



STOCKTON HEATH \* APPLETON \* GRAPPENHALL \* THELWALL \* STRETTON \* WALTON



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# Editor's Comment



WE have commented previously in this column on the long-running dispute over the former Warrington RUFC pitch in Bridge Lane, Appleton – and we have scrupulously tried to avoid taking sides.

The issue arises again as a result of two borough councillors criticising the rugby club in a party political leaflet and the club responding in kind

through an open letter.

Alas, the exchange does little to enable us to decide who is to blame for the scandalous situation of a

### 'Crazy mums' on a downward slide

MUMS using the recreation area of Walton Hall and Gardens were dubbed

'crazy' by a councillor.

Coun Sonia Boggan told Stockton Heath Parish Council she had seen mothers with

young children on their knee, using the slides at the park. "I have seen one or two mums going down the slide with young children on their knee – this is a dangerous activity," she said. "A lot of these are very young mums—

it is crazy. It is ridiculous as they could be in an accident going down the slide."

She asked whether there was a warden at the park who could be asked to stop

mothers using the slides.

But Coun Tudor Pole defended the mothers and said it was a safe activity.

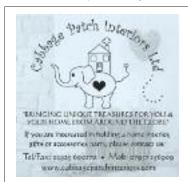
"I remember my mum taking me down a slide like that," he said.

superb sports pitch lying idle when numerous local sports clubs are in desperate need of playing space.

The facts, so far as we are able to ascertain, are that the club holds a long lease on the pitch which it will not surrender unless the borough council allows is to use an overflow car park in Walton Gardens as an additional pitch. The council says it cannot do this because the car park is needed and will become even more needed when long term plans to expand the use of Walton Hall and Gardens reach fruition.

We think a compromise should not be beyond the wit of man and that heads need knocking together.

But nothing will be gained by a slanging match.









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### New war of words over rugby pitch

THE ongoing row over the disused rugby pitch in Bridge Lane, Appleton has flared up with an outspoken attack on two local councillors by the president of Warrington Rugby Union Club, Mark Winstanley.

Mr Winstanley, in an open letter to Appleton councillors Judith Walker and Brian Axcell, accuses them of failing to show both sides of the dispute in a recent Liberal Democrat "Focus" leaflet.

The leaflet featured the results of a survey suggesting residents of the Cobbs area would prefer the disused pitch to be made available for

community use

Warrington RUFC still owns the lease to the pitch but moved to Walton Lea in 2003 and formally became part of Warrington Sports Club in 2005. Since then it has asked the council for additional playing space on an overflow car park at Walton Gardens.

But the Walton Gardens site may be needed in connection with expansion plans for Walton Hall so the council won't let it be used. The club has responded by refusing to surrender the lease on the Bridge Lane

the firework display will start at 8pm.

land - which still has 50 years to run. The two sides have been deadlocked

for several years.

Mr Winstanley said: "It is ironic that this should be distributed in Local Democracy Week. The least that we should be able to expect of our politicians is that the whole picture should be presented and not a partial

"The criticism which you level at Warrington RUFC is that we will not allow our land to be used. You fail to say that we are, in fact, quite willing to allow the land to be used provided to allow the land to be used provided the borough council is prepared to reciprocate by making its land at Walton Hall overspill car park available likewise to us.

"That land is used relatively infrequently and we would wish to be able to use it when it is not required."

able to use it when it is not required for car parking. We want to be able to allow young children from the age of seven upwards to run on a grassed area, when it is not being used on a Sunday morning, in order to relieve the pressure on the land which we use at Warrington Sports Club.

Coun Walker retorted: "The Bridge Lane ground has now not been used for six or seven years. There are other clubs that would like to use it and it is one of the best sports pitches in Warrington.

"We think the rugby club has had a good deal from the council in the past as they have paid only £15-a-year for the lease. They are not interested in using the Bridge Lane ground any more so we feel a club of this standing should be public spirited enough to let someone else use it.

"They say they want another pitch on the overflow car park before they will release Bridge Lane. But that car park is used quite often and is likely to be used even more in the future when Walton Hall is expanded.'



Councillor Judith Walker

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THE annual family bonfire party and fireworks display at Stockton Heath Scout Centre will be on Saturday, November 7.

A barbecue, various stalls and licensed bar will be laid on by the 4th Warrington Scout group - but organisers are asking for people not to take their own fireworks or sparklers for safety reasons.

The event starts at 6.30pm in Parkgate Road, the bonfire will be lit at 7pm and the firework display will start at 8pm.

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### Legend leads jailbreak!

WARRINGTON Town Mascot The Legend was a caged beast at Stockton Heath Police Station as part of a sponsored jail break involving 15 young people from the Canal Boat Adventure

The football club mascot teamed up with the youngsters to help raise funds towards a resource centre and library for

children living in poverty in Ghana.

The youngsters have raised £11,500 since last December and required a further £3,000 to help pay for

a roof and security system for the building.

More than 60 youngsters including pupils from
Bridgewater High have been involved with the canal boat's Nessie Club.

The event was supported by local police including Inspector Gary McIntyre of South Warrington NPU who said he was keen to support local charities and showcase the police station as much as possible in the local community.



Inspector McIntyre behind bars with The Legend and youngsters who took part in the jail break.







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Advertiser's announcement -

### Las Palmas - Gran Canaria

On arrival into Las Palmas airport, most passengers tend to transfer to the South side of the island to the resorts of Maspalomas, Playa del Ingles, Puerto Rico and Salobre. However, as the capital of the island, Las Palmas, is the centre for cultural activity. Founded in 1478, this was an important port for passing ships and visitors included Christopher Columbus.

Today there is a lot to see and do here. Stroll through beautiful parks, discover wonderful historic buildings, stop for coffee in pretty cobbled plazas and relax on the beach. The city is also host to a wealth of festivals and events the undertaken the product the product of throughout the year ranging from the jazz testival (July - August) to world class

A transfer of approximately 40 minutes takes you to the four star Hotel Reina Isabel, which is an older hotel of great charm and style situated on the sea front at Las Palmas. The entrance to the hotel is on a busy street, but as you walk into the large hotel lobby the hustle and bustle is forgotten. At the rear of the hotel you will find a terrace bar serving light meals. From here you can look out onto the beach of Las Canteras, which is literally across the promenade running adjacent to the beach. The hotel aujacent to the beach. The hotel provides some sunbeds and umbrellas free for guests. If you get bored with the beach and the sea, you can take a dip in the lovely heatable pool on the roof, or have a work-out in the well equipped little gym on the top floor. The hotel is also host to 'La Parilla', which is one of the best A La Carte restaurants on the

The beach of Las Canteras stretches one and a half miles to the west along a boulevard busy with bars, restaurants, shops and hotels. For a nice lunch a leisurely stroll brings you to a fantastic restaurant on the headland. It is quite dramatic to sit having lunch whilst the waves crash against the rocks! Plenty of the smartly dressed locals frequent this restaurant (always a good sign) and is a

great place to people watch!

Almost directly opposite the Santa
Catalina quay in the port is the Santa
Catalina Park, busy enough during the
day with its open air cafes and shops but coming into its own in the evening. Here is also where you will find the elegant, colonial style, five star Hotel Santa Catalina. Originally it was built as a place for officers from British ships to stay on their way to Africa. Since then

> names such Winston Churchill, Agatha Christie and Price Charles have all signed the guestbook. Situated in the park and residential area of Ciudad Jardin, you



Linda Crowder – Stockton Heath Travel

are close to the historical centre and not far from Las Canteras beach. The majority of the historical sights in Las Palmas are easily accessible, but should you like to travel outside Las Palmas and do not wish to hire a car, then a good idea is to ask your hotel concierge to arrange a taxi driver for the day, negotiate a good price and away

you go!

The town of Agaete at the mouth of the Barranco de Agaete is the centre of the most fertile area of the island, growing papaya, coffee, mango and avocados. Half a mile west, is the little port of Puerto de las Nieves, which is well known for fish restaurants and the extraordinary rock formation on its coast, the Dedo de Dios (Finger of God)

A twin-centre holiday would be a great idea on Gran Canaria. For the first week take in the culture of Las Palmas and then transfer to Maspalomas in the south of the island.

Please pop in for more details, or on other destinations-we will make you a coffee and while you relax we will do some quotes. Alternatively email some quotes. Alternatively email enquiries@island-villas.co.uk or ring 01925 269400 for quotes.

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### Scrooge is coming to town

STOCKTON Heath Methodist Dramatic Society are putting a sparkle into the run up to Christmas, with their production of the hilarious "Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of a Christmas Carol."

It's a play within a play and is set to generate plenty of Christmas cheer, filled with songs and charades, as well as the classic Dickens' tale told as it has probably never been told before. The director, Lorraine Matthews, who is sharing directing and producing roles with Lisa Faulkner said: "This play has something for everyone and had our group in stitches during rehearsals.

"Tell all your friends to come down and enjoy a mince pie or two in the interval. Be warned though - the play is rather interactive and as a result, no member of the audience will be safe with Mrs Reece on the hunt for new players for her troupe!"

The play will run for three nights from November 12-14 at the Methodist Church Hall, Walton Road. Tickets priced at £6 (£5 concessions) will be available on the door but anyone interested in advance tickets should contact Bott Picket and 2041.70

in advance tickets should contact Bert Rigby on 264179.

Lorraine Matthews has regularly taken leading roles for the society but this is her first undertaking for them as director.

### Restaurant plan in the balance

Stockton Heath are in the balance after councillors decided to visit the proposed site before reaching a

decision.

Members of the borough council's development control committee heard there had been a number of objections to proposals to change the use of an empty shop in West Avenue, to a 40-seater restaurant.

Among the objectors were borough councillors Celia Jordan and

Sue Dodd, as well as nearby residents.

They claimed there would be noise, cooking smells, increased traffic and noise from extraction fans.

Planning officers recommended the change of use be allowed on the grounds the proposal would add to the vitality and viability of the village

Committee members decided to inspect the site before making a decision.

– Advertiser's announcement –

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- Advertiser's announcement -

### Veg patch is growing

SINCE launching at the end of the summer business has been booming for local Riverford home delivery vegman, Alan McInnes. With a bumper harvest from Stockley Farm, Riverford customers are enjoying organic veg boxes bursting with locally grown fruit and vegetables.

"Despite the economic gloom, it has been a great year to launch the business and there is definitely a strong local demand for organic food. I have been working with many community groups and sports clubs to expand my business and bring flavoursome affordable organic fruit and veg to more customers in the Warrington area." commented Alan. "The produce from Stockley Farm has been excellent this autumn, with sweetcorn and squash being amongst

our customers' favourites."

"We have also recently reduced our minimum spend on organic meat to £25. This has proved very popular with local families, who can stock up - without having to spend too much on everything from whole chickens, sirloin steak and pork belly to sausages, minced lamb and meatballs."

Organic vegboxes start from just £8.95 with tree home delivery. Riverford offers different boxes for all households and a range of other organic food including meat, milk, eggs, pasta, juice, wine and more www.riverford.co.uk/stockley 0845 600 2311









### Red squirrels are nuts about recycling

WARRINGTON'S growing red squirrel colony has been given a boost by a local supermarket.

The store has donated reusable carrier bags bearing a picture of a squirrel who is "nuts about recycling" to the children's zoo at Walton Hall Gardens, where the squirrels are being bred.

Children who adopt one of the squirrels are given one of the bags as part of their adoption pack, which also includes a red squirrel fact pack, pin badge, car sticker, magnet, certificate and invite to a special "squirrel

evening."
So far this year, 13 baby red squirrels have been born at the zoo and rangers are hoping for an autumn litter

Anyone who would like more information about the red squirrels at Walton should call 01925 601617, extension two.



### PCSOs to cost more

THE cost of a Police Community Support Officer in parishes like Stockton Heath, Appleton and Grappenhall and Thelwall is set to rise by £800-a-year. In Stockton Heath, this is equivalent to an extra 42p council tax for an average Band D property, the parish council was told.

Nine PCSOs cover South Warrington, partly funded by the larger parish

councils.

Coun Peter Walker said the existing contract runs out in April and the Police Authority was proposing to increase the cost of each PCSO to the parishes from £11,000 to £11,800.

He said PCSOs were funded by the borough council for "unparished" areas. Those in the south of the borough were funded by the police authority and the

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### lumanitarian award for businessman

A 49-year-old Appleton resident has received a humanitarian award for his work in India combating female foeticide.

Kulwant Dhaliwal, from Rosemoor Gardens, who runs a family fashion business, was presented with the award by Shadow Foreign Secretary William Hague on behalf of the Conservative

Party.

Ten years ago, Mr Dhaliwal took on the work of a trust established by his father in the village of Bir Raohe, in the Female foeticide is prevalent across large areas of India and the dowry system, where a girl's family must pay her husband's family when the two marry, is largely to blame for the view that girls are unwanted and a burden.

#### Secret abortions

Many poor people simply cannot afford to pay the huge sums of money expected by many on their daughter's wedding and instead choose to pay for

secret abortions.
It is estimated that some 750,000 baby girls are aborted each year - just for being girls.

As a result, only 725 girls are born for every 1,000 boys across India.

But in Bir Raohe, where Mr Dhaliwal has provided financial assistance and even "adopted" baby girls, 1,070 girls are born for every 980 boys.

He also campaigns for women to be given equal rights as, even among some Indian families living in the UK, girls are not treated fairly.

His message is spreading in both countries

Mr Hague said: "This is a major achievement and it is right that we recognise a man who is doing so much for the community not in one country but two. The Party is proud to recognise this important work.

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THE The Right Reverend Dr Peter Robert Forster, Bishop of Chester was special guest at St. Wilfrid's Church of England Primary School, Grappenhall where he performed a service of dedication for four new classrooms at the school.

Picture shows back row from left, Alex Hull, Kya Baird, David Quennell, Sarah Whiteley, The Right Reverend Dr Peter Robert Forster and Pollyanna Whitanburgh. Front row from left, Matthew Stone, Nicholas Badley and Alexander McDonald.





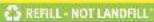
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### What's On in the Villages

November 3 STOCKTON HEATH FLOWER CLUB Don Billington. Christmas
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.
7.30pm

November 10 STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL Sandy Lane Centre, 7.30pm

November 12 LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S Corus Brass Ensemble, conductor Nigel Taylor. Ten piece group will play Debussy, Dvorak, Kern, Brubeck, etc. St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

Appleton Parish Council
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road,
7.30pm

Every Monday
THE EVERGREENS Senior Citizen's Club
Bellhouse Community Centre, Grappenhall.
Details: 01925 261381

FOLK 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

Every second Monday PARK (APPLETON) W/

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.

ST MARY MAGDALENE BINGO 2-3.30pm

Every third Monday STOCKTON HEATH FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY STOCKTON HEATH FAMILY HISTORY SC St Mary Magdalene's Church, Dingle Way, Appleton. 8pm. Contact: Linda Pearson 01925 602803.

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

Every fourth Monday

Independent Methodist Chapel, Knutsford Road, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

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

Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month

Every Wednesday to Sunday

Every first Wednesday

vvarion vvi St John's Church Community Hall. 7.30pm

First and third Wednesday each month

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

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

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 740272.

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





# Founder member helps Roundtable celebrate 75 years

WARRINGTON Roundtable celebrated their 75th anniversary with a special dinner at Warrington Golf club where guests included founder member George Stringer who is 98-years young!



He was joined on the top table by Sir John S Evans, OStl, QPM, DL, LLB's who was Chairman of Warrington RT 74 in 84/85 the club's 50th Charter, who now lives in Devon following his retirement from a distinguished career in the police. a distinguished career in the police.

Founding member George, who lives in Appleton, served in the Second World War and is reputed to have even sent his apologies for non-attendance of meetings during his active service!

Andrew Fordyce, Past National President of RT Germany, proposed the Toast to Round Table Great Britain

and Ireland.
Twenty five past Presidents attended the event.

George with Sir John and current Chairman Julian Pearson (left).

Green Belt tarmhouse demolished A CENTURY-old farmhouse in the Green Belt can be demolished and replaced by a modern building twice its size, planners have decided.

The borough council's development control committee has approved the demolition of Dingle Farm, in Dingle Lane, Appleton to make way for a two-storey house.

Adjoining commercial buildings would also be demolished and an existing barn

converted for guest accommodation, the committee was told.

Appleton Parish Council had opposed the scheme because of the disproportionate size of the replacement dwelling and its modern style, given its proximity to The Dingle

- an area of outstanding beauty.

Planning officers acknowledged that a replacement dwelling double the size of the existing one would normally be considered inappropriate in the Green Belt.

But in this case, Dingle Farm, although dating from the 19th century, had little merit

because of alterations carried out in the past.

Overall, there would be a 75 per cent reduction in the area occupied by buildings, increasing openness and enhancing the character of the Green Belt.

Demolition of other buildings - once agricultural but now in commercial use - would result in an inappropriate industrial use being removed.

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### Christmas Tree **Festival**

A CHRISTMAS Tree Festival will be held at St Matthew's Church, Stretton on two weekends - November 28-29 and December 5-6.

Remembrance and Prayer Trees will be in the church for visitors to remember loved ones and request, or write, prayers.

But there will also be sponsored trees representing local businesses and organisations.

The church has invested in new, low-voltage LED lighting which promises to be spectacular.

#### Time out

There will be children's displays and the church will offer people a chance to take time out from the busy run-up to Christmas and enjoy a hot

run-up to Christmas and enjoy a hot drink and mince pie.

On Saturday November 28 there will be a concert and carols, featuring children from St Matthew's School choir at 2pm and the following Saturday there will be a carol service, also at 2pm.

On the two Saturdays, the church will be open between 10am and

will be open between 10am and 4pm while on the two Sundays the 4pm while oil file two solingsys inc church will be open between 2pm and 4pm in addition to normal services at 8am, 10.30am and 6.30pm.

There are no entry charges to the Christmas Tree Festival but donations can be made and profits will be divided equally between the church and its nominated charity.



### You're only young twice

WARRINGTON'S Bridgewater Players are presenting a comedy with an unusual twist to a familiar theme for their next show.

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But Sue and Richard's problems are not caused by a teenage son - it's Sue's

A recent widower, Brooksie and his gang from the Over 60's club are finding delight in recapturing their youth - and their antics are driving Sue and Richard

"You're Only Young Twice", by will be performed at Thelwall Parish Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 26, 27 and 28. Tickets are \$4 and are available at the door.

The play is directed by Keith Povey and the picture shows the cast (left to right)rear: Amy Wycherley, Howard Brooks, Barbara Goffin, Paul Bidston, June Brogdale. Front: Anita Rushman and Ian Hornby.

Tickets are also available on 01925 261283.



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# New sign puts historic village on the map



### THREE years after the idea was first suggested, a "village sign" has been erected at Appleton Thorn.

The Mayor of Warrington, Coun Brian Axcell - who is also a parish councillor at Appleton - unveiled the decorative sign on the triangular green in the village centre, close to the famous Thorn Tree and St Cross Church.

Parish council chairman Coun Dot Edwards, other members of the council, the vicar, the Rev Elaine Chegwin Hall, and children from Appleton Thorn Primary School were

present at the ceremony.

It was in 2006 that Coun Mike Stansfield put forward the idea of a sign at Appleton Thorn, after seeing a similar sign elsewhere in the country.

similar sign elsewhere in the country. Then Coun Judith Walker discovered that the village of Appledore, in North Devon, had a sign (pictured right) and brought back pictures to show what could be done. A lengthy process of obtaining the permission of the borough council which owns the site - obtaining planning consent and getting the sign designed, made and erected then followed.

Various snags had to be overcome



and the sign was discussed many times at council meetings.

Ideas for the design came from

Coun John Price and were then created by artist-blacksmith Alex Price. Finally the vital task of erecting the sign safely and securely was undertaken by latchford based NSW

Engineering.

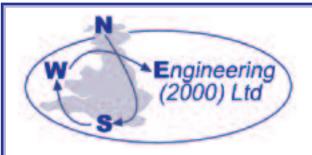
After the sign was finally erected and unveiled, parish clerk Peter Briggs said: "I think the sign blends in well in the village centre and is a welcome addition to the street scene."

NSW's involvement in the Appleton Thorn village sign project demonstrated the company's ability to tackle a wide variety of work - and it's commitment to the local area.

it's commitment to the local area.'
The company is a proud sponsor of Warrington Wolves, Moore Rugby Union Club and Manchester City and England star Wayne Bridge. It boasts a lengthy list of projects around the North West which have preserved and respected local heritage townscapes, retaining the best of the old with quality modern techniques.

So it was delighted to get involved in a scheme to enhance the historic heart of Appleton Thorn Village.

Over the last nine years, NSW built up a good working relationship with clients, suppliers, architects, specialist sub-contractors and local authorities, building a reputation for professionalism.



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# No financial support for festival objectors

NONE of the parish councils in the area affected by noise problems during the Creamfields festival has offered financial support to two residents ordered to pay £13,000 costs after losing a legal battle to try and stop the event going ahead.

Geoff Owen, a parish councillor at Daresbury and a member of the action group set up to oppose the festival, has failed to persuade any of the councils to help.

the councils to help.

He said: "I have been trying to coordinate and generate a response
from the parish councils around the
area, covering Daresbury, Moore,
Walton, Stretton, Appleton, Stockton
Heath, Hatton, Sandymore and
Proston Break Heath, Hatto Preston Brook.

"Unfortunately, none have been able to offer financial support for this action – for mainly technical and somewhat complicated rules governing the use of local tax payers

money."

Mr Owen also wrote to Jim King, of Loudsound, the management company on behalf of Creamfields, asking if they would consider withdrawing their claims for costs.

"He was adamant in no undertain the state of the state

terms – that no such withdrawal would happen."

Mr Owen said the the appeal was against Halton Borough Council, not Creamfields, on the basis that the council had granted a licence for the eyent without considering the impact of public noise nuisance on the local community, most of who lived in Warrington.

The appeal was aimed at getting Halton to impose tighter/lower noise levels after 1 1 pm - the licence did not impose any specific limits after that

time. While Loudsound took responsibilities seriously within the boundary of the event site, their management of the impact it had on

local villages left a lot to be desired. Mr Owen added: "Loudsound/ Creamfields need not have provided top legal representation, charging some £250 per hour, plus expenses for staying at the Daresbury Park

"I feel they tried to 'make an example' of both residents for having the audacity to challenge them on this event, hoping to close off any future opposition and so stifle local democracy."

However, Mr Owen does not believe Loundsound or Creamfields were the real villains.

"It is Halton Borough Council who should examine their actions in allowing this event, in the face of continued opposition since 2006.

continued opposition since 2006. I am 100 per cent certain that none of the councillors who agreed to the licence are affected by it.

"How many actually live in Daresbury or Moore, or in the other villages affected by grid locked traffic, litter, people drinking and urinating in the street and their gardens, or lack of sleep after 11 pm on the Saturday night?"

Mr Owen said Warrington

Mr Owen said Warrington Borough Council should also examine their consciences. He said: "They have, on many occasions in past years, voiced objection to the event. But when 'push comes to shove' they support their fellow council of Halton.

"Why are they not supporting residents of Walton, Appleton,

Stretton, Hatton, Stockton Heath and beyond?" \*Two residents, Paul Barlow and

Peter Priestner, appealed against Halton's decision to grant a licence for Creamfields. They lost their appeal and District Judge Miriam Shelvey ordered them to pay £13,000 costs.

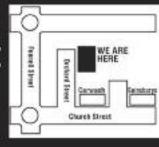
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### Party youths had three crates of alcohol

THREE crates of alcohol and 'numerous" bottles were seized by police from

under-age drinkers in Stockton Heath.

A group of 17-year-olds was taking the alcohol to a party, the parish council was told.

It was one of 21 incidents reported over a five week period, said PCSO Peter

Crellin.

There were two offences of shoplifting, both involving alcohol and seven offences of anti-social behaviour involving youths with alcohol in Alexandra Park. There were three thefts from motor vehicles - two of which had been left unlocked - and one theft of a motor vehicle.

PCSO Crellin said that four pedal cycles were stolen, but three were recovered. He said people who take bikes often hide them to use the next day - but vigilant members of the public had informed police.

Two incidents of criminal damage were reported, including one of graffiti on the windows of Stockton Heath Library.

PCSO Crellin reported three cases of assault, including two minor scuffles in pubs, three people were arrested for drugs offences and there were three burglary offences.

burglary offences.

### Remembrance Day donation

STOCKTON Heath Parish Council has approved a grant of £120 to the Royal British Legion to cover the cost of a donation and a wreath for the Remembrance Sunday service on November 8.

A procession will start from the Lower Forge Car Park at 10.20am and

chairman Coun Peter Walker will lay the wreath.

He told the council: "I have made a personal decision not to wear the chain of office on normal dates. But I will wear it for this occasion



### Panto aims to be a community event

A LOCAL drama group is planning a New Year pantomime - and wants to

make it a major community event.

Thelwall-based Bridgewater Players will stage "Robin Hood" on February
18, 19 and 20 at Thelwall Parish Hall.

It has been written and will be directed by local playwright lan Hornby and he wants to include local people - young and old - from all areas of the community, acting, singing, dancing and speciality acts.

He said: "We can't afford to pay you, but you'll have a good time and

good exposure.

"Training will be given as and when needed.
"We also need people to help backstage, with scenery and with costume and can promise you a warm welcome."

Information is also available on the website www.bridgewater

players.co.uk where there are contact numbers and email addresses. Ian can also be contacted through his own website www.ianhornby.co.uk or on 01925 485605.

### Residents want to buy land

RESIDENTS fed up with neighbours leaving their wheelie bins on a vacant plot of land want to buy it so they can put a stop to the problem.

Coun Dorothy, Robb reported to Stockton Heath Parish Council that a

borough council letter had been sent to residents saying that sale of the land was being considered.

The triangular piece of land between the properties at the junction of Walton Road and Whitefield Road is possibly to be sold and residents were asked for comments.

She said: "People nearby were asking if they could buy it.
"People leave their bins on it, and neighbours wanted to buy it so that
they could ask people to move the bins."
She understood the site was to be sold at auction.

#### Festive bus service axed

LACK of demand means there will be no late night Christmas bus service between Stockton Heath and Warrington this year.

In previous years the service has run over the festive period for late night

revellers. The service is normally funded by Warrington Borough Council with a contribution from Stockton Heath Parish Council.

But clerk Peter Briggs told the parish council that following dwindling numbers

over the past two years, the borough council had decided not to run the service.

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### **Money Column**

### End of year returns

IF you were a small employer, that is with under 50 employees, then you should have received over £800 in incentives by filing your PAYE End-of-Year returns electronically. However, the content of the party and the second seco these incentives have now ended, and small employers will be fined next year if they do not file their return online.

There are a number of exemptions to the above but they are fairly limited:

the above but they are fairly limited:

• Employers who cease paying PAYE during the 2009-10 tax year can make a manual return providing that it reaches HMRC by 5 April 2010.

• Employers who employ domestics and deduct tax in accordance with the 'nanny scheme' provided that they have not received a tax-free incentive payment for filing online previously.

previously.
Employers who are a practicing member of a religious society or order whose beliefs are incompatible of the use electronic communications.

• 'Care and support' employers – that

is employers who employ someone to provide domestic or personal services at or from the employer's home. Again, they must not previously have claimed an incentive payment, and the exemption is only available to the employer himself, ie it does not apply to an agent acting on his behalf.

HMRC will also be writing to all employers in the near future to reinforce the message about online filing, so small employers should be aware by now of the changes.

If you are a small employer and have filed manually up to now there are several ways that you can file on-line. For instance, there is a free HMRC product called PAYE Online. Employers with 9 or fewer employees can file online using the Employer CD-ROM.

Alternatively, this may be another reason to use a payroll bureau. WatkinsonBlack provide a bureau



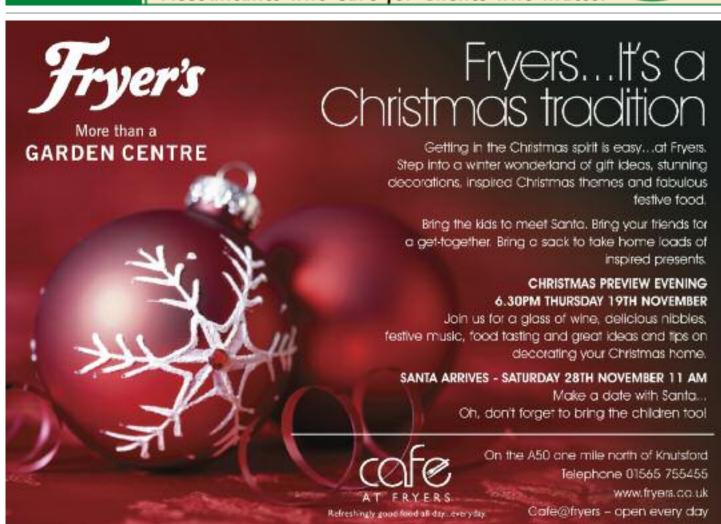
David Watkinson and Margaret Black

service at a very economical rate. If you want further details then we would be pleased to speak to you about this

Please note that this column is designed to provide only general information, and you should seek professional advice before taking any action based upon it.

The Money Column is provided by WatkinsonBlack **Chartered Accountants** 113, Orford Lane, Warrington. Please telephone 01925 413210 or email on margaret@warringtonaccoun tants.co.uk





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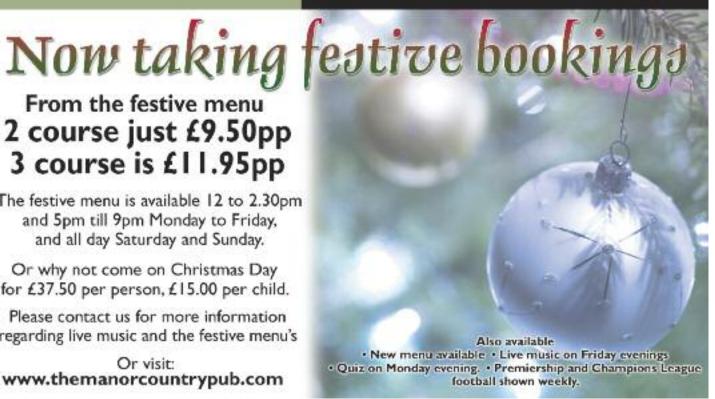
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