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Chelsea - and all that jazz

Page 3



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Editor's Comment



ONE of the borough council's more successful initiatives of recent times has been the 'Look of the Borough' project.

Briefly, it involves the borough sending three specialist teams into an area to improve the environment, repair potholes and clean gullies.

Culcheth and Glazebury was the second area to be targeted as the scheme was rolled out across the borough. The parish council was consulted, as were residents, and a wish-list drawn up.

It was not possible to do all the work identified in the seven week period before the teams moved on to the next area - Croft. But there has been considerable feedback from residents to suggest that the project really is improving the "Look of the Borough."

Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council was enthusiastic about the scheme before it started and has been

even more enthusiastic since. At Croft, more than 60 local people turned up for a consultation meeting prior to the teams moving there.

We hope to be able to report at some future date on exactly what work was carried out locally but if the statistics already available from Woolston - where the scheme made its debut - are anything to go by, literally hundreds of potholes and thousands of gullies will have been dealt with in addition to environmental improvements to hedges, grass verges, etc.

Not all desirable work will have been done - but the plan is for the "Look of the Borough" teams to return every three years in addition to routine work carried out locally.

So for once we are able to say "well done" to the borough!

Steering group seeks more members

THE steering group developing a Parish Plan for Culcheth and Glazebury now has 10 members - but is still looking for more.

The group, led by former local government officer Roger Taylor, is anxious to involve more members from every section of community. The next stage is likely to be special community events held in Culcheth and Glazebury, when the proposals can be explained in detail.

A Parish Plan is a survey by local people that results in a shared vision of how a community sees itself developing over the next few years, with an action plan for influencing decisions and getting things done.

The Culcheth Parish Plan is at the start of a process to involve as many people as possible and needs help to make it happen.

Anyone wanting to be involved can contact parish council clerk Mike Durrington, 2 Hebden Ave, Culcheth, WA3 5JL. 01925 733619. E-mail: culcheth.clerk@ukonline.co.uk

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Chelsea - and all that jazz!

AT 15, multi-instrumentalist Chelsea Carmichael has won the chance to play with some of the world's top jazz musicians.

Chelsea, a pupil at Culcheth High School, has successfully auditioned to join the internationally renowned Wigan Youth Jazz Orchestra.

And that means she could soon be playing at concerts and jazz festivals with the band, which often has world famous musicians as guest soloists.

Chelsea's interest in music came as something of a surprise to proud Dad

Winston, as there was no history of music in the family.

When she came home one day and said she wanted to play the violin he responded by saying: "If I buy you a piano will you play that instead?"

He joked: "I was thinking there was nothing worse than the sound of someone learning to play a violin."

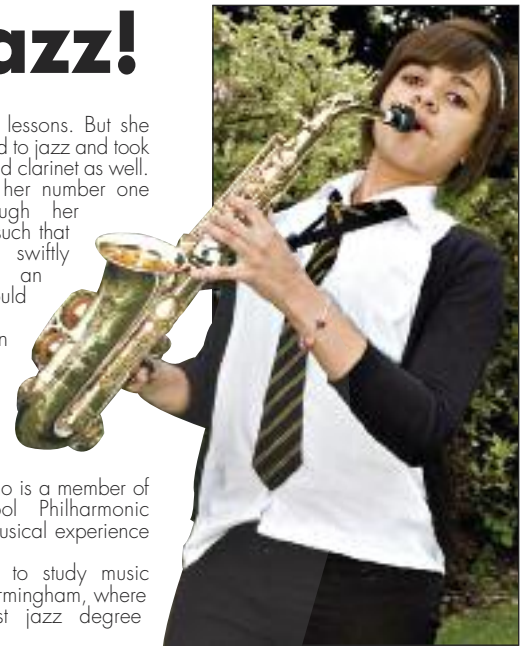
Chelsea said yes - and was soon

engrossed in piano lessons. But she found herself attracted to jazz and took up the saxophone and clarinet as well.

Now the sax is her number one instrument - although her keyboard skills are such that the Wigan outfit swiftly realised that in an emergency she could double up on piano.

Chelsea plays in the Culcheth High School Swing Band and has had much encouragement from her piano teacher, Joyce Wood and a neighbour who is a member of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, so her musical experience is varied.

She hopes now to study music further in Leeds or Birmingham, where there are specialist jazz degree courses.



Staff celebrate 140 years

STAFF at Sainsbury's Culcheth celebrated 140 years of trading by the company with an anniversary cake and a raffle with proceeds going to their charity of the year St. Rocco's Hospice.

Pictured Third from left, Mary Irving who has worked for Sainsbury's for 21 years, cuts the cake with staff from left, duty manager, Claire McKinney, Sarah Bland, Carole Heley, Pat Shiel, manager Ross Tutton and Margaret Bishop.





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Jamie aims for new world record

A 24-year-old Culcheth man is to tackle the most gruelling endurance triathlon in the world - with the aim of setting a new world record as part of the first team to complete the course.

Former Culcheth High and Twiss Green Primary pupil Jamie Lloyd will be a member of a six-strong team of Centrica staff taking part in the "Arch to Arc" triathlon.

This involves running, swimming and cycling in relays between London and Paris - raising money for Help the Aged in the process.

The first leg is an 87 miles run from

Marble Arch to Dover, followed by a swim across the English Channel. This is topped off with a 180 mile bike ride to the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

Jamie said: "The training's been long and hard, but we're confident that we can set this world record and do ourselves proud. We're raising money for a fantastic cause, and really appreciate all donations"

The challenge, which takes place for



Jamie (left) with two of his team mates in training for the Channel swim.

three consecutive days from June 11, aims to raise an impressive £5000 for Help the Aged as well as build awareness for the issues faced by

elderly people in the UK.

Anyone who wants to help by donating can give via www.justgiving.com/centrica_archtoarc

The plight of the honey bee

A RESOLUTION calling on the government to invest more money in research into the decline of the honey bee was passed unanimously at a meeting of Culcheth WI.

This will now be carried forward to the Northern Federation of Womens Institute's annual general meeting.

The meeting was told that research was needed into breeding disease resistant strains of bee. The loss of bees as pollinators could be catastrophic.

Mrs Ann McCormick was thanked for the flowers on the table and members were reminded about forthcoming trips.

Miss Christine Seddon spoke about the work done by the charity Jacob's Well for who some members knit children's garments.

Speaker Janet Bradshaw, a history interpreter from Tatton Hall, arrived with several mysterious boxes of what appeared to be clothing. Her very energetic talk - during which she changed costumes several times without missing a syllable - covered periods including 1941, 1887, the Tudor, Medieval, and Saxon periods.

Mrs Pearl Grant thanked the speaker.

The next meeting will be the annual Afternoon Tea on June 16 at 2.00pm in the Parish Hall when Mr David Mitchell's talk entitled SPAM will have nothing to do with tinned meat or computers!



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Orphan tells his tale

A CULCHETH man who spent years 'embarrassed' about being an orphan has written a book to tell his story.

Bill Cartwright surprised his children by presenting them with his book, 'The Trail of an Orphan', as a Christmas gift.

And now the book, priced £10, is being sold locally and all proceeds will go to two hospices in Wigan and Leigh, and Bolton – the areas where Bill grew up and worked.

Bill and his wife Jean have three children, Janice, Neil and Sharon. The couple lived in Glazebury before moving to Culcheth. Bill had an insurance business working in the Bolton and West Houghton areas before retirement.

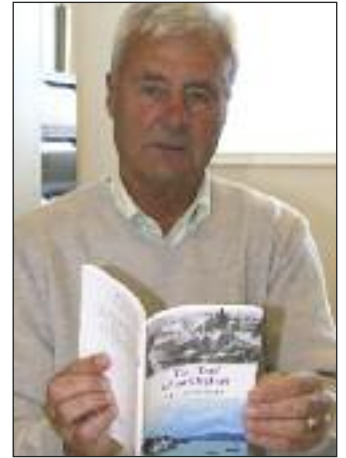
The couple have a home in Culcheth and spend time at their second home in Aberdovey in Wales.

They have funded all the costs of the book themselves so all proceeds can go to charity. Copies are on sale at Forget-Me-Not bookshop in Culcheth.

Bill, 72, was taken to Styal Orphanage when he was four, following the Manchester blitz. He and his sister Marion were left homeless and his mother, Winifred Hindley, was declared missing or dead. His father was serving with the army in the Far East.

His grandmother spent two years trying to track them down via Social Services before taking them to live with her in Atherton.

He found the orphanage a frightening place with regular sounds of air raid sirens and spending nights in



the outdoor air raid shelters. He writes of a difficult life with regular beatings, nights in complete darkness and being lonely and afraid.

Bill said: "There was stigma attached to being in the orphanage so I never told anyone about it. I just got on with life and really envied people who had a mother and had not spent time in an orphanage."

In 2003 he found he had a blood relative, his mother's sister, who grew up in Atherton and had never been in touch despite knowing that he lived nearby.

Bill said: "It took me back a bit that she had not been in touch. But mother was a singer in the Manchester clubs – so was a bit of a 'black sheep' in the family."

He said he enjoyed writing the book and people have said the story is 'inspiring'. He said he is pleased to help the charities and has so far sold 300 copies.



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Scooter scheme to combat scams

A NEW scheme to help counteract irresponsible sales centres and internet suppliers is being set up by a Croft resident.

Retired businessman Gordon Simpson, who worked in the electric mobility scooters industry, is setting up a pilot scheme with Warrington Disability Partnership to counteract the problems.

Gordon has offered to train young disabled people to repair mobility scooters, wheelchairs, tilting chairs and bath lifts. He said: "The last five years has seen a rapid growth in the use of mobility electric scooters, giving independence to many who would be housebound without one. Unfortunately the sale of the scooters has outreached the service and repair availability.

"There are good, established workshops, but also irresponsible dealers and internet suppliers who are selling to the public with no repair training.

"Read carefully - when dealing with a non contact source, buyer beware."

The project will be a pilot for a larger training scheme and a scooter hire service will be set up.

Gordon said: "It is intended to create a workshop operated by trained disabled people, to provide a low cost repair service. This would support local traders as the customers option of a low cost service would be an advantage and boost their sales."

Further details are available from Gordon on 01925 764278, sgismp@aol.com, or mobile 07980 118279.

Doctor's trek to foothills

A CONSULTANT paediatrician from Culcheth is taking the challenge of trekking through the foothills of the Himalayas 25 years after he first did so.



Dr Toni Tan, 50, a consultant at North Manchester General Hospital, aims to raise £2,750 for the charity Med Equip4Kids.

He said: The charity works in partnership with hospitals in the

North West, including Warrington Hospital, to improve the care available to children when they suffer illness or have been involved in accidents, by providing vital equipments and improving the hospital environment for the benefit of children and their families."

Determined

Dr Tan, who is married to Karen and has a son, Nicholas, was born in Indonesia and trekked in the Himalayas when he was a student.

He said: "Returning at the age of 50 is pure madness. But it is going to be a personal challenge and I am determined to make it happen."

Dr Tan said he has kept himself fit and enjoys Salsa dancing and playing football with his son. He is busy training at the weekends, doing walks, to prepare for the event.

His trip is from October 15 to 25

and there will be four days of trekking. Each day will be about eight hours at an altitude of about 3,100 metres.

He is looking for local people and businesses to help sponsor him and anyone who can help should contact him by phone on 01925 764 874 or can make a donation at www.justgiving.com/tonitan

Groping for words

CULCHETH Players are presenting 'Groping for Words' a comedy by Sue Townsend at Culcheth Sports Club from the 10th to 13th of June at 7.30pm.

From left, Kenneth Morris as George, Rick Anderson as Kevin, Rosemary Powell as Joyce and Rebecca Durrington as Thelma.



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Kung Fu coach lands top award

A CULCHETH martial arts teacher is celebrating after landing a top award.

Physiotherapist Mark Draper was awarded a Master Coach diploma in Autodefence-Wing Tchu, a modern day version of Kung Fu.

He was one of five selected from a team of international teachers for the

7th teacher level.

Mark's interest in martial arts was sparked as a teenager by a knife attack. Training intensely in martial arts, he opened his first club in Liverpool in 1991 and then set up



several more until in 2003 he moved his new family to Culcheth.

He said: "After 18 years years of coaching men, women and children of all abilities, I feel I have had the great fortune to help people from all background to increase their self-confidence, physical agility and self-

control in precarious situations".

Coaching some brilliant personalities and high achievers, Mark has even appeared on Chinese TV news, as part of a promotional tour.

Mark said: "It was quite a novelty and ironic for us Brits to be reviving and promoting an otherwise dying art in it's country of origin. Even in the 90's the Chinese teenagers were abandoning their cultural heritage and adopting western styles of combat.

"I am very proud to have been presented with this award by the head of our organisation, Nick Smart, at an international meeting. I would like to congratulate my four colleagues who also received this award in recognition of services to developing and promoting this art.

"We believe we have helped develop a user-friendly version of traditional Kung Fu for all to enjoy".

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Sue's in charge

WELL known local councillor Sue Bland was elected Chairman of Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council.

Retiring Chairman Ileyne Huthinson handed over the Chairman's chain of office to Sue at the last Parish Council meeting, when Helena Campbell was voted in as the new Vice-Chairman.

Meanwhile Ileyne told fellow councillors and members of the public how much she had enjoyed her year of office, and hoped she had succeeded in raising the profile of the Parish Council.



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All set for Croft Carnival



TWELVE-year-old Hannah Alberta will be crowned Croft Carnival Queen at the annual event which takes place on Saturday July 4.

Hannah (right) is pictured with Carnival Princess Paige Whittaker aged 10 and Carnival Rosebud Charlotte Bate aged 4.

Those taking part in the float parade should meet at the Plough Inn at 11.30am with the crowning taking place on the playing fields at around 2pm.

Programmes for the event costing £1 will soon be available and provide admission to the field.

For more details on the event contact Chairman Jim Wilkes on 764701.

Other pictures show last year's event.



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Culcheth Community



Ten year old Thomas Shaw takes the cross bar challenge at the Culcheth Eagles Rugby League Football Club stall.



These youngsters found some adorable puppies at the Warrington and District Guide Dogs for the Blind Stall.



Ben Smith aged 12 has a go on the Nail in the Bale game at the Leigh and District Farming Ladies stall.



Second from left, Ileyne Hutchinson chairman Culcheth Parish Council chats to protesters against the proposed Parkside Development at their stall.

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Day Picture Special

ALL the fun of the fair came to the annual Culcheth Community Day.

More pictures can be viewed at the new look www.culchethlife.com



Trumble the clown kept the children entertained



Spinning the Wheel for a prize at the Culcheth Primary School stall from left, Aisling Carroll - Marsh aged 5, her sister Niamh aged 9, Hannah Best aged 9 and sister Katie aged 11.



Members of the Merseyside Retired Greyhound Trust show off their dogs

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June Tips

The fruit garden

Spraying programmes should continue on fruit trees, be particularly on the look out for codling moth and red spider on apples, and sawfly caterpillars on gooseberries. Fruits on trees carrying very heavy crops may be thinned out to give larger fruit, and to prevent impairment of the next season's crop.

House plant care

Houseplants such as Christmas Cacti and Cymbidium Orchids will benefit from a spell in the open in summer, choose a sheltered spot protected from excessive winds or rain. These plants will flower far more reliably after a break in the open.

The shrub border

Shrubs will be growing vigorously now, and will benefit from a feed with a proprietary fertiliser. Pay careful attention to the watering of container grown specimens to ensure that they do not dry out in hot spells, these also will benefit from a feed at this time of year. Probably the easiest way to feed container plants is with controlled release fertiliser tablets, which will provide the plant with food for up to 6 months.

The herbaceous border

The herbaceous border will be in full swing by now with many plants flowering. Provide support for tall growing varieties and remember to dead head plants after flowering to prolong the display, and prevent the plant expending energy on seed production.

In the greenhouse

Damping down the benches and floor regularly will ensure a humid atmosphere. Temperatures can rise rapidly in the summer months and ventilation is very important. Delicate plants which can easily be scorched in strong sunlight may be protected by applying a layer of shading paint to the glass.

The water garden

There is still time to plant aquatic plants in ponds, fish may also be introduced to both established pools and to new ponds which have been allowed to stand for a few weeks.

Lawn care

Lawns will need frequent mowing now, up to two or three times per week for the finest grasses. Watering is essential during dry spells to prevent the grass from being burned. A summer feed should also be applied now.

The rose garden

Continue to spray roses using a combined insecticide and fungicide. Feeding with a specialist rose fertiliser will pay dividends in the production of abundant large blooms.

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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

Officers of the Parish Council

At the Parish Council Meeting held on the 5th May 2009 Cllr Mrs Susan Bland was elected Chairman and Mrs Helena Campbell was elected Vice Chairman.

Dates & venues of the Parish Council meetings 2009 – 2010

(All at 7.30pm unless otherwise reported)

16th June 2009
Culcheth Day Centre, Jackson Ave

21st July 2009
Culcheth Day Centre, Jackson Ave

No Meeting in August 2009

15th September 2009
Glazebury Methodist Church, Warrington Rd, Glazebury

20th October 2009
Culcheth Day Centre, Jackson Ave

17th November 2009
Glazebury Methodist Church, Warrington Rd, Glazebury

15th December 2009
Culcheth Day Centre, Jackson Ave

19th January 2010
Culcheth Day Centre, Jackson Ave

16th February 2010
Glazebury Methodist Church, Warrington Rd, Glazebury

16th March 2010
Culcheth Day Centre, Jackson Ave

20th April 2010
Glazebury Methodist Church, Warrington Rd, Glazebury

18th May 2010
AGM Culcheth Day Centre, Jackson Ave

Community Day

Once again the Community Day which is run by the Parish Council was a huge success despite the weather. The Parish Council would like to thank all those organisations who took part and hope that you all made lots of money or good contacts. This event is getting bigger and bigger every year and the large amount of Classic Cars and Motorbikes this year made it even better. Hopefully next year we will have more teams taking part in the Tug O War, but congratulations to the Cherry Tree Team who beat The Harrow Inn.

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Budget 2009 – tax relief for pension contributions

WITH the economy in the state it is we would usually expect significant and immediate increases in the main rates of tax. It was perhaps no surprise to hear that the planned tax rises for those with higher incomes will be brought in next year rather than being phased in over two years and, worse still, the planned 45% rate for those with income in excess of £150,000 will now be replaced by a 50% rate.

With effect from 2011, those with income in excess of £150,000 will also see their pension tax relief restricted. Unless, of course, next year's election installs a new government which might have a different view.

Tax relief for pension contributions to be restricted

Higher rate income tax relief is being restricted, with higher rate relief tapered away for those with taxable incomes of between £150,000 and £180,000 from 6 April 2011 and those with incomes above £180,000 contributions will only benefit from basic rate tax relief.

Provisions applying from 22 April 2009 will prevent the forestalling of the new rules. For the tax years 2009/10 and 2010/11 individuals with incomes of at least £150,000 in the year, or any of the preceding two tax years could be affected. Steps

taken to reduce income below £150,000, for example by entering into salary sacrifice arrangements set up after 22 April 2009, will be negated by adding back the amount sacrificed.

Overview

These measures add another level of complexity to the administration of pensions for both employers and individuals and it is a certainty that the administrative costs of running a pension scheme are going to remain high for a further period of time before these new rules become established.

Although the new rules are only billed as coming into effect on 6 April 2011, the forestalling rules already mentioned have immediate effect, and we would urge caution to those considering waiving bonuses into pensions as this could now trigger penal tax charges.

Please note that these ideas are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always obtain professional advice before taking any 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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Tappers raise funds



GLAZEBURY Tappers - and a number of other volunteer 'dancers' from the village - staged a charity evening at Glazebury Primary School to raise funds for new playground equipment.

In addition to dancing demonstrations, there was a tombola and refreshments, organised by members of the Parent Teacher Association.

The Tappers are a long-established tap dancing group for adults and children run by Marjorie Green.

Letter to the Editor

Generous donations to baby unit

Gemma Taylor, Staff Nurse Neonatal Unit, Warrington Hospital

IN the May edition of Culcheth Life there was a article 'Boost for baby care unit'.

I am a member of staff on the Special Care Baby Unit at Warrington and was involved in collecting prizes for raffles etc. I would like to once again thank Mark and Karen from New Arrivals for their support but also thanking Justine from 'Millions of Dreams' for her contribution and support, Gail Cox from Pip Squeaks and Wilfreds clothing shop and Warren Bibby from Cheshire Catering who all were so generous in donating prizes. Without these people we would not be able to have events like this, which gives parents who have had poorly preterm babies the chance to meet again and gives staff the chance to see how well the babies are developing.

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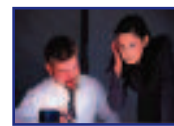


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She is pictured with retinue from left, Charlotte Morris aged 10, Molly Hogarth aged 5, Emily Hogarth aged 8, Courtney Williamson aged 10 and Matthew Beaudin aged 10.



Carrying the Newchurch Junior Banner in the Rose Queen procession are left, Jemm Nutkins and Emma Shields both aged 13.



Newchurch Parish Church servers from left, Sean Avison, Frieda Wilcock, David Hill and Jill Wheatley.



Rev. Chris Stafford and Newchurch Choir in the Rose Queen Procession.



Members of Newchurch Parish Church congregation in the Rose Queen Procession.

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