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Cheshire's Community Magazine

Issue 157 April 2014 FREE

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Page 13



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# Lib Dems win Cobbs ward

THE vacant seat on Appleton Parish Council's Cobbs Ward was won by former Liberal Democrat borough councillor Judith Wheeler (pictured) who romped home with 436 votes.

Full result was: Judith Wheeler (Lib

Dem) 436; Paul Carter (Labour) 138; Jonathan Levy (Conservative) 87. There was a 26 per cent turnout.



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David Mowat, MP for Warrington South, holds regular surgeries throughout the constituency. If you would like to arrange an appointment to discuss an issue of concern to you please e-mail him at [david.mowat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.mowat.mp@parliament.uk) or telephone **01925 231267**.



**David Mowat**  
Member of Parliament for Warrington South  
[www.davidmowat.org](http://www.davidmowat.org)

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**Editor**  
Gary Skentelbery

**Production**  
Paul Walker

**Account Executives**  
James Balme  
Nick White  
Tony Record

**Advertising**  
Freephone  
0800 955 5247

**Editorial**  
01925 623632

**Email**  
info@warrington-  
worldwide.co.uk

**Websites**  
www.culchethlife.com  
www.frodshamlife.co.uk  
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**Address**  
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# Opinion

**THE death of a woman after her car plunged into the Manchester Ship Canal at Stockton Heath is indeed a tragedy and it is clear from the tributes paid by her family that Valerie Pritchard was much loved and still living life to the full.**

At 72, she had an active social life, attended art classes, enjoyed craft work, was a keen gardener and loved watching Warrington Wolves Rugby League team.

We send our sincere condolences to all her family and friends, who will be missing her so much and we also pay tribute to those people at the scene who tried in vain to save her before her car disappeared beneath the water

Just why her car left the road, crashed through metal railings and plunged into the canal may never be known.

But we know we are not alone in wondering why this waterway which, over the last 120 years has made

millions for its owners and is now set to be revived to make millions more, has such flimsy fencing where it runs alongside busy roads and why rescue boats are not readily available.

**THE prospect of a six week Christmas Market on Knutsford's Little Heath has been greeted with alarm and despondency by nearby residents – and we are not surprised.**

People living nearby accept the annual May Day Festival and the giant funfair that accompanies it with considerable goodwill. After all, the festival was established 150 years ago this year, so it was there long before many of the houses which enjoy an open view across the expanse of The Heath and the Little Heath.

But a Christmas Market, with 100 wooden chalets selling a wide variety of goods, a licensed bar, Santa's grotto and a Christmas Tree forest, operating

from November 14 to December 23 and staying open as late as 9pm? That's a different kettle of fish!

We hear the promises of increased footfall in Knutsford during the Christmas period. Of the need to draw trade into the town. Of the desire of the promoters to ensure everyone benefits. And we hear with incredulity the assertion that Cheshire is missing out on Christmas spirit and that this glitzy encampment will put things right.

In fact, we believe it is more likely to draw business away from the "real" town – the shops of King Street and Princess Street – robbing them of trade at their busiest time of the year.

It is also likely to leave the Little Heath – and the Heath, which would be used for parking – scarred for months.

But perhaps most worrying is that, apparently, some members of the Town Council actually support the idea.

## Family threesome take to the stage

THREE members of the same family, who have been performing on stage since an early age, are to appear together for the first time.

Sarah Dunn, her brother Andrew and his wife, Kirsten Dunn, from Stockton Heath, will all appear in the Frodsham-based Zodiac Operatic Society's production of "Avenue Q" at the Brindley Theatre, Runcorn on April 1-5.

The Zodiac are one of the first society's in the country to be given the right to perform the award-winning musical, which features puppets as well as human characters.

New mum Sarah said: "This has certainly been a new challenge for us all. It's not your traditional type of musical.

In addition to learning lines and songs, we have also had to master puppetry skills, which is no easy feat. It's often been like rubbing your tummy and patting your head at the same time!"

Her brother Andy and his wife Kirsten have been practicing their lines and puppetry skills at home in front of their one-year-old daughter Jasmine who hasn't been quite sure what to make of them when they are in character.

The show is far removed from the traditional musical like "Oklahoma" and "Guys and Dolls" which the Zodiac has staged in the past.

Below: Some the cast – human and furry!







## Susan calls time on 113-year-old family business

**FAMILY business Whites Sports is closing down after 113 years trading, the last 40 years on Warrington Market.**

Once a chain of shops in Stockton Heath, Knutsford and Warrington current owner Susan White from Appleton Thorn has decided it is now time to retire.

To celebrate their 113 years of trading as a family business she resurrected the 1974 'Whites Sports Darts Trophy Challenge' when she was joined by customers young and old, past and present, along with Warrington Wolves' Mascot Wolfie and player Ryan Atkins.

The business was established by Mr J.E.White in April 1901 and eventually handed the business onto his eldest son, Norman White in 1940, who then past it onto his two sons John and Paul White in 1969.

Since losing John and Paul in 2009 and 2007, Paul's wife Susan (68) has successfully run the business in Warrington Market.

She was a keen badminton player in the 1960's and after marrying Paul in 1969 became a big Wires fan and took up competitive fencing during the 1970's.

She was then an aerobics instructor across the town during the 1980's and in more recent years she has taken up yoga, pilates and aqua aerobics.

Fourth generation family member Adam White with help from brother, Roger and cousin Nick White have been busy helping Susan organise the closure and also taking the shop online in recent months.

Susan said: "It's now time for me



■ Susan appearing in front of the TV cameras at the Whites Sports Darts Trophy Challenge and top joined by Wolfie, Ryan Atkins and sons Adam and Roger.

to retire and spend more quality time with my family and friends. I'm looking forward to getting out in my garden this summer and being able to have time off to hopefully watch Warrington Wolves win the Challenge Cup and Grand Final."

She said it hadn't been an easy decision to call it a day but it has become increasingly difficult to compete with website based shops and the out of town multiples.

"One hundred and thirteen years is quite an achievement to sustain any family business and on behalf of all the White family I'd like to say a huge thank you to all our past and present customers, staff and fellow traders that have been loyal and good friends

to Whites Sports Shop over the years. "Adam White, Susan's youngest son added: "We may be leaving the town centre but will still be trading and sharing our 113 year heritage online at [www.whitesports.com](http://www.whitesports.com). The website will allow customers to continue to purchase their favourite flags, darts, bowls and snooker accessories from Whites Sports."

From the late 1960s to the mid 1980s they also had shops in Stockton Heath, opened by Liverpool and England '66 world cup winner Roger Hunt and Knutsford (opened by rugby league legend Alex Murphy.

Last year Whites Sports were invited to enter the Guinness World Records as the 'Worlds Oldest Family

*" I'm looking forward to getting out in my garden this summer and being able to have time off to hopefully watch Warrington Wolves win the Challenge Cup and Grand Final "*

Run Sports Shop'. The judges are now doing their final investigations whilst assessing the supporting evidence. The White family are now just weeks away from finding out if they have made it into the record books.

If you would like to share a photo or story about the shop either visit their Facebook page or drop them an email at [shop@whitesports.com](mailto:shop@whitesports.com)

The business will close for the last time next month (May).



Advertiser's announcement

## Festivals around the world

There are lots of festivals throughout the world that people travel to take part or watch Croatia have a Truffle Festival where you can sample local delicacies at the world famous Truffle Days Festival in Livade, taste the fresh olive oil in Cres, search for truffles with a professional tartufalo, experience Groznanj's thriving art scene and visit medieval Hum (the world's smallest town).

Included in this 5 day small group tour from Rijeka is Cres orientation walk with olive oil tasting, overnight homestay, Beli seaside village visit, an ancient Motovun orientation walk,

Tartufalo-led truffle hunt (Livade) Truffle Days Festival with a Group leader The trip departs 22nd October 2014.

The Venice Carnival is another lovely festival departs late February - dates to be checked for 2015. Witness spectacular glass-blowing, experience the costumes and masks of Carnevale di Venezia, explore fishing villages and Byzantine basilicas, wander the labyrinth of streets with other revellers and drink mulled wine whilst you dance the night away 5 day tour from Venice with a small group

Running of the Bulls-this tour starts in Barcelona and ends in Bilbao. Enjoy the colour and spectacle of the San Fermin festival, savour the local food

and wine, explore world class museums and architecture and relax on gorgeous beaches. Experience an orientation tour of Pamplona followed by a night on the town-the next day have a view of the bull run course from a private balcony accompanied by an expert local guide. With an option to visit the local Encierro Museum detailing the history and tradition of the Running of the Bulls

Halloween in Transylvania This tour starts and ends in Bucharest for 7 days See the Ruins of Dracula's Poenari Castle, Sibiu orientation walk, A Halloween party at the haunted Hunyard Castle, Sighisoara orientation walk, Prejmer Fortress visit, Brasov orientation walk, Bran Castle visit, Peles Castle visit, Bucharest orientation walk. Date for this tour is 28th October 2014

Other Festivals we can book are Belgian Beer Tour, Anzac Day Memorial Tour, Oktoberfest etc



■ Linda Crowder – Stockton Heath Travel



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# Key milestone for £9.5 million care village



A £9.5 million community care village being built in Warrington has celebrated a key milestone with a topping out ceremony to mark completion of the roof and main building work at Belong Warrington.

Warrington South MP, David Mowat, attended the ceremony the Belong village on Loushers Lane alongside Belong Warrington General Manager, Janine Curwell, on the top floor of the new care village, as they placed the final tile on the roof together.

Belong Warrington, which opens to the public this summer, will provide family-sized care households and a range of specialist dementia support services for older people in and around Warrington, including an Admiral Nurse service and award-winning garden specially designed for people living with dementia. The village will also deliver a wide range of specialist care services and facilities for both residents and members of the local community to enjoy. Village centre amenities will include a bistro, activities gym, Internet café and hair and beauty salon.

Mr Mowat said: "It was a pleasure to be invited to commemorate the completion of this innovative

building. Every aspect has been designed to offer the best levels of independence and security to older people, and the village facilities will offer great benefits to the local area."

Mr Mowat was also joined at the topping out ceremony by members of the CLS Board of Directors along with representatives from Warrington based contractors for the development, Cruden Construction.

General Manager Janine Curwell said : "We're putting the final touches to the village now, ready for our opening in the summer. It was wonderful to have the MP for South Warrington come along to show his support, because our goal at Belong is to create a hub of activity and services for the local community. We can't wait to begin offering the very best in care and dementia expertise to people in Warrington."

# Pupil's bake-off raised £222

PUPILS of Thelwall Junior School had to put their baking skills to the test when the Parent-Teacher Association ran a "bake-off" competition.

Bakery of various varieties were entered, including breads, scones, decorated sponges, cake pops and muffins.

PTA member Suzanne Exley said: "The amount of time and effort used to produce the bakes resulted in some amazing entries, which left everybody inspired to get their own wooden spoons out!

"It was a fabulous fund raising event which had everybody smiling. Well done to everybody and keep up the baking!

After judging, the cakes were sold off at a coffee afternoon held for the children's family and friends, during which prizes were given to class winners and the overall school winner.

The event raised an amazing £222.42 to go towards the school council's recommendations to purchase new outdoor play equipment.



Pupils Ben Hunter and Tegan Starkey at the bake-off.

## Showpeople can set up home on their own land

A FAMILY of travelling show people have won a planning battle for the right to set up home on a piece of Green Belt land they bought for £300,000.

Government-appointed inspector Richard Clegg has ruled that sisters Gail Camm and Deborah Seldon, their husbands and three children, can live on the site off Hall Lane, Stretton in two chalets with caravan extension.

Mr Clegg dealt with an appeal by the sisters after they were refused planning consent following objections from more than 100 local residents, Stretton Parish Council and the Stretton Residents' Group.

He ruled that although sites for travelling show people would normally be considered inappropriate in the Green Belt unless there were very special circumstances.

In this case he believed the

limited impact on the openness of the Green Belt and the clear need for additional accommodation for travelling showpeople in the area, plus the personal circumstances of the two families, amount to special circumstances.

The two families claimed to have local connections in that they had attended fairs and galas in the area for more than 40 years.

Objectors claimed the applicants

were not genuine travelling show people, that they had failed to consult with planners in line with planning regulations and that the development would have a harmful impact on the Green Belt and a nearby Listed building.

They also feared noise, traffic impact, pollution and harm on wildlife would be caused if the plan went ahead.



## What is financial risk?

**I am often surprised by peoples misunderstanding of financial risk.**

Often people just think it is a question of 'can I lose my money?' It isn't. There are all different types of risk in finance.

There is Interest rate risk, counterparty risk, liquidity risk, as well as Investment risk. But probably the biggest "killer" of them all is inflation risk. By killer I say this because people ignore it. Imagine having £100000 in the bank getting 1% interest. That is £1000pa added to your capital. But if inflation is increasing at 2.7%pa then this tells you that you need £102700 this time next year to buy the same items that you could do at the moment. Now I accept that losing out on around £1700 in a year may not keep you awake at night. But, if this is allowed to go on for say 10 years or more, this is the real risk with people's savings.

## How we manage risk

Well first we build portfolios of different risk levels by including in these portfolios asset classes from all different areas. This is called Asset Allocation, or rather strategic asset allocation. A simple way of describing it is not having all your eggs in one basket. We then use a variety of different funds with the intention that if one asset class does not do too well, then possibly this will be offset by another asset class that will do better.



We then have a review process which measures the performance of these funds on a regular basis, this is called tactical asset allocation. Tactical, because like a football coach they may set a team up to play a one off game, unlike maybe he would for the whole season.

By having a tactical asset allocation approach it enables us to make short term changes to reflect the current market and economic outlook.

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*Don Wernham*

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# Historic hall set to be setting for Disney film



**HISTORIC** Arley Hall is to be the setting for the Disney Channel's first UK live action production.

"Evermoor" will tell the story of an American teenager uprooted from her city home in the US to start a new life in England.

It will be produced by Liverpool-based Lime Pictures, the company behind Hollyoaks and The Only Way is Essex.

Filming will start at the end of April and the comedy drama will be screened in the autumn, possibly as a single film or as a four part series.

Billed as a mystery adventure, the film will see 14-year-old Tara Bailey move into beautiful but spooky Evermoor Manor – in reality, Arley Hall - where she discovers a magical tapestry which seemingly predicts the future.

The Victorian mansion, which has

previously featured in a number of programmes including Hollyoaks, Coronation Street and The Forsyte Saga - was chosen after an extensive location scouting across the North West

The producers were looking for an interesting old house, inviting but also a little sinister.

Casting has yet to be finalised and the producers are open as to whether the actress playing the heroine is

from the UK or the US.

The Disney Channel's David Levine said: "Evermoor is a hugely exciting project for the team with a gripping story that I'm sure will captivate our global audience."

A Grade 2 Listed building, Arley Hall is the home of Viscount Ashbrook and his family.

## Stobart in management buy-out

A MAJORITY stake in the Stretton-based Eddie Stobart truck business has been bought by a management team led by William Stobart – third son of the legendary founder of the business, Eddie Stobart.

But it will be "business as usual" with no redundancies or depot closures planned.

The £280 million deal is backed by Isle of Man investment manager DBay Capital.

William Stobart has left the Group board to become chief executive of Eddie Stobart Logistics, which becomes a private company.

He will continue to lead the business along with David Pickering and David Meir and the existing board.

Stobart Group has sold 51 per cent of Eddie Stobart Logistics for £195.6m cash and £44.1m in shares. Around £41.1m in debt has been taken on by the

buyers.

The Group now plans to focus on its infrastructure and support services divisions but will retain the famous Eddie Stobart brand through a licence agreement and also the majority of the freehold properties used by the logistics division.

Andrew Tinkler, Stobart Group chief executive, said: "This is a further stage in delivering our strategy of creating and realising value for our shareholders. Moving forward, we are focused on capitalising on the opportunities in our infrastructure and support services divisions, enhanced by investment in Stobart Green Energy."

William Stobart

said: "I really welcome this investment from DBay and look forward to heading up the new partnership as chief executive. DBay have a strong track record of working with existing management teams within businesses, as they will do with us, to help drive growth.

"We already have an extremely loyal customer base who we look forward to continuing to work with. It is an exciting time for us to grow this business and I am looking forward to this next stage and the opportunities that it will bring for our employees and customers."

Eddie Stobart Logistics generated earnings before interest and tax of £25.6m on revenues of

£475.7m in the year ending February 28 2013.

Iain Ferguson, chairman of Stobart Group, said: "This transaction represents an important step in the realisation of value for shareholders.

"We have found a strong partner to take Eddie Stobart Logistics to the next stage of its development, increasing the scope of the powerful 'Eddie Stobart' brand and allowing the Group to focus on its Infrastructure and Support Services Divisions.

"These proposals allow us to repay debt, make a return of capital to shareholders, stimulate the growth of our Biomass business and bring the Group's businesses together

in a coherent, medium-term value creation plan."

No redundancies are planned arising from the changes, nor any depot closures.





Advertiser's announcement

# Solve that conservatory roof problem

A REPLACEMENT roof could be the solution for conservatories that are too cold to use in the winter – but too hot in the summer.

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A new roof from Your Choice also fixes issues such as surface algae or leaks and any rain noise practically disappears.

Call 0800 169 48 22 or visit [www.your-choice.uk.com](http://www.your-choice.uk.com) for more details.

# "Watch what you drink" warning

WARRINGTON'S director of public health, Dr Rita Robertson, has urged local people to keep careful tabs on how much they drink.

Her warning comes after new national figures revealed that 325 people in Warrington have died from alcohol-related causes in the last nine years – almost 40 per cent of them during the last three years alone.

Dr Robertson said it was extremely important that people keep themselves aware of just how much alcohol they are drinking – and called on the government to introduce a minimum price per alcohol unit, to target the heavy drinking problem which is responsible for most of the deaths.

People did not realise that "you don't have to be an alcoholic to drink yourself to death".

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# U-turn will mean 'old' lamps for new!

**COUNCIL** chiefs did a swift U-turn when villagers complained about new "modern" street lamps being erected in a picturesque conservation area.

Work was halted on the project in Grappenhall village – and the new lamps are to be replaced with "old".

The 21st century-style lamp standards already erected will be replaced with new heritage-style lamps more in character with the historic village.

Eventually all the lamps will be renewed in heritage style.

It's all part of a £600,000 Warrington Borough Council scheme to restore the village's landmark cobbled street over a period of five years.

Cllr Mike Biggin said: "The mistake could have been avoided in the first place if there had been some consultation about the street lamps. As soon as I realised what was happening I contacted the borough and, to be fair, the project was halted. There were a lot of complaints from local residents."

Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council has been pressing for years for the cobbled street to be properly restored instead of being constantly patched-up.

The work will be phased over five years because of the cost. But work will start after Easter, with the pavements being tackled first.

Cllr Biggin said: "Parking issues will also be dealt with. People were furious when they were 'booked' for parking outside St Wilfrid's Church while attending Sunday services. But we have persuaded the borough to designate the adjoining area outside the Parr Arms pub as a parking area.

"It will all take five years, but in the end we will have a fully reinstated village street in character with the surrounding buildings."



■ Cllr Mike Biggin

# Planning victory over historic church windows

**CHURCH** leaders have won a lengthy planning battle to re-glaze four historic stained glass windows – but not without a struggle.

Planning chiefs have agreed to the alterations at the 18th century, Georgian, Grade 2\* Listed St John's Parish Church at Knutsford.

The proposals, designed to let more light into the church, involved relocating some ground floor windows to the first floor – and they split the local community. Members of the parochial church council, nearly 30 residents and a local councillor were in favour. Knutsford Town Council and the Knutsford Conservation and Heritage Group were against. The Georgian Society and the Victorian Society had no objections. English Heritage did not object on heritage grounds but conceded there could be other considerations, such as the community value of the windows in the existing positions.

Cheshire East Council's conservation officer raised strong objections and planning officers recommended the scheme be thrown out. But councillors decided to visit the church to see for themselves.

Even then they couldn't decide and delegated the decision to the northern area manager, the committee chairman and ward councillors. This group eventually decided the project could go ahead.

The four windows, installed in Victorian times, were the work of Heaton Butler and Bayne, leading stained glass makers of the period whose work includes the Brunel memorial window in Westminster Abbey.

# New Centre for Reproductive Health brings treatment to the North West

**THE** Reproductive Health Group are delighted to announce the opening of their state of the art clinic, the Centre for Reproductive Health, at Daresbury Park, Cheshire. The Reproductive Health Group was formed by merging the practices of two of the regions leading fertility consultants, James Armatage and Luciano Nardo.

Using the very latest technologies and techniques, including genetic testing and EEVA embryo selection, the Centre for Reproductive Health is the only clinic in the region to have been designed by fertility consultants and embryologists to create the highest standards in patient care. The Centre also boasts a fully-equipped operating facility in which to carry out day case surgical procedures.

The Reproductive Health Group have recruited a team of highly experienced embryologists and healthcare professionals who share their commitment to quality, and will offer treatments that include gynaecology, obstetrics, fertility and IVF.

Free advisory consultations on fertility are available at the Centre for Reproductive Health. For more information or to book one of these consultations with a fertility specialist, please contact [info@reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk](mailto:info@reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk) or see [www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk](http://www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk)





Provided by:  
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www.watkinson  
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# Money Column

By Margaret Black

Director of a company? Do you assume you are protected by the limited company status?

**Limited Liability** - Under limited liability a director or investor is only liable for the money they have invested. For example, if a company is formed and a £1,000 of shares are purchased and the company subsequently goes bankrupt, the liability is limited to the £1,000 invested, even if it owes £50,000. Are there any exceptions you may ask? Unfortunately, for a company director there are 4 main exceptions which mainly benefit the VATman as follows: - 1) when a director is suspected of fraud; 2) where a director is an undischarged bankrupt; 3) a director sets up a new business following the failure of a previous one; and 4) when directors pay themselves unauthorised dividends

**Fraud** - If one or more directors are responsible for a tax fraud within the company they will be held personally liable for some of the company debts. EG. The finance director writes out cheques for unreal purchases and so that their actions cannot be traced they fabricate purchase invoices and puts them through the business claiming back the misrepresented VAT. The VATman finds out and the company is assessed for overclaimed VAT and

a penalty for fraudulent evasion is imposed. As the dishonest conduct was due to the Finance Director, the penalty may be transferred in whole or in part from the company to them. This can also be applied to managers of a company and not just the director(s)

**Un-discharged bankrupts** - It is an offence for an un-discharged bankrupt to act as a director, or to directly/indirectly take part in the formation or management of a company (unless agreed by the court) If they do they are automatically personally liable for any debts for the new company. The VATman will not have finished there, a person who is involved in the management of the company and who acts, or is willing to act, on the instructions of an undischarged bankrupt is also personally responsible for the debts of the company.

**New business** - If a business goes bankrupt owing the VATman a large amount of VAT and one or more of the directors sets up a new business, the VATman can demand a "security" on the new business, designed to cover any possible debt that the new company may run up. Although the security is



placed on the new business, if it trades as a sole proprietor, the individual is responsible for paying it on the debts run up by the old company

**Unauthorised dividends** - A director can only take dividends from a business if they are represented by profit after debts are taken into account. If directors take dividends when the company has debts they are actually taking a loan from the company. If the company owes money to the VATman, he will treat the 2dividend2 payments as a debt to the company and pursue the debtor (the director) for repayment of the loan to clear the debt.

*The Money Column is provided by WatkinsonBlack Chartered Accountants 1st Floor, 264 Manchester Road, Warrington, WA1 3RB. Accountants who care, for clients who matter*

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## Baby goats signal Spring is in the air



SPRING is well and truly in the air at Walton Hall & Gardens following the birth of six rare African Pygmy goats, including a set of twins.

The goats are proving a real handful for park ranger Liz Rowlands who is being assisted in the care of the goats by 17-year-old Georgia Galvin from Stockton Heath.

The student from Reaseath College, is doing her work experience at the children's zoo, helping care for the baby goats and the other animals, as part of her Animal Management diploma.

The baby goats are now on show to the public and have a real spring in their step!

## Family's tribute to great grandma who died in canal

**THE family of a 72-year-old woman who died when her car plunged into the Manchester Ship Canal at Stockton Heath have paid tribute to a "lovely lady" and much-loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother.**

The family have also praised emergency services and a member of the public who tried to rescue her from the canal.

Valerie Pritchard (pictured), of Grappenhall, was out driving her car in Stockton Heath village when the vehicle crashed through metal railings in Ellesmere Road and fell into the canal.

In a statement, her family said: "Our Mum, Grandmother, and Great Grandmother was tragically taken from us in a road traffic accident on Wednesday March 12.

"She was a lovely lady who always had a full social life, meeting with her many friends for coffee mornings, art class and going to her local club to watch Warrington Wolves with her partner.

"She was also a keen gardener and loved to spend time doing craft work.



She will be greatly missed by all her family and her partner.

"The family wish to thank all the emergency and charity-run services that attended the accident, including the Police Constable and the member of the public who tried to help at the scene."



### Select Medical Group, Cheshire's Private Medical and Aesthetic Practice has moved

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Our practice (formerly based within Cheshire Natural Health) has grown rapidly and so you will see some familiar faces (including Maria!) and some new ones as we continue to expand the expert services we offer.

Check out our website [www.selectmedicalgroup.co.uk](http://www.selectmedicalgroup.co.uk) for more information and all our latest news.

We look forward to welcoming all existing and new patients to the Select Medical Group. Should you have any queries or if you would like to book an appointment, please contact our friendly, helpful team.

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Adrian Murray



Rosemary Reeves



Charlotte Sutton

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**Adrian Murray:** Registered Osteopath with 16 years experience. Adrian favours soft tissue manipulation and low impact spinal manipulation as he believes this approach results in a more effective and complete treatment.

**Rosemary Reeves:** Registered Senior Clinical Hypnotherapist. Although Rosie's job title is Clinical Hypnotherapist, this is only half the story. Rosie uses a variety of approaches, including counselling and other talking therapies, to tailor treatments to individual needs.

**Charlotte Sutton:** Practice Nurse. Has 10 years nursing experience in various roles.



# What's on in the villages

**April 5**  
LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S  
Manchester Piano Trio. Adi Brett (violin), Nicholas Trystad (cello), Jeremy Young (piano) play music by Beethoven, Turina, Schubert and Mendelssohn. St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall. 7.30pm.

**April 8**  
STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL  
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath. 7.30pm

**April 15**  
APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL  
Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm

**April 17**  
GRAPPENHALL & THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL  
Council Offices, Bellhouse Lane. 7.30pm

**Every Monday**  
ST MARY MAGDALENE MONDAY CLUB  
St Mary Magdalene Church, Appleton 1.30pm

**COUNTRY DANCING CLUB**  
St Thomas' Primary School, Parkgate Road, Stockton Heath.  
8-10pm. Details: 01925 262356

**BRIDGE CLUB**  
Grappenhall Village Sports Club  
Stockton Lane. 7.30pm. Details 01928 712233

**LADIES' FRIENDSHIP CLUB**  
The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.  
8pm. Details: 01925 264099

**HIGH LEGH RUBBER BRIDGE CLUB**  
Village Hall, 7-10pm. Details: Audrey Greaves 0161 904 0120

**Every second Monday**  
PARK (APPLETON) WI  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm

**Second and fourth Monday**  
WARRINGTON ART GROUP  
Bellhouse Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, Grappenhall.  
7-9pm.

**Every third Monday**  
NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY  
Cheshire District meeting  
Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club, Chester Road, Grappenhall. 8pm. Details: 01925 265773.

**Every fourth Monday**  
MARLFIELD WI  
Grappenhall Community Library, Albert Road, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

**Every Tuesday**  
COFFEE MORNING  
St Cross Church, Appleton Thorn. All welcome.  
10am-12 noon

**PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**  
Quays Community Centre,  
Thelwall New Road, Thelwall. 7.30pm.  
Contact: 01925 757582.

**COFFEE MORNING**  
Appleton Independent Methodist Church  
Appleton Parish Hall, 10am-12 noon

**Every Wednesday**  
APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB  
September - April at Hall Drive, Appleton. 7.30-10pm. Details: 01925 262356

**Every first Wednesday**  
Walton WI  
St John's Church Community Hall. 7.30pm

**First and third Wednesday each month**  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS  
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath.  
8pm. Details: 01925 268311

**STOCKTON HEATH PROBUS CLUB**  
Warrington Sports Club, Walton Lea Road, Higher Walton. Details: 01925 268540

**Every third Wednesday**  
HIGHER WALTON WI, St John's Community Hall,  
7.45pm. Details 01925 262001.

**Every fourth Wednesday**  
ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY  
Support Group, Brampton Lodge Day Centre, Bridge Lane, Appleton. 6.30-8.30pm

**Every Thursday**  
THE SILVER QUAYS Senior Citizen's Club  
The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall. Details: 01925 753474.

**BRIDGE CLUB**  
Grappenhall Village Sports Club  
Stockton Lane. 7.30pm. Details 01928 712233

**STRETTON WI**  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 2.30pm.

**GRAPPENHALL PROBUS CLUB**  
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane,  
10am. Details: 01925 264427.

**Every third Thursday**  
NORTH EAST CHESHIRE FLOWER CLUB  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 2pm  
Details: 01925 740419

**GRAPPENHALL WI**  
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane  
2.15pm

**Every Friday**  
APPLETOTS TODDLER GROUP  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.  
9.45-11.30am. Details: 01925 268153.

To list your event call Village Life on  
**01925 623632**



# Musical rings the changes - 600 times

**THE wardrobe team at Knutsford Musical Theatre Company (KMTC) faced something of a challenge for their forthcoming show - 600 costumes for a cast of 37 adults and 16 children.**

Average number of costume changes for each member of the cast is 10 - with some having to change 14 times!

Doubtless it will be all right on the



night - but in the meantime KMTC have had to find the costumes on a very limited budget.

They have been "raiding" charity shops - in particular Scope, in High Street, Northwich - finding party dresses, men's suits, shoes, coats, etc.

Wardrobe team members, Jean Carr, Molly de Marco, Shirley Ryan and Linda Rushton helped to source and sort costumes. Karen Dovey-Evans, Annette Connah and Trish and Chris Race used their sewing expertise to alter and adapt items as needed.

Karen and Annette have made three identical dresses, differing only in size, for a scene where a princess grows older as she is singing a song and three different girls take on the role.

Another song is sung by fairy tale characters including Pinocchio, The Three Bears and The Big Bad Wolf.

Lesley Reed, who leads the wardrobe team, says it is not just the number of costumes that is the challenge, but the logistics of working out who is in which scene, and planning and organising things without interrupting rehearsals.

"The show is evolving as rehearsals progress," she said. "I found out one week the director had decided to put four nuns in one scene.

"Luckily we still had nun's habits available from last time we did 'The Sound of Music'."

Another problem was caused by a scene where all 53 members of the cast needed identical school uniforms.

The show is "Showstoppers" - a revue featuring songs from famous musicals, old and new - and KMTC are presenting it at The Grange Theatre, Hartford, from May 22-24, including a Saturday Matinee. Ticket prices from £8 - £12.

Shows covered in the revue includes classics like "Oklahoma!" and "Anything Goes" and modern hits such as "Matilda", "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and "Shrek the Musical."

Tickets can either be booked online, by going to [www.grangetheatre.com](http://www.grangetheatre.com) or by phoning the box office on 0844 8700887.

## Headline acts for village festival

HEADLINE acts for this year's Stockton Heath Festival have been announced - and as usual the four-day event will offer something for everyone.

The festival will run from Thursday, July 3 through to Sunday, July 6 at a variety of venues in and around the village.

The line-up includes a return from favourites Oddsocks, with their unique, outdoor Shakespearean productions, and a lively American Independence Night of music from The Swing Commanders and a concert headed up by Warrington Male Voice Choir.

Newcomers include top tribute band Fake That and a finale night from soul and Motown music from Diane Shaw.

More acts will be announced later and festival organisers are calling on local talent to come forward.

Musicians, singers, dancers and entertainers who would like to get involved on the Festival Field on the Saturday and Sunday should contact events director Andrew Renshaw at [hello@stocktonheathfestival.co.uk](mailto:hello@stocktonheathfestival.co.uk)

He said: "Last year the Festival Field was buzzing with all kinds of acts appealing to all ages and tastes. It featured many local musicians and choirs and created a wonderful atmosphere. We look forward to welcoming more local talent to another great line up this year."

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