

warrington worldwide

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FREE EVERY MONTH







World first in ballet

Page 3



HARRY'S TAXIS 411111















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Editor's Comment

IT is great to see that Warrington has received £100,000 funding in a bid to breathe new life in to the empty shops in the town centre (see page 7).

With the council also seeking a share of £1m government funding to help towards the regeneration of the town centre and all the planned activities as part of the "It's all going on in Warrington" campaign, there does appear to be some light at the end of the tunnel

The proposed re-development of the Time Square and the town's market is also likely to bring a much-needed boost to a town centre that is currently being transformed into a ghost town during the day.

The number of empty shops along Bridge Street is truly alarming and in the current economic climate one fears for the very future of our once vibrant town centre.

Warrington is by no means unique to this growing national problem and is hugely important that everyone pulls together and shows a united front to help regenerate our town.

belp regenerate our town.

So as we prepare to enter the party political 'silly season' on the local council can I appeal to all our politicians to concentrate on working together for the good of our town -

Have you got a story? Send your news items and pictures to info@warringtonworldwide.co.uk or phone 01925 623631 instead of attempting to score cheap political points against each other within your own groups or against your opponents.

For those existing and aspiring politicians out there who get the honour of sitting on our council, just remember why you are there – to represent the people and our great town – not to take part in political mud slinging – work for the people – or they will vote against you!



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Alex achieves a world's first in ballet

WARRINGTON schoolboy Alex Caggegi is set to become the first ever mainstream education British boy to train with the world famous Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Móscow, Russia.

Alex, aged 16, currently in his last year at St Gregory's Catholic High School and Warrington's very own "Billy Elliot", is only the fourth ever British boy to be accepted at the prestigious ballet school in it's 239 year history, the other three all coming from vocational dance schools.

He now needs to find £15,000 a year to help fund his time at the Bolshoi

and also learn to speak Russian!
"I sent a DVD off to the academy showing class work and a classical and contemporary solo and was shocked when they emailed me back saying I had been offered a full three year course.

Alex, who has been a member of the Kate Simmons Dance School for eleven years has progressed through the grades and is now

Cecchetti Ballet exam. As well as ballet he also does tap and jazz and plays in a brass band.

"I am really going to miss my family and friends but this is a fantastic opportunity," said Alex, who hopes the experience will help ensure him a career with a top company.

While he would love the opportunity of appearing with the Bolshoi Ballet Theatre, he realises there is little chance, as Russian students generally fill all the available spaces

He has already gained experience performing around the country in various shows and has won various awards, most recently the Ateneo Danza Summer School Scholarship in the Cecchetti International Classical Ballet Competition in July, an event which attracts dancers from all over the world.

inspirațion Baryshnikov, a dancer with the Kirov Ballet, American Ballet Theatre and New York City Ballet.

Alex has already had a taste of Russia while on holiday in the country to watch the Bolshoi Ballet Theatre in action. He will start his training on September 1 for the next three years.

"The training will be rigorous. I will not only dance ballet but also

contemporary, pas de deux, historical dance and have a one and a half hour Russian Jesson every day!

"I will definitely miss my dancing school, it has given me so many great memories over the years and the quality of the training is phenomenal, but I am so excited to begin my time in fund-raising by organising a variety of events. He is also looking for sponsors and donations which can be made at website www.gofundme .com/iy2ug





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Hypnotes Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . . by Michael Mahoney

Focus on what you want, not what you don't want!

Do you ever wonder why it sometimes seems that when you are running late, that is all you can think of? And then you are late! Overweight people tend to only see their flaws, frustrated young athletes might only concentrate on their low scores, and people in debt only see

If you were to stand facing the light, your shadow would be behind you! Sometimes we need to face the light and know that shadows - those darker times – can be behind us. By that I mean, many times it can be very helpful to put your focus on your

helpful to put your tocus on your desired outcome, rather than what you do not want to happen in your life.

When you concentrate on what you do not want, you are telling your subconscious mind that this is your intention of what you want more of.

A common technique I use is to

provide imagery and suggestions that help individuals focus on their desired outcome. For those trying to reduce, outcome. For inose trying to reduce, it suggest they keep an image in their mind of how they wish to look, to imagine how they will feel with their desired weight level as if it is happening now and to imagine all aspects – what they would wear, to even look in the mirror and visualize

even look in the militor and visualize their perfect image.

An individual facing debt will tend to see only bills and debts mounting.

A helpful technique here is to concentrate on how it would feel to have enough money to pay bills, to see themselves as having that ability. This in turn, can assist the individual in real life to take actions toward that goal with a renewed focus.

This can be done for any goal from a concentrated focus on playing the perfect game, to getting the perfect job, or any outcome of any situation. Granted, there are times

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

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when this may not always be realistic, but even in these instances, an optimistic mind set of seeing better outcomes and having a positive focus can at least assist the individual to either obtain a better goal or coping skills, than just with focus on the problem.

Research has shown that athletes have improved their skills by repeatedly visualizing what they want to achieve. There are areas in the brain that fire in the same way when an individual is just picturing and imagining making goals as when they

are actually performing the activity.

A repeated concentration on the desired result is a learned response. Human nature seems to want to focus on the problem; we talk about them to everyone and commiserate. But by shifting the focus repeatedly on the desired outcome, I have found that this can be a very valuable tool in reaching attainable goals. Need help in obtaining your goals? I can help.

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Unsung heroes honoured

EIGHT 'community ambassadors' - unsung heroes who have made an outstanding contribution to local community life -were honoured at a civic celebration hosted by the Mayor of Warrington at Walton Hall.

The Mayor, Cllr Mike Biggin told guests: "The Community Ambassador Awards" recognise that our town wouldn't function without our huge army of volunteers who use their skills

and expertise to serve their local

"The people in our communities who give their time and efforts so selflessly are why Warrington works."

Back: William Smith, Rev Paul Hockley, David Parr: middle: Helen Curwen, the Mayor. Stephen Murphy; front: Ellen Wheatley and Jean Unsworth

There was an also a raffle which raised funds for the Mayor's three chosen charities - The Fire Fighters Charity, St Joseph's Family Centre and Claire House Hospice.

The eight award winners were:
William Smith - nominated for his
voluntary work with Cheshire Fire and
Rescue Post Fire Support Team which provides invaluable support to victims of traumatic incidents such as fire or

Helen Curwen and lean Unsworth - nominated for their contribution to the Purple Flag steering group at Stockton Heath.

David Parr - who leads a group of volunteers who clear up litter in the Whittle Hall and Westbrook areas.

Susan Blyth - who works tirelessly to help the most vulnerable in the community through her work at the town's YMCA and their Room at the Inn shelter which helps people who are homeless.

Su Williams - who volunteers at

Lymm Youth Club, runs Art in the Garden as party of Lymm Festival and is a long standing environmental campaigner and a member of the Low Carbon Lymm group.

Ellen Wheatley - who with husband Bill, has run Mid Orford Residents Association for the past 10 years, encouraging local people to get out and enjoy the activities on offer in the and enjoy the activities on offer in the area and running a successful Monday night social club. Sadly Bill died last year, but Ellen continues the

work.

Stephen Murphy - a community engagement officer for the borough council for a number of years, whose achievements include saving a local boxing club, helping young people get involved in projects to keep them off the streets and organising fundraising concerts including one

off the streets and organising fundraising concerts, including one for Help the Heroes.
Rev Paul Hockley - vicar of St Paul's Church, who leads the Churches Together Campaign which aims to fund a new church in Penketh.

Trust seeks grant applications

WARRINGTON Charities Trust is inviting applications for grants from all small charitable organisations that benefit communities within the Borough of Warrington in preparation for the first round of grant awards for 2012.

The Trust distributes grants twice a year to any small local charity meeting their award criteria. Last year over £15,000 was distributed between 23 different

local charitable organisations.

Completed grant application forms must be received at their office by May 31 to give time to arrange a grant award in July 2012.

Application forms and details of the award criteria can be obtained by contacting the Charities Trust office, Tel: 01925 534357 and leaving a message, or through their web-site at www.warringtoncharitiestrust.co.uk.





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Borough's 15-year planning blueprint

WARRINGTON's planning blueprint for the next 15 years has been approved by the borough council and has been submitted to the government for independent examination.

It sets out a framework to shape the way the borough will develop up to the year 2027 and is described as "the bar against which all future planning applications will be assessed."

Andy Farrall (pictured right), the borough council's executive director of environment and regeneration said: "The new development plan will be one of the borough's most important strategies in ensuring that on-the-ground activity makes

Warrington one of the best places to live and work in the UK."

The council's decision to progress

the council's decision to progress the plan came just ahead of the publication of the government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which attempts to make the planning system clearer, simpler and easier to put

It also means that all councils now only have 12 months to ensure their local plans are in place.

Mr Farrall said: "Our local development plan is on schedule to meet the new national deadlines which will ensure that we are ahead of the game and can continue to lead the local development lead th agenda."

Residents, businesses and other stakeholders will have a chance to give feedback on the plan before it is independently examined in the

A copy of the draft plan can be found on the borough council website, www.warrington.gov.uk



Sharples Group bucking the trend



THE tough economy has sparked a iffeen per cent growth in sales for Warrington-based Sharples Group with hard-pressed North West business owners calling on them for help in saving money on the cost of their printer consumables.

Save

Soaring demand for their expert audits of in-house printer and copier systems, which can save users up to 50 per cent on running costs, has been keeping the 30 employee team busy, said Sales Director David Griffiths.

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"Business owners are trying to make economies and one of the first areas they should look at is their document output strategy which can represent three and a half per cent of a company's sales revenue. "That's why we created our Quick View service which entails a visit by our expect staff who conduct

visit by our expert staff who conduct a detailed review of a business's document production and associated costs. Armed with that information we can advise a

business owner on steps they can

take to make significant savings.
"Savings of 50 per cent are achievable although a 20 per cent reduction in costs is the average across the board. As a result our Quick View activity has been solely responsibly for increasing our company turnover from £2.5 million to £2.7 million this year and there is no sign of it slowing down.

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Who is King!

Quite often we all are guilty of neglecting the bigger picture, taking our eye off the most important ball - our business - and its growth.

Day to day running is what always seems to come first. But surely first should come development and innovation?

After all, if your business just ticks

over and doesn't "keep up with the times" in today's market you can run the risk of losing valuable customers who are hungry for new and innovative services and products.

In any company, good customer

service skills are essential. Front-line staff are the first impression your customers will have. It is therefore vital that these staff, as well as being cheerful and courteous, are immaculately groomed and well presented. This helps to add an air of efficiency to the service offered and is efficiency to the service offered and is far more reassuring to the clientele. There are three main pointers which if observed, mean that your company is giving excellent customer service.

"Service with a smile", may sound like a cliché, but it works. Your staff will be remembered all the more if, apart from being polite and helpful, they are cheerful and friendly. You may find that clients give you their custom purely because of this!

Be eager to please

If the customers query is not a straightforward one; never make them feel that helping them is any trouble, you will not receive any credit for good service.

Use your initiative

You should be keen to maximize sales and in order to do this you should be constantly aware of opportunities to turn tentative queries into sales. In other words, seize the chance to promote your company wherever you can.
Finally, remember, the old adage





For more information contact Antony Grace Tel: 01925 573652 Mob: 07712 558569 antony@alchemy-network.com

"the Customer is King". If you can't wait until next month issue to find out more about increasing your customer base, getting more business, increasing sales from existing customers quickly and at minimum cost, call or e-mail me now. That's how most Alchemy clients start their road to success with

£100,000 to boost town centre

WARRINGTON has been awarded £100,000 to help tackle the issue of empty shops in the town centre.
The money, unveiled by local government minister Grant Shapps today, comes from a new £10 million "High Street Innovation Fund."
It is designed to support new

It is designed to support new business start-ups, while bringing empty properties into use through

community or alternative uses.

It is part of the government's response to retail guru Mary Portas's report on reinvigorating the British

high street.

Andy Farrall, executive director of environment and regeneration at the borough council said: "The money from the High Street Innovation Fund is both timely and welcomed. The issue of empty high street shops is a national problem however this council and its partners are determined to and its partners are determined to tackle this problem locally and bring

empty properties back into active

empty properties seem use."

As a result of the Portas report, the government has pledged to create 12 "Portas Pilots" - towns and cities that would share a £1 million handout to test her recommendations.

Warrington is one of more than 150 towns bidding to be one of them and the trial areas are expected to be

and the trial areas are expected to be announced in May.

Other North West towns bidding to

be pilots include Frodsham and Preston. Altrincham,





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A celebration of dance

MORE than 200 dancers from across Warrington took park in SHINE, a two day celebration of local dance at the Pyramid Arts Centre.



Performers were aged from four to 70+ and contemporary, street, tap, jazz, zumba, freestyle and disco dancing were all on the menu.

The running theme throughout the event was glory with the Olympics and the Queen's Jubilee featuring heavily in the original pieces devised by the groups taking part.

They were: Velocity, Lysander High School, Urban Footsteps Youth Dance Company, Mobata, Kate Simmons Dance, Fusion, Fused and Wolfprint from Warrington Wolves Foundation' GRACE, a new over 50s dance group, Northern Starr, Pyramid Street Dance, Gulliver's Dance School, Sara's Zumba at Pyramid and Warrington Collegiate.

Around 300 people went to see SHINE over two days which was organised entirely by volunteers led by Kerry Lloyd and produced by the borough council's arts development team based at Pyramid and Parr Hall.

The showcase was part of Youth Dance England's "U Dance" programme and all young performers received a certificate of recognition.

Anyone interested in dance in Warrington, can get in touch with Janey Moran in the council's arts team on 01925 444258 or email arts@warrington.gov.uk

(Left) a member of the Lysander team and (right) members of GRACE.



Read-2-Me service in the home

PEOPLE who cannot get to a library or find it difficult to read a book because of ill health or disability can join Warrington Library's Read-2-Me service.

The service is offered on a long or short-term basis by the library, using volunteer readers.

Friendly volunteers who love reading themselves will choose books, stories or poems matched to the clients tastes and needs. They visit on a regular basis and read to the client for an hour or so.

The client can either read along - aloud of silently - or just sit back, relax and listen. And of course there is always time to just enjoy the company.

The Read-2-Me service has evolved from the similar Read to Relax sessions held in group settings in Warrington libraries.

Both services provide opportunities for literary discussion and friendly chat.





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Bringing the Library to you!

Do you have difficulty reading because of ill health or a disability, and find it hard to get into your local library?

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A friendly volunteer will visit you on a regular basis and read to you in your own home for an hour or so.

It is your choice whether you want to read along or sit back, relax and listen.

To be matched with a volunteer, please call:

Matthew Entwistle on 01925 442890 or email mentwistle@warrington.gov.uk

or ask in your local library.



Advertiser's announcement

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WITH the increase in popularity of professional Health and Wellbeing Centres in the UK, Taylor Business Park are opening the Yew Tree Health & Wellbeing Centre soon.

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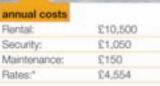
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Food stalls inside Warrington Market Open Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm





Staff go the extra mile for Sport Relief

Pictures: John Hopkins

STAFF from Sainsbury's went the extra mile for Sports Relief with a family fun day and fancy dress football match at Warrington Town's Cantilever Park.

Employees took part in a sponsored walk followed by a fancy dress football match which ended with a penalty shoot out.

All funds raised were donated to Sport Relief.

Pictures show some of the fancy dress characters on display.

New manager in Town

WARRINGTON Town have unveiled their new management team of Shaun Reid and former player Lee Smith.

The pair have travelled the short distance down the road from nearby Prescot Cables.

Manager Reid holds a UEFA A coaching licence and has_had

spells coaching at Swindon Town and Plymouth Argyle.

During his professional playing career he played over 400 games at Rochdale, twice, Preston North End, Bury and Chester City. He has also scouted for Sunderland and Portsmouth and worked in football as an agent.

He is the younger brother of former England and Everton star

Peter Reid.

Smith had two spells as a player at Warrington Town and was a member of the team that won promotion from the North West

Counties in 2001.

Welcoming the pair to
Cantilever Park Chairman Gary Skentelbery said: "Shaun has ambitions of managing in the football league one day and we have ambitions to be there as a

"We realise it is not going to be an easy journey and will involve a lot of hard work for everyone

connected with the club.
"We wish Shaun and Lee well
and look forward to working with



Hair salons join forces

Two Warrington hair salons have joined forces with Daniel Anderson Hairdressing teaming up with 'Jakata Hair & Beauty'.

Danny and Jakata owner Adam Carter discussed the idea a few months ago

and plans were made to bring the teams together. The plan is to build on the strengths of both businesses and ultimately offer the best customer experience

Jakata was formed by Adam eight years ago, steadily building up a strong, diverse team. The salon has picked up numerous awards along the way. By the end of 2010 the Bridge Street premises

had reached capacity and plans were drawn up to open a sister salon to be run by Paul Kemp. 'Paul Kemp Hairdressing' opened last July and is growing from strength to strength. The salons have a team of 25 staff between them and are now stronger than ever with the recent introduction of 'Daniel Anderson Hairdressing'

Danny said: 'I've known Adam and Paul for years and we talked about combining the salons. We share the same passion for high end hairdressing whilst offering the best customer experience. Between the three of us we have the ultimate hairdressing teams in Warrington, I'm really excited to see what the future

Daniel is now located at Jakata on Bridge Street. Call 01925 242960 for more information.













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pay off any mortgage or charges against the property together with fees payable to the estate agents.

 Throughout the process we will provide you with regulation update.

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Community



Motoring

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THE Vauxhall Ampera, European Car of the Year 2012, will be the first electric vehicle suitable for everyday use.

This is GM's bold claim for a car which they say is not a hybrid and offers drivers all the benefits of electric driving without any of the range anxiety normally associated with electric vehicles.

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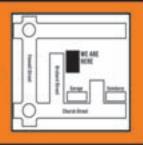
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For any expense to be deductible then it must be incurred "wholly, exclusively and necessarily in the performance of the duties of the employment". There are two main conditions to be fulfilled before you can make a claim. make a claim.

Firstly, working from home must be a requirement of the job and not simply a matter of choice. Therefore, you would expect to see a clause in the contract or terms of employment specifying that a home office must be provided.

Secondly, there must be no non-

business purpose to the expenditure. Unless this applies then it cannot fulfil the wholly and exclusively condition. However, the tax office does apply a "no-quibble" policy of accepting a claim of up to £3 per week without question subject only to the first condition being met. Claims above this amount should be supported by receipts. The above applies to expenses incurred in working from home. However, there may in addition be a claim for the use of assets for your employment, such as desk, chair, bookshelves, computer, printer, desk lamp, etc. In the case of assets the wholly and exclusively rule does not apply, and the "Capital Allowances" available on these assets can be apportioned between private and business use, and the business element business use, and the business element charged against taxable income.

The rules for claiming Capital Allowances are too complex for this article. However, if there are allowances of £200 available on a desk, and that desk is used for 5 hours a week for the desk is used for 5 hours a week for the purpose of your employment and 10 hours per week for private use, then £66 (one-third) can be claimed against taxable income. It should be noted that it is the proportion of use for employment against total use that is the allowable claim, not the use for employment against the total time for which the desk is available. is available.

If you think that you have a possible



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

claim for Capital Allowances that you

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