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**Issue No. 162**

**April 2013**

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**Bad boy  
comes  
good!**

**See Page 18**

**Warrington  
remembers**



**See Page 2**



# Editor's Comment



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**TWENTY** years ago Warrington suffered its darkest day in modern history, when two terrorist bombs went off in Bridge Street, claiming the lives of two young innocent boys and injuring more than 50 shoppers.

The response from Warrington and the families affected helped change the shape of history, as the strong message of peace and reconciliation helped bring about



**News and Advertising deadline for the May issue is April 9**

the peace process, which over the years has helped improve the lives of thousands of people.

I witnessed the aftermath of the bombing first hand as a young reporter and over the past two decades have been actively involved in helping promote the great work which has followed on from that dark day in March 1993. As Warrington remembers that day I would like to publicly thank Colin and Wendy Parry for their ongoing work which is helping transform lives, while also not forgetting the family and friends of

young Johnathan Ball and all those others who had their lives changed forever on that terrible day in our town's history. But while Warrington suffered it came back a stronger and better place and one we can all be proud of when it comes to peace and reconciliation. As the hard work continues it is vital that as a town we continue to support the good work of the Peace Centre, which has certainly become a living memorial to the two boys.

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# Young actor achieves his dream

**A YOUNG Warrington actor has beaten hundreds of other hopefuls to win a place at one of Britain's top performing arts schools.**

Ben Cupit, (pictured right) from Great Sankey, who has dazzled on stage at Priestley College, was one of hundreds of hopefuls to audition for the Arts Educational School in London – and only 40 were chosen.

"I was sick with nerves waiting to hear whether I had got in because theatre school has always been an important goal for me," said Ben, aged 17.

Arts Educational School counts movie actors, former soap stars and countless stage performers as former pupils. In 2010 to 2011, 100 per cent of its Musical Theatre graduates had agents, and 95 per cent had work upon graduation.

To be accepted onto the BA Musical Theatre programme, Ben had to sing and complete an hour-long dance workshop before the first cut was made. In the second round the former Penketh High pupil had to sing again during a nine-hour day of auditions that included learning a monologue from Romeo and Juliet and dialogue performed

with a student from the school.

"They wanted to test how well we all take direction and constructive criticism," he said.

Ben's path to dramatic success was helped by his father, Nick, who set up and still runs Warrington's leading and longest-established youth theatre, Cody's Productions.

It was the perfect training ground for Ben whose first big role was as Gavroche in Les Miserables. When he was 14 he appeared on the West End stage for the first time as Billy Elliott's older brother.

"It was scary because the theatre held a lot of people and it sold



out," said Ben.

At Priestley Ben has starred in Too Darn Hot and is next appearing in We Will Rock You.

His Performing Arts Extended Diploma at Priestley College has covered all manner of disciplines including Shakespeare, Bollywood dance, Greek drama and ballet.

"I have to thank my tutors at Priestley and my dad because they have kept encouraging me all the way," he said.

## Matt's marathon effort for charity

A WARRINGTON man raised £1,300 for charity from his first half-marathon and has pledged to run a full marathon to raise further funds this year.

Matt Whitworth, who works at Appleton-based Flextronics Global Services and Software, ran for the Shannon Bradshaw Trust in the Warrington Half Marathon.

He is now planning a marathon for the charity, which provides support for children with life-threatening conditions and their families.

Matt said: "The Warrington Half Marathon was really tough so I can only imagine how hard it will be to run double the distance, I'd not done any running for a few years before the half marathon, but I decided I wanted to get in shape and do something good for a local charity.

"When I presented the Shannon Bradshaw Trust with the sponsorship money, I realised what a great charity it is and heard more about the things they do for the region, so I decided there and then that I'd take on an even bigger challenge to raise money for them again this year."

Earlier this year Flextronics chose the trust as its charity of the year and donated £10,000 to help them continue working with children and their families in the North West and across the UK.

To sponsor Matt visit his fundraising page at [www.justgiving.com/Matt-Whitworth](http://www.justgiving.com/Matt-Whitworth)



Matt receives a Certificate of Appreciation from Patti Bradshaw of the trust.

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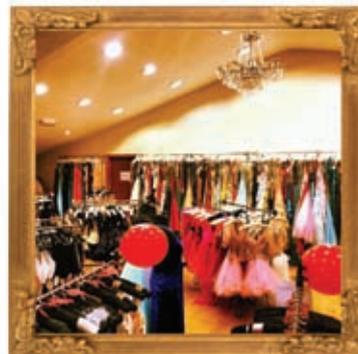
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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

# Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

## Looking forward to Spring

It is now the time of year when we are looking forward to the arrival of Spring and the Easter holidays, which is a special time of year for many different reasons.

If we are observant enough we can see the signs of new growth all around us. However, some people are blinkered to this, especially when they are rushing around going to work or taking the children to school. On grey cold mornings winter is still hanging on and many people are not aware of the potential of spring arriving just around the corner and the prospect of warm summer days to come.

If we stop in our tracks and notice the days drawing out, taking a moment to realise that when we leave our homes on a morning it is light and when we return home on an evening it is still light. This extra daylight can improve mood and encourage people to spend more time out of doors, and the prospect of even longer light time is round the corner when we turn the clocks forward.

If we then think for a moment and take stock we may realise that life

feels better in the knowledge that as well as the trees and plants coming to life, and animals and birds becoming more active, that we too are growing. This new growth in our selves can be felt in many different ways and which are unique to each of us. For instance, with the sun's warmth and brightness you may be inspired to spend more time outdoors walking, cycling or on some other outdoor pursuit. You may feel your spirits lift and this may affect your posture and you may smile more improving your sociability.

For some people, when they notice the daffodils by the roadsides or the buds emerging on a tree it causes them to feel happy inside at the potential of new life. For others, it may be seeing and hearing new lambs, hearing the birds and seeing them build their nests, causes them to focus more on their own family and home life.

This time of year is well known for DIY and getting the garden in order for the summer. We become inspired to clean, and make changes to our environment. This in turn ensures new growth in the form of our comfort

Michael Mahoney is a Clinical Hypnotherapist. He has research, and patient trials experience.



He is a member of the Hypnotherapy Association, an associate of the Primary Care Society for Gastroenterology, he is a non NHS service provider and Private Health Service Provider

Tel: 01925-658322 email [timelineservices@aol.com](mailto:timelineservices@aol.com)  
[www.michaelmahoneyhypnotherapist.com](http://www.michaelmahoneyhypnotherapist.com)

and happiness with our own surroundings, as well as challenging us in changing the things that are important to us. This can then affect our outlook on our selves and our relationships.

No matter what your circumstances, we all have the ability to learn from the gifts of nature. New growth is all around us. Stop, look, listen, feel the messages nature is giving you. Marvel at how a small flower may suddenly appear on the kerbside. Every one of us has the ability to emerge as that flower, to grow even within difficult circumstances. All is needed is the desire to grow and change, and the belief that you deserve to experience life and all it has to offer you.

If you feel you need some help in achieving new growth within yourself, please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss this further 01925 658322.

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Gareth has previously worked at Headmasters in Manchester where he attained his L'Oreal Colour Care Diploma, worked on Photo Shoots and reached the Semi finals in several competitions such as Trend Prediction and the L'Oreal Colour Trophy Competition.

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# Business dream comes true for former soldier

**A DREAM has come true for former soldier Dave Smith who has launched his own business --- helping other businesses to succeed.**

Dave, who served in the army for more than 17 years leaving as a warrant officer, has set up Drum Management and Business Support Services, achieving a life-long ambition of running his own business.

He certainly has plenty of experience in the business world after working as Quality Manager, Head of Operations, Operations Director and Company Secretary for a global company with a £50m

annual turnover - and he now wants to help other businesses to achieve their aims.

Dave, who is based in Warrington, said: "The business is a new start-up. It's been a dream of mine since my teenage years to have my own business or at the very least work for myself. Now I have been given the opportunity to do just that and I have grabbed it."

"During my time in the Army I witnessed history in the making whilst serving at the British Embassy in Bulgaria during the fall of communism, and whilst serving as a member of the advance party

and permanent staff of the British Military Advisory and Training Team (South Africa) just as Nelson Mandela became president."

Dave is now supporting and helping entrepreneurs, SMEs, and non-profit organisations in reaching their objectives.

"I'm a firm believer in life-long learning, a firm advocate of continuous improvement in the workplace, and of getting it right first time and every time. I've spent most of my adult life supporting, guiding, managing, and leading others in achieving their aims and ambitions."

He holds an Executive Diploma



in Business Management through course attendance along with real-world experience and is a member of the Chartered Management Institute (CMI), the Chartered Institute for IT (BCS), and the IAB. He is also a member of the Federation of Small Businesses and his business is insured for work undertaken.



## Anna joins shopping centre team

WARRINGTON'S Golden Square shopping centre has appointed a new marketing manager.

Anna Batt, 28, a media graduate who has worked in local radio, takes on the role after years of visiting the shopping centre as a customer!

She said: "I've shopped here for many years and admired the way the shopping centre thinks outside the box in relation to both the community and fashion events and I look forward to bringing something new to the shopping experience."

Her move to Golden Square will see her take up the reigns on all marketing activity including PR, retailer engagement, events and advertising.

She added: "I'm very excited about what the future has in store for my role here at Golden Square, especially with the arrival of Primark this year."

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# Jenny prepares for medical expedition

A WARRINGTON student hopes to raise £4,000 for a trip to Honduras in Central America where she will help provide medical support to teams working on expeditions.

Jenny Clarke, of Statham Avenue, Orford is a former pupil of William Beamont High School and well known amongst family and friends for her "big hair!". She is in her second year studying tropical medicine at the University of Liverpool.

She said: "I have been offered an unbelievable opportunity in Honduras, learning how to provide medical support to teams working on expeditions in remote areas."

Jenny will be trained in a range of key areas including pre-expedition planning, medical emergency and trauma, tropical infections, dive medicine and dealing with snake bites.

She said: "Also I will be working on a conservation project in the cloud forest. The programme is carried out through a charitable organisation named Operation Wallacea."

"I am currently working very hard to raise over £4,000 to fund the placement which will cost £2,020 plus flights, vaccinations and equipment."

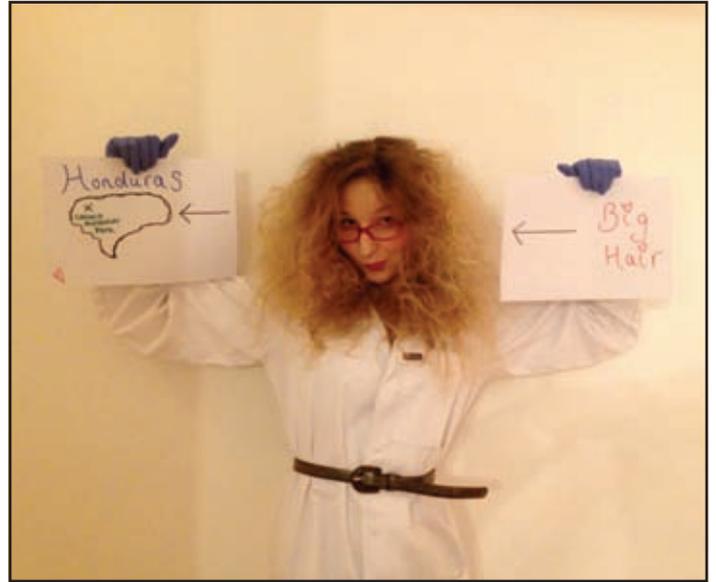
Jenny has been volunteering at schools tutoring young people in Maths and Science and has been a

volunteer at an international youth leadership conference (HOBY) for four years.

She said: "I have a passion for working with other young people striving to inspire them and show them that they can follow their dreams no matter what."

Jenny is currently raising funds for the trip on June 26 and has received donations from several groups and organisations. She is taking part in car boot sales, selling raffle tickets and planning a fundraising event.

Anyone who wants to support Jenny can do so at [www.gofundme.com/GOJenJen](http://www.gofundme.com/GOJenJen)



## Manchester's iconic schools take to road

Manchester's three iconic schools – The Manchester Grammar School, Manchester School for Girls and Withington Girls' School – have teamed up this year to run a series of roadshows throughout the North West.

They will be in Warrington at the Halliwell Jones Stadium on Wednesday 1 May.

### Invited

Anyone who lives in the area and interested in educating their son or daughter at one of the three schools is invited to attend the event and meet pupils, parents and staff who live in their area and travel

in each day utilising the excellent transport links available.

During the evening The Manchester Grammar School will be hosting an informal panel of pupils and parents, who will answer questions from the audience.

There will also be plenty of opportunity to meet the children, parents and staff before and after the Q&A session.

The event runs from 6:30-8:30 pm and children are most welcome to come along. To reserve your place or find out more information please email Sally at [s.rogers@mgs.org](mailto:s.rogers@mgs.org).

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## College receives life saving equipment

A special piece of life saving equipment has been presented to a Warrington college in memory of a former student who died aged just 18.

A defibrillator was presented to Warrington Collegiate in memory of Colin Hankin to mark what would have been his 30th birthday.

Since the sad death of her son in October 2000, Angela Morris has been donating cardiac equipment to save lives in his memory.

Medical centres have benefited from her donation of heart monitors, and Angela has donated defibrillators to schools and communities to be used to restart the heart if a person suffers a cardiac arrest.

Colin's former workplace Claremont Group Interiors wanted to mark what would have been his 30th birthday. They held a charity evening at the Collegiate's Buckley Restaurant to raise funds.

Angela, who is North West co-ordinator for the charity SADS UK, wanted to use the funds towards buying the equipment for the Collegiate as Colin was a former student.

Spirit Medium David Traynor also held a charity night to support her appeal for the Collegiate. It was also supported by DHL Trade Team who match-funded £270 after colleague Amanda Wright raised this sum from a sponsored run in Liverpool.

Angela said: "I am grateful to Ann Malone and staff at Claremont Group Interiors for their continuing support. It is a very special company that still commemorates a work colleague after all this time. Colin enjoyed working with the company and I am delighted that funds raised should go towards a defibrillator at Warrington Collegiate."

SADS UK works with schools and the community to put lifesaving equipment in place.



# The three great schools of Manchester are coming together to host a Roadshow at the Halliwell Jones Stadium in Warrington on Wednesday 1st May

**This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone who is interested in educating their son or daughter at one of the three iconic schools in Manchester, all of which are renowned centres of academic excellence.**

Academic results are among the very best in the country and students go on to study at some of the most prestigious universities in the world.

Come along and meet pupils who live in the Warrington area and travel into their respective schools together each day utilising the excellent transport links available. Staff will also be on hand to answer any questions.

**Space is limited so please email Sally-Anne Rogers at [s.rogers@mgs.org](mailto:s.rogers@mgs.org) to reserve your place(s), or if you would like further information.**

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# Market traders are an online smash!



TRADERS and shoppers at Warrington Market have become an overnight sensation online with their version of latest internet craze the Harlem Shake!

Their YouTube video was viewed over 30,000 times in just 24 hours and was even aired on BBC North West Tonight!

The traders decided to respond to the horsemeat scandal in this fun way in a bid to encourage more people to head to the market and use their local butchers.

Cllr Mike Hannon, deputy leader of the council, took part in the video and said: "The video shows people that Warrington Market really knows how to have fun and

we hope this encourages residents to pop in and see what's on offer from their local market. We have been really pleased with all the positive comments so far and thank residents for taking part!"

The market now joins the likes of the cast and crew of Eastenders, Manchester City Football Club and the English National Ballet company who have all 'done the shake.'

Meanwhile **warrington-worldwide's** Nick White also did a video interview with butchers on the market who said they had noticed a significant increase in trade since the horse meat scandal.

To view the videos visit [www.warringtonv.com](http://www.warringtonv.com)

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# Housing group chooses Birchwood Park

ONE of the largest social housing providers in the country has chosen Birchwood Park in Warrington for its new HQ.

Your Housing Group has signed an agreement to develop a new 35,000 sq ft head office at the award winning MEPC Birchwood Park business estate.

## Convenient

The development will become the group's new head office, accommodating around 300 members of staff and providing a convenient central location for the

group which owns and manages property across the North West, Midlands and Yorkshire.

Brian Cronin, Chief Executive of Your Housing Group, said: "We are very excited to have found a new permanent home and are delighted to be working with Birchwood Park's onsite management team. Birchwood Park's central location is the ideal choice in bringing our group together, and its transport connections are vital for helping us manage our properties across the region."

Jonathan Walsh, MEPC Birchwood Park's Managing

Director, said: "Your Housing Group's decision to establish their new head office at Birchwood Park is testament to the quality of our location, facilities and the community atmosphere provided at the park. Together, this forms the best solution to the Group's needs.

## Incentives

"Birchwood Park will give Your Housing Group access to motorway links, a car share scheme, a free bus between the park and the train station and plenty of incentives to encourage cycling to work.

"Your Housing Group will join a growing list of companies who have discovered that they can expect more from us at Birchwood Park; more than just an office to rent. We believe that people are more productive in a positive and healthy environment. Having a range of cafes, on-site gym, restaurant and meeting rooms at The Centre means our occupiers have a reason to get away from their desks at lunch time whether it is to grab a Starbucks, go for a run, meet with friends or watch a film at our weekly movie night."

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For those preferring the take away option there is a 30 per cent reduction on menu prices, which are themselves extremely competitive.

On the food side there is a wide selection of traditional Indian cuisine as well as some mouthwatering house specials.

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It is becoming a popular venue for lovers of Indian cuisine and booking is always recommended at weekends.



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"So if you've got £50 or £5000 to spend everybody is treated the same with honest advice.

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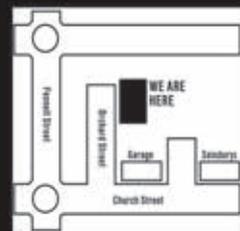


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## A problem with joint accounts

by Janet Calvert

It is common knowledge that in the event of a dispute between joint account holders the bank once notified of this fact will freeze the account to prevent any dealings by only one of the joint account holders.

It is not generally appreciated that if one party to a joint account loses mental capacity a bank may freeze the account as soon as they become aware of the incapacity. This action would result in immediate difficulties in relation to unpaid standing orders and direct debits and would prevent the other account holder from withdrawing funds even if the salary of that other account holder was paid into that account. The British Bankers Association Guidance explains that the rationale for a bank taking this course is that the implied authority given by each

account holder at the time the account was opened, that the other has full authority to operate the account, ends when mental incapacity arises. One would have to rely on the banks discretion to allow essential standing orders to be met on a temporary basis.

In most cases it is likely that the bank will not learn of the incapacity and therefore transactions on the account will continue unaffected particularly in this age of postal, telephone and internet banking. To avoid being faced with this problem each account holder whilst mentally capable can complete a Lasting Power of Attorney for Property and Financial Affairs nominating one or more individuals to act on his or her behalf in the event of incapacity. A Power of Attorney needs to be registered with the Office of the

Public Guardian before it can be used by the Attorneys. As the registration process itself takes two to three months it is preferable to have a Power of Attorney registered as soon as it is made and it is therefore ready for use as soon as the need arises.

If no Power of Attorney is in place then any account frozen by the bank can only be reactivated if an Application is made to the Court of Protection for a Deputy to be appointed for that incapacitated individual. This is usually a more lengthy and always a more costly procedure than setting up a Power of Attorney. The Deputy would be required to arrange an insurance bond which could be claimed upon in the event of the Deputy's default and would also have to file annual accounts for the consideration and approval of the Court of Protection.



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# Financially yours

By David Watkinson

## Approaching the end of the Tax Year

As we approach the end of the tax year we apologise to anyone who has no employees for concentrating on the PAYE end-of-year returns that must be submitted. The table below is taken from the tax office website. Note that as the deadline for payments is a Sunday then the tax office is requiring cleared funds by the previous Friday. This is contrary to the policy that we would have expected.

Deadline	Task
19 April	Outstanding PAYE tax and Class 1 NICs - postal payments must reach your HMRC Accounts Office
22 April	Outstanding PAYE tax and Class 1 NIC - cleared electronic payments reach HMRC bank account. As 22nd April 2012 is a Sunday, the payment will need to clear into the HMRC account by Friday 20th unless you are able to arrange a Faster Payment to clear on or by the 22nd.
19 May	File your Employer Annual Return (P35 and P14s)
31 May	Give each relevant employee a form P60
6 July	File expenses and benefits annual return (forms P11D, P9D and P11D(b)) if applicable - give a copy to your employees
19 July	Class 1A NICs - postal payments must reach your HMRC Accounts Office
22 July	Class 1A NICs - cleared electronic payments must reach HMRC bank account



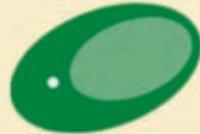
David Watkinson and Margaret Black

These provisions relate to people and organisations who have employees. However, penalties for late returns are draconian, and we would strongly urge anyone who thinks that they may be required to submit a return, especially if they have received any form of correspondence suggesting that the tax office may think that they have employees, to contact the tax office for clarification, and to make a note of all details of the contact, including date, time and person spoken to.

WatkinsonBlack are pleased to advise on these and other matters. They have considerable experience in these and other matters, including providing a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. If you want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting on any taxation or accounting matter then please contact us. Please note that these ideas are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always obtain professional advice before taking any action.

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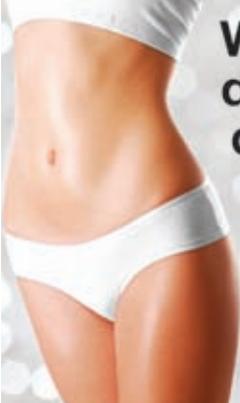
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# Bombing anniversary book promotes peace

A NEW book has been published to mark the 20th anniversary of the Warrington bombing to help young people understand how hatred and tragedy can be transformed into a legacy of hope and transformation.

Entitled 'Good Comes from Evil' the book for children and families has been produced by the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace and sponsored by Golden Square Shopping Centre.

It has been produced by an independent author with input from the Parry family, the Foundation and local education experts to enable Warrington families and school teachers to understand the tragic events of 1993, the way in which the town and its community was affected and the good work towards conflict resolution which has taken place since with the formation of the Peace Centre.

With a foreword from charity patron Emma Thompson, the paperback sets out to tell the story of the Warrington bombings in a format that is easy for schoolchildren to understand and learn from.

The book's production has been sponsored by Golden Square Shopping Centre, which has adopted the Peace Centre as their chosen charity during the past twelve months. The book will be on sale at its customer services desk in the shopping centre as well as at Waterstones - with all profits going towards the work of the Foundation.

Ian Cox, General Manager at Golden Square Shopping Centre comments: "We have supported the work of the Peace Centre for some time now as a charity that is at the very heart of our community. Following discussion with Wendy, we felt that it would be fitting to support the production of a legacy book for the young people of Warrington to remember and learn from the tragic events of 20 years ago."

Wendy Parry added: "Over the years, it has been hard to try and relive and retell what happened to Tim and Johnathan in a way which is not frightening to young children. By working with an independent author and ex-teachers we have been able to put the events of the day, and what has happened since, into a format which is easy for them to understand and use in both their schools and at home."

'Good Comes from Evil - the story of the Warrington Bombings' will be distributed via the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace to Warrington schoolchildren and is also available to purchase from Golden Square Customer Services Department and Waterstones within the shopping centre.

A suggested donation of £5 per book will go towards continuing to support the work of the Foundation.

## Award winning VPX



LATCHFORD Police Community Support Officers Tom Reid and Tony Spruce are celebrating after picking up a special award for the annual VPX event at Victoria Park which provides free entertainment for youngsters during the summer holidays.

They were presented with a special recognition award from Live Wire & Culture Warrington managing director Jan Souness at the annual Warrington Sports awards held at the Orford Jubilee Hub.

The award recognises the work Tom and Tony have done in organising the annual Victoria Park Experience (VPX) a project which provides four days of free sporting activities for people of all ages to take part in during the summer holidays.

During the past five years Tom and Tony have expanded the event to include over 20 activities.

Last year's event was attended by nearly 3000 people from across Warrington and Cheshire many who have continued to participate in sports on a regular basis at some of the local clubs that support and are promoted at V.P.X.

Tom and Tony are currently working with many partner agencies to ensure V.P.X 2013, which will be held each Tuesday in August on Victoria Park Warrington between 11 - 4, will be even better than last year.

# Bad boy comes good for Town



Luke (right) with the club's community development officer James Standing.

SOAP star Luke Roskell, who plays "bad boy" Sean Spencer in Emmerdale Farm has come good for his local football club Warrington Town.

Luke, aged 16, a pupil at Bridgewater High School, has agreed to turn out for an Emmerdale Farm XI in a charity football match against a Warrington Town XI at Cantilever Park on Sunday May 19, kick off 3pm. Proceeds from the game will go to the club's community development programme and St Rocco's Hospice.

Luke, who has been in the soap for nearly two years as a member of the "rowdy" Spencer family, confesses to be an Everton fanatic and is looking forward to taking on his home town club.

"It would be great to say I have played against Warrington Town and say I'd won," he joked.

Meanwhile he is "loving every minute" of his role in Emmerdale Farm after embarking on an

acting career at the age of six when he started drama school in Manchester.

"Acting is something I had always wanted to do," he added.

Luke is having to juggle his acting career with his school studies which include GCSE Drama and a BTEC in Performing Arts.

Meanwhile the football club is looking to build on their record-breaking half-term sports camps organised by the club's community development officer James Standing.

During last half-term, a record-breaking 60 children per day took part in a range of sporting activities including football, baseball, basketball, cricket and handball at the club's Cantilever Park ground.

James, who is supported by United Utilities, was assisted by community coach volunteer Stuart Waldron. The camp was the first of nine taking place throughout 2013 providing a healthy and friendly sporting environment for children as young as 4 years of age to get involved in physical activity.

The next camp takes place during the Easter break. Week one will run from Tuesday April 2 to Friday April 5 with Week two running from Monday April 8 to Friday April 12 with children having the second Wednesday (10th) off. Prices are set at just £30 for the full 4 days or £9 per day with sessions taking place on the artificial 3G pitches based at Cantilever Park. For more details on junior soccer camps or the weekly Saturday morning soccer schools or the club's work in the community contact James Standing at [james@warringtontownfc.co.uk](mailto:james@warringtontownfc.co.uk) or by calling 07714571452.



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## Edwards enters Hall of Fame



WARRINGTON Rugby League legend Jackie Edwards was inducted into the Warrington Past Players Hall of Fame at the annual Past Players Dinner held at the Halliwell Jones Stadium.

Half back Jackie (right) is pictured receiving his certificate from former Wire prop forward Alistair Brindle watched his son Shaun Edwards, the former Wigan and Great Britain half back and who is now coaching with the Welsh Rugby Union team.

# Master plan for town centre

FIVE hundred new homes, an engineering-based university technical college, offices and hotel and leisure uses are envisaged in a development master plan for the northern fringe of Warrington town centre.

About 90 acres of land bounded by the Liverpool-Manchester railway, the Halliwell Jones Stadium, the A49 and Bewsey Street are involved in the scheme to regenerate what has been dubbed The Stadium Quarter.

Open spaces and parks, pedestrians routes linking the town centre and the stadium are envisaged - and a new square in front of Central Station.

Phase One of the development includes offices, the university technical college and business incubator/innovation centre, car parking and hotel and leisure uses to service the new business community. Later phases would provide a mixed range of 500 dwellings, including both affordable and family homes.

The master plan was presented to the borough council's executive board when councillors gave the project the go-ahead to appoint a development partner. The Stadium Quarter has traditionally been an industrial area, although in more recent times infill development has introduced showrooms and shops.

At the peak of the property boom in 2007, plans were approved for two high density residential schemes but these never went ahead.

Aim of the master plan is to make the area more compatible with the town centre.

New, attractive built frontages are planned for Bewsey Street and Lythgoes Lane, together with pedestrian links to Bank Park. New offices will be linked to Central Station.

Consultation has been carried out with regeneration group Warrington and Co, site owners and businesses within the area who have voiced support.

The Homes and Communities Agency have been involved and have put in place a strategy for further consultation.

# 95% of pupils get first choice school

AN impressive 95 per cent of pupils from Warrington's primary schools have been offered a place at their first choice high school.

Overall, 99.3 per cent of children were offered one of their three stated preferences, by the borough council's school admissions team.

Cllr Colin Froggatt, the council's executive members for children and young people's services, said: "These fantastic figures demonstrate that the authority operates a very effective admissions service that is able to respond to community needs."

Year Six pupils across the county moving up to high school this September have been receiving their allocation letters.

The allocation date for primary school places is mid-April.

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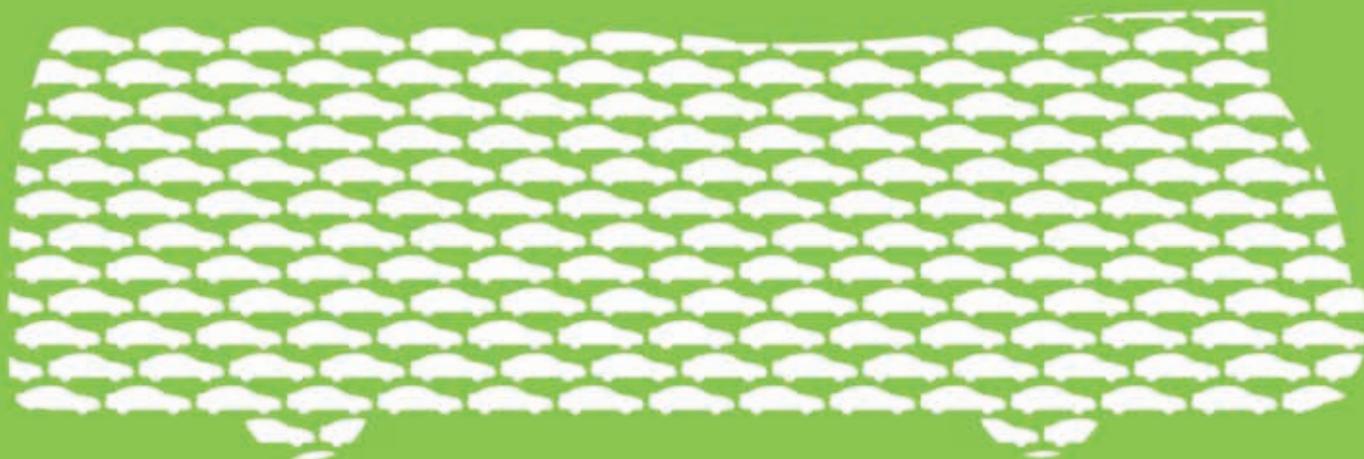
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