

VILLAGE

Cheshire's Community Magazine

Issue 132 March 2012 FREE

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Mum gets on her bike!

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Opinion

MAURICE, the last Lord Egerton of Tatton, may well turn in his grave at the prospect of a theme park being developed amid the sprawling acres of Tatton Park.

Indeed, if the terms under which he gifted his estate to the National Trust, following his death in 1958, do not contain some legal clause to prevent such a thing from happening, it is probably only because in his lifetime, he could not have conceived such a possibility.

Still, the bachelor baron is long gone, and in any case, a man who built a castle in Kenya from which women were banned, can hardly complain about the eccentricities of modern leisure pursuits. Indeed he has probably been revolting in his grave for years as his Kenyan castle is now used as a wedding venue!

Of more relevance is what people living near Tatton Park today think of the proposals, put forward by Cheshire East Council and a Norfolk-based theme park.

In the recent past, some Knutsford residents have complained about open-air concerts and firework displays at Tatton. There have also complaints about the traffic chaos which accompanies the annual RHS flower show.

If the proposed adventure park contains nothing more than the existing one in Norfolk - treehouses, zip wires, jungle bridges, storytelling, boat trips, etc - then it may not raise noise issues. But these developments have a tendency to grow and the prospect of something like Alton Towers, with its rides, restaurants, bars, shops, etc., is one that might not go down too well.

Tatton is already an award-winning attraction, attracting 800,000 visitors a year. We wonder whether this is not enough.

IT will be interesting to see what effect the separation of the popular Stockton Heath Festival from the equally popular Stockton Heath Walking Day, will have on the two events.

Hopefully, none, for both occasions have, in the recent past, benefited from strong support from the local

community and both deserve to continue to do so.

Last year, after hearing talk about changing the date of the Festival so that it did not coincide with the Walk, we urged caution. Why, after all, change a winning team?

In fact, the change has happened by accident rather than design. Neither organisation has changed its date but the complexities of the Gregorian Calendar led to some confusion leading to the Festival starting five days after the Walk instead of three days before it!

By the time the error was discovered, bookings had been confirmed and it was too late to change them.

Taking a positive view, both Festival and Walk now have an opportunity to see how they manage on their own. It will be no new experience for the Walk, as it has a history stretching back more than 100 years. The Festival, on the other hand, will be going it alone for the first time - in its important Fifth Anniversary Year.

We urge local people to support both events. They help keep the village on the map in their own different ways and that can only be for the good. Next year will be time enough to decide whether they should come together again or not.



'Library' is back in business

GRAPPENHALL Library is back in business - but still looking for a new name.

More than 3,500 books line its shelves and volunteer "librarians" are there to help.

Hundreds of people packed into the building in Victoria Avenue when an open day was held to spotlight the services available.

The library - closed as a result of Town Hall spending cuts - is now run by volunteers from

the Friends of Grappenhall Library.

A competition has taken place to decide a new name for the centre.

Eventually the building is likely to be used for a wide range of activities.

■ Above: Members of the 'Friends' group at the open day.

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Awards for licensees who care

EIGHT pubs, bars and restaurants in the Stockton Heath area have received a prestigious new award recognising the work they have done to provide high standards of customer care and a safe and welcoming environment.

The ArcAngel Award involves premises operators working with various agencies to tackle issues such as alcohol related crime and disorder and underage drinking. Premises receiving the award have also signed up to a voluntary code of conduct and have actively encouraged other establishments to engage in the scheme.

The award winning premises were: Cape, The Mulberry Tree, The Red Lion, The London Bridge, The Saracens Head, A La Turka, Le Bistrot Pierre and Tom at 101. The awards will be presented by Mayor of Warrington Mike Biggin.

Floral donation

GUEST speaker at the annual meeting of Stockton Heath Flower Club was florist Ann Reece, who asked that her fee be donated to St Rocco's Hospice.

The club meets monthly at Appleton Parish Hall, in Dudlow Green Road, when there are always plenty of tips for creating stylish displays.



The next workshop is arranged for March 6, when members will be taught how to make a contemporary parallel design using seasonal flowers and foliage.

On National Flower Arranging Day, Friday May 4, members will be spreading the word about the club. There will also be a trip to the Southport Flower Show in July.

Further information about the club is available by contacting 01925 266823.

■ Ann Reece, of 2Lips florists, and club treasurer Carol Williams.



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Mum gets on her bike for cancer charities

A MOTHER is getting on her bike for charity and cycling across India to help raise money for cancer charities in memory of her mum and a friend, who both died from the disease.

Eileen Bass from Grappenhall Heyes has entered the Women v Cancer event which takes place from October 19-28 which will involve her cycling 340km across India in temperatures of around 30 degrees heat.

She needs to raise £2,800 for ovarian, breast and cervical cancer charities.

To help with her fund-raising, Eileen, who is an amateur artist, has organised an arts exhibition at Grappenhall Heys Community Primary School from March 5-16 with viewings available from 3.15-4.30pm in the meeting room.

Entitled "A Passion for Pastels" all profits from sales will go towards Eileen's challenge.

Eileen lost her own mother to Ovarian cancer and is the mother of two daughters, Kirsty 14 and Ciara, 10,

so is passionate about raising funds for research.

She also lost a good friend Rhonda Waters to breast cancer last year, aged just 45, who left two lovely daughters.

"It is a big challenge for me and I am hoping the local community can support me. I am paying all my own fees for travelling and accommodation so any donations go direct to the charities.

"I am taking part in this challenge to both honour the memories of my mother and my friend and to raise money in the hope that others won't have to go through what those brave individuals did.

"As the mum of two beautiful daughters I am also very aware of the threat of such illnesses to both myself and my girls. I don't want that fate to be ours."

Donations can be made online at www.justgiving.com/EileenBass1



■ Eileen Bass.

Festival goes it alone – by accident!

THIS year's Stockton Heath Festival will be the first since it was launched five years ago NOT to coincide with the village Walking Day.

Walking Day will be on Saturday July 7 while the festival will run from Thursday, July 12 to Sunday July 15.

Festival founder Tudor Pole said: "Neither of us have changed our dates - it's happened by accident really.

"Stockton Heath Walking Day is traditionally held on the second Saturday after Warrington Walking Day, which is on June 29 this year.

"But we thought the village walk was on the second Saturday in July and went ahead on that basis, not taking into account that June 30 was a Saturday.

"There was some talk last year about moving the festival so it would not clash with the Walk, but it has happened by accident.

"It will mean the festival will miss the 'magnet' of the Walk to bring people into the village on the Saturday, but on the other hand we will be free to plan our Saturday events without worrying whether they will clash with the Walk.

"So what we lose on the roundabouts, we may gain on the swings.

"At least we will find out whether or not either event suffers and will be able to plan accordingly next year."

When the festival was launched in 2008, it was felt that by overlapping with Walking Day, both events might benefit. At that time, Walking Day was thought to be losing its appeal and in need of a boost.

But in the years since, the Walk has regained its popularity and is attracting larger crowds than ever.





Festival's new patron

TOP playwright Tim Firth - famous for the hit film and play "Calendar Girls" - has become patron of the Stockton Heath Festival.

Cheshire-born Tim said: "This is the kind of event I wish my home town had organised when I was growing up."

"In my lifetime Stockton Heath has changed beyond all recognition and has a new energy of which the festival is vibrant proof".

Festival founder and co-ordinating director Tudor Pole said: "The aim of the festival is to provide Stockton Heath and surrounding areas with an annual festival to celebrate arts and culture in the parish."

"We are delighted to have someone of Tim's standing as our patron. It is especially appropriate as he is a local boy that grew up here and still has strong links with the area. We believe that his early work started as a pupil at Bridgewater High School where he channelled a lot of energy into song writing."

Tim Firth is most famous for "Calendar Girls" but his work caters for all ages and tastes.

It includes the TV series Preston Front, the play Neville's Island, the musical Our House and an album, Harmless Flirting, produced by fellow writer Willy Russell.

This year marks the festival's fifth birthday and it runs from July 12-15. More information can be found on the website www.stocktonheathfestival.co.uk

Day nursery serving up success!

A day nursery is hoping to produce the Wimbledon stars of the future after starting new mini tennis lessons.

Tennis coach Gary Ward and his wife Philippa bought the Old Vicarage Day Nursery off the Diocese of Chester back in 1995 with the idea of living in the house and converting the ground floor into a Nursery.

The day nursery opened the following year and the business has gone from strength to strength and has grown from a 25 place nursery to 64 places.

Gary and Philippa moved out after their own children had been through the nursery, which is celebrating its 16th birthday with an open day on March 17 from 10.30am - 4.00pm.

The nursery prides itself in its curriculum and recently added the additional activity of mini tennis to the pre-school children's busy day.

Through their tennis sessions, the youngsters are learning balance, agility and co-ordination, as well as building their self confidence and social skills.

Through playing games they are being encouraged to share and take turns helping them to develop their language and numeracy.

"Hopefully we will have some young budding Wimbledon stars of the future," said Philippa.

For more information visit www.theoldvicaragedaynursery.co.uk



America - So many places to visit

Where to start? There are so many places to visit and such beautiful scenery.

There are 50 states with stunning coastlines, beaches, canyons, national parks, cities and of course the shopping!

If you are taking the children you can guarantee they will want to experience the magic of Orlando's theme parks. Why not combine this with a beach stay at the end to relax after the hectic days in the Walt Disney parks.

Alternatively take in the colours in the fall in New England. To get the most of your time in USA try one of the many escorted tours and take some free time at the end to relax and explore at your leisure. If you prefer to drive yourself, take a Winnebago

(motor home) and drive one of the many routes i.e. Route 66 across America. Alternatively fly to Denver and drive through to Yellowstone National Park, taking in Cheyenne, various national parks, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, Snake River Canyon, Salt Lake City and ending back in Denver.

An example of an escorted tour - flight arrives into Los Angeles on the coach through the desert to Las Vegas, here you will have 2 nights to experience the non stop casinos and shows. Travel from here across the desert through Bakersfield to Yosemite National Park for a further 2 nights visiting the waterfalls, wildlife etc. From here you will arrive into San Francisco - visit Alcatraz, Union

Square and ride across the Golden Gate Bridge. Your tour is nearly over now, travelling through Monterey to Pebble Beach and Carmel by the Sea ending the day in Santa Maria for a night. Finally pass through, with a short stop in, Santa Barbara - to end your tour in Los Angeles, where it would be well worth extending your stay for 3 or 4 nights to explore this city.

We can help you decide which is the best option for you or you could do a twin or triple city centre trip with no touring. Flights would be from Manchester or London airports. Call or pop in and talk to one of our experienced travel staff who will prepare a quote for you. 01925 269400 or email enquiries@island-villas.co.uk



■ Linda Crowder – Stockton Heath Travel

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Hat-trick of awards for Corks Out!

INDEPENDENT spirit retailer Corks Out based in Stockton Heath, is celebrating winning a national award for the third consecutive year.

Corks Out was presented with the Independent Spirit Retailer of the Year 2012 award at the Drinks Retailing Awards and was also nominated in two other categories – Champagne Retailer of the Year, and Online/Direct Sales Retailer of the Year at the sparkling awards ceremony held at the Dorchester Hotel on Park Lane.

The awards recognise that the company is continuing to develop and broaden the range of products in its stores, and also the success of corksout.com, the company's website.

Owner Ruth Yates was delighted with the win saying: "We are proud to be recognised for our Spirits and Champagne ranges, where the focus is on unusual and high quality products. We stock only the best products that offer great value for money, and it was good to see the judges recognising this in the awards. This is the third year in a row that Corks Out has won an award at the Drinks Retailing Awards, and is good to see that we are continuing to impress the judges."



Ruth Yates of Corks Out

Hall ready to open to public

TATTON Hall opens to the public again on March 24 - after undergoing its annual winter clean.

Every room and practically every precious item in the former stately home of the Egerton family will have had its condition checked and been thoroughly cleaned.

In particular, two large Regency candlesticks by the early 19th century silversmith and sculptor Paul Storr have been carefully cleaned with conservation grade silver dip, under the direction of a National Trust conservator.

Silver gilt, or 'vermeil' is made when a solid silver object is overlaid with a thin layer of gold. The technique has been used for thousands of years but was extremely popular in Europe from the early 18th to late 19th centuries.

These costly decorative candlesticks, surmounted with lion rampants, the crest of the Egerton family, would have been brought out for very special occasions. They may well have graced the dining table when the Prince and Princess of Wales were guests of Wilbraham and Elizabeth Egerton in 1887.

Picture: Conservation assistant Catherine Downey with one of the Regency candlesticks.



Advertiser's announcement

Preparing for Spring - ovens deserve some special care

WITH the lighter nights approaching, households everywhere will be preparing for spring cleaning sessions to get homes in order for the summer months.

Paul Clark, from professional oven valeters Ovenu, is reminding people that after a long, hard winter, ovens deserve some special care during the spring cleaning season.

For even the most enthusiastic spring cleaners, donning rubber gloves and tackling the oven is still one of the most loathed household chores. If people are not

thorough with their oven cleaning, fat and food can cause future problems, which could result in an oven fire.

Paul said: "It's really important to not forget the oven when spring cleaning – behind its door will be a build up of dirt and grease from continual use throughout the winter that will not only affect its efficiency, but could be a potential fire hazard!"

"As outside temperatures plummeted during the winter many people turned to their ovens for hot wholesome meals, but the more you use your oven the more debris and grease can start to build up and this can

affect its efficiency."

The Ovenu valeting process involves dismantling key components of an oven such as the door, interior panels, fan and shelves and placing them into design-registered equipment, which uses non-caustic products to clean the oven parts.

Paul adds: "Taking the time to get your house in order can be a very satisfying experience, but when it comes to cleaning the oven, most people would rather close the door and put it to the back of their minds!"

By regularly cleaning and maintaining an oven, it will

ensure it performs at its best and even help prolong its life, and not need to replace it as often."

The whole process takes around three hours and leaves the oven, hob and exterior in immaculate condition. Ovenu is accredited by the British Accreditation Bureau to ISO 9001 and all cleaning products used by Ovenu are environmentally friendly, biodegradable and conform to the latest government REACH regulations. Ovenu's Carbon Remover is also approved by the Vitreous Enamel Association.

Legislation update

Do you have any sports fans amongst your employees who may already have been allocated tickets for the Olympics or at least will want to watch the main events on telly? Have any of them volunteered as helpers for the games? Where do you stand if several staff want the same time off over the 2 weeks the Games are on?

The first thing to do is talk to them. Find out whether you have a potential problem. If you find you have, then it may be as simple as setting a limit to the number of staff you can afford to be off at any one time without affecting performance – you may already have a policy on this – and then dealing with requests on a first

come, first served basis.

You might find staff want to watch specific events so you may want to think about whether they can watch it on their computers, without it affecting their work of course, or consider getting in a big telly (or two depending on how many people you have and where they are situated) for

the duration. It might limit absenteeism. Similarly you may want to consider requests for more flexible working hours whilst the games are on. Coming in and leaving earlier, split days, compressed hours etc may suit employees and as long as they work for the business too may be a good solution for everyone.

Remember all of these are your decision and although your staff may hear on the radio or TV that they are entitled to time off etc. The fact is that you are doing them a favour.

Nuclear waste breakthrough

ARVIA Technology, based at Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus, has completed a pioneering trial to dispose of radioactive waste at a nuclear power station.

The trial involved using an organic waste treatment to dispose of radioactive oil at Trawsfynydd power station, in North Wales, currently being decommissioned.

The success of this approach has major positive implications for the global nuclear industry. Scores of power stations are being decommissioned and the technology provides a safe, low-cost solution.

Out of the blue . . . sustainable fish!

TWO Cheshire fish and chip shops have become the first in the county achieve Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification.

This means The Big Blue - which has shops in Grappenhall and Wilmslow - now sells fish from a MSC certified sustainable source.

Cod and haddock join MSC certified South African hake on the menu - all with a blue MSC ecolabel next to them.

Proprietor Phil Geary said: "We take pride in making sure that our

customers have the best choice of fish available to them. We felt it was the correct thing to do to make a positive contribution to the future of fish stocks by undertaking Marine Stewardship Council certification to show our customers that the fish and chips that they buy from us come from a certified sustainable source.

"We source locally where we can so that we can support fellow local businesses.

"It's a little difficult to stay local though when it comes to seafood. Although a lot of our fish specials



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come from local shores we source hake from South Africa and cod and haddock from Norway and Iceland and now we're proud to say that it's sustainable too."

Hanna Arcaro, food service manager at the MSC says: "Fish and chips has to be the heart and soul of fish eating in this country and Phil and his team have really pushed the boat out by getting not one but two chippies certified at the same time."

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Car with emotional and rational appeal

HYUNDAI has announced full pricing and specification for its new generation five-door i30 hatchback, due for launch in the UK on March 12.

Prices start at £14,495 on-the-road for the entry level Classic model, which comes with insurance ratings

from Group 7E, making it one of the most cost effective C-segment cars to own and run.

The newcomer builds on the success of its predecessor. First launched in 2007, the outgoing i30 was the first 'i' product in Hyundai's range and introduced new standards of quality and driveability.

The new generation i30 brings with it a new level of style, interior quality and technology – adding emotional as well as rational appeal.

It will be available in four main trim levels including Classic, Active, Style and Style Nav, while customers will also have the choice of either petrol or diesel engines – including

Hyundai's latest ultra-efficient 1.6-litre diesel unit that emits less than 100g/km CO₂.

There will be five engine outputs on offer with a choice of manual or automatic transmissions.

WINE COLUMN

by Ruth Yates from



Oak you like, oak you don't

TMO, Too Much Oak.....it's a fact, our tastes are changing, we now prefer to taste the fruit in our wine rather than the oak.

The loose term 'Too Much Oak' is generally applied to the cheaper mass market wines, where it is often used to mask impurities in a wine or to generally cover up a thin, tasteless wine.

The fact of the matter is most of these cheap oaked wines, as they are called, haven't even seen the inside of an oak barrel. Why? Well, because oak barrels are expensive. So, I can hear you asking, why then do they taste so oaky? Chips..... no, not the potato kind, oak chips in a large tea bag style container that is swirled around the vat of wine for a while. What this does is impart a dominant oaky character, almost confectioned in its style in an attempt to enhance the flavour of average quality fruit.

But love it or hate it, oak, when it is used in the right way, can both enhance and compliment a wine. The key is quality fruit and a jolly good winemaker; this can make all the difference in getting the right balance for an elegant oaked Chardonnay or a good quality Rioja. With genuine oak ageing, oxygen, through the pores of the wood, provides ideal conditions to soften harsh tannins and increase the complexity of the flavour compounds. It can increase the ageing potential and help to prepare the wine for bottle ageing, a fundamental factor for maturing fine wines.

Whether you like oak matured wines or not is a personal choice, but if I had a £1 for everyone that told me they didn't like Chardonnay but they loved Chablis I would be sitting on a beach somewhere drinking the stuff!! Did you ever think that it might be the oak you don't like and not the grape variety? In a recent tasting I asked people to raise their hands if they didn't like Chardonnay. I couldn't

believe the result; over 60 out of 80 people raised their hands. However, after trying one of our elegant Chardonnays, over 40 of those people had to admit they were impressed and liked the wine and I bet there would have been a lot more if I hadn't told them it was Chardonnay.

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or email:
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Money Column

By Margaret Black

Basics for business

When we see a person who is thinking of setting up a business for the first time, as a firm of accountants, it is our duty to offer the very best of advice right from the outset. We advise on the pros and cons of Limited Company versus self employed status whether as an individual sole-trader or a partnership. At this stage, we also advise on the taxation and remuneration implications for the type of business chosen.

As part of our service we will register the business and/or its owner with the relevant authorities, i.e HMRC, Companies House etc. Whatever the status of the enterprise, we will offer guidance to the director/owner of the business outlining their responsibilities in respect of the following aspects:

Step 1 Importance of Record Keeping

- to include the logging and retaining of any and all source documents which relate to the operation of the business i.e sales invoices, purchase invoices, business bank account statements, paying in books, cheque books, business credit card statements, HP and/or agreements and where applicable copies of quarterly VAT return.

Step 2 VAT Implications to the business

- ***Importance of keeping an eye on turnover*** – There is a limit to how much turnover one can achieve before compulsory registration, please note! this is subject to change, usually every April. ***Remember*** This has to be monitored on a rolling 12 month basis. ***Be aware it is your responsibility*** In many cases an accountant will not know your turnover level until they start to prepare the accounts and this may be months after the threshold has been reached. (If you don't know what the threshold then either ask your accountant or go on-line to find out)
 - Whether a 'compulsory', or if considered for the best a 'voluntary' registration there is more than one method for accounting for VAT i.e cash accounting, invoice accounting, flat rate scheme. We advise and help to evaluate the most efficient method for each individual case
 - Whichever method the business adopts, VAT is normally reported quarterly, although in certain circumstances it may be necessary to report monthly.
- Step 3 Importance of reporting, recording and complying with employer**



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

obligations

- We will advise of the need to set up a PAYE scheme where applicable, we will also advise of the reporting necessary, however, once again please note that all reporting is the responsibility of the employer (we do offer assistance in this matter)
- Please note that we do have a payroll bureau here, if you wish to outsource your payroll function – we will be more than happy to advise of our costs

As part of our service we offer valuable 'ad hoc' advice to new and existing clients from inception to cessation of their business

Telephone 01925 413210 or e-mail on margaret@warringtonaccountants.co.uk

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The day Lakeisha can't sing

SHE'S a talented singer and she's potty about horse riding, but on the biggest day of her life so far, she won't be able to do either.

"Royal" May Queens at Knutsford don't sing or ride horses - they ride in a carriage!

Lakeisha Bradbury, aged 13, has been chosen as the 148th "Royal" May Queen and will be crowned in a ceremony on Knutsford Heath on Saturday, May 5.

Before that she will ride in procession around the town, watched by thousands of well-wishers.

Lakeisha, a pupil at Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School, has been taking part in Knutsford's May Day festival since she was five. Last year she was one of the court ladies.

But May Day is not the only exciting prospect awaiting her at present.

She took part in auditions in Manchester for the hit TV show "Britain's Got Talent" recently and is waiting to see if she has won through to the next stage.

Lakeisha rides at Rostherne, at the riding school run by Joe Gates - who, coincidentally, leads the May Day procession on horseback.

She was chosen at a special selection day at Egerton Youth Club, along with other youngsters who will take leading roles on the day.

Robson Ballance, aged 15, was chosen as the Crown Bearer.

Others selected include Celine Barclay and Tolu Smith, both 12, who will be ladies-in-waiting, Sasha Corrillo, Jenny Warburton, Emma Sawyer and Lucy Glasby-Seddon, who will be court ladies and Esme Perry, Natalie Wilbraham, Lydia Singleton, Brigid Keighran, Emma Bland and Sophie Baldwin, who will be maids of honour.



In praise of volunteers



THE chairman of Cheshire Police Authority - which defied the Government by increasing their part of the council tax - has also been stressing the importance of volunteers in the fight against crime and disorder.

■ Mrs Ollerenshaw and Special Constables at their passing out ceremony.

Margaret Ollerenshaw spoke up for "Specials" at a passing out ceremony for 26 men and women who had just completed their initial training to become Special Constables.

They will work with many of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams across the county.

Mrs Ollerenshaw said: "Specials today work alongside regular Police Officers in a wide variety of policing tasks. They are a familiar sight on the streets of our towns and villages, playing a key role in combating anti-social behaviour.

"This is especially true on Friday and Saturday nights. The volunteer officers patrol areas which are busy with people enjoying a night out and call at pubs and clubs to carry out licensing visits.

"The sight of them provides reassurance for people who just want to enjoy a night out and is a deterrent to those who are out to cause trouble."

Later, Mrs Ollerenshaw announced that the authority was to increase its element of council tax by 3.94 per cent - the equivalent of 11 pence a week for an average Band D home.

She said the small increase would help maintain frontline policing and keep the people of Cheshire safe, although it would still require a reduction of 25 officers.

It was the last budget to be set by the authority, before it is replaced by a Police and Crime Commissioner in November. Mrs Ollerenshaw described it as "arguably the most difficult of the 17 budgets set by the authority".

Simon Roberts, chairman of the Cheshire Police Federation, praised the authority for its "brave decision."

He said: "I am personally aware of the political pressure that has been placed on this police authority to accept a freeze on council tax.

"It pleases me that they have resisted this temptation and made the more difficult but correct decision. We face uncertain times ahead with this police authority being replaced by a Police Commissioner.

"I hope that this person, whoever it may be, shows the same political independence as this police authority in the future and does not look for the often easier short term fix."

What's On in the Villages

March 6
STOCKTON HEATH FLOWER CLUB
"Magic Boxes" - Pat Murphy.
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm

March 13
STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath. 7.30pm

March 20
APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm

March 17
LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S
Dolce Cinque wind quintet play Mozart, Prokofiev,
Poulenc, Jim Parker.
St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall Village, 7.30pm

April 1
EASTER CRAFT & FUN DAY
Victory Hall, Moberley. 10.30am-4pm
Details: 07813 927103

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

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

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 fourth Monday
MARLFIELD WI
Independent Methodist Chapel, Knutsford 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

Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month
STOCKTON HEATH & DISTRICT LIONS
Ram's Head, Grappenhall.

Every Wednesday
APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB
Starting March at Hall Drive, Appleton. 8-10pm.
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

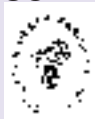
Every Thursday
THE SILVER QUAYS Senior Citizen's Club
The Quays Community Centre,
Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.
Details: 01925 753474.

Every second Thursday
STRETTON WI
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.
2.30pm.

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

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



Club courting success

A BUSY programme of court refurbishment will ensure Stockton Heath Tennis Club is in tip top condition for the start of the new season on April 1.

The club, which has five all-weather courts, two shale courts and the use of more floodlit all-weather courts at Bridgewater High School, will be running 17 teams in the Warrington LTA League - six men's, five ladies' and six mixed teams.

The Delphfields Road club will be aiming to build on a successful season last year, when the ladies were division one runners-up and division two champions, the mixed teams were division one and two champions and the men finished in a respectable mid-table position in division one.

Regular tennis has continued throughout the winter on the all-weather courts and under the floodlights.

The club offers Saturday social tennis, junior club nights, regular social tournaments and an active social calendar. Coaching is available for all age groups by LTA registered coaches.

Visitors will be able to sample the club's facilities at an open day on April 22, a charity tournament in aid of St Rocco's Hospice is planned for May 25 and the annual dinner dance will be on September 22.

The club's membership secretary can be contacted at samantha839@btinternet.com



■ Lady award winners at the Warrington LTA annual dinner.

Meet your MP David Mowat

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 or telephone 01925 231267.

David Mowat
Member of Parliament for Warrington South
www.davidmowat.org

Produced by David Mowat MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

A welcome from the council

NEW residents arriving in Appleton will get a welcome from the Parish Council. The council has published a "Welcome Pack" giving details of services, facilities and general information in and around the parish.

Available as a 22-page booklet, the useful "Welcome" can also be read online at www.parish.cheshire.gov.uk/appletonpc/

Compiled over a period of four months by council clerk Louise Parker, the pack lists events throughout the year, activities and places to visit, schools, day nurseries, churches, social and sporting facilities, youth services, health, etc.

The online version will be updated regularly.

Celebration lunch

THE Queen's Diamond Jubilee will be celebrated with a "Big Lunch" at Mere Parish Club.

Mere Parish Council is organising the lunch at 12 noon on Sunday, June 3. There will be entertainment and games for children and adults. The event is expected to finish at about 5pm.

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