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Issue: 123
June 2013

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monthly by Orbit News Ltd.*

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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

Editor's Comment



IS it possible that residents of Culcheth's Doeford Close lost their battle to block house building on adjoining land because of incompetence by the borough council's planning department in the 1990s?

The suggestion comes not from us, but from Peter Asquith, the inspector who heard an inquiry into the issue earlier this year.

He said it was clear the developer, when building Doeford

Close, was not required to provide public open space on the adjoining land.

But, he went on, because the council had failed to keep planning files predating 1996, it was not clear whether this was intentional or due to "a degree of incompetency" by the council.

Why does the council not have the planning files? Well, of course, because of the much-publicised decision to destroy them to save

storage space.

It is somewhat ironic that this major consequence of that unlawful destruction of files should impact on Culcheth as it was only because of an Ombudsman's investigation into another, unrelated, planning issue at Culcheth that the loss of the old files came to light.

We wonder how many other planning appeals might be won, or lost, as a result of the loss of those files.

Indeed, we wonder if the missing files might have had any bearing on the Doeford Close residents' current application for village green status, which now remains their only hope of stopping the houses from being built.

Outdoor 'coffee stop'

WORK has started on a new outdoor "coffee stop" at Bents' Garden and Home, Glazebury.

The new facility will be located close to the playground and lakeside decking area, making it easier for parents to enjoy a coffee and cake while keeping an eye on their youngsters.

Customers are being asked to name the new venue in a competition.

Managing director Matthew Bent said: "Both our Fresh Approach Restaurant and Caffe Nel Verde were named by customers in a competition over 10 years ago.

"We want to achieve something similar with our new coffee stop. We are confident that our customers will once again help to provide the perfect name."

The winner claims a prize of

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Closing date for entries is Friday June 7. Entry forms are available from www.bents.co.uk/competitions/

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All set for Croft Carnival

CROFT village is gearing up for its annual Carnival which takes place on Saturday, July 6.

The parade of floats will leave The Plough, at Kenyon Lane, Croft at 12 noon and make its way around the village, arriving at the playing field on Smithy Lane for 1pm.

An action packed afternoon is planned with a variety of stalls and fairground rides and entertainment from Bernie Bennett's Live Wire Act, Professor Pumpnickel – The Mad Scientist and Blackpool Circus

School. Music is provided by The Fuse, Warrington Pipe Band and Tyldsley Brass Band .

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

A draw took place in the Youth Activity Centre to choose the girls and boys who will represent the village at the Carnival and other events in adjacent villages.



This year's Queen will be 13-year-old Lauren Taylor, who attends Culcheth High school. Lauren's attendants this year are Mattea Morrison Evans and Honey Farrow.

Sasha Johns, aged 11, joins Lauren as this year's Carnival Princess. Sasha is a year 6 pupil at St. Lewis's School. Sasha's attendants are Poppy Burton and Louisa Young.

The Rose bud is 6-years-old Beatrice Rios-Hunt. Bea attends Croft Primary School. Bea's attendants are Maddison Cassidy and Casey Skinner.

The Crown Bearer for this year is 5 years old Finlay Marshall. Finlay attends Croft Primary School.

Stables clear planning hurdle

PLANNING chiefs have given the go-ahead for a new stable block on land off Smithy Lane and New Lane, Croft in connection with private horse riding.

But members of the borough council's planning committee say in the event of the land not being used for equestrian purposes, it must be returned to agricultural use within six months. They have imposed a condition that there should be no floodlighting.

Croft parish councillor Chris Vobe had opposed the scheme on the grounds the stable block would be an unwanted development on Green Belt land. But planning officers pointed out the stables would be used in connection with private recreational outdoor sports and would not conflict with the open character of the Green Belt.

Homes in garden plan refused

PLANS to build two dwellings in the garden of an existing house at Culcheth have been thrown out by planning bosses at Warrington.

The proposals involved a house and a bungalow on land at the end of Broseley Avenue – adjoining Leigh Golf Club – and members of the borough council's planning committee decided they were out-of-keeping with the area.

Five neighbours lodged objections and there was opposition also from Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council.

Neighbours claimed the development would look "squashed" and that the plans had insufficient detail. The site was close to a site of important local nature conservation and had been subject to flooding.

The parish council argued that the proposals were not appropriate in a sensitive area on the edge of the Green Belt.

Officers recommended the scheme be approved but the committee decided to refuse permission.

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Model show success

THE annual Croft Model Show has been hailed a great success after raising just over £1,600 for British Heart Foundation.

Total raised to date is now a staggering £12,517.97 with organisers thanking local people for helping make the magical sum possible.

The event included model railway kits, meccano, toy soldiers, war games, lego, dioramas, sci-fi on display to name but a few along with guest appearance by R2 D2, Darth Vader and the "Mint Imperials" (pictured above) as well as a fully operational remote control Dalek.



Rob Welsh and his daughter Holly aged 3 of Croft take a close look at a model Fun Fair at the Croft Model Show in the Village Hall. All proceeds from the event were donated to the British Heart Foundation.

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The origins of nursery rhymes

MEMBERS of Culcheth WI learned about the origins of nursery rhymes from guest speaker Jean Finney.

She opened her talk with a song to her own guitar, "I am confused - a song about me" but she was certainly not confused about the history of nursery rhymes.

"Baa Baa Black Sheep" dates from 1275, when wool was Britain's chief export and producers were very rich.

"The Grand Old Duke of York" dates from 1455 and the War of the Roses.

Queen Mary, otherwise known as Bloody Mary, gave her name to "Mary, Mary Quite Contrary" while "Oranges and Lemons" relates to the journey of condemned men led by candlelight from prison to their execution.

Birthdays congratulations were

extended to Ann McCormick, Barbara Starkey, Olive Lee and Barbara Hartley, with a special mention for Olive who celebrated her 90th birthday and was presented with a bouquet by Ann Hambleton.

Tea hostesses were Ann McCormick and Frances Robinson. Flowers for the President's table was given by Sally Taylor and Margaret Fletcher and later donated to the raffle. The raffle winners were Eileen Williams, Olive Lee, Shirley Bennett, Ann Anderson, Christine Rankin, Kathleen Totham and Renee Green.

Members were told they had been awarded the Mosslands Group bursary which would go towards a visit to Marshall's farm at Glazebury to see a demonstration of how to prepare hanging baskets.

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Petition highlights crossing patrol concern

NEARLY 200 concerned parents and residents of Croft have signed a petition campaigning for the return of a school crossing on Mustard Lane.

Local Cllr Les Hoyle organised and presented a petition to the Mayor of Warrington Cllr Steve Wright, asking Warrington Borough Council to look urgently at replacing the School Crossing Patrol and providing a Zebra Crossing before an accident happens.

He feels, that despite his efforts over the last few months to have this matter resolved, very little progress has been made, so he is hoping that the Borough will listen to the concerns of the parents and residents of Croft and respond positively to their request.



Les Hoyle presents the petition to the Mayor.



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Raj marks 15 years with Dhaka disaster fund-raiser

THE Raj Indian Restaurant in Culcheth is holding a special charity event marking its 15th anniversary to help raise funds for victims of the Dhaka disaster when a building collapsed killing at least 340 people.

Restaurant boss Anhar Miah, who was born in Bangladesh, is planning to fly out to Dhaka at the end of June to distribute the funds raised to ensure they get to those most in need.

The fund-raising event takes place on Wednesday June 5, 7pm for 7.30pm and involves a banquet at the Raj costing £25 per head.

It will include a selection of starters, main courses and vegetables. Price also includes Ice Cream and Coffee. All proceeds (100%) going to charity – Bangladesh appeal via Bill Hampson of the Epihany trust through his contacts in Dhaka who will help distribute to some of the people affected by the disaster.

Meanwhile Anhar, who came over to the UK when he was 18 months old, was bought up in Oldham and has worked in restaurants from the age of 15 in various towns including Preston, Manchester and Warrington and has had the Raj in Culcheth since 1998.

He has helped raise money for charity at least twice a year contributing to local charities mostly.

Anhar said: "After what has happened in Dhaka I thought it would be nice to do something for Bangladesh along with my Business partner who is also the chef as he has more links than myself, as he grew up in Bangladesh."

Meanwhile as part of its 15th anniversary celebrations the Raj will be relocating to a brand new restaurant on Warrington Road, Culcheth at the end of August 2013.

For tickets for the event contact Bill 07968 741626 or email anhar@live.co.uk

New Chairman elected



ALDERMAN Keith Bland is pictured being presented with a commemorative medallion in recognition of a very successful year as Chairman by newly elected Chairman for 2013-14 Cllr. Mrs Jacqui Johnson at the Annual General Meeting of Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council, held at the Culcheth Day Centre on Jackson Avenue.

Cllr. Matt Smith was elected Deputy Chairman.

Guides enjoy "Splash Day"

MEMBERS of the 7th Culcheth Guides joined more than 100 other Guides from all over Cheshire to enjoy a "Guide only" Splash Day at Tatton.

Guides - and Leaders - had the opportunity to try out sailing, kayaking, katakanu and the very tricky coracle.

District Commissioner Sara Isles said: "Everyone had a great time – so much so that we plan to go again in September!"

More details about Guide activities in Culcheth can be obtained from Sara via sara.isles@btinternet.com

Culcheth High Community Campus

Adult Learning Courses

June 2013



Culcheth High School is working with Warrington

Collegiate & LiveWire to offer Adult Courses

Discover Pottery Learn how to work with clay, create your own pots, plates and tiles, as well as developing your own ideas. Mixed ability, all welcome. This course costs £35, however learners can access one free course this academic year, a cost of £15 for materials applies. Every Tuesday evening for five weeks starting on the 11th June, 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Call Registry on 01925 494494 to enrol.

Basic IT Computer Skills This course will give you the skills needed to type a letter, access the internet and send e-mails. This course costs £35, however learners can access one free course this academic year. Every Tuesday evening for five weeks starting on 11th June, 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Call Registry on 01925 494494 to enrol.

Discover Floristry Learn floristry techniques to create beautiful flowers This course costs £35, however learners can access one free course this academic year, a cost of £15 for materials applies. Every Thursday evening for five weeks starting on the 13th June 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Call Registry on 01925 494494 to enrol.

Discover Jewellery Making An introduction the craft of jewellery making. This course costs £35 with a cost of £15 for materials, however each learner is entitled to one free course each academic year. Every Tuesday evening for five weeks starting on the 11th June, 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Call Registry on 01925 494494 to enrol

Discover Art and Design Relax in a creative environment of our Art department and have taster sessions on Printmaking, hand-made paper, drawing skills and 3D design. This course costs £35, however learners can access one free course this academic year. Every Thursday for five weeks evening starting on the 13th June 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Call Registry on 01925 494494 to enrol.

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Introduction to Baking Chef Paul Ratcliffe will guide you as you create a range of bread and cakes. This course costs £35, however learners can access one free course this academic year, a cost of £15 for materials applies. One class every Tuesday evening for four weeks starting on the 11th June 6.30pm—9pm Call Registry on 01925 494494 to enrol.

For more information on enrolment or guidance regarding these courses please contact: Debbie Porrin via email:

dporrin@warrington.gov.uk
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Community day wo



CULCHETH Community Day has been hailed the most successful yet as a local councillor showed the spirit of the occasion by going in the stocks for charity.

A heat wave and a series of brand new entertainments, including the special Dr Who theme to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the time travelling Time Lord, drew unprecedented crowds to the village green, at the event organised by Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council.

The TARDIS, an Ood, an army of Daleks – and even the Doctor himself – landed on the village green to the delight of local children.

There were a range of competitions for schools – ranging from model making to fancy dress – offering the opportunity for “Doctor

Who”-related prizes. Parish councillor Angela Duncombe oversaw the first “Great Culcheth Bake Off” in the village hall, whilst local groups and organisations – including the Glazebury Play Area Committee – raised funds on the Common.

Entertainment came in the form of Dr Diabalo’s Side Show, an old-style crowd-pleasing ensemble who came complete with a contortionist, a sword swallower, a stilt walker and the Queen of Fire!

The Grand Raffle was drawn at the end of the afternoon, with a host of prizes donated by local firms.

Cllr Chris Vobe, who went in the village stocks to raise money for charity, said: “My heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who helped to make this year’s Culcheth Community Day a success.

“Glorious weather, a fantastic array of stalls, unprecedented crowds, and brilliant performances from the Queen of Fire combined to make this the most successful event the village has hosted.

“There was huge support and enthusiasm for the Doctor Who theme, as the Daleks invaded the green to help us celebrate 50 years of the world’s most famous Time Lord!”

Parish councillor Matt Smith – who, along with Cllr Vobe, led the organisation for the event – added:

“Community Day was a triumph for the whole village. The biggest congratulations must go to the organisations and groups who came to the village green in the soaring heat to set up for the day.



as out of this world!



"Children and adults alike told us that, from start to finish, they had an unforgettable day. The biggest hit of the day was Dr Diabalo's Side Show, who enthralled the crowds who came to watch.

"We're looking forward to repeating the success of this year's event in twelve months time."

During the day, councillors themselves did their own fundraising. In the afternoon, Cllr Vobe was "sent to the stocks" (with the help of a Cyberman!) for the first "Throw a wet sponge at your local councillor" event in aid of Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust.

A soaking wet Cllr Vobe was delighted to have raised over £400 in total for the Trust, which he says will make a real difference to cancer sufferers and their families.

He added: "I want to send my personal thanks to everyone who donated to Jo's Trust, either in person on the day or online. Both I and the Trust are hugely grateful – and, as the photos go to prove, I was both pelted and soaked during my time in the stocks!"



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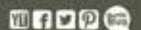
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Dining Out with Culcheth Life

at the Plough Inn

YOU would be hard pressed to find a more traditional country pub than the Plough Inn at Croft.

Situated in the heart of Croft's rolling countryside, The Plough is now reopened and under new management of Kirk and Anne-Marie Garbutt from the nearby General Elliot.

The traditional pub has now been refurbished inside and welcomes

everybody, including families with young children.

Dogs are also welcomed and allowed in the tap room for walkers!

The bar menu is very traditional and includes the usual favourites.

During our visit we had the home made soup of the day, which was brie and broccoli. It was piping hot and the bread roll was nicely warmed.

For mains we had the five bean chilli and with rice, which was a vegetarian option and the rib eye steak, which was cooked to perfection with thick cut chips.

While the menu is not as extensive as the nearby Elliot, it still offers enough variety to suit all tastes.

The Plough offers a home cooked menu which is available 12-2.30 and 5.30-8.30 Monday-Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday 12-6 with a quiz night every Tuesday commencing at 9pm.

To book or for more details, call 01925 76 6001

Support the high street, says WI

MEMBERS of Croft WI voted heavily for a motion calling for action to halt the decline of high street shopping at their monthly meeting.

They were asked to support local retailers of goods and services to help the high street once again flourish and become a focal point for communities.

President Doreen Clare welcomed 61 members to the meeting, which also voted in favour of changes to the WI constitution involving the use of more simplified language.

Elaine Grundy donated a beautiful orchid for the president's table.

Several forthcoming events were announced including a walk around Dunham Massey on June 5, the Cheshire Show, on June 18-19, a trip to Lavender Farm, York, on July 2, Croft Carnival on July 5 and a boat trip at Salford Quays on September 4.

A competition for a picnic recipe was won by Ann Tansey, with Nicky Adams second and Lesley Lloyd third.

Guest speaker at the next meeting on June 19 will be Tony Bent of the Air Ambulance Service.

New members and visitors are always welcome - telephone 01925 764555 for more information.



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stylesfiles

Is networking working for you?

Business networking is a valuable way to expand your knowledge, learn from the success of others, attain new customers and let others know about your business.

For many, however, it can be a daunting task. For some people, simply the thought of entering a room full of strangers and trying to strike up a conversation is terrifying.

Other people find it difficult to quantify the results of networking, or give up with the idea because the first few events haven't resulted in any new business.

Don't worry - you're not alone! Here's my advice on how to get the most from networking:

1) DON'T HARD SELL TO THE ROOM
 When you first meet someone, the last thing they want is to feel that they are being instantly sold to. This can actually deter people from wanting to work with you.

2) BE PREPARED
 Where possible, ask for an attendees list for each event beforehand. This way you can do your research and ensure you speak to the people you need to.

3) BUILD RELATIONSHIPS
 Effort should be made to keep in touch with the people you've met. Your goal is to gain a person's trust.

4) BE PATIENT
 Don't expect results to happen instantly. Sometimes it can be several months (even years) down the line before a contact sends anything your way.

5) ACTIVELY HELP OTHERS
 Look to refer as much as possible to others. It's no coincidence that the people who refer the most often receive the most.

There are many networking events held locally; so why not give them

a go? The positive impact it could have on the growth and development of your business could be amazing. Best of luck.



Stuart Hurst

Please note the contents of our article are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always take professional advice before taking action.

The Styles Files are provided by Styles & Co, if you would like further information call 01925 761600

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WARRINGTON Wolves brought their mid week training session to Shaw Street, home of Culcheth Eagles Rugby League. Wolves first teamers, including Adrian Morley, Lee Briars and Bennie Westwood were put through their paces as a growing crowd watched on.

After the session the players, along with coaching team members, including Tony Smith and Richard Marshall signed shirts and autograph books for the Culcheth youngsters.

There were plenty of opportunities for the budding rugby league players, not to mention some rather enthusiastic mums to have their photos taken with their Super League heroes and the Challenge Cup.

Afterwards the Warrington Squad were invited back to The Pack Horse, where heaps of lasagne and salad were laid on for the hungry Wolves to tuck into.

Culcheth Eagles Open Age hope to have a piece of silverware of their own after securing a place in the Warrington Carlsberg Cup Final, to be played at Rylands Rugby Club on August 28 with a 6.30pm kick off.

The Open Age also welcome on board new Head Coach Mick Fishwick, whose credentials include Bank Quay Bulls, Leigh East and BARLA U23s.



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



Eddy Estlin
eddy.estlin2012@gmail.com

CULCHETH WARD



Mike Vobe
mike.vobe2012@gmail.com



Peter Caswell
01942 671938



Keith Bland
01925 766641



Lilian Houghton
01925 762935



Paul Campbell
01925 766658

The new Parish Council year begins / Meeting Times

The new Parish Council year (which begins in May) has launched with the election of a new Chair and Deputy. Jacqui Johnson, who represents Newchurch, will Chair the Parish Council for the forthcoming twelve months and will be assisted by her new Vice Chair, Matt Smith. Jacqui and Matt look forward to the coming year being both successful and rewarding for the villages, as the Council takes forward a number of important initiatives.

The Parish Council will continue to meet on the second Tuesday of every month (except August). Details of meetings, and the agenda for each of them, will be posted in advance on our notice boards throughout the villages. They begin at 7.30pm and alternate between the Culcheth Day Centre on Jackson Avenue and Glazebury Methodist Church.

We welcome and encourage all members of the public to come along – the meetings are open to anyone, and your parish councillors are keen to hear your ideas and views on local matters.

Culcheth Community Day – The most successful ever!

This year's Culcheth Community Day has received widespread acclaim. A heat wave and a range of brand new entertainment drew unprecedented crowds to the village green on Bank Holiday Monday. As people will know, TV's "Doctor Who" was the theme of the day in recognition and celebration of the programme's 50th anniversary.

We were particularly pleased to see local children getting involved with the range of events and competitions that were organised, and we hope that it was a day which succeeded in bringing the whole community together. The Parish Council would like to extend our thanks to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly for the various charities and groups who raised funds on the day, as well as those who gave so generously to the many deserving causes.

A big well done to the winners of our Grand Raffle and particular congratulations to the winners of the "Great Culcheth Bake Off" and the "Doctor Who Model Competition" (Year 1 of Culcheth Primary School). We're looking forward to repeating the success of this year's event in twelve months time.

A personal message from Cllr Chris Vobe

Cllr Chris Vobe has sent his personal thanks to all those who donated to, and sponsored, his fundraising event for Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust.

Chris was "sent to the stocks" in the afternoon of Community Day for the "Throw a wet sponge at your local councillor" event. He was delighted to have raised over £400 for the Trust. He says that this money will make a real difference to cancer patients and their families.

Particular acclaim must go to the residents who discarded their sponges and tipped a bucket of water over Chris in exchange for their donation!

Part time Litter Warden vacancy

The Parish Council is recruiting a part-time Litter Warden. Details of this vacancy, and how to apply, can be obtained from the Clerk by writing to: 2 Hebden Avenue, Culcheth, WA3 5JL or by emailing culcheth.clerk@btinternet.com. The successful applicant will be paid the Living Wage, and we are particularly keen to hear from any young people who may be interested in submitting applications.

Publication of Information

The Parish Council has adopted a Publication of Information scheme. Details of who we are, what we do and how the public can access information, are published on the main notice board at Common Lane, in Culcheth Library, and on our website: www.culchethandglazebury.org.uk

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