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**Have you got a story? Send your news items and pictures to
info@warrington-worldwide.co.uk or phone 01925 623631**

THE season of goodwill is almost upon us and I would like to take the opportunity of wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year from all the team at *warrington-worldwide*

It has been a tough 12 months for many local businesses and I fear it is unlikely to get any better in the New Year as the public sector cuts start to dig deep.

With this in mind it is more important than ever that we work together as a community to ensure Warrington as a town and place to live can continue to prosper.

There is still plenty to be positive about compared to other areas of the North West and some local businesses report they are still doing reasonably well.

Development

The forthcoming £30m Orford Park development due to open in November next year is just one prime

example of a great local success story.

A vibrant business community is essential to the town and here at *warrington-worldwide* we will continue to work with local businesses in a bid to help them through these

testing times.

With this in mind I am happy to offer a FREE consultation to any local business looking at ways of improving its profile within the local community, whether it be through a success story or marketing campaign.

For more details email me at garys@warrington-worldwide.co.uk and together we can keep our great town on track.

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Yummy mummy Help for Heroes

MUMS from a Warrington school have turned pin-up girls for a calendar to be sold in aid of the Help for Heroes charity.

The mums of Year 1 pupils at St Elphin's/Fairfield CE Primary School posed for a "Yummy Mummy" calendar which is go on sale at £10, with all profits going to the charity which offers support to soldiers wounded in conflict.

They also organised a charity Jitterbug Ball at Warrington's Masonic Hall with performances by St Helen's Youth Brass Band, vocalist Heather Marie, dancing by Manchester Lindy and vintage DJ Dr Sid.

The 2011 calendar was produced with the help of Jakata Hair and Beauty Salon in Warrington and sponsored by a number of other local businesses.

The mums are also organising a number of other events to raise money for Help for Heroes.



£42 million spent locally

WARRINGTON Borough Council spends £42 million with businesses in the town - 38 per cent of its discretionary spend.

This was revealed by council leader Ian Marks in response to a question by Conservative councillor Paul Kennedy, at a meeting of the council.

More than half the money is spent with smaller to medium sized businesses.

The council spends £11.2 million with firms employing up to 49 people, £6.7 million with firms employing between 50-99 people and £6.2 million with firms employing between 100-250 people.

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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

Reflection

As I write, the wind is blowing, the rain is heavy, the temperature is dropping, and I think back to yesterday's blue skies and lovely sunshine. I think back further into the summer and late spring sunshine, and how long ago those days now seem.

Reflecting on the year, as I do every December, I recall all the things I have achieved, the people I have met, the times of happiness and joy, and the important people in my life. I recall, too, the times that were not so easy, some things that are still being worked through, and those that simply need a push in the right direction.

Happily, I have made some changes in my life as I have been getting more exercise and sharing experiences and knowledge with like-minded people, which is a long overdue improvement of my work-life balance which has eluded me for many years.

I reflect too on the things that I have not achieved, and for what reasons they were not completed. Looking at the reasons why is not as easy as it may first seem. Were some

of them due to a shift in my work-life balance, and if so, do I take too much time for me now? Or was it simply that the circumstances were not right, and that a little more focus is needed? Or were they simply unrealistic? All these questions have been answered and overall, I am comfortable with them.

As you take a few minutes to read this article, you are doing so because you made a choice. We all make thousands of choices every day on both a conscious and subconscious level. When you think back on 2010 as you reflect on the things you have not achieved, look within yourself to see where perhaps you could have made different choices or honestly determine if others or circumstances account for your lack of progress. Whatever way you look at things, it is best to search honestly for your answers for only then can you truthfully look forward to achieving your goals in the future.

As we begin to look forward to the Christmas season and the holiday, it might actually create some anticipated excitement for you, if you would consider taking some time

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between now and the end of the year, to reflect on both your achievements, as well as on the things you didn't achieve and the reasons why.

This honest reflection will help to prepare you well with clear goals and a renewed determination for the new year of 2011. To help you, consider spending a little time thinking about how things will be in the future when you have made your changes, and the benefits you receive from them. Picture yourself in the future, having made those wonderful positive changes and create those feelings now to encourage yourself to get there!

So dear reader, as always, please know that if you need any help to achieve your goals I am here to help! I wish you and all those you love, a Happy Christmas, and a healthy New Year!



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Nature Forum clear lakeside shores

THE lakeside shore and paths off Delph Lane, Winwick are now litter free following a two and a half hour litter pick organised by Warrington Nature Conservation Forum.

Eleven full bin bags were collected containing bottles, cans and assorted rubbish. In addition the remains of two rubber dinghies, a couple of

roadwork signs and several pairs of bathers used for swimming were added to the growing pile.

Organiser Councillor Geoff Settle

was very pleased with the outcome but was worn out at the end.

"It took me as long as my best Marathon time of 2hrs 42 minutes and I felt just as worn out at the end."

He appealed to everyone who uses the lakeside paths in future to take their rubbish home with them especially dog bags.

"The land is privately owned and although we all have a right of way access we should not abuse the privilege."

Geoff added: "I would like to thank Warrington Borough Council for providing the litter picker sticks and rubbish bags and also for the facilities to collect all the rubbish found around the lake after the event."



200 years to deal with 'fuel poverty'

MORE than 7,000 families in private sector homes in Warrington are living in 'fuel poverty' it is believed - and it will take more than 200 years to deal with the problem.

This is the conclusion of a report to the borough council's environment and housing overview and scrutiny committee. A household is in fuel poverty if it has to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on heating the home to an adequate level.

The main causes of cold homes are poor insulation or inefficient heating systems, low income, fuel prices and under-occupation.

Climate change forecasts indicate that Warrington can expect more flooding, more unpredictable or violent weather, average temperature increase of two per cent by 2050, along with drier summers and wetter winters.

Fuel poverty, poor housing and providing affordable warmth are associated problems.

An average house emits 11 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year which means in Warrington, housing is responsible for emitting 550,000 tonnes a year.

One way of improving the situation is to bring houses up to the "decent homes standard."

The council's housing stock was brought up to this standard in 2008, the report claims, and the transfer of property to the Golden Gates Housing Trust should ensure it is maintained to this standard in future. But 24,000 private sector houses - 31.4 per cent - do not meet the decent homes standard - mainly due to heating problems.

The borough council has implemented a wide range of initiatives to educate households, provide advice and financial assistance to tackle energy efficiency and fuel poverty.

Last year, 1,434 households were given energy efficiency advice and 344 were provided with grants for loft and cavity wall insulation until the programme had to be stopped to prevent an overspend.

It is estimated the cost of bringing private sector homes up to the decent homes standard would be £80.2 million - and that with the current level of resources available it would take more than 200 years.

Council ready for a hard winter

WARRINGTON Borough Council has doubled its stock of grit in case the severe weather conditions experienced last winter are repeated.

Officers say that in a typical winter season (November to February) approximately 1,200 tonnes of grit would be used on the town's roads. Last year almost double that was used in just three weeks.

Now a stockpile 2,000 tonnes of grit is now waiting at the highways depot to be dispatched at the first sign of frost. More is also on order.

Coun Alan Litton, the council's executive member for environment and transport, said: "The council's highways team is constantly monitoring the weather situation and we feel we are better prepared than ever before."

"The wintry conditions we experienced both locally and nationally last year were unprecedented. We haven't seen a prolonged period of cold weather like that in a very long time. Hopefully we won't again this year, but if we do we are ready for the worst and our team of gritters can be out on the roads within an hour."

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Bus company wins training award

WARRINGTON Borough Transport has won a prestigious national training award in recognition of their outstanding contribution and commitment to training, learning and development in the workplace.

Operations director Charlie Shannon and HR manager Tony Hindle were presented with the award at a ceremony in Manchester and were recognised in the large employer award category for "improving bus travel by training drivers."

Run on behalf of the Department

for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) the awards inspire and encourage UK industry to invest in training and development as a route to achieving outstanding organisational and individual success.

WBT chairman Les Hoyle said: "I'm absolutely delighted at receiving this award, which is

recognition for all the hard work that goes into training of our employees".

Managing director David Squire (pictured) added: "I'm very proud of this achievement. We are locally owned and have won this award against stiff competition from a number of large well known companies with huge resources.

"I'm particularly proud of our staff and partner organizations that deliver training to our workforce."



Wolves unveil new shirt sponsors



WARRINGTON Wolves new main shirt sponsor for the 2011 season is Bensons for Beds.

Bensons have agreed a two-year deal with the back-to-back Carnegie Challenge Cup Winners.

Dave Hutchinson, Wolves Sales and Marketing Controller, said: "This partnership with Bensons for Beds is one of the club's biggest to date and we are delighted to have their support. Bensons for Beds will be a very valuable part of Warrington Wolves for the next two years and we are already planning exciting new developments of the sponsorship ahead of the 2011 season. With over 50 years heritage and 20 years with a head office in Warrington they are a great fit with the Wolves."

Simon Williams, Head of

Marketing at Bensons for Beds, added: "We are extremely proud to lend our support to Warrington Wolves and look forward to helping them build on their recent successes. Bensons has a particularly strong presence in the area with many of our stores concentrated in traditional 'Rugby League' towns and cities. Rugby League markets itself as a family game and is well suited to our own brand identity and values."

The company is also pledging £1,000 for charity every time the team wins a Super League game next season.

For every home game the Wolves win Bensons will donate £1000 to be divided equally between The Wolves Charitable Foundation and Help for Heroes.

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Networking group's winning formula

A group of local businesses meeting to network and exchange business is refusing to participate in a recession!

For example, regular attendees - The Warrington branch of the PC Support Group - announced their half year results showing outstanding growth figures for its ground-breaking computer support business. They experienced a 20% increase in sales in the first half year, compared with the same time last year! This success is due in part to having a great breakfast once a week with like-minded businesses!

Director Pam Case says "Given that our business offers an outstanding level of IT support, has achieved many awards and accolades, and a huge list of genuine excellent testimonials - it should be easy to find new business, correct? Well, winning clients is relatively easy once they know how our award winning service can help them at an

amazing value price - with no tie in contracts, and unique proactive maintenance - but getting that appointment in the first place is often the hard part and that's where my weekly networking breakfast comes in. Now it's true to say that I network a good deal - I guess that makes me pretty much equipped with the experience to know which type of events are the best. In truth, they ALL have their place, but in terms of true effectiveness, BNI wins hands down for me. I truly look forward to my weekly meeting - it's a huge buzz and really motivates me - friendly, welcoming, supportive, enjoyable and, above all else - lucrative! Why else would I have paid for membership of THREE different chapters?"

Pam's breakfast networking group is part of Business Networking International (BNI) that

has over 5,000 such groups worldwide. It is a proven success since its inception in 1986.

She adds "I truly look forward to my weekly meeting - it's a huge buzz and really motivates me - friendly, welcoming, supportive, enjoyable and, above all else - lucrative! Why else would I have paid for membership of THREE different chapters - a member of my company in each one?"

The Chapter I attend has been in existence for over a year now - and has passed in excess of £1.2m worth of business! Not only does BNI generate those all important appointments - but their built in training is excellent - it's because of BNI that I know exactly how to network effectively in any situation."



If you would be interested in getting more business contact Ewan Sturman at ewan@networkingprofit.co.uk or on 07834 884 237

Top for customer satisfaction

STAFF from local Warrington bank, Handelsbanken, are celebrating after topping a national opinion poll for customer satisfaction for the second year running.

The survey of the UK banking sector by EPSI Rating is based on a pan European model already used to benchmark banks in 11 other countries, over 20 years.

Professor Jan Eklöf coordinator of the survey commented "This survey shows that customer satisfaction with Handelsbanken is significantly higher than the industry average

and that the banks customers are also very loyal.

Dennis Evans, manager of Handelsbanken Warrington, said: "To be ranked top for the second year running in an independent customer satisfaction survey is of course very important for a relationship bank like ours. We have been running the bank according to the same principles for the last 40 years and it appears that our decentralised and customer orientated model is more appreciated now than ever."

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New group launched to care for cemetery

A NEW group has formed in Warrington aimed at improving a local cemetery.

Members of Great Sankey Parish Council, together with residents from the parish and Penketh met at St Mary's Church, Great Sankey, to discuss the church's cemetery.

They formed a new group, Friends of St Mary's Cemetery, aimed at restoring respect and the appearance of the facility.

Chairperson Coun Trudi Wood has previously fronted a working group

that instigated many projects in the cemetery including pruning trees, cutting back shrubs, erecting a fence, fixing headstones and clearing the raised bed.

She said: "I am very grateful to Bereavement Services at Warrington Borough Council for all their support on these projects, but there is still a lot of work that needs to be done."

"A friends group is the best way to achieve that and we are very lucky indeed to have such a lot of willing and enthusiastic volunteers who have

joined us. We have a long list of projects I am really looking forward to getting to work on them."

Bob McLaughlin, deputy chair, spoke on behalf of the bereaved of the parish.

He said: "After many years of neglect it is really comforting to find that there are at last people out there that care for the appearance of St Mary's Cemetery and have respect for both the bereaved and the people interred there."

Anyone who like to get involved with the group should contact Trudi on 01925 790712 or email twood@warrington.gov.uk

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December

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Who's Bad

Fri 10 December
Greg Davies

Fri 10 December
Ken Dodd

Sat 11 December
Sleeping Beauty

Sun 12 December
Gyles Brandreth

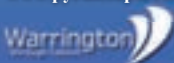
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The temperatures are dropping fast but the line-up here at Pyramid & Parr Hall is getting hotter by the week!

Who's Bad, 9 Dec, Parr Hall

Described as 'The closest you will get now to seeing MICHAEL JACKSON Live' the electrifying Who's Bad show is coming from the USA to Parr Hall, Warrington!

Wearing glitzy jackets, glittering gloves and 80s regalia, Who's Bad is an infectious production that takes audiences on a musical expedition spanning three decades of Michael Jackson's chart topping music. From ABC to You Rock My World, no song is forgotten in this electrifying revival of Pop Music's Royal Highness.

Founded in 2004 by Vamsi Tadepali and spearheaded by some of North Carolina's optimum musicians, Who's Bad has crafted an intricate performance complete with synchronised dance routines, blaring horn section and down-deep rhythms, each delivered with a precision that could only be superseded by the King himself.

"This is the closest you will get to seeing Michael Jackson live" The Independent

Ken Dodd, 10 Dec, Parr Hall

It wouldn't be Christmas in Warrington without the great Ken Dodd so come and enjoy the crazy hairstyle, the flashing teeth and of course, the trademark tickling stick!

Popular with audiences everywhere and building a new generation of fans, this is one Christmas tradition you don't want to miss!

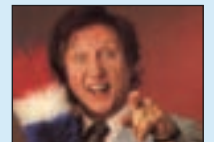
Sleeping Beauty, 11 Dec, Parr Hall

Celebrating its 30th year Vienna Festival Ballet return to Parr Hall with its enchanting production of Sleeping Beauty.

Incensed at being snubbed at the christening of Princess Aurora, the wicked fairy Carabosse lays a curse on the child, proclaiming that she will one day pierce her finger - and die. But the Lilac Fairy intervenes, and when the fateful day arrives, the princess and the entire palace instead fall into a deep sleep. A century later, Prince Florimund is guided to the castle by the Lilac Fairy, overcoming the obstacles created by Carabosse, and awakening the sleeping princess with a kiss. It is love at first sight, the palace awakes and a parade of fairytale characters attend the royal wedding.

A gorgeous Tchaikovsky score, classic Petipa choreography, an enchanting fairytale.

For full details and listings please visit www.pyramidparrhall.com or call the box office on 01925442345





Mayor and Mayoress Coun and Mrs John Joyce, with Coun Woodyatt and IMPACT members

Youth council unveils its manifesto

IMPACT - Warrington's youth council - has unveiled its manifesto for the next two years.

It includes making public transport accessible and affordable for young people, making teenagers aware of the provisions available to them and developing relationships with Warrington's twin towns.

The group also raised issues about the relationship young people have with the police and how working more closely with them could help.

IMPACT was formed in 2006 and has since become involved in democratic decision making both locally and nationally.

Kath O'Dwyer, Warrington Borough Council's executive director for children and young people's services, said: "IMPACT are not only the voice of young people in the borough, they are the voice of the future. They meet regularly with senior

directors and Coun Sheila Woodyatt (the council's executive member for children's services) to let us know what is important to them, and put us through our paces!

"Since the last manifesto in 2008 IMPACT has achieved some fantastic things and I have no doubt the next two years will be equally successful."

IMPACT's recent achievements include successfully challenging a decision about student transport subsidy, getting involved in the recruitment of children and young people's services officers and organising local and regional events.

Anyone interested in joining IMPACT should email impact@warrington.gov.uk or call 01925 442874.

Arts festival success

THE Gallery at Bank Quay House was the setting for a special arts festival, run by the Wolves Foundation, which provided entertaining activities for children in the town.

The festival involved a week of creative workshops, where children enjoyed getting stuck into a variety of crafts, including lantern making and printmaking, as well as having a go at drama, dance and drumming. There was even a chance for teenagers to try stand up comedy.

The week was rounded off with the opening of the Wolves Foundation Arts Exhibition.

The special event featured performances by the Fusion Elite dancers and Evolving Rhythms African Drumming.

Sponsors, trustees, parents and those who took part in the workshops were invited to view the exhibition, where all the young people's creations from the workshops are displayed, along with work from other groups at the Foundation, such as the Reach Project, the Disability Creative Arts Club and the Young Trustees.



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Unnecessary A&E visits cost £9 million

UNNECESSARY visits to the Accident and Emergency department at Warrington Hospital are costing the NHS around £9.25 million a year - and the figure is rising.

Seven out of every 10 people who go to the department are not admitted to a hospital bed and almost half are classed as a minor injury or illness.

Every day, the highly specialist A&E teams are faced with having to deal with minor illnesses such as coughs and colds, backache and upset stomachs.

New research by NHS Warrington has revealed the true extent of the problem.

In the last 12 months, there were 85 patients who attended A&E departments 1,123 times, averaging one visit per month between them. The same patients were also responsible for 664 ambulance call

outs in the same period.

Now a new campaign is reminding local people to stop and think and "Choose Well" before they set off for hospital.

Dr Rita Robertson, director of public health for Warrington said: "These figures are alarming. It seems that people are forgetting the purpose of A&E departments."

"I think that we need to get back to the message that A&E departments

are for life-threatening and emergency conditions, such as heart attacks, strokes, breathing problems and serious accidents.

"We need to make sure that our hospital A&E teams are caring for people with serious or life threatening conditions.

"Through our Choose Well campaign we want to re-educate people about using the right service to get the right treatment."

Oddfellows celebrate 200 years

WARRINGTON Oddfellows society celebrated its 200th birthday with a tea party at the Town Hall.

Members of the public were invited to join in the celebration and the Deputy Mayoress and Mayoress, Coun and Mrs Ted Finnegan, were among those to accept.

Members chatted to guests about the history of the society and its programme of events. There was also draw with prizes including an afternoon tea for two at Shelly's Restaurant, £30 high street shopping vouchers and beauty vouchers.

During the next few months, the Warrington District of the Oddfellows has a busy social calendar including day trips to Ulverston, Southport and Liverpool, museum visits, coffee mornings, talks, lunches and games afternoons.

The Oddfellows is one of the oldest not-for-profit friendly societies in the world.

Further information is available from Angela Smith on 0151 420 0661 or by email at angela.smith@oddfellows.co.uk



Wolves aim to turn town pink!



WARRINGTON Wolves' Halliwell Jones Stadium will be the starting point for next year's St Rocco's Starlight Walk when hundreds of women will take to the streets to raise funds for the hospice.

Warrington town centre will turn pink as women take part in a 13-mile walk on Friday, June 17. The Starlight Walk is the single biggest event of the year for the charity so everyone at the Wolves is keen to support in anyway they can. Since launching the event in 2006 thousands of ladies have taken part, one year 2000 participated. Warrington Wolves would like to set you a challenge to make the 2011 walk the best yet and top the 2000 mark.

Beth Eccles, St Rocco's Hospice Matron, said: "We are very excited about hosting the Starlight Walk 2011 at the home of Warrington Wolves. Having this extra support will be fantastic for our patients by helping to get more people involved and raising more money to help provide care and treatments."

Dave Hutchinson, Wolves' Sales and Marketing Controller, added: "Warrington Wolves are proud to be able to host the Starlight Walk for 2011 and help support the wonderful work that St Rocco's do within our community. We are looking forward to working together in an effort to make the walk a memorable one and raise as much money as possible."


The Hospice treats patients with life limiting diseases (such as cancer) and also supports their families and friends. All services are provided completely free of charge to patients and families.

Money raised will fund projects at St Rocco's Hospice. For more information visit www.starlightladieswalk.co.uk email info@starlightladieswalk.co.uk or ring the Appeals team on 01925 575780.

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Julie is an inspiration to us

by Jenny Osborne - Whittle Hall Consultant

I run a Slimming World group at Whittle Hall, Great Sankey on Mondays.

Julie was diagnosed with Ovarian cancer in Nov 09 and had a 5 1/2 lb tumour removed.

She started chemotherapy on xmas eve, her family were devastated. By new year

Julie was completely bald.

Chemo was gruelling and things went from bad to worse as in March she developed double pneumonia and pleurisy, it was at this point she thought she was going to die.

But Julie got through it and by mid April started to feel slightly human again.

Chemo finished, it worked and she got the all clear, the cancer was gone but she had gained a lot of weight with the steroids.

Julie decided to join Slimming World along with her daughter on 26th April as they wanted to do

it together.

She felt very self conscious walking through that door with her bald head, but was welcomed with open arms!

She has not looked back since and in 20 weeks has managed to loose an amazing 3st and her daughter an incredible 4 stone!

Julie can now get upstairs without collapsing, walks for miles with her dogs and can even paint her own toenails!!

She is an inspiration to the whole group and I'm sure many readers would love to hear about her story!

We held our group 'Woman of The Year' this week and Julie totally blew us all away and was



crowned our morning groups winner!

If you would like any other information or would like to interview Julie herself please get in touch. I really do hope you agree that this story is worth shouting about!

We are really proud of her and would love her to get some local recognition for what she has achieved!



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Brock Road, Birchwood
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Your consultant's name is Linda

Grappenhall
Grappenhall Ex Servicemens Club
Chester Road, Grappenhall
Tel: 07545 255535
Monday's at 7pm
Your consultants name is Karen

Stockton Heath
Stockton Heath Primary School
West Avenue, Stockton Heath
Tel: 01925 417450
Monday's at 6pm
Your consultants name is Debbie

Great Sankey
Whittle Hall Community Centre
Lonsdale Close off Kingsdale Road
Tel: 01925 790998
Mondays at 12.30pm & 7pm
Your consultants name is Jenny

TUESDAY

Warrington
Bank Quay Sports Club, Green Street
Tel: 07929 628569
Tuesday's at 7pm
Your consultants name is Michelle

Orford

Carlsberg Tetley Social Club
Long Lane, Warrington
Tel: 01925 821562
Tuesday's at 5.30pm & 7pm
Your consultants name is Sarah

Fearnhead

St Bridget's Church
St Bridget's Close, Fearnhead
Tel: 01925 821562
Tuesday's at 10am
Your consultants name is Sarah

Grappenhall

Bradshaw Lane Primary School
Bradshaw Lane, Grappenhall
Tel: 07960 961518
Tuesday's at 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Your consultants name is Kerrie

Birchwood

Birchwood Community High School
Community Entrance, Brock Road
Tel: 01925 486570 / 07506 711393
Tuesday's at 5.30pm
Your consultants name is Tracey

Stockton Heath

Stockton Heath Methodist Church
Walton Road, Stockton Heath
Tel: 07960 961518
Tuesday's at 9.30am
Your consultants name is Kerrie

WEDNESDAY

Warrington
The Halliwell Jones Stadium
Winwick Road
Tel: 0151 422 8377
Wednesdays at 5.15pm & 7pm
Your consultants name is Debbie

Woolston

The Royal British Legion
Manchester Road, Woolston
Tel: 07867763366
Wednesdays at 10am & 5.30pm
Your consultants name is Jacqui

Winwick

Winwick Leisure Centre
Myddleton Lane
Tel: 01925 573547
Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Your consultants name is Janet

Hood Manor

St James Church, Cannons Road
Tel: 0151 423 4238
Wednesdays at 10am, 5.30pm & 7pm
Your consultants name is Julie

Appleton

Broomfield's Junior School
Bridge Lane, Appleton
Tel: 07948375250
Wednesdays at 7pm
Your consultants name is Sara

THURSDAY

Latchford
The Grange Sports and Social Club
Grange Avenue
Tel: 07921 905389
Thursdays at 6:30pm
Your consultants name is Jennie

Callands

Woodleigh Day Centre, Callands Road
Tel: 0151 4228377
Thursdays at 5:30pm
Your consultants name is Debbie

Culcheth

Culcheth Sports & Social Club
Charnock Road, Culcheth
Tel: 01925 837465
Thursdays at 6:30pm
Your consultants name is Jackie

Widnes

Moorfield Sports & Social Club
Moorfield Road
Tel: 0151 423 4238
Thursdays at 7pm
Your consultants name is Julie

SATURDAY

Latchford
The Grange Sports & Social Club
Grange Avenue
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Saturdays at 10am
Your consultants name is Jennie

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Going...going...gone in memory of soldier Tom

WARRINGTON Freemason Eric Main looks like a new man...and after 42 years of marriage his wife Lynda hardly recognises him.

For the first time ever Lynda has seen Eric without his big bushy beard.

Eric decided to have his beard shaved off to raise money in memory of Private Tom Sephton of the 1st Battalion Mercian Regiment who died from injuries sustained in Afghanistan. His sponsored shave is already guaranteed to raise more than £600 and there is still some cash to come in.

Tom lived only a few yards away from Eric's home in Formby Drive, Penketh, Warrington. When they first met Tom was a small boy and christened him "Eric the Viking" because of his beard.

Eric said that because the regiment had been so good to Tom's family he wanted to do something for it in memory of Tom and will donate the money raised to the regiment's welfare fund.

"Tom was such a great lad," said Eric. "We watched him grow up and his death is such a tragedy."

Eric could not think of anything more appropriate than a sponsored

beard shave which all his family, friends and neighbours could not believe as they had never seen him without facial hair.

After seeing her clean-shaven husband for the first time Lynda said: "Seeing him at first was a big shock but I think he looks a lot younger without the beard. I don't know if he will grow it again."

Among those watching Eric have his beard shaved off was Tom's father, Ian, who said: "It is really great of him to do this. When he said he was going to have his beard shaved off I could not believe it."

Eric, who is a member of St Oswald Lodge No 5170, said he would like to thank all friends, neighbours and Freemasons who had sponsored him adding that a very large proportion of the total had come from Masons.

Eric had his beard shaved off at the Shearing Shed on Honiton Way, Penketh, by Tony Warburton who declined taking his usual fee for a shave and instead gave Eric £10 to further boost the total.



Eric arriving at the Shearing Shed to have his beard shaved off.



Half way there and (left) a kiss from his wife, Lynda

Charity seeks volunteers

LEADING family support charity Home-Start Warrington is looking for new volunteers.

Through a network of trained parent volunteers, Home-Start Warrington supports families who are struggling to cope, whatever the reasons, including; post natal depression, illness, bereavement, lone parenting, teenage parents, multiple births, poverty and isolation. Home-Start also supports parents who are just finding life with very small children a little bit difficult.

The charity is currently recruiting volunteers to help continue this unique service to the families of Warrington. Training will commence in January 2011 and will run for 10 weeks at their office, 148 Northway, Longford, Warrington. Free training and lunch provided. Any one interested, call Steph, on 01925 652320, no obligation.

New York street artist to exhibit at museum

WARRINGTON Museum & Art Gallery has secured a major coup with the first ever UK solo exhibition of New York based street artist Elbow-Toe (Brian Adam Douglas).

Following on from the success of last year's (R)Evolution of Urban Art exhibition - nominated for a national award as one of the top

five exhibitions in the country - Warrington Museum was chosen by Brian to hold his first UK solo show. This new body of work, never exhibited before, will then go on to be exhibited in London and New York.

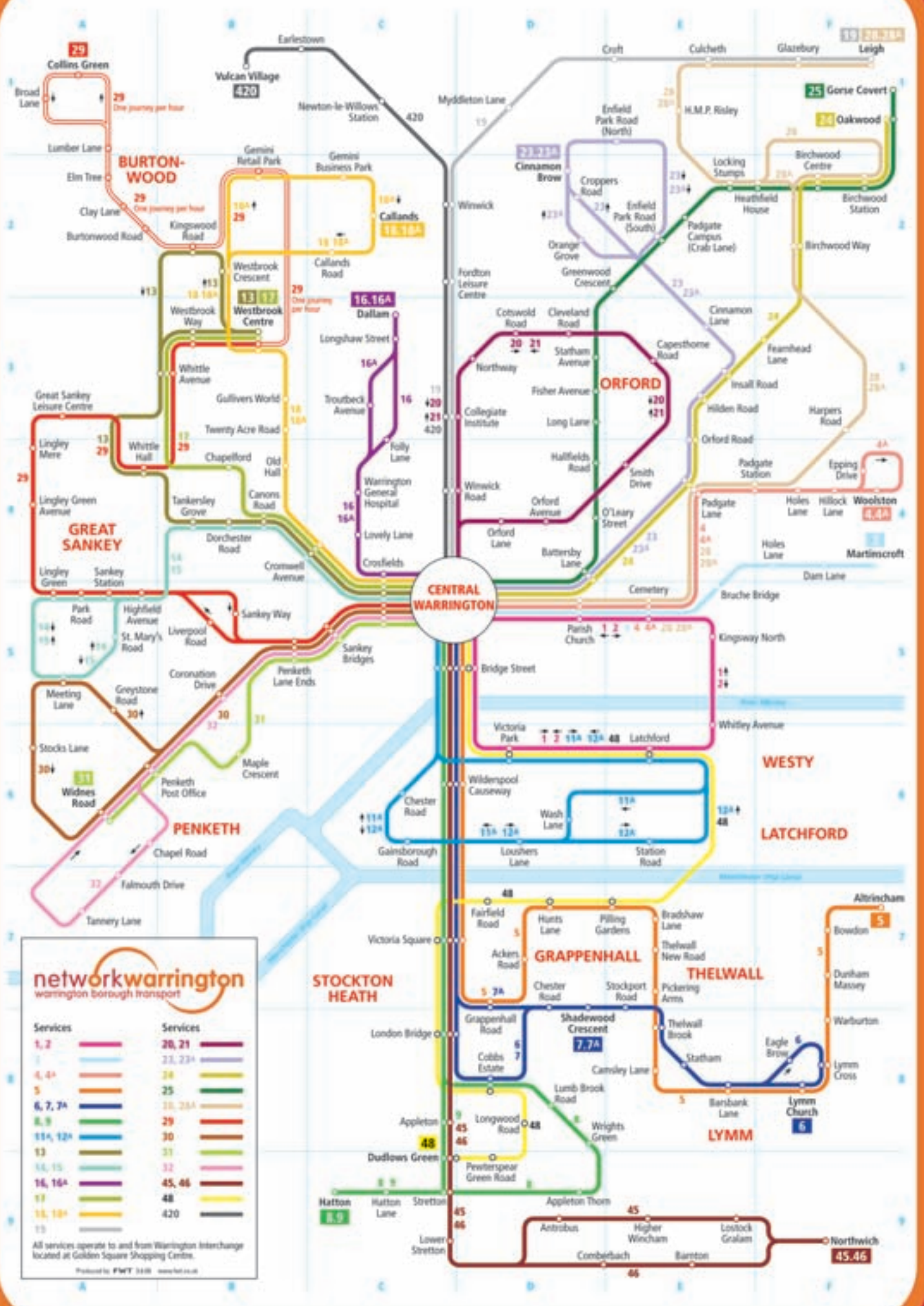
Brian has exhibited internationally and his work has been purchased by several collectors worldwide. He is

regarded as one of the top Street Artists and well respected by his contemporaries.

This is a unique opportunity to see the work of this talented artist. Well-known for his introspective urban art, Elbow-Toe's gallery work focuses on portraiture and abstract narrative and is primarily executed in collage. These intricate collages at first glance

might be mistaken for paintings given that they have a fluidity rarely seen in collages. Whilst his work has a very unique style it draws on a rich history of figurative painting and has qualities reminiscent of Freud, Bacon and Soutine.

The exhibition opens on Saturday December 4 and runs until Saturday February 19 2011.



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Services	Services
1, 2	20, 21
4, 4A	23, 23A
5	24
6, 7, 7A	25
8, 9	28
11A, 12A	30, 30A
13	29
14, 15	31
16, 16A	32
17	45, 46
18, 18A	48
19	420

All services operate to and from Warrington Interchange located at Golden Square Shopping Centre.

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YOUR BUSES in the FESTIVE SEASON

- Friday 24 December - Normal service with early finish (a)
- Saturday 25 December - No service - sorry!
- Sunday 26 December - No service - sorry!
- Monday 27 December - Sunday service (d)
- Tuesday 28 December - Sunday service (d)
- Wednesday 29 December - Saturday service (b) (c)
- Thursday 30 December - Saturday service (b) (c)
- Friday 31 December - Saturday service (b) (c) with early finish (a)
- Saturday 1 January - No service - sorry!
- Sunday 2 January - Normal Sunday service
- Monday 3 January - Sunday service (d)

- (a) Please see details below for times of last buses on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.
- (b) Services 5, 25B, 45, 46 and Centrelink - normal Monday to Friday service.
- (c) Please check your times, particularly if you use early morning buses.
- (d) Public Holiday.

Seasonal Greetings

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On Christmas Eve (normal Friday service) and on New Year's Eve (Saturday service) buses will operate on the services listed below until the times shown. Services not shown do not have a late evening service.

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1	20:00	20:11 from Westy via Manchester Road
2	20:30	20:44 from Westy via Knutsford Road
3	20:15	20:32 from Martinscroft
7	20:10	20:30 from Grappenhall
8, 8X, 9	Christmas Eve: Normal New Year's Eve: 19:40 (8X)	Christmas Eve: Normal New Year's Eve: 20:00 from Appleton Thorn (8)
12	20:25	20:32 from Irwell Road via Knutsford Road
14, 15	Christmas Eve: 19:35 (15) New Year's Eve: 20:05 (14)	Christmas Eve: 19:49 from Meeting Lane (15) New Year's Eve: 20:19 from Lingley Green (14)
16	20:15	20:27 from Dallam
18, 18A	Christmas Eve: 19:55 (18A) New Year's Eve: 20:25 (18A)	Christmas Eve: 20:08 from Gemini (18A) New Year's Eve: 20:38 from Gemini (18A)
19	18:58 to Leigh 19:58 to Glazebury only	20:10 from Leigh 20:30 from Glazebury, Foresters Arms
20	20:15	20:25 from Longford via Poplars Avenue
21	20:30	20:42 from Cleveland Road via Winwick Road
26, 27	18:45 to Gorse Covert (26) 19:45 to Oakwood only (27)	19:24 from Gorse Covert (27) 20:24 from Oakwood, Redshank Lane (26)
28A	19:25 to Leigh 20:25 to Locking Stumps only	19:40 from Leigh 20:43 from Locking Stumps, Copperfield Close
30	20:17	20:28 from Meeting Lane
32	19:46	19:58 from Falmouth Drive
420	19:30 to Earlestown	19:55 from Earlestown

Warriors season going swimmingly

WARRIORS of Warrington's season kicked off in September with a busy programme of swimming meets all the way up to Christmas.

A fantastic start to the season was made in team and individual galas with four swimmers already achieving British National Qualifying Times in 12 events, Jordan Barlow 16, Rebecca Pye 15, Bethany Young, 13 and Kathleen Dawson, 13 and hopefully many more to follow as last season 25 Warriors swimmers competed nationally with swimmers even making National finals.

The National Arena League kicked off in style early November with Warriors entering two teams in the A and B league. This is a national competition to find the best swimming club in the country, round 1 for the A team was held in Macclesfield and saw them victorious, the B team swam in Lancaster in a very close competition finishing a superb 3rd position. The club hopes to better last year's final club position ranking them joint 11th best in the country, which is a stunning achievement for a town team.

The Warriors have also been busy outside of the pool with swimmers and parents helping out to do a bit of fundraising for the club.

This December the Warriors will be bag packing at Rivendell Garden Centre on December 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 and 19 between 10am 4pm, so if any youngsters is thinking about

joining the club this would be an ideal opportunity to chat to some of the young swimmers. So why not pop down and support the club, who would be most grateful.

Please remember the Warriors are always on the look out for swimmers, so why not check out the website at www.swimwarriors.org.uk and let the Warriors turn your swimmer into a swimmer.

Meanwhile the Warriors of Warrington wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Warriors will be bag packing at Rivendell Garden Centre on December 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 and 19 between 10am 4pm



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Merry Christmas from the Warriors

**Voted
Cheshire and Warrington's
SPORTS CLUB OF THE YEAR
2009/2010**

W
WARRIORS
of WARRINGTON

Warriors are now recruiting new members aged 6 and upwards. If you've got a child who loves swimming we'd love to meet him or her.

Every child needs a sport and swimming is the perfect combination of exercise and enjoyment. By joining Warriors your youngsters will become fitter, learn all four strokes, and pick up skills such as tumble turns and diving off blocks.

They can take part in individual or team events and they'll be part of a group of people who are driven to succeed. As we always say at Warriors of Warrington... **We put the WOW into winning!**

We already have over 250 youngsters in the club, with ages ranging from 6 to 18 years. With over 30 years experience of swimming and winning, we know how to get the best out of every child.

If you think your child would love the thrill of swimming or simply want to know more, please call Warriors Head Coach Darren Ashley on 07717 558369 or contact the Warriors Secretary via www.swimwarriors.org.uk

Record-breaking Oktoberfest



WARRINGTON Rotary Club's annual Oktoberfest beer festival proved to be another record-breaking event, raising an estimated £17,000 for charity.

Club President Angela Houghton, who is pictured with the Challenge Cup, Rotarian husband, Cliff Houghton and fellow members of the Oktoberfest team at this year's event at the Pyramid, said: "This has been another record breaking year for us and we are very likely to have made over £17,000 over the three day event."

"This will now go to charities and good causes – both local and international and which would not have been possible without the generosity of the people of Warrington and surrounding areas who attended."

Charities who will benefit from donations include Brainwave, Active Hope, Life Education, St Joseph's

Family Centre, Warrington Young Musicians competition and YMCA Furniture project, along with international charities, Raising the Roof for Ghana and building a resource centre and house for children

with HIV/AIDS in Thailand.

Presentations to the various charities took place at the clubs 83rd Charter Night at the Fir Grove Hotel, Grappenhall.

Tribute to 'tireless' Alf

A VETERAN community worker raised £30,000 to help renovate the Baptist Church Hall in Sankey Street, Warrington.

Alf Clemo, 82, is treasurer of the Older People's Forum and has been working for the local community for more than 20 years.

Last year he was rewarded by an invitation from the Queen to a Buckingham Palace garden party.

Joan Penrith, secretary of the Older People's Forum, said: "Alf is a fantastic man who has worked

tirelessly for the community.

"He is our treasurer and he alone is responsible for the fund-raising. He has opened up the church hall to anyone in our community who wish to use it and a number of groups are now using it."

The Older People's Forum has more than 500 members and meets at the church hall on the first Monday of each month with the aim of getting older people out and about and enjoying life. It is open to anyone over 50.



Mr Clemo (centre) with the Mayor, Coun John Joyce at the opening of Phase One of the church hall refurbishment, together with Richard Smith, of environmental charity Wren who contributed £22,000 towards the work.

Ann clocks up 30 years!

SISTER Ann Bebbington has clocked up 30 years in Warrington Hospital's Accident and Emergency department and is planning many more to come!

Sister Ann started at Warrington Hospital, or rather the Borough Hospital as it was known on November 1 1980 in the brand new Accident and Emergency Department.

Warrington Infirmary had closed its doors on January 3 1980 and amalgamated with the Borough and started recruiting staff for its new Casualty unit to open in November of that year. Ann was working at the Manchester Royal having just completed her nurse training in March 1980 to become a State Enrolled Nurse (something that no longer exists today). Coming from Burtonwood, Ann decided to apply to her local hospital and as they say the rest is history!

In September 1997 she took the step to becoming a Sister by taking the conversion course at Liverpool John Moores University and two years later in 1999 qualified. She has always worked in the A&E department, but has taken secondments in different areas of the hospital to gain experience of how other teams work.

Ann recalls some of the more interesting moments at work, "I have so many memories but the 1982 nursing strikes is one that springs to mind, when we travelled down to Liverpool Docks and I stood up and made a speech in support of Unison. I am passionate about my role as a nurse and have been through many changes; good and bad, but feel it is important to speak up."



Sister Ann Bebbington with a bouquet presented by her colleagues in celebration of her 30 years service

Ann also remembers a rather eventful shift, "It was when we were modernising Appleton Wing and changing the A&E department around, they cut through the wire and we were in complete darkness and had to work with miners torches on our heads. The department was closed to patients that day, but we did have to manage the walk up patients, now that was a challenge with no power!"

It has not been all work on the department for Ann, romance blossomed on A&E as well; She met her partner of 20 years, Ken who was an ambulance man at the time.

Commenting on her 30 years Ann explained, "I'm passionate about Emergency Care, I love people and the fast pace of the department. I'm looking forward to the coming years and helping bring about more changes. "I've had fun, met some fun people and made a lot of lifelong friends and wouldn't have it any other way. I've laughed, cried, sang, danced, studied and even argued along the way."



Fairtrade Steering Group members, The White Rabbit from the Mad Hatter's Tea Party and young campaigners from Warrington Collegiate at the Fairtrade Supporter's Conference Waterloo Campus, Kings College London.

Town is top for Fairtrade!

Fairtrade supporters in Warrington have plenty to celebrate after the town's Fairtrade Steering Group was voted overall winner of the 2010 Fairtrade Fortnight Awards.

During Fairtrade Fortnight Warrington had a Mad Hatter's Fairtrade Tea Party in the Golden Square attended by local VIP's where over 500 people enjoyed a free cup of Fairtrade tea.

Warrington Market was the venue for the other two main events; The Big Tea Swap Shop and a Strictly Fairtrade Tea Dance. A number of schools also had Fairtrade assemblies, lessons and Fairtrade tuck shops while lots of churches in the town held their own Fairtrade tea events; learning how Fairtrade is transforming the lives of tea pickers, guaranteeing them good working conditions and a fair wage, which enables them to provide for their families and have hope of a better future.

Jackie Hancock, Chair of the Steering Group said: "We decided to enter the awards for the first time and hoped we might win one of the three categories we submitted evidence for. So you can imagine my amazement and delight when I opened an e-mail from the Fairtrade Foundation saying the judges had given us their top award, over all the categories, of

Outstanding Achievement because of the "brilliant events, fantastic media coverage and the wide variety of audiences that supporters had engaged with."

Warrington Fairtrade Steering Group wants to say a big thank you for all the enthusiastic help they had from many local organisations and businesses in the town who support Fairtrade. Their three town centre events simply wouldn't have happened without the involvement of the Salvation Army, NW Christian Aid, Golden Square management, Warrington Collegiate, Youth Volunteers, and Warrington Market stallholders; especially the Corner Coffee Bar and Fair 4 All.

Jackie added: "It is good to know that we live in a town where so many understand the importance of buying Fairtrade and are keen to encourage even more people to swap their usual brands for products that carry the FAIRTRADE Mark. Believe it or not we are now beginning to plan for Fairtrade Fortnight 2011 which starts on February 28 when the focus will be on Fairtrade cotton with the theme "Show off your Label!"

Basketball star teams up with foundation

ENGLISH Basketball Legend Delme Herriman has returned to his Warrington roots where his dream first began.

Delme has joined the Warrington Wolves Charitable Foundation through Big Storage Sportsmatch project.

The project will focus on the top flight basketball star delivering coaching sessions to schools while developing a grassroots Division 4 team which will play out of Birchwood Leisure Centre.

On the back of his top flight career which led to a Bronze Medal in 2006 Commonwealth Games, and playing career in the U.S and first ever Englishman to play in Italy's premier league, "Mr Versatility" as he's known, has also launched his autobiography.

For more information on the project and the teams fixtures visit www.wolvesfoundation.com



Former Wolves star Kev Penny helping Delme launch his autobiography at the Wolves Art Festival

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Financially yours

By David Watkinson

Christmas is upon us

Once again Christmas is upon us, and as usual Christmas is quickly followed by the tax return deadline of 31st January. We are currently working hard to ensure that all of our clients' returns are submitted on time provided that the information to do so is available to us.

Meeting the deadline is important for two reasons.

1. Any tax return submitted late will incur an automatic penalty of up to £100, followed by a further £100 if the return remains outstanding six months later. Currently, the penalty cannot exceed the amount of any tax due, but there is a proposal to remove this limitation in the future.

2. If you are in business then failure to meet the deadline will both increase the risk of your return being selected for further inspection by the tax office and also invalidate any insurance that you have against the additional professional costs that you will incur if you are selected.

So do you need to complete a return? The short answer is, again, in two parts.

1. If you are issued with a return then, whatever your personal circumstances are, you must complete and submit it. Failure to do so will incur the above penalty. It will

also lead to the tax office at some point issuing a determination of your tax liability, which can then only be overturned by submitting the outstanding return.

2. If you have any income that is not taxed at source, or your circumstances alter in such a way that you may not be paying the correct amount of tax, it is your responsibility to inform the tax office so that they can issue you with a return. This is the meaning of self assessment, and if you fail to do so by the relevant deadline then a further penalty will be incurred.

But enough talk of penalties. This year, if you are in business and VAT registered, there is the further complication of the increase in the standard VAT rate on 1st January from 17.5% to 20%. There is detailed guidance on how to deal with this change, as well as detailed guidance on the anti-avoidance provisions covering the period of the change, on the tax office's website.

We do not have space to deal with these provision here, but we are pleased to advise further if required. One important provision, however, that will affect many small traders is that if you operate the flat rate scheme then the percentage to be used in calculating your liability will



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

increase, and our understanding is that the tax office will be watching this very closely.

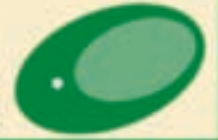
Finally, it only remains for all at WatkinsonBlack to wish you all a Merry Xmas and, hopefully for us all, a Prosperous and Happy New Year.

WatkinsonBlack are pleased to advise on these matters, and operate a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. If you want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting 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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Club sponsor's boost for Peace Centre

WARRINGTON Town's associate sponsors Tailormade Group have provided a boost for the town's Peace Centre following a highly successful golf day.

The event raised £3,500 for the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace which was presented by Tailormade directors Rob Shaw and

Alistair Burns prior to a Warrington Town home game.

Rob and Alistair are pictured with Colin and Wendy Parry receiving a

signed club shirt from club captain Mike Tomlinson in recognition of their support for the club.

Meanwhile Warrington Town also

donated £350 to the Peace Centre, the proceeds from their Peace Cup match with Crewe United earlier in the season.



Cup goes to Campus

THE Challenge Cup made a special appearance at a University of Chester open day, when students and staff alike were impressed with the historic piece of silverware.

Since Warrington won the cup in August it has been in great demand within the local community as sponsors, businesses and schools get the opportunity to have a visit from the Wolves.

The club and the University already have a great relationship, with Padgate campus being the training base for the Wolves with state of the art facilities as their disposal.

Taking pride of place and

welcoming prospective new students and their parents to the campus in the Broomhead Library the Cup was real hit.

Chief Executive Andy Gatcliffe is proud that the Wolves are associated with the University. "The University of Chester is modern, dynamic with a long history and tradition much like the Warrington Wolves. We enjoy a great partnership with a number of students basing their work on our strength and training schedule."

If you would like the Challenge Cup at your business or organisation to help incentivise sales or motivate staff then contact Michelle or Rhys on 0871 622 1879.



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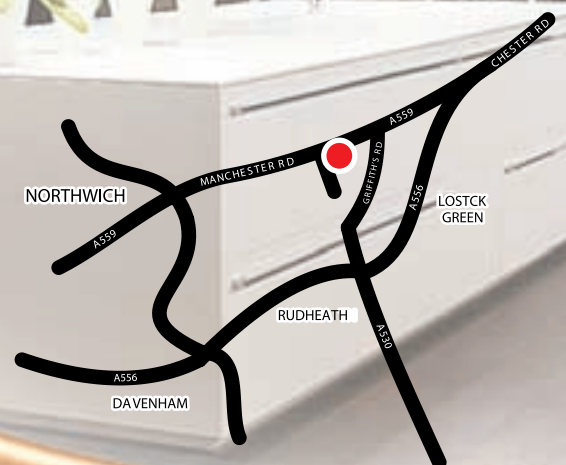
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