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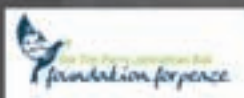


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Editor's Comment



DURING these tough economic times and prophecies of global doom and gloom there is still plenty to celebrate in our home town.

Unfortunately Warrington can hit the headlines for the wrong reasons, most recently for the 'two bob Tuesday' event at a local bar encouraging local students to drink themselves into a stupor for just 20p.

Tougher controls are clearly required to prevent cheap drink promotions like this which encourage young people to get drunk - as this latest media headline grabbing event showed our town in a very poor light.

Fortunately for all the negatives about our town there are plenty of positives as well - and it is with this in mind that I would like to congratulate the achievements of all the students from Warrington Collegiate who celebrated their biggest ever awards ceremony at the parish church - many

achieved their success without going into student debt - which is also an added bonus.

These kind of achievements rarely make the headlines - so it is great to be able to feature the success on the opposite page.

As we draw to the end of what has been a difficult year we all need to look to the future with some optimism and hope that all the good things about our town can see us through to

a prosperous New Year.

We have the Orford Park project to look forward to in April which should provide another major boost for us all to be proud of and hopefully we will be able to at long last see the regeneration of Bridge Street start to take shape.

There is still plenty to be positive about - so let us look forward to a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

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Success without the debt

WARRINGTON Collegiate held its biggest ever awards event as a record number of students celebrated their achievements at the annual Higher Education Awards event.

Many of those who celebrated success also managed to achieve their awards without going into debt - by studying in their home town.

The ceremony, held at St Elphin's Church, recognised the determination and commitment of students who have completed HNC, HND, NVQ, Foundation Degrees and Teacher Training.

As well as the academic certificates several students also received special awards for outstanding achievements in their subject areas.

Jacqueline Johnson, from Orford, has just completed an HNC in Construction and received the Graham Lewis Award for Construction. She spoke highly of her tutors and their support adding "It's been 4 hard years studying and working full time. The HNC group was a really supportive group, which was vital as it's quite a challenge being a female in construction. I feel I've really proved myself and I'm not stopping now. I'm going to continue onto a full degree and see myself going into management one day."

The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Higher Education went to Joanne Dunston, from Great Sankey. Joanne, a HNC Business and Management student, felt really honoured to be nominated for an award saying "This qualification was a personal achievement for me and well worth all the hard work. I can't thank the tutors enough for their outstanding support. I've been promoted as a result of the course and next year I'm coming back for the HND."

Steph Hodge, Curriculum Manager for Higher Education, Professional and International commented that Joanne was a member of a group who were truly professional, with a great work ethic and fantastic sense of humour resulting in outstanding results all round. Steph added "Joanne was a dedicated student who went from strength to strength, consistently gaining higher marks despite a very busy schedule. Her hard work paid off as she succeeded in getting a new job whilst on the course".

For Linda Williamson, Curriculum

Manager for Higher Education, Access and Teacher Training, it was a double celebration. Her daughter, Nicola Boyers graduated with a Certificate in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector. Linda said, "I'm so proud that Nicola has achieved her dream of graduating. We now have two generations of teachers in the family."

Peter Lyons, from Lymm received Student of the Year for Higher Education and Marketing student, Susan Carr, also from Lymm, was awarded Professional Student of the Year.

Many graduating students spoke of the impact of studying locally on their finances, explaining how they got more personal tuition and support without going into debt.

Two people attending the ceremony were unaware that they too were to be honoured.

Long Serving Electrical Engineering tutor, Hubert Ward, received a Special Recognition Award for his 18 years of service to the college.

The best kept secret of the night was revealed when Reverend Canon Michael Finlay was made a Fellow of Warrington Collegiate in recognition of his community work in the Warrington area and his close association with the college over the years. A delighted Rev Canon Michael Findlay said, "It has been wonderful sharing the space and



Rev Canon Michael Finlay

building of St Elphin's, Warrington's ancient Parish Church, with the Collegiate for their awards ceremony's over the past few years.

"This year, I was totally overwhelmed by the surprise award of an Honorary Fellowship of Warrington Collegiate and am so proud to be able to accept. I hope that I will be able to use the honour to help the progress and profile of the Collegiate whenever possible."

Principal of Warrington Collegiate, Paul Hahen commented: "Our Higher Education Awards ceremony was the biggest yet with St Elphin's church packed full of students and their families. The Awards evening is an important event for the college in recognising the fantastic achievements of our students studying higher education. We wish them every success as they move on to continue their studies or to employment."



Linda Williamson and daughter, Nicola Boyers



Joanne Dunston



Jacqueline Johnson

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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

Our readers respond - some tips for 'getting through' the hectic holidays

During the holiday season many people may find that there are just not enough hours in the day to accomplish all the extra obligations that this time of year demands. One of our readers has asked about the best way to get through this time of year.

Well, I suppose the first observation would be in the words 'get through!' That phrase for some may even be synonymous with the word 'endure.' And sadly, there are those who may see the holiday season as a time to endure or get through.

The reasons for this may lie beyond all the extra activities. Perhaps there was the death of a loved one at this time, or maybe holidays of childhood years were fraught with sad memories or dysfunction.

If this is the case, you can create a new tradition or memory to replace the old. Make it something entirely different from what you usually do this time of year and that gives you a sense of joy - take a sleigh ride, learn to cook a new holiday recipe,

visit a home for the elderly or disabled and share your recipe there, take a walk and every time you see a specific tree or colour, list something that makes you happy. By doing any one of these types of things, you are creating new memories and helping to replace unsettled or unhappy thoughts with new ones.

For those holiday obligations, determine the difference between those things which you are absolutely required to do and those things which you are expected to do - either by your own sense of duty or others' expectations. Obviously, we do have obligations to fulfil, but many are unnecessary. I have friends who see no need to send out holiday cards each year and others who dutifully do so. If it gives you joy to do this, then certainly, go ahead. But do not do so, or any holiday task, just for the sake of fulfilling social obligation alone. No one will think less of you. When we take care of our own concerns, we are then better able to help others and do so with joy and fulfilment, rather than obligation or duty.

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
www.michaelmahoneyhypnotherapist.com

Be certain to take time out for yourself, and schedule it in just as if it were an important appointment - because it is! Even a fifteen minute break to relax, breathe deeply from your abdomen, and have a cup of tea, instead of rushing and pushing through hour after hour, this can greatly reduce stress of the season.

Know that you can be a source of joy and celebrate the good things in your life - know that this Christmas and holiday season can be a time to enjoy!

Don't let a feeling of non-essential obligation to holiday duties bind you. Break free of routine thinking, and change your activities that allow you to be filled with joy, or at least, reduced stress. If you need assistance with 'getting through' the holidays, consider my emotional renewal program, or give me a call. I wish you and all those you love a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year!

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Shopping malls and retail security

Well it's close to Christmas and in these days of austerity we may be wise to expect increases in theft and other criminal acts in our shopping malls and other retail centres.

Retail theft can be down to petty pilfering or to organised crime and armed robbery where thousands of pounds worth of goods can be taken at one time. To some it's a threat to livelihood but in other cases it's a threat to life. Only this year we saw the extent of rioting and the effect that it had on retail businesses. Retail theft has always been a problem but since the recession shoplifting has increased extensively as well as violence towards retail staff. At least 22,000 retail workers suffered from attacks and £137 million of goods stolen last year (Retail Crime survey 2010)

Increasing retail security therefore is a must to stem the flow of this criminal activity. But security officers alone although necessary, are not enough to provide effective risk reduction. They have to be combined with good CCTV systems monitored by trained operators on or off site. Other alarm systems need to be used in more vulnerable shops such as panic alarms. Access controls may be required for jewellers shops and the like.

Security breaches incur a major cost to retailers who, as well as the financial loss suffer from the business interruption and unplanned downtime as well as distressed staff and gear and inconvenience to the customers.

In the retail environment, it is a fact that robust security measures are a powerful deterrent and for ensuring immediate police notification, robust evidence and conviction of offenders.

Seeking good solid security advice is very important step for improving your security systems by reliable suppliers and products, CCTV installation, access control, appropriate tagging, and most importantly engaging security officers that are capable of doing the job

effectively in observation, monitoring and response.

High quality security officers should be used in a retail environment; they should pride themselves in their image, have a professional and personal approach to security and a highly visible presence. They should be able to deal with customers sensitively but with appropriate firmness when required. They should be trained to NVQ level 2 in customer service to help them to deal with customers and should receive specialist training in retail security. They should know how to handle confrontation and difficult members of the public for theft, fraud, employee problems and assist staff and the public in a crisis situation. They should have the skill to deal with disorder and able to escort wrongdoers from the site without any fuss or embarrassment to the retailer.

Officers need to be sensitive to dealing with people suffering from medical, or other disability or and take extra care with the elderly and young people. They must remain vigilant and alert at all times and not be distracted. They should be 'on site' trained to meet the retailers objectives and be a highly efficient deterrent to the 'would be offender'.

What provides a major help in deterring retail crime is creating a 'security culture' amongst management and all staff. Encouraging vigilance and quick response in identifying suspects and suspicious occurrences. Prevention is much better than detection and taking on an intelligent approach to crime is a vital ingredient of success.

There are of course many simple things that can be done to prevent crime e.g. not having barriers that would be offenders can hide behind whilst they conceal their stolen goods,

having strict control over dressing rooms and toilets, use of mirrors where observation is difficult, having someone present constantly to check out tag alarms and many other basic actions. Furthermore taking out high value notes regularly from the tills escorting deliveries and checking them properly, securing high value items, not leaving keys in doors or drawers.

High quality intelligent led security solutions should be applied in shopping malls, retail centres, apartment stores, large supermarkets and commercial retail parks. This should be based on teamwork with retail management and staff applying best practice loss prevention techniques and excellent technical support to bring in stock shrinkage control.

Employers have to remember that they have a duty of care towards their staff to provide a safe and secure working environment and can be held liable for injury should the appropriate control measures have not been put in place.

Keeping alert to suspicious or abnormal behaviour is an important part of a security culture. Look out for some of the following: Carrying a very large bag. Constantly looking around and watching the staff movements.

Not looking at any particular products.

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For more information contact
Cliff Unwin M.D for
Uniqwin Security on
01925 286100

Wearing inappropriate clothing that could be used to hide products.

Repeatedly refusing offers of help.

Spending a long time browsing without a particular interest in anything.

Two or more working together one causing a distraction while the others steal. Spending an excessively long time in changing rooms.

There is much advice that can be given for retail crime and not enough space here to give it but taking note of what is shown here will help. For further advice and security services contact Cliff Unwin at Uniqwin security & Facilities 01925 286100.

Bus company passes with flying colours

LOCAL bus company Network Warrington has recently been through the three yearly Investors in People re-accreditation process and passed with flying colours.

Not only has the Company maintained the Investors in People standard, but has also achieved the prestigious Bronze Award.

David Squire, Managing Director, commented, "We are absolutely delighted with the results of our recent IIP assessment. The Company has been working hard to modernise itself, and the achievement of attaining the Bronze Award is another step on our journey in improving communications both within the Company and externally with its stakeholders".

Investors in People North of England is thrilled with this exceptional achievement. Maintaining Investors in People and achieving Bronze status is a journey of continuous improvement and on-going development.

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Youth café will be safe place in the town centre

WARRINGTON'S long-awaited town centre youth café will open on December 2 - offering a safe place for young people to meet friends, join in activities and get information and advice.

It will be very much a facility for young people, run by young people, according to borough council leader Terry O'Neill.

He said: "It will act as a hub for other

youth provision in the town and young people will be able to gain information on the range of youth activities across Warrington.

"Access to these activities will be

supported by the transport provided in partnership with other youth providers in the town."

The café is nearing completion in the former Carphone Warehouse building in Time Square.

Originally, the former Liberal Democrat-Conservative administration had planned to use the former Lloyds-TSB bank building, also in Time Square, for the scheme.

But structural problems were discovered in the building and the project had to be abandoned.

At a meeting of the full council,

Liberal Democrat councillors queried whether the private sector were contributing to the cost of the facility, as in the original plan.

Cllr O'Neill said the council was receiving some help from the private sector in fitting out the building.

The café will formally open on December 2 with an event for young people who have been involved in planning the project.

The following day there will be a "fun day" and on December 16 an acoustic, Christmas-themed night will take place.

Orford Park is an inspiration!

WARRINGTON'S Orford Park has been awarded the Inspire mark by the London 2012 Inspire programme.

The programme recognises innovative and exceptional projects that are directly inspired by the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Orford Park has received the Inspire mark because it is the key Olympic legacy project outside of London and is a development which has been identified as a national blueprint for the future delivery of community leisure provision.

Seb Coe, chairman of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games said: "We want to use the power of the Games to inspire change. The Inspire programme is recognising the work our partners all round the UK are doing to help us achieve this vision now - less than a year away from the start of the Games. I congratulate everyone involved in the Orford Park Project for securing the Inspire mark and wish you every success with your work."

Cllr Mike Hannon, deputy leader of Warrington Borough Council, said: "It makes perfect sense for Orford Park to

be awarded the Inspire mark. Not only is it the key London 2012 legacy project outside of the capital, but its community projects and events are already being inspired by the Olympic and Paralympic values."

Orford Park is the fourth project in Warrington to be awarded the Inspire mark - the others are the Wizards Wheelchair Basketball Development Sessions organised by Warrington Disability Partnership, a handball programme organised by Lymm Schools Sports Partnership (SSP) and Warrington Wolves, and NHS Challenge, a variety of fitness classes and challenges for NHS staff.



Blind society seeks sponsors

THE 1,000-strong Warrington, Widnes and district Blind Society has launched two fund-raising initiatives to try and offset cuts in grants from the local authority.

They are looking for people to join the "1,000 VIP Club" - the VIP stands for Visually Impaired People - and also for sponsors for the society's three mini-buses.

Chairman John Taylor told the society's annual meeting that grant aid from the borough council had been cut by five per cent this year and was to be cut by a further seven per cent next year.

This had been done without any consultation - and affected all Third Sector organisations. He said: "We are struggling with rising costs like everyone else, so we need to find more funding."

The society recently moved from Museum Street - its home for many years - into the Fairfield and Howley Project Centre that has been created out of the old Fairfield Junior School.

A special brick wall is being created in the society's wing of the building and VIP Club members will get their name on a brick in return for a £5-a-month donation.

Mr Taylor: "Some society members will become members of the VIP Club, but anyone can join. I am also looking for sponsors for our mini-buses. They will get their names on the bus."

Anyone interested in supporting the club in either initiative should call 01925 632700.

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Dining Out at the Raj

ESTABLISHED in Culcheth village for 13 years The Raj Indian Restaurant is proving hugely popular - especially with its 20 per cent off food offer which is served Monday to Saturday on bookings prior to 6pm.

We attended on a Friday evening and were relieved to have booked as it was extremely busy - which is always a good sign for any restaurant.

The Raj is a friendly restaurant,

serving fine, traditional cuisine using fresh ingredients.

The welcoming bar area offers a wide selection of beers and wines and also offers a waiting area for a take away service, which again

appeared to be extremely popular.

The extensive menu offers all the traditional favourites as well as speciality dishes to suit all tastes - with the number of chillis highlighting the strength of the curry.

We enjoyed a mixed starter which included Onion Bahjis and various mets and side salad, which proved to be more than adequate.

Main course consisted of a mild "Buttery Chicken" - Tender pieces of chicken tikka cooked in a sauce of cream, tomatoes and ghee.

At the other extreme a Nepalese, Cubes of chicken stir fried with fresh green chillies, ginger, garlic and onions. Red and green peppers give this dish a colourful appearance. It certainly fired up the taste buds.

The Raj certainly enjoys being part of the local community and has a number of special events planned for Christmas and New Year.

On Christmas Day they are offering a pick up and drop off service, so there is no need to worry about driving and on New Year's Eve there is a firework extravaganza which includes complimentary champagne at midnight.



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Brewery producing 'best in Britain!'

WARRINGTON'S famed brewing industry is alive and kicking in the heart of town with the Coach House Brewing company now in its 21st year of brewing award winning beers of which has recently been voted 'best in Britain!'

Set up from the ashes of the former Greenalls Brewery, Warrington's brewing heritage has been continued by ex-employees committed to the brewing and supply of hand-crafted cask conditioned fine ales.

Situated close to the town centre on the north side of the River Mersey at Wharf Street, Howley, Coach House provide a regular supply service throughout the country via their many national and regional wholesale distributors and through direct deliveries into Cheshire, Lancashire, Merseyside, Manchester, Staffordshire,

Shropshire, West Yorkshire and North Wales.

Coach House beers have enjoyed considerable success at the GBBF and at Beer Festivals and competitions throughout the country which bears testimony to the quality and popularity of their products and their Blueberry Classic Bitter in bottle which was launched in October 2008 has proved an ideal compliment to their range of cask products, recently winning the Small Independent Brewery Association (SIBA) "Best Speciality Beer in the Country" award.

Founders David Bolton and Tony Gandy are still very much involved

in the day to day running of the business.

They are delighted with the recognition being given to their bottled beer which scooped a bronze medal in an international competition, competing with beers from all over the world including Germany and Australia.

"It was like winning a bronze medal in the Olympics," said David, who says business is "bucking the trend."

Closer to home Coach House beers are also regularly stocked at

The Antrobus Arms, Ferry Tavern, Grappenhall Community Centre, Hatton Arms, Lord Rodney, Padgate Conservative Club, Paddington House Hotel, Porter's Alehouse and the two Witherspoons outlets in the town centre.

Bottled beers are available at various outlets including the Hollies Farm Shop at Hatton and at Morrisons and Asda supermarkets.

Sales are also now available direct from the brewery, with casks and bottled beers on sale to the public.



Tea for Two?

TWO women have embarked on a new business venture - mobile cream teas.

After a decade of selling antiques together neighbours Helen Rimmer and Jane Griffiths have decided it is time for change and set up their new business "Violet's Vintage Teas."

Named after Helen's grand mother, Helen and Jane offer a unique service delivering cream teas direct to peoples' homes or businesses, using the finest bone china - and of course the most important ingredient - home made cakes.

Both women confess to having a passion for baking and have decided to turn one of their favourite pastimes into a business.

Based in Grappenhall they offer a complete service which includes a selection of finger sandwiches, fresh scones, clotted cream, a cutting cake and all the ancillary items including a china tea service, cutlery and table linen - they even wash up as well.

They even offer "Tiny teas" for "little ladies."

In the New Year they will be offering "secret tea parties" including a special charity event in aid of St Rocco's Hospice.

They have already achieved 5 Stars for hygiene with Warrington Council's "Scores on the doors."

For more information visit their facebook page at www.facebook.com/violetsvintageteas



TRADITIONAL HAND-CRAFTED CASK CONDITIONED FINE ALES

FROM WARRINGTON'S AWARD WINNING COACH HOUSE BREWERY



Our award winning cask and bottled beers are available to the public direct from the brewery. We can also supply beers for your social club, community centre or a special event/occasion call or visit www.coach-house-brewing.co.uk for more information

Wharf Street, Howley, Warrington, Cheshire | Telephone: 01925 232800



the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball
foundation for peace

PeaceTALKS

In this issue...



Page 3

Rethinking
Radicalisation
Conference



Page 5

Looking after
the people
who look
after us



Page 9

The
Weather
Lottery



Welcome

Welcome to the second edition of Peace Talks for 2011. Throughout this year the Foundation has delivered its work in Warrington, across the UK and internationally.

Recent highlights include our re-branding in the spring and launch of our new website, both of which aimed to highlight the uniqueness of our work and make it easier for people to understand what we do and our success in securing part-funding from the Big Lottery to continue our work with victims and survivors of political conflict and terrorism. The Lottery has funded the first two years of a three-year programme to strengthen our links with academia, which included the publishing of a paper on our dialogue process by Rennes University in France, a joint seminar with Liverpool University on resilience, and the agreement to host a joint conference with Brighton and Leicester Universities in the summer of



2012.

The Foundation continues to gain recognition of its work locally and overseas. Members of the team have spoken at numerous events and conferences in the UK and abroad and the Foundation itself hosted two high profile conferences at the Peace Centre. The first, entitled "International

Approaches to Peace Building: From Global to Grassroots", brought together representatives from Governments, Peace organisations and individuals affected by conflict. The second, 'Rethinking Radicalisation', examined the Government's 'Prevent' strategy and the motivations and drivers of people drawn into violence. You can read more about it on page 5.

The economic climate has undoubtedly had an effect on the Foundation's income during the year and in response to queries from some of our readers, you will notice that in this edition we have started to tell you the cost of delivering our work. If you feel you can contribute in any small way to support this work, please do so via any of the methods outlined within this edition or visit our website at www.foundation4peace.org.

Clare White
Chief Executive

New Promotional DVD

With the help of Chris Bisson, John Sullivan and his crew at Mediaman, the Foundation has been able to update its promotional DVD to showcase our work, achievements and hopes for the future.

Wendy Parry said: "The Foundation is extremely grateful to Chris for taking the time out of his hectic schedule filming Emmerdale to help us with this project. We also have to say a big thank you to Stuart and Lloyd from Mediaman for their input in this new DVD. Throughout the process all three were key to making this film a success and we were delighted to be able to use the skills of such a great actor and experienced camera and sound technicians".



The 20th Anniversary of the Warrington Bombing

March 20th 2013 will mark the 20th anniversary of the IRA bombing of Warrington, the day which took the lives of Tim, Johnathan and Bronwen Vickers and changed the lives of many forever.

To help remember Tim, Johnathan, Bronwen and others affected on and by that day, we will be organising a number of events throughout 2013. Funds raised will enable the Foundation to continue its work locally and nationally.

Schools, Companies and individuals could play their part in helping to change the lives of vulnerable people by organising their own fundraising activity and donating the proceeds to the Foundation.

For a fundraising pack please call 01925 581231.



Looking after the people who look after us

Professional Training

Following on from the success of our Emergency Response Seminar in 2010, a number of organisations expressed an interest in learning more about the experiences of people affected by different incidents.

So, in the past few months, the Foundation has been delivering training to professionals who deal with the aftermath of critical incidents including acts of terrorism. These include Local Authorities, Emergency Services and Resilience Workers, Army Officers and Police Family Liaison Officers.

Emergency Response

During the Emergency Response Seminar, professionals were able to listen to one of our participants who spoke about the impact of losing a parent when she was still a child. This led to a request by Lancashire County Council asking us to run a workshop looking at the needs of children affected by traumatic incidents.

Army Officers

Drawing on our experience of working with families of soldiers killed in service, we delivered a residential programme for Army Casualty Notification and Visiting Officers (CNO/CVO). These are the men and women who inform and support families of soldiers killed and injured whilst in service. This programme offers a space for CNO/CVOs to share their experiences of breaking the news to families and supporting them in the weeks and months afterwards. During the programme they were able to share tips on things they had learned, and ways in which they could look after themselves. We are also involved in the training of the officers before they are assigned to a family and we have been able to pass on some of our participants' experiences to make sure other families get a good service.

Police

The Foundation delivered a workshop to Merseyside Police Call Takers and Family Liaison Officers on the human impact of incidents. The workshop increased the awareness of the impact on people in the weeks, months and years afterwards and help to increase their skills to respond to people better following incidents.



Hugo Swires MP visits the Peace Centre



Minister of State for Northern Ireland Hugo Swire MP visited the Peace Centre to learn more about the work of the Foundation.

Colin and Wendy Parry along with the Foundation's Programme Manager Kelly Simcock, talked about their work with UK victims and survivors of political violence, young people and their training programmes for the Emergency Services, Army Officers and the Police, those who are first on the scene of an accident and the ones we rely upon who are also affected by these incidents.

Colin Parry said: "Hugo asked to come to the Peace Centre to learn more about our work so it was an ideal opportunity to talk about our history, our work, its outcomes and results.

It's important for us to build new relationships with the Coalition government after 13 years of doing just that with the previous Labour government"



The Resolution Training Company is a social enterprise set up by the Foundation to deliver training in Conflict Management, Leadership and Response Training to the following:

- Public & Private Sector
- Emergency Response Teams
- Senior Management Teams/ Staff Teams Experiencing Conflict
- Teachers /Teaching Assistants
- Youth Workers /Youth Offending Professionals
- Housing/Social Landlords

If you would like further information please call 01925 581231

Survivors Programme

The Foundation is always delighted when participants put the skills and the knowledge they have gained through our programme to good use. Using the Foundation's techniques and her own interest in Irish history, Annie Bowman was able to give GCSE students at Icknield Community College in Watlington, a better understanding of Irish politics.

Annie's father was a bomb disposal expert who lost his life when Annie was a little girl. Before becoming involved with the Foundation, Annie found it hard to deal with her past but she has been able to turn her tragic situation into something positive, which is not only beneficial for herself, but for future generations of young people.

Making History Real

by Annie Bowman

My friend James and I, both with sons taking history GCSE at the same school, decided to see if the school's History Department would like to liven up a topic that previous year groups have found difficult to grasp: 'The Troubles'.

James Clarke works for Isis Concepts, part of RM Education and believes passionately that school doesn't have to be just about sitting in rows learning facts. To that end Isis designs furniture for schools that can integrate technology and support learning. RM has a facility near Abingdon called the REAL Centre (Rethinking Education And Learning), which can show schools the potential of their products. I've been involved with the Foundation for Peace for 9 years now and through the Foundation I have been over to Northern Ireland several times and met people who have helped me understand why they turned to violence and what life was like on both sides.

On the last Monday of the summer term we took twenty year 10 students from Icknield Community College in Watlington, a very small town in rural South Oxfordshire, to the REAL Centre. The only introduction to this topic at school had been watching the film Bloody Sunday. The aim of our day was to enable the students to explore and understand what the 'Troubles' were about and to make sense of all the acronyms and terms used.

On arrival we gave all the students name badges with an additional unique label,



such as IRA, UDA, RUC, Protestant, Catholic etc. They had to seat themselves according to their groupings. We showed them clips of rioting in Northern Ireland that had footage of both the rioters and the security forces being fairly brutal. We then got them to decide which side they were on and who their enemy was, gave them some paper weapons and let them have a three minute paper fight and discussion afterwards about what they did and why.

We split the students into 3 groups for the rest of the day where they rotated round 3 different activities. I looked at google maps of Belfast and Derry, giving them a virtual tour on a large horizontal screen. We looked at some of the murals and their symbolism, the housing in Catholic and Protestant housing estates, the route of the Bloody Sunday march and the peace lines in both cities. We could change the screen from actually feeling like you were walking down the streets to look up other websites if something came up in the discussion.

The second activity was to film a news report using green screen technology. They were asked to use the internet and copies of newspaper reports of the time and choose to report as if they were from London or Dublin and try and decide how the news would have been biased.

Phil Maslen a former British soldier who served in Northern Ireland (also involved



with the Foundation programmes) joined us for the day. Phil brought to life the third activity as a witness or 'primary source' in history terminology. The students used an acoustic pod and 'internet ready mobile devices' to create a podcast. Phil was able to give them valuable insight in to what it was like to serve in the British Army at the time. They came up with some interesting questions for their interviews and really enjoyed having the chance to talk to someone who was there. Phil also helped them document the political spectrum and he really looked like a professional teacher!

When school starts again in September and the History Department start teaching the topic in earnest, we will be able to see how much they learnt and how much they have retained from our day.



Rethinking Radicalisation Conference

In October, the Foundation hosted a two-day conference entitled 'Rethinking Radicalisation' which explored the meaning of Radicalisation, what drives people into violent extremism and practical approaches to engaging with people and communities at the risk of been drawn into violence.

The event attracted eminent speakers including Professor Ted Cantle, Executive Chair of the Institute of Community Cohesion; DCS Tony Porter, Head of the Counter Terrorism unit for the North of England and Nadeem Siddique, Prevent Coordinator for Leeds City Council. The speakers provided their own perspectives on approaches to working to combat violent extremism and discussed some of the challenges facing communities.

Central to the theme of the event was the Foundation's experiences working in Northern Ireland with people who have been drawn to violent extremism and/or extreme groups. Speaking of the event Programme Manager, Kelly Simcock, said: 'We recognise that the terms 'violent extremism' and 'radicalisation' are now associated as being synonymous with the Muslim community, but our organisation was born of violent extremism of Irish Republican origins and so we are well aware of the drivers and motivations for people becoming involved in extreme groups and behaviour. This was key in our decision to run this conference and provide a space for people to share in our learning, reflect on the lessons from the past and consider approaches to keeping all of our communities safe.'

A panel of speakers included former members of extreme groups including: Gerry Foster (Former INLA), Alistair Little (Former UVF) and Rashad Ali (Former Hizb'ut Tahrir). These individuals shared their own personal stories describing the motivators and drivers to their becoming involved in violence and extreme groups.

Programme worker, Rosie Aubrey, said: 'The testimonies were crucial to the overall



success of the event. They transcend all rhetoric and theory and put a human face on what we often look at from an objective point of view. Participants find this helps in understanding what motivates and drives individuals to undertake such violent acts'. The event was attended by around 70 participants and brought together professionals working with the Government's PREVENT agenda including police, teachers, local authorities and charities as well as people affected by conflict.



Feedback from the event has been positive. Comments from delegates include:

'What I found most useful is the balanced structure of the event – mixture just right between lectures, participation, group activity and personal experience'

'The sessions were great. There was a lot of real and practical demonstration of effective work'

'I found the various viewpoints of speakers highly eye opening and influential. I have gained further knowledge and practical skills that I can then follow up with my line of work and my own community'

John's Reflections

'As a peace practitioner, it is always interesting to engage with various actors, communities and agencies involved in preventing violence and building peace.

This conference offered me an opportunity to reflect on my practice, hear various perspectives on the PREVENT agenda and share some of our tools and strategies in challenging extreme behaviour and facilitating difficult conversations. What I found most reassuring was the shared commitment to preventing violence by the different individuals and professionals attending.

Listening to case studies of interventions in schools and communities was also inspiring as it shows that conflict transformation interventions do work and can make a big difference.'

**John Kabia
Foundation for Peace Tutor**





REACHing out to Warrington Collegiate Students

On Wednesday 21st September the Foundation for Peace joined up with Warrington Collegiate to celebrate International Peace Day.

As part of the REACH project young people are encouraged to take on active leadership roles within their community and to educate other young people about conflict, promoting non-violent conflict resolution skills and techniques. Two REACH participants (aged 14-15) visited Warrington Collegiate as part of their International Peace Day activities to facilitate interactive workshops with Year 1 and 2 Health and Social Care students. These workshops were specifically designed to develop an increased awareness of conflict issues and to promote a variety of key conflict resolution skills and techniques.

Vanessa Conlin, organiser of the event at Warrington Collegiate, said "It has been a great pleasure to work alongside Kerry and her team on International Peace Day. Kerry's group of young mentors proved to be a great hit as they effectively delivered Conflict Resolution Training to two groups of collegiate students. The feedback received from both students and staff who took part has been extremely positive."

The REACH participants also benefitted from this experience as they were able to take on challenging roles and responsibilities within their community.

"I really enjoyed the opportunity to lead a group and practice the skills I have developed."
Paul

"I really enjoyed going to the Collegiate. It was a great experience and I really think that it's helped me to develop new skills."
Sam

REACHing for Art in Orford Park

As the regeneration of Orford Park nears completion, young people from the Foundation's REACH project have been busying themselves making sure there's something good to look at during the building works.

Earlier in the summer, young people from REACH co-ordinated a project with a number of organisations across town to produce Olympic themed artwork for the Orford Park site.

Alongside youngsters from REACH, volunteers from St Andrew's Primary School, Orford Library, Orford Neighbourhood Enterprises, Creative Remedies and Planet Blue Youth Club all took part in the project to produce the stunning artwork currently catching the eye of passersby on Winwick Road.

REACH participant Nathan Jones, aged 15, said of the project: "It's been great to work with different groups from the community to make this artwork. Not only did we get a chance to do some art ourselves but we also got to work alongside other community groups – including putting on activity mornings for St Andrew's School. It felt really good to be part of the community and I hope everyone appreciates the effort that's gone into making this artwork."

The artwork was completed and sited with the kind support of Decathlon and will be in its current site until completion of the building works when it will move into the park itself.



The 2011 REACH 'Nonference'

Wednesday 7th December will see the young people from REACH, our partnership programme with the Warrington Wolves Foundation, host their second annual conference. This year though, they're promising something a little different: they will be hosting The 2011 Nonference. A Nonference is defined as: A gathering of individuals for fun, interactive and participative sharing of experiences, learning and best practice. The event will see young people take a lead in telling the story of the REACH programme over the past two years. You can expect fun, laughter and learning as well as a moving performance from our "REACH Presents..." theatre group. Participants at The Nonference will have a little taste of some of the learning that the young people have experienced during their time on REACH, with workshops on conflict and leadership. There's also the chance to experience an interactive REACH exhibition showcasing some of the achievements of the programme over the last two years and to hear direct about the impact of the programme from its young participants.

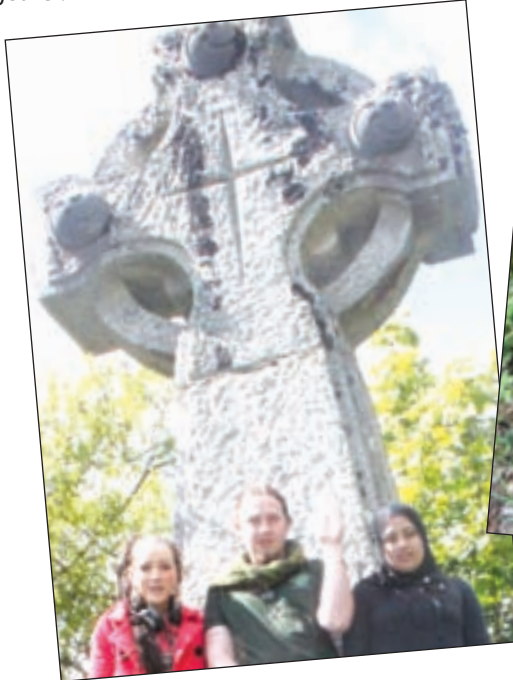
The 2011 REACH Nonference takes place at The Halliwell Jones Stadium on Wednesday 7th December at 12.30pm. A limited number of tickets for the event, which is free of charge, are available from <http://nonference.eventbrite.com/>. For more information on the event, or the REACH programme, call the REACH team on 01925 581246.

The Tim Parry Leadership Development Programme

By Julian Schweitzer

This summer I had the opportunity to participate in the Tim Parry Leadership Development Programme (TPLD) hosted by the Foundation. The programme included two residentials – one took place in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland in May and another one in Warrington and Bradford in September – and brought 15 young people from various cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds together.

Let me start by saying that the programme was not what I expected it to be. Briefly said, it was both – stimulating and challenging at the same time. Stimulating because within only a few days I met so many new people with stories and backgrounds that are so different from my own; challenging because all these people (including myself of course) brought different expectations and interests to the programme. The programme facilitators, however, anticipated this and made sure everybody was included through a wide range of activities that covered formal as well as informal ways of learning. During the first residential in Northern Ireland our group went on a city tour through Belfast to see the physical reality of segregated communities, played various team-building games to discuss issues of leadership and conflict, listened to former combatants who shared their personal stories of the conflict in Northern Ireland and learned more about Irish culture and traditions on a good night out at a pub.



Out of the many great things to take in, I was personally most intrigued by seeing what life looks like in a post-conflict environment. I have been studying Peace Studies at the University of Bradford for the past two years and I'm quite familiar with the literature around peacebuilding and conflict resolution. However, visiting Belfast and speaking to former combatants and the Irish participants of our group has helped me understand the everyday struggles of life in Northern Ireland. From my personal perspective, it was a unique chance to go beyond mere theory and to explore the challenges of the peace process in a safe and personal environment.

curry houses – judged by the faces of some of our Irish participants, a truly unique experience!

I guess what we all enjoyed most about the second residential was to work again as a group together. Whereas there were a few queries and misunderstandings at the first residential, this time our group developed a real team spirit and everybody made sure that we provided a friendly and harmonious atmosphere for one another.

Overall the Tim Parry Leadership Development programme turned out to be a very enriching and rewarding experience. Not only have I learned a lot about Ireland, leadership and conflict resolution, I have also learned a lot about myself and the way I approach new situations and people. What I enjoyed most was the opportunity to come out of my academic bubble and to experience learning in unconventional and participatory ways.

A few months later the second residential took place in England and this time we explored various themes of conflict and leadership within ethnically mixed communities in Britain. On a daytrip to Bradford our group visited the Manningham area where South Asian, Eastern European and white working class communities live next door to each other and listened to community leaders who spoke about the challenges of growing up as a British Muslim in Bradford and the conflict between the Bradford's Muslim population and right-wing extremists such as the BNP and EDL. Reverend Chris Howson gave a very inspiring talk on the practice of liberation theology and social justice in Bradford. Later that day our group enjoyed dinner at Karachi, one of Bradford's most famous



My Journey by Gemma Benns

I first got involved with the Foundation at the age of 14 when I participated in the Tim Parry Leadership Development Programme. I enjoyed the experience so much I decided I wanted to become more involved and that's where my journey began.

I became a volunteer and got more involved on a day to day basis. I soon realised this was what I wanted to do as a career and grab any opportunities I was offered. The Foundation made it possible for me to be formally educated in Conflict Management and I received a salary too...I couldn't believe my luck!

On a day to day basis I am involved in everything from generating ideas through to the delivery of our education programmes with young people and adults. I have helped to deliver Leadership Development programmes in Leeds to young people who are divided by race and faith, worked with young people in Warrington on the Reach Project, and been able to participate in an International Youth Programme which brought together young people from Palestine, Israel, England, Ireland, the Basque Region and South Africa to explore issues of conflict and how it can be resolved non-violently.

Last April, I was lucky enough to secure an apprenticeship funded by the Rank Foundation....things just keep getting better and better! All RANK funded participants become RANK Fellows and follow their philosophy of 'paying it forward' something I'm already trying to do by helping young people to make a difference in their communities.

In the future, I would like to continue working with young people and continue to work with those affected by conflict. The Foundation gave me the opportunity to make a difference, to study at college but to do this work at the same time, which has been a perfect way to develop my skills and understanding.



Comberbach Primary Guardian Newsletter

We would like to thank Isaac Hartill aged 7 and his sister Frances aged 5 for coming up with a creative and educational way of raising £80.00 in aid of the Foundation.

Isaac, who attends Comberbach Primary School, created a newsletter to help raise money for Kelly Simcock who climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in March in aid of the Foundation. Isaac and Frances created and sold their own newsletter for 20p a copy to their friends and teachers at school and to people within their local community.

As well as raising funds, the newsletter included facts about Mount Kilimanjaro, space and planets, the history of rugby and football and a special article Frances had written herself all about her Daddy.

Warrington First Annual Quiz Night

Warrington First Business Club organised its annual quiz night at the Peace Centre when local businesses, in teams of four, put their general knowledge to the test. Sponsored by Forshaw Davies Ridgway Solicitors, guests helped to raise £1,684 for the Foundation while enjoying a two course meal for just £10.00 per person.

The Foundation would like to thank Forshaw Davies Ridgway Solicitors for sponsoring this event and Danny Hudson, Margaret Evans, Jennifer McGuinness and Jo Styles for organising an enjoyable evening for everyone.



1st Jackson Stephens.



2nd Baker Tilly.



3rd Mitchell Charlesworth.

Look after the people who look after us by completing the standing order and making a monthly donation.

THE WEATHER LOTTERY

Support us and Win



£4.5M prizes paid to date

With The Weather Lottery plc

Support the Foundation
and you could

**win up to
£10,000**

We are always grateful for help with supporting the work of the Foundation so we are delighted to introduce a great way of raising funds which also gives you the chance to win cash prizes too. The Weather Lottery gives you much better odds of winning than other lotteries but more importantly, gives you the chance to support a worthwhile cause.

How does it work?

To play, you simply select six single numbers 0-9 for 6 locations around the world – Corfu, Istanbul, Tenerife, Innsbruck, Edinburgh and Stockholm. If your numbers match the last digit of the daily Fahrenheit temperatures you are a winner.

Match 3 numbers and you win £2.00, 4 numbers £20.00, 5 numbers £200.00 and 6 numbers for the £10,000 jackpot.

Corfu	Istanbul	Tenerife	Innsbruck	Edinburgh	Stockholm
83°	96°	81°	77°	62°	64°
3	6	1	7	2	4

How much does it cost?

Each entry line i.e. each set of 6 numbers, costs £1 per week (£4.34 per calendar month). The draw takes place every Monday to Thursday, so you have a chance of winning 4 times per week.

How do I know if I've won?

You can check your numbers in the Daily Telegraph or at www.theweatherlottery.com. However, there is no need for you to check as all prizes are guaranteed and sent out automatically.

Charity Golf Day

On June 8th, the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation held its annual Charity Golf Day at Warrington Golf Club.

Sixteen teams took part in the event and helped to raise, after costs, £5125 for the Foundation. The winning teams were - 1st place Taylormade Group, 2nd Martin Dawes Systems and 3rd Hero TSC.

Wendy Parry said: "We had a really great day, the food was excellent and, luckily for us despite the amount of rain which fell in June, the weather stayed dry. After the evening meal comedian Kevin Jones entertained the Golfers which was a perfect end to a perfect day.

I would like to thank Hero TSC, Bankquay House, Taylorshaw and I-Com for their help and support with this event."



BankquayHouse

I-COM

Martin Shore



Join the Weather Lottery for your chance to win £10,000.

The Foundation would like to
thank the following people
for their help and support

Sir John Zochonis
The Big Lottery Fund
Carl Marsh – L'Oreal
JK Rowling
Warrington First Business Club
Jennifer McGuinness
Joanne Styles
Danny Hudson
Dave & Kim Cook
Dave McNichol
Sue Dunning - Hero TSC
Martin Shore
Python Properties
Tim Roberts- I-Com
Isaac & Frances Hartill
Pete Taylor – Taylorshaw
Catering
Warrington Worldwide
Magazine
Twenty Four Seven Printing
Chris Bisson
Paper4 Print
Warrington Scouts
Northwich Rotary
Neil Black
CPM
Priestley College Students
Marc McCullagh
Anthony Jones
Gareth Boldsworth
Luke Hankin
Lottery Participants
Gift Aid Participants
Rob Shaw
Simon Tutton
John Sullivan and his Camera
Crew
Trica Peters

The Great Wall of China Trek



This is your chance to trek the world's longest wall and the
biggest ancient architecture all in the name of Charity.
During the 14 - 23 September 2012, you could be helping to
make a difference to the lives of many by taking part in this
challenging event.

For more information or to take part please contact Wendy on

01925 581231

or email wendy.parry@foundation4peace.org



Peace of Cake

Would you like to host an event?

Contact Wendy on

01925 581234

NIGHTRIDER

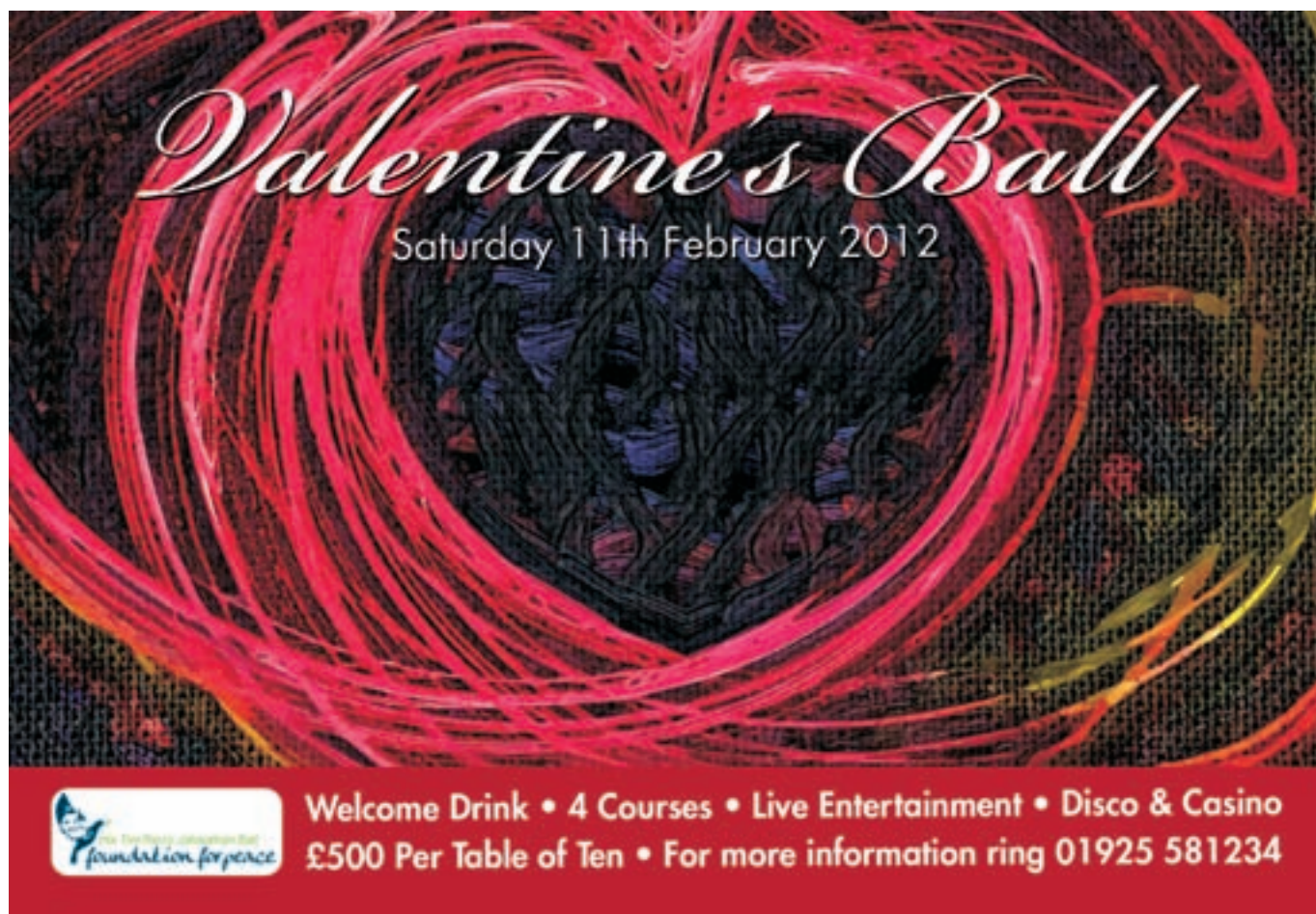
9 / 10 June 2012

Would you like to take part in the 100km moonlit ride
past London's iconic landmarks on behalf of the Peace Centre?
Pay £99 to enter and raise as much sponsorship money as possible.
There is no minimum sponsorship amount.

Places available at <http://www.nightrider.org.uk>

THE TIM PARRY JOHNATHAN BALL FOUNDATION FOR PEACE

THE PEACE CENTRE
PEACE DRIVE, WARRINGTON, CHESHIRE WA5 1HQ
TEL: 01925 581231 FAX: 01925 581233 CHARITY No: 1048990



The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace

Christmas Party

at the Peace Centre on Saturday 3rd December 2011

If you are looking for the perfect way to get into the party mood this Christmas then why not join us?

This will be a night to remember...just imagine, the scene is set, snow is falling, seasonal songs waft in the background, and the excitement and expectations of a fun packed night fill the air. Fantastic food, fabulous live entertainment and a first class DJ playing your favourite songs until your carriages arrive...if this doesn't get you in the mood for Christmas then nothing will!



This will be an event when not only will you have a fantastic night but you will be helping to make a big difference to the lives of many young people in your community... what better way to start the festive season?

Tickets are £35.00 per person, tables of 10 or 12 and you can bring your own drinks making this an affordable and unforgettable evening!

Please ring 01925 581234 to book your table.

83p in every £1 donated goes directly to the work of the Foundation.

Standing Order Form

To the Manager.....

Bank/Building Society.....

Address.....

.....

.....Post Code.....

I wish to make a MONTHLY /ANNUAL * Delete as applicable payment from my account in accordance with the details below.

Name of account.....

Account No
.....

Sort Code.....

For the account of –

The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace.

Account No 40098493 Sort Code 20-91-48

Amount (figures) £.....

Date of first Payment.....

Signature.....

Home address.....
.....

.....

.....Post Code.....

When complete please return this form to:

The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace
The Peace Centre, Peace Drive, Great Sankey,
Warrington, WA5 1HQ

Single Donation Form

£10 ☐ £20 ☐ £50 ☐ £100 ☐ Your own amount £.....

☐ I enclose a cheque/PO/CAF voucher made payable to: The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace

We would like to thank you in writing for your kind gift. However to save costs please tick here ☐ if you would prefer we didn't. *Thank you for your donation.*

~~Giftaid it~~ (Applicable for either form)
For individuals: YES, I want all donations for the past 4 years and all future donations to qualify for GIFT AID until notify you otherwise.

Signature.....

Date.....

In order for the scheme to apply, you must ensure that you pay a total amount of income and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April one to 5th April the next) equal to that we reclaim – TPJBF can claim Gift Aid tax relief of 25p on each pound you donate.

Please send me information for the following:

Annual Events

☐ Valentines Ball ☐ Christmas Party ☐ Golf Tournament ☐ Marathon

Challenging Events

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Community
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Adult Education Programme 2011 – 2012

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On Friday 9th December Lowton High School will be launching the next phase of its new adult education programme. A complete breakdown of all the courses, enrolment details and costings will be available on the school's website from 9th December.

www.lowtonhighschool.co.uk



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

Tel: 01942 767040 (Option 4)

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



Motoring

Motorists in for a bumpy ride

MOTORISTS in rural areas look to be in for a bumpy ride as eight in 10 councils experience a loss in funding.

Eighty per cent of councils say they have suffered a real term loss in road funding over the last 12 months.

And 89 per cent of RAC patrols - who use the roads more than most people - say they believe current road conditions show the effects of under-investment in road repairs.

However, 80 per cent of councils are confident they are well prepared to deal with another harsh winter.

Research conducted by the RAC among councils and its own patrols has revealed widespread concern about the state of the road network, particularly in rural areas, as cuts to council budgets are increasingly hitting home.

The survey reveals that a year on from the Comprehensive Spending Review, 80 per cent of local authorities have experienced a real term reduction in funding to their road maintenance budgets - with 55 per cent of councils seeing an outright reduction in funding.

A further 25 per cent reported that funding had stayed at the same level, meaning a loss in real terms due to

inflation in materials and labour costs required for road maintenance.

Even with the budgetary constraints, 50 per cent of councils reported a focus on permanent long-term fixes but 20 per cent reported they are prioritising short-term fixes for safety reasons. Looking ahead to this winter, 80 per cent reported that they are well prepared for another winter of extreme weather and 50 per cent mentioned their well stocked salt and grit supplies.

Three quarters of RAC patrols think the condition of rural roads is poor or very poor, with just two per cent saying they are in good condition. In addition, two-thirds of RAC patrols think that suburban roads are in poor condition.

Motorists are equally concerned about roads - 92 per cent of those questioned as part of the RAC's "Report on Motoring" said that they feel the condition of local roads is getting noticeably worse compared with 78 per cent who feel similarly about main roads.

Five star safety rating



THE Hyundai Veloster has been awarded the maximum five-star safety rating by independent vehicle assessment organisation, Euro NCAP.

A rigorous test process resulted in class-best scores for the 1+2 door sports coupe.

The Veloster achieved a rating of 96 per cent in the "adult occupant" category, registering maximum points in the side barrier test and more severe side pole test.

In the "child occupant" category, the Veloster attained a score of 89 per cent. The electronic stability program and seatbelt reminder systems contributed to the car's score of 71 per cent in the "safety assist" category.

The Veloster is the sixth consecutive Hyundai model to achieve the maximum five-star score in the Euro NCAP safety program. The all-new i40 is the most recent car before Veloster to be awarded the top rating.

Allan Rushforth, senior vice president of Hyundai Motor Europe, said: "The five-star rating for Veloster further demonstrates our commitment to the highest levels of safety for Hyundai customers. Veloster is attracting a new audience, combining practicality and 'fluidic' design in a unique 1+2 door package. Recognition of its class-leading safety performance will further add to its appeal."

Bank appoints new manager

EXPERIENCED business banker Lesley Cozens' has been appointed as the new Branch Manager at Handelsbanken, Warrington.

With over 27 years' experience since she started her career with the prestigious Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Lesley's reputation will be familiar to many among the business community, particularly in the North West, where she has an excellent track record as a banking professional.

Operating in Great Britain for over 30 years, the bank is particularly excited by the appointment as the partnership upholds those values deemed important to ensure superior customer service with a local touch. Lesley brings with her a wealth of banking experience and knowledge gained from being Chairman of the National Mentoring and Befriending Society.

Handelsbanken, one of Sweden's largest banks with an award-winning reputation for customer service seeks the very best to serve the community where branches are located.

Favouring a hands-on, personal approach, Lesley is thrilled to be heading up a branch so enthusiastically committed to traditional banking values. "Handelsbanken's approach is to deliver a service akin to that of the vintage bank manager," she says. "There are no tiered telephone answering systems, no sales targets, no off-the-shelf products - just an experienced, knowledgeable local team that is not only committed to building personal relationships with their customers, but also has the ability to

assess their clients' needs, recommend a solution and implement it at local level without having to wait for approval from the centre."

Central to Handelsbanken's success is decentralisation, permitting lending decisions, administration, documentation and customer services to be controlled from the local branch. Handelsbanken now has 112 branches across the country, where the Bank's personal and business clients' portfolios are demonstrating rapid growth.

Lesley says, "More and more customers are finding Handelsbanken's approach like a breath of fresh air after years of struggling with the poor customer service, never-ending call centres and a frustratingly impersonal attitude that is associated with many of the high street banks. Business owners and many affluent personal customers alike are looking for a more bespoke and individual service."



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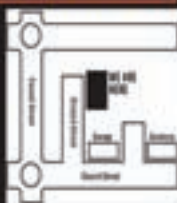
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Disability tournament comes to Town



WARRINGTON Town's new 3G pitches at their Cantilever Park ground hosted a disability football tournament for young players from across the town.

Organised by Warrington Wolves Foundation disability co-ordinator Danny O'Brian, the tournament was a great success engaging with 30 participants who took part in a three team tournament. The Wolves Foundation and Warrington Collegiate made up the three teams.

The club's community development officer James Standing said: "It was good to see the participants enjoy playing on a great surface and at the same time, playing some great football. It is a credit to Danny who has organised this tournament and we have provided the perfect venue for them."

This is the first time the Wolves Foundation and Town have joined

up together with a number of other ventures set to take place in the future.

James plans to work with the Wolves Foundation and the town's leading disability charity Warrington Disability Partnership in the future, "providing great results for the community."

Before the day finished, the sides took part in a try line challenge while Wolves mascot Wolfie was also present to join in the fun.

Meanwhile the 3G pitches are proving hugely popular with the local community but there is still some availability for booking the facility.

Any team or community group interested in hiring the facility should contact the club's community development officer James Standing on 07714571452.

Giving youth a chance

WARRINGTON Town Football Club youth team manager Chris Wells is a proud man after seeing four of his under 18s youth team players take part in a recent first team fixture against Cheadle Town.

The Cheshire Senior Cup tie was a thrilling game which Warrington won 5-4 in extra time, with three of the four players making it onto the pitch during the 120 minute game.

Josh Kavanagh and George Emson both started alongside senior players including Chris Gaghan, Jamie Henders and captain for the night River Humphreys.

The pair have already represented the first team in pre-season and in the Doodson Sport Cup.

Matt Cook made his first appearance for the senior side coming off the bench in the second half while striker Scott Bakkor was an unused substitute.

Community development officer and former first team coach James Standing said: "The lads did really well and didn't look out of place. Considering they are only 16 and 17 years old, they stepped up to the mark and all played their part."


Looking at the development of the club Standing said "People can now see a natural progression for the players of this football club whether they are in the junior section or part of the youth team. The work we are doing here is testament to the coaches and managers we have throughout the club."

This now takes the total number of youth team players used in the first team this season to 5 with goalkeeper Dan Gordan having been involved with the squad earlier in the season and appearing in a Doodson Sport Cup game.



The Youth team with their sponsors Priestley College.

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Financially yours

By David Watkinson

Changes to the value of which VAT is paid

Many of you will have bought bargains on-line from Tesco, Amazon, and other major retailers, made possible by the retailer by posting these goods directly to the customer from a supplier in the Channel Islands. The most common items are CDs and DVDs, but more recently there has been an extension to other goods such as printer consumables and cosmetics. Provided the goods are of relatively low value then no VAT is payable, giving either an immediate saving to the customer or extra profit to the retailer of 20%.

The tax office have decided to change this. They state that this will "ensure that UK companies, especially small and medium sized enterprises, can compete on a level playing field". As a firm we applaud these sentiments. After all, most of our clients are small, local businesses. However, the contempt with which the tax office treats small businesses generally suggests that this is much more a measure to raise taxes from the consumer than a measure to

assist small business.

This change has already started. As from 1st November the value above which VAT must be paid when goods are imported from the Channel Islands was reduced from £18 to £15. From next April the exemption will be removed completely, and VAT will have to be paid on all from the Channel Islands.

Yet another area of tax evasion has been identified. The latest "Tax Catch Up Plan" relates to tutors and coaches. Anyone receiving untaxed income of this nature and not declaring it have until 6th January 2012 to inform the tax office of your intention to make a disclosure, after which any tax due will need to be calculated and paid by 31st March 2012. In the case of financial hardship it may be possible to negotiate payment terms. After this opportunity has passed then the tax office will use legal powers and other methods to obtain details from various sources of individuals receiving undeclared income.

If you make use of the tax catch up plan then penalties in most



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

circumstances will be capped at 10%, although may be 20% in the case of deliberate underdeclaration. In addition, normal interest on the late payment of the tax and national insurance due will be charged.

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.

Finally, everyone at WatkinsonBlack would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone A Very Merry Christmas as well as A Prosperous New Year.

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Wolves turn back the clock



Richie Myler and Adrian Morley modelling the new kits

WARRINGTON Wolves have unveiled their new shirts for the 2012 season when they will be wearing both the famous primrose and blue and their original scarlet and black kit which dates back 135 years!

The home kit will be the traditional primrose and blue while the away kit marks the 135-year heritage of the club in a scarlet and black stripe.

This year's shirt sponsors include Bensons for Beds, Warrington Fabrications and University of Chester along with the recently announced new sponsors Magners, Maxilead Metals and Total Steelwork, and the club would like to thank all sponsors for their continued and new support.

Town's Buses Backing the Bid

NETWORK Warrington, the town's premier bus operator, is backing the bid to bring the 2013 Rugby League World Cup to Warrington.

One hundred buses will be proudly proclaiming "We're backing the bid", with the vinyl situated immediately above the entrance doors, meaning all customers and passers-by will see the company's commitment to supporting the bid to bring Rugby League World Cup games to the town in 2013.

David Squire, Managing Director of Network Warrington said, "We have been impressed by the sheer hard work and commitment of the team that have submitted the bid, and as the local bus operator, we felt it important to visibly demonstrate our backing of the bid, which will be such a great boost for the town, and I would urge other local businesses to show their support in whatever way they can".

Now one hundred buses in the Network Warrington fleet have received the vinyls, and the company's website and e-mails will also be using the logo to show their support and commitment to the bid.

Jan Souness, chair of the Rugby League World Cup bid steering group, said: "I'm delighted Network Warrington is backing the bid. I'd like to thank them for showing their support in such a visible way - it makes a real difference."

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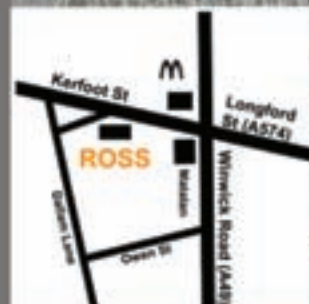
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