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Issue: 135
June 2014

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Editor
Gary Skentelbery
Production
Paul Walker
Advertising
James Balme
Nick White

Freephone
0800 955 5247

Editorial
01925 623633

Email
info@culchethlife.com

Websites
www.culchethlife.com
www.frodshamlife.co.uk
www.lymmlife.co.uk
www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk
www.warrington.tv

Address
New Media Centre
Old Road Warrington
WA4 1AT

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Editor's Comment



DESPITE some controversy over the nature of their election campaign - Labour swept to victory in Culcheth, Croft and Glazebury at the Warrington Borough Council local elections.

The controversy I refer to is the nature of some of the leaflet campaigning which involved personal attacks on rivals.

This didn't go down too well in some areas of the community - but it didn't appear to have any negative

impact with Labour's Matt Smith, who heavily defeated his fellow parish councillor and Tory rival Paul Campbell, to take a seat in the corridors of power at Warrington Town Hall.

The "Kangaroo" leaflet which sparked much debate on social networks certainly angered some people - but not enough to make a difference in the polls.

Personally I find it disappointing when any political party uses time and energy attacking their rivals, rather than focusing on the task in hand of representing their local community.

At the end of the day those on the parish council have to work together

for the good of the community and I am sure it doesn't help if there is any ill-will or bad blood left over from election campaigns.

Hopefully those elected to represent their community can focus on the task in hand.

The full election results were:
Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft:
(Lab gain from Con)
Paul Campbell (Cons) 1246
Merril Cummerson (Lib Dem) 222
Beverley Fairfoull (UKIP) 528
Matt Smith (Lab) 1719

Deadline for the July issue of Culcheth Life is June 17

Celebrating the work of carers

CLS Care Services - who run Holcroft Grange, in Jackson Avenue, Culcheth, are offering dedicated carers the gift of a free day care to celebrate National Carer's Week.

The free, flexible day care service, available throughout the week of June 9-15 from 7am-10pm, offers a chance for carers to recharge their batteries and offer a loved one a change of scene.

CLS Care managing director Robert Black said: "We understand caring for a loved one, either full-time or just part of the time, is a tough job and sometimes you just need a break. Day care can offer a bit of time away from the normal routine and a rest for everybody involved."

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Lucy is crowned Rose Queen

LUCY Stevenson, aged 10 was crowned Queen at the annual Newchurch Rose Queen festival.



A pupil at Twiss Green Primary School, Culcheth, Lucy had previously taken part in the festival as an attendant on three occasions. She was crowned in a ceremony during a service in church and led a procession through the village to the Parish Hall, where lunch was enjoyed. Lucy is a keen horse rider, with her own pony, and is also a member of Culcheth Guides. She plays cricket for Leigh Lionesses and plays the 'cello in the school orchestra as well as with the Leigh Junior String Orchestra.



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Thumbs up for Youth Shelter

THE eagerly anticipated youth shelter on the village green in Culcheth has now been officially opened - and proving extremely popular with youngsters in the area.

It's the first time in years that anything has been installed in the centre of the village that is specifically for local youths and those involved in the project hope it is just the start of an ongoing set of projects in the area to see that they have something they can call their own as well.

Local businessman Paul Taylor, who sits on the Warrington East Stronger Together Board says he would even like to see a full blown youth club or café in the future!

If anyone wants to get involved in future projects please go to [facebook.com/CYAG](https://www.facebook.com/CYAG) (Culcheth Youth Action Group) and register your interest!

If you would like to get involved in other future projects whether youth based or not please contact Diane White from Stronger Together at dwhite@warrington.gov.uk

Those responsible for working on, and/or funding the project are Culcheth and Glazebury Parish

Council, IGas, Stronger Together (Warrington East), the Education Trust and Taylor Business Park.

The parish council is now looking at introducing a path and possibly of a litter bin at the shelter as well. These couldn't be installed at first as the routes that people took to the shelter had to be ascertained before a permanent path could be

introduced.

Mr Taylor commented: "It's been used regularly since it was installed and with perhaps a couple more of these and a few other facilities for the younger villagers to call their own it will add even more strength and diversity to the community spirit here in the Culcheth."

Exciting times ahead for dental centre

CULCHETH'S Hob Hey Dental Centre can now offer a complete range of services in the village.

Clinical director John Fleming is excited about times ahead following changes which have taken place over the last year.

The centre has been providing family dental care to Culcheth and surrounding areas since 1968.

Mr Fleming said: "There have been a lot of changes since David Cockbain retired last year and I am privileged to have found David Baker as his replacement.

"I am so lucky to have a committed and caring team who enjoy their work, many of who have been here for between 10 and 35 years.

"It is essential that we continue to provide family dental care but I also want to be able to offer a complete range of services so that everyone can be treated here without having to travel out of the village.

"We now can provide Implants, Single visit metal free crowns, Tooth Whitening, Fastbraces, Orthodontics and facial aesthetics including, anti wrinkle injections and dermal fillers.

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Culcheth High School celebrates good OFSTED

CULCHETH High School's new head teacher David Terry is "delighted" with the schools "Good" OFSTED inspection.

The school hosted a visit from a team of five OFSTED Inspectors earlier this month and the inspection, which was carried out over two days, involved a rigorous scrutiny of the school's quality of provision.

Mr Terry said: "I am delighted to report that Culcheth High School has been judged to be a good school in all areas."

It has been rated as good in Overall Effectiveness, Achievement, Quality of Teaching, Behaviour and Safety of Students and Leadership and Management.

He said it was worth noting that OFSTED have significantly raised their expectations and requirements on all schools nationally to demonstrate higher standards than in previous years' inspections.

"I have no doubt that the commitment, dedication and sheer hard work of staff, students, parents, governors and wider community partners have culminated in a very positive report, an endorsement of the school over time that I think we can all be very proud of."

"The OFSTED team have given very clear areas for Culcheth High School to improve upon to achieve an outstanding judgement in time."

"It is my very strong belief that the Culcheth community deserve to have an outstanding school at the heart of our locality. At Culcheth High School we do not intend to rest on our laurels but rather to engage and work towards a vision of outstanding school status."

Highlights of the report stated that 'Culcheth High is a good school – it provides a good education for students.'

'Students develop good knowledge, skills and understanding well in most subjects, including English and mathematics.'

'Students consistently achieve results that are well above those of students nationally. In 2013, the proportion of students gaining at least five GCSE passes at grade C or above, including in English and mathematics, and their attainment in English and in mathematics, increased even further.'

'The proportion of students attaining A* to C passes at GCSE in a wide range of subjects is significantly higher than found nationally.'

'Students make good progress from their starting points and attain high standards in GCSE examinations.'

'Achievement is good as a result of effective teaching over time.'

'Students with special educational needs achieve well as a result of the well-planned provision and effective support they receive.'

'Students work hard and behave well. They are respectful to teachers and other adults.'

'Students support the learning of all by working together well. They are friendly and pleasant in their social time.'

'Students are open and courteous towards visitors. They are pleased to talk about their school. They look after the buildings and site well.'

'The curriculum meets students'

needs. It is enhanced by an extensive programme of activities, after school and visits during and out of school time.'

'The development of spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of students' learning is effective. The school has an active link with a partner school in Soweto. This involves teachers and students in exchange visits. Large amounts of money are raised for charity.'

This work is often led by sixth form students.'

'Spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of students' learning are well developed. Many students are actively involved in working for charities.'

'Governance is effective. Governors know the school well and challenge and support senior leaders.'



School Leadership Team, including new head teacher David Terry, and students celebrating the good Ofsted rating

Weekend of Prayer

A Weekend of Prayer is being held at Culcheth Methodist Church on Ellesmere Rd from June 13-15.

The Church Sanctuary will be open all weekend for prayer from 9.30 am on Friday 13th.

On Saturday 14th there will be refreshments available all day, with prayer displays and information, as well as opportunities for creative prayer, crafts and music.

Sunday 15th will start with a cafe style service from 9.45am, followed by a bring and share lunch, and further opportunities to join in the creative prayer activities, up to mid afternoon.

If you are interested in sharing in prayer, finding out about prayer, or joining in some creative activities and getting some inspiration, go along and see what is going on.

There will be more information available in the church foyer with further details.

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Culcheth Community Day

THE annual Culcheth Community Day saw the village pay a special tribute in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of World War One.

Central to the commemoration was a parade by a number of local uniformed organisations including the Scouts and the ATC.

Meanwhile the theme of this year's Community Day was Ancient Egypt, featuring an Egyptian Temple which appeared on the village green featuring performances from a travelling show to entertain young and old alike incorporating fire, magic and mystery.

There was also be the usual favourites including Trumble the clown, Tyldesley Brass Band; fairground rides; a pet show; a cake baking competition and the veteran car/motorcycle and tractor display.

The event was organised by Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council and gave local organisations a chance to promote themselves and raise funds.



The Culcheth Royal British Legion Burger Stall was kept busy.



Trumble the Clown entertained the children.



Local cadets who took part in the World War One Commemoration before the opening of the Culcheth Community Day.

ay commemorates WWI



The Egyptian Temple Show included a fire eater and fire breather act.



Above: 70th Croft & Culcheth Squadron Air Cadets were kept busy selling Spitfire Cup Cakes to raise funds.
From left, Sofia Castergena, Fiona Wilshaw and Alex Castergena.



Left: Ten year old Harry Wells sits on a 1954 500cc Vincent Comet motorbike at the Vintage Car Show.

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The Gardening Guide JUNE

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- Tender vegetables such as tomatoes can go outside now
- Houseplants will greatly benefit from a spell outside but make sure they are acclimatised to the increased light and placed in a shaded area at first
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Your Parish Councillors

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Chris Vobe
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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

Community Day 2014

Once again, Community Day was a resounding success as people from across the villages came together in support of local charities and good causes. Parish Councillors have been delighted by the feedback we have received, especially regarding this year's entertainment. We hope that all stallholders raised good amounts for their organisation - we were particularly pleased to hear that the Glazebury Play Area Committee surpassed last year's total. Our thanks go to everyone who was involved in the organisation of the day. As ever, we welcome any feedback that local people may want to give, as well as suggestions and ideas for next year's event.

Teen Shelter officially opened!

The Teen Shelter, located on Culcheth Village Green, was officially opened last month and Parish Councillors were on hand for the occasion. So far, the shelter seems to have proved popular with all members of the community. We will continue to monitor its usage over the coming weeks, as well as work to ensure that it remains clean and inviting for people who want to sit inside.

Christmas Lights

Earlier this year, the Parish Council wrote to local businesses as part of our appeal to seek extra funding for upgrades and improvements to the village's Christmas lights. Our thanks are warmly extended to those businesses who have responded and provided generous donations. The opportunity for others to get involved with the sponsorship in the same way is still open - please get in touch with either the Clerk to the Council, or any members via the details listed on this page, to discuss further.

Police update

Parish Councillors were pleased to welcome Inspector Chris Adkins to our most recent meeting. Inspector Adkins spoke with residents and councillors about a number of topical issues, including nuisance parking and incidents of anti-social behaviour. Parish Councillors are working closely with the police to resolve the problems faced by residents in Newchurch with "boy racers" who are driving through the area at excessive speeds.

Litter clearance

The Parish Council always endeavours to work pro-actively with members of the community to stamp out litter locally. Recent litter "hot spots" that local people have reported have been attended to quickly by our dedicated maintenance team. If there is an area which you think merits extra attention, please get in touch at any time and be assured of a prompt response as we strive to tackle the problem.

New Chairman appointed

Cllr Matt Smith has been elected Chair of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year, 2014-15. Cllr Smith will represent Culcheth and Glazebury at civic events and in the wider town. Cllr Chris Vobe will serve as Deputy Chair during this same year.

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Putting a Business Plan Together

A well thought out business plan is an important strategic document. It is also an integral tool for any business wishing to obtain government funding, investment capital or bank loans.

The benefits of preparing a business plan include the following:

- Those involved in its preparation (the business owners) will be encouraged to stand back and objectively look at where their business is, where it is going and how they may wish to redirect it
- The business plan will document the owners' considered plans at a particular time and can be used to focus minds when driving the business forward
- Future performance can be measured against the plan, variances investigated and the development of the business put back on track

The level of detail included in a business plan can vary depending on the nature and complexity of the

business. However, all plans should include a set of financial projections including profit and loss accounts, balance sheets and cash flows. This information will enable the owners of the business to determine where they are going and anticipate whether there will be an associated funding requirement involved in achieving their goals.

Perhaps the owners anticipate growing the business by a certain percentage or entering new locations or industry sectors. The business plan and projections should cover the period over which this growth is expected to take place and will typically cover between 3 and 5 years.

Good business management will involve the business plan being regularly revisited and updated, at least once a year. Making this review part of the year end procedure will help focus the owners on the future and where their business is heading. In addition to a long term business

plan, a rolling 13 week (3 month) cash flow should be regarded as an essential business tool, irrespective of the economic climate.

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Parking restrictions lifted for six month trial

CONTROVERSIAL parking restrictions which resulted in motorists being fined while visiting Culcheth, have been lifted, following a lengthy campaign by local councillors.

Local councillor Paul Campbell has welcomed the news that the land owner of the car parks on Lodge Drive Culcheth, has agreed to the lifting of parking restrictions and the issuing of parking fines to motorists.

Together with other local councillors, Paul has been campaigning for some time to have

this practice stopped, firstly when vehicles were being clamped and then after the current Government banned that practice on private land, the issuing of parking tickets/Invoices.

Paul said: "This is great news for the many motorists who visit Culcheth daily and park on Lodge Drive to visit local shops,

restaurants, the playground and the local Methodist Church.

"I have been campaigning against this practice for some time and I have met with and written to the Landlord and I am pleased to say they have listened to the concerns of local residents and shop owners. The lifting of these parking fines has now been brought into effect for a six month period in which the Landlord proposes to monitor usage and if they feel the Car Park is being abused then they

will have to reintroduce restrictions.

"I would hope that this will not be the case and I would like to thank the Landlord for the community spirit they have shown in making this decision, one which I fully support. In the meantime I will be writing to the Landlord to thank them for this most welcome announcement and asking that they either remove or cover up the current parking signage to help avoid any confusion."

School's summer ball raised £1,800

A FUND-RAISING summer ball organised by members of the Parent-Teacher Association at Culcheth High School raised for than £1,800.

The well-attended event at Leigh Golf Club presented new head teacher Dave Terry with an opportunity to get to know many parents and friends of the school in an informal setting.

Those attending enjoyed a meal, dancing and a number of games and competitions to raise money for the school.

PTA chairman Ruth Morrison said: "It was a successful and enjoyable evening, well supported by many businesses in the village who we would like to sincerely thank for their help.

"Our new head and assistant head Tony Brittain both gave the PTA good support."



Reproductive Health group back fertility charity

Locally based Reproductive Health Group are helping raise funds for the national fertility charity – Infertility Network UK.

Based at their new state of the art clinic at Daresbury Park, the Centre for Reproductive Health, Reproductive Health Group provide high quality, patient centred care in fertility, gynaecology and IVF.

Amongst the latest technologies available at the Centre is EEVA (early embryo viability assessment).

Developed at Stanford University, this is a technique used in IVF treatment to help determine which fertilised embryos have the greatest potential for a successful outcome to the treatment.

Whilst there are many factors which affect the chances of

pregnancy through an IVF cycle, selecting the best embryos is an important one and EEVA provides additional information which makes it more likely that the embryo with the highest pregnancy potential is chosen.

From May 6th – June 15th, clinics in the UK which currently offer EEVA have been invited to help raise funds for the national fertility charity, Infertility Network UK, and Reproductive Health Group are proud to be a part of this campaign. More details about the campaign are available on our website www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk.

For any further information please contact Annette Eckersley at education@reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk

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Village carnival is back - after 30 years

A VILLAGE carnival is to be revived after a gap of more than 30 years.

Rixton-with-Glazebrook Carnival will take place on the village green on Saturday, June 28 from 11am to 4pm.

Entry to the family fun day will be free and there will be attractions for all ages.

Live music will come from Cadishead Band, Lymm Folk Club and male vocalist Wayne Devlin. In addition, there will be a variety of dances from Stagecraft and Budgie will conjure up magical entertainment.

Elsewhere on the green there will be a climbing wall run by Challenge 4 Change, Zapparelli circus skills workshops and bird of prey displays from Rixton Raptors.

There will also be a display of vintage tractors, motorbikes and a modern day fire engine. Lots of local groups are also getting involved by providing entertainment and information stalls and some local businesses will have their products for sale.

The Vintage Tea Tent, Bar Tent, BBQ and Sweet and Pop Stall will cater for everyone's refreshment needs.

Competitions for the best decorated cake, the most interesting photo of village life and a "silly dog show" will also take place.

Full details of the carnival, including how to enter the competitions, can be found at www.rixtonwithglazebrook.net

A warm-up musical evening is being held at The Black Swan on Friday June 27 from 7pm. Acts will be the international award winning Carolyn May, Wayne Devlin - Trafford's Frank Sinatra - and folk musician John Condy and his All Stars. Again, entry is free.

A nurseryman and a comedian!

BILL Blackledge proved as much a comedian as a nurseryman when he visited Croft WI to talk about garden plants.

What could have been a boring talk to non-gardeners turned out to be hilarious yet interesting and informative. While demonstrating how to plant-up containers and hanging baskets, Bill related to his past experiences.

One concerned "Gardeners Question Time" on the radio, where a panel member related a tale about attending a WI meeting as guest speaker and the president giving a vote of thanks then asking members to give generously to the group's funds in order to obtain a better class of speaker next time!

There were numerous plants on sale and quite a scrabble to buy the extremely good value items. President Doreen Clare thanked Bill for a very entertaining evening.

The meeting also involved members voting on the latest WI Resolution concerned with organ donation. Vicky Gaskill read out all the relevant information relating to this emotive subject and it was surprising to learn that the UK has the lowest consent rate for organ donation in Europe.

The competition was won by Jill Hallam, with Nicky Adams 2nd and Joan Johnson 3rd.

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