on Warrington Rd has been grassed over.

Future projects, include the refurbishment of the Millennium Garden and public benches as well as supporting the proposed new play area in Glazebury.

We feel that as well as creating a nice place to live, these initiatives really do have an impact on the local economy by encouraging visitors to our shops and businesses.

If you feel that there is areas which still need attention. Please contact any of your Parish Councillors.

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How effective is the Leadership of your Business?

The world in which we work is constantly changing. Businesses are constantly challenged with conditions that change at breakneck speed. To succeed in this tough business environment, leaders frequently undertake strategic initiatives. Unfortunately, these initiatives are often poorly charted and inadequately executed. To be effective, organisational initiatives require a clear direction from the beginning. The role of leaders is to establish this direction and create an environment that supports their team.

What skills are needed to be a successful leader? The old-fashioned view of leadership is that leaders are marked out for leadership from early on in their lives, and that if you're not a born leader, there's little you can do to become one. The modern view is that through patience, persistence and hard work, you can be a truly effective leader, as long as you make the effort needed.

What are the qualities of a good leader?

- Effectiveness depends on the ability to influence members of the team as well as accept input from them that could possibly change, for the better, standards within their environment.

- By building, developing and reinforcing team work, the results will increase productivity as well as increasing team spirit.
- A leader not only has to be good at developing a team, they must also be able to take an individual aside to develop their potential.
- How to be fair but firm, is a skill that normally comes with experience but the basic knowledge of leading a group can be taught.
- Leaders coach, take risks, persuade and commit.

The Apprentice TV show offered many examples of how good leadership and management can lead to success. A small investment in leadership training could have a real impact on the performance of a business. Entrepreneurs know that the performance of their managers can make all the difference between success and failure.

If you would like to develop a plan or discuss different strategies for growing your business please contact Les or Ian on 01925 761600.

Disclaimer: please note that the contents of our Culcheth Life articles are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always take professional advice before taking action.



If you would like more information on this or any of the previous subjects we have featured, please contact Les Styles or Ian Lloyd on 01925 761600.

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Soccer match boosts charity appeal



It was Restaurant versus Garden Centre when colleagues from Bents Garden & Home clashed on the pitch in the Centre's inaugural charity football event.

Money raised from the event has increased the total raised so far for Macmillan Cancer Support, Bents' Charity of the Year, to £4,355.

The two teams battled it out over 90 minutes ending with the scores level at 2-2.

The Fresh Approach Restaurant came out victorious following a penalty shoot out.

The event was organised by leisure team leader Matthew Dickinson, who proposed the idea as a way of raising money for Bents' charity of the year.

It is hoped the tournament will become an annual event in the Centre's fundraising calendar.

Managing director Matthew Bent

said: "Not only was it a great way to raise money but it was also fantastic opportunity for colleagues from all areas of the centre - warehouse, kitchens, offices, to get together for a really fun social event."

The match followed the centre's successful barbecue month which raised over £2780, and a visit from Macmillan's mobile information centre, which offered customers the opportunity to meet with charity representatives and find out more about Macmillan's support services.

Future fundraising events include a colleague bike challenge with tag teams covering a distance of John O'Groats to Lands End on a static, in-store bike.

£10,000 vandal attack on cricket club

MEMBERS of Glazebury Cricket Club were left to pick up the pieces after a devastating vandal attack on their Hurst Lane ground during the night.

Damage estimated at around £10,000 was caused as the vandals wrecked a two-lane, all-weather net practice facility and a sightscreen.

Bottles and drinks cans were left strewn all over the ground.

The attack came as the club was preparing for its annual fun day which is its main fundraising event of the year.

Club chairman Paul Warhurst said: "We have been plagued by vandalism over the years but this is the worst attack we have ever suffered."

"It has happened while we are all preparing for our annual fun day.

"We were hoping to raise money for a new sightscreen to replace one vandalised a couple of years ago, but now we have got to aim for enough to get two. The league require that we provide sightcreens."

Fortunately the hooligans did not damage the square or the pavilion so the club was able to fulfil its fixtures

But a major clean-up operation was necessary by club members.

Mr Warhurst said: "I can only describe the people who do this sort of thing as being sub-human."

Residents of Culcheth reported a noisy gang of youths passing through the village at about 3.30am on the night of the attack, coming from the Glazebury direction.

Fun for all the family

THE club's 18th annual Fun Day will take place at the Chat Moss Hotel, Glazebury on Sunday, August 7.

Starting at 1pm, the event is the club's biggest fund-raising event of the year and will help provide money for facilities such as new sightcreens, improvements to the outfield and interior work on the pavilion.

Main attraction will again be the "Bucking Bronco" - sponsored by the

brewery in association with the Chat Moss. But there will also be a wide range of other attractions providing family fun, including stalls, tombola, beat the goalie, hook a duck, crossbow, and many more.

There will also be a raffle with prizes such as a free MOT from Rislely MOT and Truck, the ever popular food/bottle hamper and a meal for two at the Chat Moss.

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Motoring

Sold out before it's available!

THE days of being able to walk into a car showroom and buy a new car of a particular model and colour without having to wait some considerable time for delivery appear to have gone.

Even so, the news that the first year's output of the Evoque - the new baby Range Rover - had sold out before the first one rolled off the Halewood production lines, is pretty startling.

Apparently, some 18,000 orders had already been placed for the stylish new SUV.

Land Rover have invested £2 billion in the vehicle and 1,500 new workers have been taken on to build it so the Evoque has provided a major boost to the economy.

Prices start at £27,995 for the two-wheel drive version, with a diesel engine and a manual gearbox which

delivers more than 50mpg.

But there are five engine and transmission combinations available, three trim levels and two body styles - 5-door and coupe.

A top of the range model will cost £44,320.

Who got the first one? Well it was a white, five-door model with Dynamic trim and it went to the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon, in Warwickshire.

The Evoque is expected to appear in showrooms in September but would-be purchasers can expect to join a queue.



Fuel sales plummet

FILLING stations sold one billion litres less petrol and diesel in the first three months of this year compared to the same period in pre-credit crunch 2008, according to the AA.

Milder weather, including the ninth warmest February on record, means that snow disruption was barely a factor so soaring prices at the pumps and elsewhere get the blame.

Retail sales of petrol from January to March were 835.654 million litres lower than during the same period in 2008. For diesel, retail sales

dropped by 246.994 million litres over the same period.

This 15.2 per cent collapse in petrol sales and 6.0 per cent fall in diesel sales is largely explained by record prices which saw petrol rise 7.94p a litre and diesel 10.51p during the first three months.

Comparing this year to last, UK petrol retail sales from January to March this year were down 3.7 per cent on the same period last year. Diesel sales on forecourts were up 0.5 per cent. The AA say motorists

cut back on car use and other spending to compensate for the higher fuel costs.

For the Government, the fall in fuel sales has deprived the Treasury of £637.8 million in tax.

Supermarkets appear to have suffered less than non-supermarket rivals. Government figures show that, year on year, supermarket petrol sales fell by 1.2 per cent from January to March this year while their competitors lost 5.3 per cent.

Petrol and diesel prices continued to set new records up until the second week of May, adding a further 4.3p a litre of petrol and 3.3p to diesel.

But oil prices have been falling, so the next quarter's figures should be interesting.

AA president Edmund King said: "The full impact of higher VAT, unbridled stock market speculation and a weaker pound on fuel prices and drivers' ability to afford them have been laid bare."

"The first three months of this year saw the equivalent of 13.5 days of UK petrol sales wiped out - good for the environment but appalling for families, business, rural communities and the Treasury."

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For more information please contact Stephen Toole the Director of Community at Lowton High School on

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