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Issue: 137
August 2014

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Editor's Comment



THE recent 'Traveller invasion' which took place in Culcheth certainly caused a lot of problems in the village and surrounding area and it is refreshing to see a local business person taking pro-active action in a bid to prevent future problems.

It is not the first or probably the last time Paul Taylor from Taylor Business Park has immersed himself in local issues and activities.

His public spirited attitude is to be applauded and hopefully his plan to tackle future "Traveller" issues will help stop the village facing future issues which caused a great deal of anxiety and stress for many people.

It is bad enough having a travelling community descend onto public open space, but from all accounts the anti-social behaviour which accompanied the visit should not have to be tolerated in society.

Meanwhile campaigners seeking to save Culcheth Sixth Form believe they have been given a glimmer of hope that the facility can be saved after the decision was referred to the government appointed Schools' Adjudicator.

As the funding issues which faced keeping the sixth form open were the main reason governors decided closure was the only option, it would signal a massive u-turn if the Department for Education reversed the decision.

U-turns have been known but rarely when it comes to the issue of saving money in times of austerity - but we can live in hope.

Finally it was a pleasure to attend

the annual Croft Carnival this year - what a fantastic event and glorious weather to mark the occasion.

Congratulations to all those hard working volunteers who helped make it such a great success. Sadly the Glazebury carnival did not take place this year as it has lost money in recent years. It is always sad to see the end of a long standing community event.

Hopefully it can be resurrected in the not too distant future.

Deadline for the September issue of Culcheth Life is August 12

Car boot sale for soccer club

CULCHETH and Glazebury Parish councillor Helena Campbell is organising a car boot sale to raise money for Culcheth Athletic Football Club.

The sale takes place at The Village Club, Wigshaw Lane, on Saturday, August 30 between 9am and 12 noon. Fee for pre-booked cars is £5.

Contact Helena on 01925 766658.

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Landowner calls for better communication over 'Traveller invasions'

LOCAL businessman Paul Taylor has called for better communication with landowners in the area following the recent "invasion" when travellers landed on Culcheth village green.

Taylor Business Park had to spend over £3,000 on additional security in just a few days to protect the fifty companies and 500 employees on the site from the travellers when they were moved on from the village green. He said: "While the police, council and council officers did well to get the travellers moved from the village as quickly as they did there seemed to be little to no coordination with local landowners when the move was made. Access to fields bordering the village were not effectively blocked off before they removed them from the village green. They tried to get them to move to Silver Lane but there clearly wasn't enough room for so many travellers on there."

Mr Taylor added: "This and other factors unfortunately resulted in the travellers moving on to the land between the Business Park and the village where it backs onto the disused railway at the end of the linear park. Travellers are much easier to manage and move on when they're on council land but the landowners and courts need to get involved when it's private land and when that land is owned and

managed outside of the area and farmed by farmers from another town or village then there is little urgency. Fortunately in this case the travellers' own antisocial and criminal activities meant that the police could serve a section 61 notice on them."

During the "invasion" police had to step up their presence in the village following reports of an increase in antisocial behaviour in the shops and other areas, including break ins and trespassing. Thanks to the extra security there were no such incidents on the business park but security staff suffered threats and verbal abuse from those who were denied access.

The Business Park has since proposed to the local council that, as a community, a contact list is drawn up of all the local councillors and local landowners that have land that will need to have access secured in the future when travellers arrive. The business park will be looking to collate a list of individuals and companies with mobile numbers and email addresses so that a text and email alert system can be put in place to provide a fast and efficient response next time an incident

happens. This will make it easier to get in touch with third party land management companies so that issues can be sorted out.

Any one who would like to be involved please email info@taylorbusinesspark.com with your name, address, email address and mobile number, with the subject line LAND OWNER ALERT.



Paul Taylor



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Fond farewell for Rector

A special farewell party was given by the congregation of Newchurch Parish Church for departing Rector Chris Stafford his daughter Catherine aged 14 and wife Anne, who are pictured with gifts at Newchurch Parish Hall.



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Flower power!

MEMBERS of Culcheth and District Horticultural Society held their annual summer show at Newchurch Parish Hall.



Pictured with some of the exhibits are judges L-R Frank Taylor, Joan Farrington, Stuart Clensy and Eileen Thornton.



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October 16th: 2pm and 6pm

November 20th: 2pm and 6pm

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or visit our website at www.culchethprimary.co.uk





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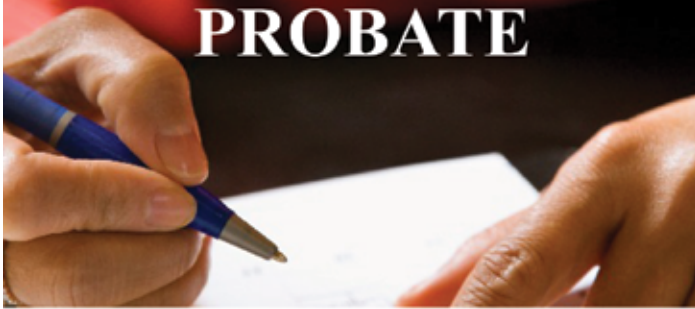
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Croft Carnival provides C

GLORIOUS sunshine ensured a bumper turn out at the annual Croft Carnival when 15-year-old Georgia Heyes was crowned carnival queen by the mayor and mayoress of Warrington.

Meanwhile carnival Princess was Hannah Garbutt and Rosebud was Popsy Walker. Their attendants were Olivia Bellas, Makenzy Haslam, Rosa Sakhi, Sophia Houghton, Sophia Gregory and Isabella Field.

The carnival started with a parade of floats from The Plough

at Kenyon Lane followed by a fun packed afternoon with a variety of stalls and fairground rides on the village playing fields.

There was entertainment from Galloping Acrobatics, Wild Birds of Prey display, Punch and Judy and Professor Pumppernickel – The Mad Scientist.



Jeff Shelly with the Carnival princess



Mrs Shelly with the Carnival Rose Queen



Croft Primary School's award winning float from the Wild West



St Lewis' World Cup theme float

Georgia's crowning glory

Music was provided by Eclipse New Orleans Jazz band and Tyldesley Brass Band.

The afternoon drew to a close with novelty races and the famous egg throwing competition!

Queen Georgia, aged 15, is a pupil at Culcheth High School, while Princess Hannah, aged eight, is a pupil at St. Lewis's School.

Rosebud Popsy attends Croft Primary School.



Carnival Queen Georgia Heyes with her retinue and the Mayor and Mayoress

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The Gardening Guide AUGUST

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- If you are going away on holiday leave cutting your lawn until you get back - the extra length will help retain moisture in the lawn
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The Super League season is hotting up with live games on Thursday, Friday and some Sunday evenings, every game will be shown. The new football season is nearly upon us and the excitement is already building. When asked to comment, Warren Bibby the Club's Steward said, "Whatever your sport, we can accommodate you, whether its British Open Golf or Horse Racing, Boxing or Rugby Union, if its live on television, we can show it!"

Warren has also confirmed that the Village club will have an Open Age football team competing for the first time in the Warrington and District League, and the club is looking to form a Pool Team and a Snooker Team. Anyone who is interested should visit the Club or phone 01925 763562 and ask for Warren.



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CULCHETH & GLAZEBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Your Parish Councillors

NEWCHURCH WARD



Chris Vobe
01925 419481



Jacqui Johnson
01925 763435



Matt Smith
matt.smith062@gmail.com

GLAZEBURY & MEE BROW WARD



Angela Duncombe
01925 419481



David Robb
01925 419481

CULCHETH WARD



Mike Vobe
mike.vobe2012@gmail.com



Peter Caswell
01942 671938



Keith Bland
01925 766641



Helena Campbell
01925 766658



Paul Campbell
01925 766658

HS2

Parish Councillors continue to make strong representations to HS2 Ltd about both the Government's initial preferred route, and the compensation measures in place for people affected by the plans. Councillors have scheduled a meeting with senior representatives from the company for August, where we will collect the latest information and ensure that feedback from residents groups like CADRAG is communicated.

Victorian Day 2014

The Parish Council has launched the working group who will, alongside the Lions, help to shape this year's Victorian Day. As always, we are happy to hear from any local businesses who would like to become involved in the day. Please contact your local Parish Councillor if you want to get in touch.

Village Greens

The New Inn Gardens have now been successfully registered as a village green. This means that all the green spaces owned by the Parish Council have been granted this status, which provides an extra layer of protection for years to come. This fulfils our commitment to ensure that everything possible is done to protect our valued amenities and open spaces.

Local Transport Plan

The Parish Council has submitted our annual bid to the Local Transport Plan; a source of money which is available for projects that will assist with improvements to our roads and highways. Councillors have supported residents in Heswall Avenue with their bid for additional parking bays to tackle congestion, and have also bid for money to allow for alterations to the path crossing the New Inn Garden so that wheelchairs and scooters can more easily access Warrington as well as additional dropped kerbs throughout Culcheth and Glazebury to enhance disabled access. We will keep residents posted as to the outcome of our applications.

Hedges and Footpaths

Parish Councillors are assisting residents in Glazebury and Mee Brow following discussions about the overgrown hedges along the main road. The Parish Council is liaising with the Borough Council as part of an effort to see the overgrown vegetation cut back to ensure the footpaths are not obstructed, especially for those people with prams or wheelchairs. In addition, councillors have received a commitment that the ginnel connecting Beech Avenue with Warrington Road will be cleared of weeds in the near future.

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Marketed Tax Avoidance Schemes - Pay now and argue later

The government's well publicised crack down on tax avoidance is gaining pace.

Under current legislation, HMRC has the power to issue a notice to a taxpayer who is in dispute with them requiring them to settle the dispute or make accelerated up-front tax payments.

Following a brief consultation earlier this year, it was announced in the Budget that HMRC would seek to extend the legislation requiring taxpayers to make accelerated tax payments where they are involved in a tax avoidance scheme.

This is to ensure that the tax sits with the Exchequer during any dispute and puts all taxpayers involved in such schemes on the same standing as a compliant taxpayer, pending resolution of the dispute.

These new measures will come into effect on the date that the Finance Bill receives Royal Assent, likely to be this summer, and

will apply to all cases which are currently under enquiry or appeal.

HMRC will be able to issue a "Notice to Pay" to any taxpayer who is under enquiry as a result of entering into a Tax Scheme or a tax avoidance arrangement.

Under the Notice to Pay, the taxpayer is required to make the payment in dispute within 90 days, or a further 30 days where HMRC have been requested to reconsider the amount contained in the notice.

HMRC have been writing to the directors of any company which has been entered into a tax avoidance scheme reminding them of their duties and personal implications for them as directors. These letters also add that if the company is forced into insolvency as a result of the resultant tax liability, the directors will be found to have breached their fiduciary duties and HMRC will hold them to account personally.

If you are concerned these rules could apply to you and would like

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Glimmer of hope for sixth form

THE final decision on whether to close the sixth form at Culcheth High School will be made by the government-appointed Schools' Adjudicator - and campaigners feel this could offer a glimmer of hope that the facility can be saved.

In a joint statement, Cllrs Chris Vobe, Matt Smith and Bill Brinkman say there are strong arguments in favour of retaining post-16 education in Culcheth and they hope the Department for Education will take those arguments on board and make the right decision.

The three councillors led a campaign to save the sixth form after the school governors' shock decision to close it - culminating in a successful "call in" which led to Warrington Borough Council's scrutiny committee asking the executive board to reconsider their decision to support the governor's stance.

But when the matter came before the executive it was revealed the matter had already been referred to the Schools' Adjudicator.

It was no longer possible for the executive to change its decision.

Council leader, Cllr Terry O'Neill said he believed it was

"almost impossible" to run a sixth form at a school in a semi-rural area.

He said the sixth form at Culcheth had been struggling for years and if the borough had received an earlier warning about what was happening they might have been able to help in some way.

He added: "All we can do now is note the scrutiny committee's concern and let the adjudicator know."

"If it is decided to keep the sixth form open I hope there will be some funding with it."

In their statement, Cllrs Vobe, Smith and Brinkman said: "We hope that the adjudicator will listen to the views of people in both Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft, and Hollins Green."

"The call-in demonstrated that there were many strong arguments in favour of retaining post-16 provision in Culcheth village. We hope the Department for Education will take those arguments on board and make the right decision."

Former barrister to stand for council

A FORMER criminal barrister turned businesswoman has been chosen by the Labour Party to contest the Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft seat in the Warrington Borough Council elections next May.

Cathy Mitchell, a mother of two, will stand in the election which will coincide with the General Election on May 7.



— Advertiser's announcement —

Free womens health event

REPRODUCTIVE Health Group are delighted to invite women of all ages to their Women's Health Information Evening, to be held on Thursday, September 11, 6pm - 9pm, at the Centre for Reproductive Health, Daresbury Park.

The Centre offers comprehensive gynaecology, fertility and urology care in state of the art surroundings.

The Information Evening will be held in conjunction with Cheshire Natural Health, whose therapists offer professional natural healthcare to complement the expert medical care provided by our team of specialist consultants, nurses and embryologists.

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Refreshments and free parking are provided.

The evening is free to attend however places must be reserved. To reserve your places please contact Annette Eckersley, Education Manager, at education@reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk or book online at www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk

To learn more about the Centre for Reproductive Health and why we are different, please see www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk

- Infertility



South African students' fun-filled visit to Culcheth

EIGHTEEN students and three staff from a township school in South Africa have returned home after a fun-filled seven day visit to Culcheth High School.

The party from Matseliso High School, in Soweto were making a "return visit" after a party from Culcheth High went to South Africa last October.

Ever since then, students staff and parents at Culcheth have been working to raise funds to bring the South African party to this country.

The programme for the visit was packed with lessons in school, a walk around Culcheth followed by a fish and chip supper, a day spent walking in the hills of Wales, attending the High School's end of year celebration evening, singing to students at Newchurch Primary School and a day in Liverpool which included a tour of Anfield football ground and a look round the Anglican Cathedral.

When asked about the memories they will take back home, the South African youngsters mentioned school meals being much

better here than in Soweto, they marvelled at the fact that it was still light at 10pm and they realised, as did CHS students, that beneath the stereotypes people judge other people by, everyone has a great deal in common.

Visitors, host families and staff gathered for a barbecue celebration at Culcheth Sports and Social Club. There were speeches, wonderful singing and poetry reading from the visiting students and many tears as people said goodbye.

After the visitors left, staff at CHS were immediately planning a selection process to create a new team of students who want to visit Soweto next year.

A school spokesperson said: "Heartfelt thanks go out to the staff, students, parents and local businesses who have supported this very special project."



Open Evening

Thursday
2nd October 2014

Culcheth High School



Arrival and registration:
6.00pm

Headteacher presentation:
6.30pm and 7.00pm

Warrington Road Culcheth
Phone: 01925 767587
www.culchethhigh.co.uk

Be the best you can be



Learning For Life

A treat in store at the WI

THANKS to the Cheshire Show, members of Newchurch WI had a treat in store for them at their monthly meeting.

The craft group members set up their competition exhibits in the Parish Hall.

Theme had been "Seasons of the Year" and Newchurch chose summer.

There were paintings, embroidery and a set-piece with calligraphy, knitted vegetables and a knitted hammock, jam and beautiful little cakes.

There was also Mr Barry O'Meter, aka "A Man For All Seasons" - a scarecrow figure with clothes for every season of the year plus a weather dial.

The evening's speaker Carole Codd was making her third visit and was as entertaining as before with anecdotes from her long career as a Registrar based in Liverpool. She had seen the coming of civil partnerships and finally the beginning of same-sex marriage this year.

Other changes were the growth of civil ceremonies for weddings, funerals and the naming of babies.

One special change was the licensing of wedding venues (now over 3,000). Even in traditional church weddings, couples now often write their own vows now.

Carole also had tales from the past - from the kind medieval churchwardens who brewed and sold ale in church to help young couples, to the wicked "Fleet Parsons" who conducted sham weddings in the Fleet Prison.

There are sham weddings still and Carole had refused her services several times. Members learned that the Royal Family don't usually need banns called and the only "Common Law" marriages legally recognised were those between civilian POWs of the Japanese.

After thanks from Paddy Poulter Carole judged the competition (An Old Birth Certificate) and chose Anne Burns as winner with Nora Upton and Paddy herself as runners-up.

There was one sad piece of news - the death of Audrey Hamilton who was a loyal member for many years.

School alterations given the go-ahead

PLANNING chiefs have given the go-ahead for internal alterations to the existing main entrance at Winwick CE Primary School in Myddleton Lane.

The development will provide a secure lobby area and introduce a flat roofed canopy.

Members of the borough council's planning committee were told the scheme would provide additional space to provide a room for reception and a separate room for the head teacher.

The school is set at a higher level than Myddleton Lane and the scheme will include the creation of a new footpath connection between the back of the pavement and the existing footpath within the school grounds to facilitate wheelchair access.

Older parts of Winwick CE Primary are a Locally Listed building.

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