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Issue: 114
September 2012

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Editor's Comment



THE vast areas of moss land to the north of Warrington, left behind by the Ice Age, did few favours for the landscape. It is largely flat and featureless.

It failed to impress Daniel Defoe in 1724 when, after travelling from Warrington to Manchester, he observed: "What nature meant by

such a useless production 'tis hard to imagine."

It caused problems for the Liverpool and Manchester Railway in 1826 because of the difficulties of providing a solid base for the track and it took an engineering genius such as George Stephenson to solve the problems.

So, one way or another, the area in which Culcheth, Glazebury, Croft, Glazebrook, etc., are situated, had little going for it,

Yet today it is considered a leafy and attractive place to live - particularly Culcheth itself.

Why? In a word: Trees. The wisdom of previous generations in planting trees has ensured that an area that otherwise would have been largely flat and featureless is, in fact, green and pleasant.

So it was disappointing to have to report last month that residents are complaining that the borough council is removing trees from various locations and failing to replace them.

An enquiry at the Town Hall produced a response that the trees felled were diseased or dangerous - which is reasonable enough, as far as it goes.

But there was no mention of planting replacements.

Next to this column we report the tree planting exploits of local schoolchildren and would hope that the future will hold more positive news of this type, rather than complaints of unnecessary tree felling.

£160,000 reward for tree planting

The tree planting efforts of Culcheth school children have helped to secure £160,000 of extra funding for more trees in North Cheshire and Merseyside.

Last winter, pupils from Glazebury Primary School, Culcheth Primary School and Culcheth High School joined forces with other groups across the region to plant thousands of new trees with The Mersey Forest to brighten their neighbourhoods.

The projects were funded by the national Big Tree Plant campaign, led by Defra and the Forestry Commission.

Now their hard work has paid off with the news that The Big Tree Plant has awarded a further £160,000 to The Mersey Forest to continue to work with communities over the next three years to plant even more trees.

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Students celebrate A Level successes

STUDENTS at Culcheth High School had good reason to celebrate after another year of super A Level results.

An excellent overall pass rate of more than 97 per cent was achieved across 23 subjects.

Among a number of students who performed exceptionally well were Laura Allen, who achieved A* grades in English Literature and Religious Studies and an A grade in Art and Design as well as a B grade in General Studies.

Laura will now study Philosophy at Lancaster University.

Zach Bradley gained an A* in Art and Design Graphics and an A in Art and Design in addition to a B in Film Studies.

Georgia Glynn gained an A* in Psychology, an A in English Literature and B grades in Biology and General Studies.

Some students are setting their sights on more distant horizons.

Talented sports' star Jordan Whelan starts a scholarship at Franks Phillips University, Amarillo, Texas to study Science with a basketball scholarship while Alex Bradley has gained a handball scholarship at a university in Denmark, studying ICT and Danish.

Both have places in Team GB for the 2016 Rio Olympics firmly in their sights.

The vast majority of students gained their first-choice place in university.

There was tremendous success in BTEC Sport with four out of five students achieving Distinctions or Distinctions with 'stars'

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First Steps Apple Mac An introduction to web design, Illustrator and Photoshop, made simple. Five week course, two hours per week, TOTAL COST £60.

Family 'Come Dine With Me' Learn to make delicious meals on a budget to impress your friends and family. Five week course, two hours per week TOTAL COST £15.

First Steps What to do with all those digital photographs An introduction on how to create an eBook or digital book. Five week course, two hours per week, TOTAL COST £60.

Family First Aid An introduction to paediatric First Aid which is certificated. Five week course, two hours per week, TOTAL COST £45.

For more information please contact:
Debbie Porrin, dporrin@warrington.gov.uk
or by phone to Live Wire staff on 01925 768500



Julia with 1st Culcheth Brownies.

Zip goes a Brownie leader!

A CULCHETH Brownie leader has raised £600 for charity - by "zipping" across the Manchester Ship Canal.

Julia Heald showed her adventurous side by entering the Girlguiding North West England's zip wire challenge.

Members of her 1st Culcheth Brownies went along to offer support and cheered her throughout her 260 metre "zip" from the Imperial War Museum to The Lowry.

Julia's dare-devil feat raised £600 for British Sjorgens Syndrome.

She said; "I can't believe I did it! I could hear the Brownies cheering me on as I zipped across".

Sue Lomas, chief commissioner for Girlguiding North West England said: "The zip wire challenge was certainly a bold one but watching all of the young women put any nerves aside and take part was absolutely fantastic.

"Guiding puts girls in the lead and is a place where young women can spend time developing their confidence and trying things they might not otherwise have the opportunity to do. This is the perfect example of the kind of experiences guiding offers. I would encourage anyone who wants to find out more to give us a call to see just how much they could get out of it!"

Anyone interested in joining the Guides or Brownies should visit www.girlguidingnwe.org.uk or call 01772 823331.

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Pictured with the entry are pupils Anna Mallealieu, Rebecca Leech and Evie Jameson.

Pupils green fingers earn praise

GREEN-fingered pupils from Twiss Green Primary School, Culcheth entered a selection of vegetables at Royal Horticultural Show at Tatton Park, near Knutsford. All the vegetables put on display were grown in greenhouses or in raised beds in the school grounds.

They have been tended on a regular basis by pupils with a little help from a couple of parents and breakfast club staff member Carrie Anderson.

Sarah Jameson, a parent, who organised the entry said: "We were very proud of our display and all the hard work the children put in to achieve it.

"Although we did not win a prize this year, a lot has been learned and we will use this experience to improve our chances next year"

Newton & District Jubilee Rotary Club Present

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Sat 15th September - Noon to 11.30pm

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Programme 2012 - 2013

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Visit www.lowtonhighschool.co.uk

Courses that can be found within the course prospectus include;

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	French	Floristry	Graphic Design	Holistic Therapies	Emergency First Aid		Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills
	Japanese	Papercrafting	Internet and Email	Green Medicine & Herbal Remedies	Pet First Aid		
	British Sign Language	Textiles		Photography Club	A guide to Starting your own Business		
	German	Jewellery Making					
		Dress Making					

We have a number of workshops in the build up to Christmas for those wishing to make personalised gifts for family and friends.

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- Christmas Flower Workshop
- Christmas Hand Made Card Workshop
- Christmas Patchwork Workshop
- Manicure and Nail Art Workshop
- Ski Holiday French Workshop



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

Tel: 01942 767040 (Option 4)

or email: stephen@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk

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Homes battle reaches

THE long-running battle over plans to build 25 luxury homes on a former wartime naval camp at Croft appeared to be reaching a climax as "Culcheth Life" went to press.

Members of the borough council's development management committee, who have already deferred a decision once pending a site inspection, were due to meet again to consider the planning application by developers Elan Homes.

But a letter sent to the council by a law firm acting on behalf of the developers has been branded as "grossly insulting" by local councillor Chris Vobe.

The letter suggested that objections from more than 280 residents were of little consequence.

It stated: "The various objection forms generated by Councillor Vobe... should be accorded very limited weight".

Cllr Vobe retorted: "Only a company with such staggering levels of ignorance as Elan Homes could say that the mass of objections to this scheme by Croft residents should be accorded 'limited weight'."

"So far, 286 individual residents of Croft have added their name to my petition against this development. These are people who live in the village, send their children to school here, and will have to live with the after-effects if this development goes ahead.

"This letter is nothing short of grossly insulting. It takes no account of the impact of this development on the village, and fails to address many of

the legitimate concerns we have.

"Elan Homes have proved once and for all that they do not care about the community that they are trying to foist their houses upon. They just want to make a quick buck and then move on to the next development. Why else would they dismiss so many objections out of hand?"

"This is not 'nimbysism' or a 'namby-pamby' approach to the spectre of development; it is a genuine desire by local people to protect our heritage, and put a halt to a scheme which would cause major traffic problems on an already-congested route."

Croft Parish Council has also lodged objections to the scheme, which involves 25 four and five

All se

THE popular Glazebury Garden Safari, beautiful gardens is set to take place on Sun

Organised by local nurseryman, John Garden & Home and local garden enthusiast the Glazebury Garden Safari aims to raise n churches; All Saints and Glazebury Methodist fifth year the Safari has taken place and gardens in the small village of Glazebury.

Visitors will enjoy broad sweeps of color Cheshire countryside and, hidden garden, rare breed poultry, birds of prey and waterf

Those wishing to take part in the Safari programme on the day (£6) or in advance Garden & Home, Glazebury Methodist C Church in Glazebury.

The programme, which provides a descriptions of the gardens, will admit two

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s a climax

bedroomed houses on the former HMS Gosling camp site off Lady Lane.

They say there is no need for more housing in Croft and that there are no sewage or gas supplies to the site, which is home to a wide variety of wildlife.

They believe there could be road safety issues arising from an unsatisfactory access to the site and that the development could lead to increased flooding in Lady Lane.

Additional housing could also exacerbate parking problems at St Lewis' School.

But the developer has offered £30,000 towards the cost of highway improvements near the



school and £240,000 towards the cost of affordable housing elsewhere in the borough and planners are recommending the scheme be approved.

The site is said to be the last of a number of military camps that once existed in the area.

To find out the result of the application, visit www.culchethlife.com

et for Garden Safari

which visits 13 days September 9. Bent, from Bents East Delia Caswell money for two local list Church. It is the this year visits 13

ur; views over the rooms', as well as owl.

ri can purchase a ce (£5) from Bents church or All Saints

route map and o people who can

tour the gardens at their leisure between 1.00 and 5.00pm. Tea and cake will be served throughout the day at Glazebury Methodist Church. Gardens include:

1. Weeping Ash Garden, John Bent (undergoing new developments)
2. Warrington Road, Eric Hampson
3. The Bungalow, Delia Caswell & John Grundy
4. 1 Light Oaks Road, Albert & Jean Waterfield
5. 251 Warrington Road, John & Enid Banner
6. Moss View, Tommy & Sheila Thompson
7. Glazebury Methodist Church
8. Old Cross Keys Cottage
9. Farley View, Barbara & Colin Mills
10. Heron's Reach
11. All Saints Church, Glazebury, Rev Pat Grey
12. Wards End Farm, Robert & Janet Woolstencroft
13. Glazewood House, Andrew & Susan Wood

The Gardening Guide

September...



- Now is an excellent time to choose & plant your new specimens for next year.
- Clear the lawn of any moss or fibre & feed with an autumn fertiliser.
- Reduce watering & feeding of houseplants ready for the winter dormant period.
- Pot spring flowering bulbs for indoor displays.
- Dig up any remaining potatoes before slug damage spoils them.

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Mum making headway

ONE wet and windy night 14 years ago Kathy Guest received a phone call that would change her family's life forever.



Headway members, Dave, Kathy and Richard, all from Culcheth

Her youngest son had been involved in a car accident, and suffered multiple head injuries. Almost the first person Kathy met at the hospital was a representative of the charity Headway, who explained the probable consequences of a

head injury and provided invaluable information and support to the family. An acquired brain injury takes many forms and can be caused not only through trauma, but illnesses such as strokes, tumours and disease.

Along with a group of other local families Kathy helped set up Headway Warrington, which for 7 years has been offering advice and support to brain injury survivors, their families and carers. The local group now offers assistance to over 70 members, and is supported by the team at the local Acquired Brain Injury Unit.

Self-funding

Headway Warrington is self-funding, and organises many fundraising events each year. These are well supported and include a kayaking day on Derwentwater, a Ceili, trips to the theatre, a family beach sports day and a competitive Quiz Night. This year's Ceili takes place at Culcheth Sports Club (The Daten) on Friday September 7, and a limited number of tickets are still available.

Kathy says, "The Culcheth community has always been very happy to join our social events, and we are very grateful. Please come along to our Ceili and enjoy a great night out!"

Headway Warrington holds a monthly drop-in session from 12pm to 3pm on the third Thursday of every month at The Gateway in Sankey Street, Warrington. They also hold monthly social meetings from 7pm until 9pm on the first Thursday of every month at the Youth Centre on Delenty Drive in Birchwood. New members will be very warmly welcomed.

For more information, please contact Kathy on 852942 (weekdays) or 820998 (evenings or weekends).

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Tax enquiries on the increase

By Sarah Salton, Associate

You don't need to be told that the UK economy is suffering at the moment and the government needs all the money it can get. There is a reported £35bn tax gap – the difference between the tax that HM Revenue & Customs think should be collected and the amount actually collected.

Consequently HMRC are under pressure to improve tax recoveries and are more determined than ever to claw back unpaid tax and ensure all tax due is paid.

In the last 12 months we've seen rising numbers of visits and enquiries from the Revenue for business and individuals. Taskforces have been set up to target particular sectors such as doctors, dentists, plumbers and restaurant owners with the objective of raising an additional £7bn of tax each year by 2014/15.

They have introduced new

programmes of Business record checks and Compliance visits which are promoted by HMRC as being intended to help the taxpayer ensure their records are being kept correctly. However they do not rule out the possibility of an initial check/visit leading to penalties and full enquiries if they find that the business records are "seriously inadequate".

Unfortunately if you're unlucky enough to be subject to an HMRC enquiry then you could face penalties on top of any additional tax you may have to pay. The burden of compliance is placed firmly with the taxpayer and so even genuine errors or ignorance of the rules can be punished.

Here at Styles and Co we will shortly be introducing a new tax investigation service to help ease the burden of HMRC scrutiny so watch



this space, but in the meantime we can help you by:

- Checking your records and help you to put things right before you get a Revenue visit
- Dealing with HMRC to bring enquiries to as swift a conclusion as possible

Proud sponsor of the Peace Cup



Styles and Co were once again proud to sponsor the Annual Peace Cup between Warrington Town and Crewe United, who travelled from Northern Ireland. The game was held at Cantilever Park on 4th August during which Warrington Town unveiled their new kit. The mood was buoyant and the event was described by spectators as a "great game on a beautiful day."

A gripping game with both sides playing well resulted in a 0-0 draw. The final result means that the Peace Cup trophy will be shared by both clubs for the next twelve months. Ian Lloyd, Managing Partner of Styles and Co,

commented on the day "thank you to everyone at Warrington Town, we were made to feel very welcome, it was a closely fought contest with what we considered the right result - no team deserved to lose."

The evening before, Styles and Co were invited to attend a civic reception at Warrington Town Hall. This was to celebrate 25 years since Warrington Town met St Helens Town at Wembley for the FA Vase. The reception also marked the start of events being held over the next year to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Warrington bombing in March 1993, which claimed the lives of

Tim Parry and Johnathan Ball.

The partners and staff at Styles and Co look forward to continuing their close association with Warrington Town, and in particular the Peace Cup, in what promises to be an exciting season ahead.

"Come on the Wire!"

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

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Line dancers celebrate

THE Line Dancers at Age Concern Day Centre, Jackson Ave, Culcheth held a special event including a barbecue to celebrate American Independence Day on July 4.

From left, Muriel Cabinder, Yvonne Bates, Ida Wood organiser and Audrey Payne.



Flower power!

MEMBERS of Culcheth & District Horticultural Society are pictured with some of their exhibits at their annual show at Newchurch Parish Hall, Culcheth.



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'Barbaric' attack on hedgehog

CALLOUS youths who kicked a hedgehog 'like a football' and left it for dead in Culcheth have been dubbed 'barbaric' by a local man.

Graham Russell said he was disgusted to learn the four local youths had carried out the act in Lodge Drive at about 4.20pm on Sunday August 12.

He said: "I was walking through the village when I noticed a dead hedgehog lying in the gutter by the

side of Lodge Drive. My first thoughts was that it had been hit by a vehicle but a woman sitting in her car nearby told me that she had just witnessed four children kicking the live animal as it was crossing the road.

"They were kicking it around like a football before leaving it to die in the

road. Her young daughter had also witnessed this barbaric act and had to leave the area in a distraught state."

He said the youngsters were recognised as being part of a group who often cause a nuisance riding scooters and causing a disturbance at the nearby Millennium Gardens.

Mr Russell said: "These youths know who they are and I just hope

the woman in question managed to report the matter eventually so that these mindless jobs can be brought to book." The matter was reported to the police.

Founder of Warrington Hedgehog Rescue Virginia Jones said the number of incidents of cruelty to hedgehogs was increasing.

She said: "Unfortunately this is not an isolated incident. A few months ago there was a similar incident in Culcheth where youths were throwing a hedgehog around. It is horrible as some people do not seem to realise the pain and suffering this causes to hedgehogs."

The society is concerned about the wellbeing of hedgehogs which are declining in numbers and she believes could be extinct in the UK by 2025.

She added: "Sadly these incidents are becoming more common. It is part of society as children do not seem to be brought up to respect animals."

World class cyclists to ride through village

CULCHETH is gearing up for a cycling spectacular not to be missed.

The Tour of Britain, the UK's biggest professional bicycle race, will pass through the village on Monday September 10 at around 1pm.

With "Wiggins mania" sweeping the country following the Olympics and the Tour de France, this is a chance to see more than 100 of the world's top cyclists on the doorstep, "going for gold".

In this year's event, cyclists will ride 850 miles over eight days travelling throughout England, Wales and Scotland.

They will contest an intermediate Yodel Sprint in Culcheth, outside Culcheth Primary School, where they will do battle for points towards the Yodel Sprints Jersey and vital bonus seconds for the overall classification.

Cllr Linda Dirir, the borough council's executive member for highways, transportation and climate change, said: "It is fantastic news that the Tour of Britain will be coming

through Culcheth especially as interest in cycling has certainly soared in the past few weeks.

"I am hopeful that all these amazing events combined will encourage more people to cycle either for fun or take it up as a sport. You never know it could just spark some home grown Olympic champions of the future."

Andy Hawes, route and technical

manager of The Tour of Britain said:

"Stage Two is a fantastic chance for residents of Culcheth and surrounding areas to see some of the world's top cyclists, who they will normally only see on television, in action."

Stage Two of the Tour is due to head through Culcheth for the Yodel Sprint between 1.15-1.45pm.

To find out more about the Tour of Britain visit www.tourofbritain.com

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Our Open Days will be held on October 16th and November 15th. There will be a short presentation followed by a tour of the school. (If you are unable to make these dates, please contact the school)

**If you would like to arrange a visit to the school please contact Ms A Smith (Headteacher) on 01925 764312
Further information on the school can be found on our website www.culchethprimary.co.uk**

01925 764312

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



Motoring

For when a car won't do!

GENERAL Motors, who earlier this year were making the bold claim that the Vauxhall Ampera was the first electric car for everyday use, have now come up with a concept vehicle for places where a car can't be used at all.

The Vauxhall/Opel RAD e is described as a future vision of environmentally-friendly urban mobility.

GM say the RAD e takes many of its design cues from the Ampera and is a response to the increasing role e-bikes are predicted to play in future integrated urban transport systems.

It is the first e-bike to be designed around automotive manufacturing mass production methods. Instead of exotic light-weight materials, its designers opted for a hollow pressed-steel frame, which is light, strong, flexible and easy to make.

Powering the "pedelec" propulsion system is a state-of-the-art 250 watt electric motor and lithium-ion battery. The battery can be fully charged in just two-and-a-half hours, and the bike can be transported on a specially adapted FlexFix carrier that allows it to be charged while it's on the move.

Delivering at least 40Nm of instant torque, the RAD e feels agile and responsive. The motor gives the rider support when pedalling, but will provide between 40-90 miles of pure electrical drive if required, depending on terrain and based on a 20mph average speed.

It has a user-friendly, smartphone-based control unit which unlocks the engine and provides real-time data on range, speed and exact location.

What it doesn't cater, for of course, is summers like the one we have just endured!



Warrington Borough Council Public Realm Division

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Extent of Works



Essential Roadworks Withington Avenue, Culcheth

Motorists, Residents and Businesses are advised that major road works to resurface WITHINGTON AVENUE are programmed to commence on 10 September 2012, and will take up to 4 weeks to complete.

Daily Road Closures between 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday to Friday, will be used to allow resurfacing of the roads.

On street parking will not be available during the working day.

In an attempt to minimise disruption to residents, etc. works will be carried out under the restricted hours described above.

Cones, barriers and signs are there for a reason - to protect our workers from danger and to keep the public safe. We urge drivers to pay close attention to safety when driving near roadworks.

Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times during progress of the works.

Vehicular access will be under the control of the contractor as directed on site.

For further information please contact:
Simon Duggan on 01925 442533
sduggan@warrington.gov.uk

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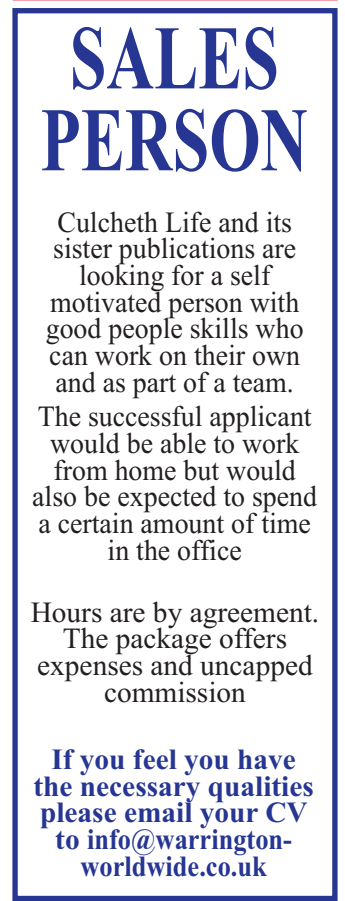
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