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Editor's Comment



CONGRATULATIONS to everyone connected with Warrington Wolves RLFC on their achievement of reaching the Challenge Cup Final at Wembley - which is long over due.

I was at the final in 1990 and despite attending many cup finals in the past I vowed to never return again until it was a final involving Warrington.

It has been a long wait but now it has come at just the right time, giving a huge boost to the whole town with the associated feel good factor.

Lets hope reaching a major final for the first time in nearly two decades will now be the springboard for the Wolves to have a rugby team competing at the highest level for many years to come.

Meanwhile Warrington's achievement coincides with our own 10th anniversary of *warrington-worldwide* magazine - how time flies when your having fun.

Run alongside our hugely popular online interactive newspaper which includes a discussion forum, video news reports, including regular updates from the Wolves, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who have supported us over the past decade, which has not been the easiest period in history for the media world.

But this month we have produced our biggest ever publication thanks to



the news letter insert from our friends at the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace and the many local businesses who use our services

throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone who has been involved on the journey - and here's to the next 10 years!

Congratulation

TEN years - a decade- has passed most quickly for *warrington worldwide*. What started out as an idea of how people may access information as to what is happening in the town has now developed into a respected part of the main media infrastructure of the town.

Its Forum also allows people to articulate community concerns and perhaps in the next 10 years this can be further developed as a strong communication link between people and organisations in our town.

It is a happy media vehicle always willing to join in and celebrate the many successes we have in Warrington.

Congratulations to *warrington worldwide* for a happy 10th birthday.
John Gartside
Freeman of Warrington, Chair of NHS Warrington

Congratualtions on reaching 10 years. I am delighted to have contributed to *warrington worldwide* for many years.

Congratualtions to the team for a good quality publication, which has retained it quality through all the years.

Mike Mahoney
Timeline Services and author of
the monthly Hypnotes column

"Congratulations to *warrington worldwide* for ten years of news and views for this great town.

Easy to access, quick off the mark, readable, reliable and at the forefront of digital technology applied locally, I have enjoyed you for ten years. Keep on going! "

Steven Broomhead
Chief Executive, NWDA



John Moorhouse BDS, DDH, MFGDP, DPDS,
Dip.Implant.Dent RCS.UK.

Frances Trainer BDS, FDS RCS Eng.

Mandy Lorton BChD

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Wembley here we come!

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warrington worldwide on your
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successful publications
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congratulations to everyone at
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happening in the borough.
"We have been delighted to
work closely with you for the
past decade and look forward to
another successful ten years."

Diana Terris
Chief Executive,
Warrington Borough Council



WARRINGTON Wolves will take a following of at least 25,000 fans to Wembley for the Challenge Cup Final against Huddersfield.

Interest from success starved fans surpassed all expectations.

Andy Gatcliffe, Warrington Wolves Chief Executive, said: "Yet again, as I have always stated, the Warrington Wolves faithful will turn out in vast numbers.

"Once again to each and every loyal fan a big THANK YOU for your ongoing fantastic support. It

really is appreciated."

Picture shows young fan Thomas Gibbons with supporters queuing outside the Halliwell Jones Stadium when around 10,000 tickets sold in one day. Queues started to form at 5am after Warrington booked their Wembley place for the first time in 19 years.

To see all the latest news, video interviews and action pictures check out the **warrington-worldwide** website.

£30m sports village plan delayed

THE planning application for the £30 million Orford Park Project at Warrington - originally to have been heard on August 27 - has been put back three weeks because of its size and complexity.

It will now be considered by the borough council's development control committee on either September 16 or 17.

But the delay should not have any impact on delivery of the project, which should still be ready to open in November 2011, according to project manager Duncan Richardson.

Construction work is expected to start in the spring next year.

Mr Richardson said postponement of the application was due to its size and complexity, which meant the statutory agencies needed more time to finalise their responses..

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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

Rushing

HAVE you ever stopped to think how much rushing about you do in your life? Have you even considered what it would be like to simply stop and be still and quite? Everything is needed yesterday; we have less and less time for our children and loved ones, less time to build relationships, less time for ourselves, less time to enjoy nature and the world around us. And it is not about society and life demands, it is more about allowing ourselves to be sucked into the rush and demand which society expects! We can stop and say no, we don't have to immediately answer, (or even answer at all) the dozens of emails we receive every day. We stop everything when the phone rings. How I sometimes yearn for the old A & B button telephone boxes at the top of the street (younger readers will have to ask their grandparents about them!), now we are constantly interrupted by mobile phones wherever we go, and if they are not answered immediately, even though the owner is perhaps in the middle of a conversation with you, then stress levels rise, and if the call is

missed, I wont even go into the responses I have seen when that happens!

And yet we continue to live life at full speed, not even thinking about slowing down, never mind stopping. It might be a good idea if we were to place a notice on the mirror so each morning we get up and read 'good morning lemming' referring to the little furry creature which urban myth tells us leaps to their death off cliffs in their millions) because if we are not careful, we run the risk of committing slow motion suicide! Dashing and rushing without giving ourselves a second thought.

There is an answer to all this, in fact two answers. Either we learn to slow down and treat ourselves more gently and take time for us, or mother nature will do it for us in the form of some stress related condition or a sudden fatal stop, and then it will be too late. One of the things people so often say to me, when I give them a CD of their session to listen to is "it is really difficult to find the time to do this each day" but

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

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once they get into it, they realise just how precious that time is, and they fit it into their schedule and enjoy it, looking forward not only to the message on the CD, but having their own time too.

So dear reader, I would like you to consider stopping whatever you are doing, and simply take some time out for you. If you can't do it now, do it later in the day. Stop and look at the people around you trying so desperately to fit everything in, everything they have to do, or what they believe they have to do.

Consider what you can leave until tomorrow, ask how urgent it is really (see July Hypnotes). Above all find time for you, because if you don't do it willingly, Mother Nature may well step in, and take the option of choice away from you!

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Cadets bid to raise profile



WARRINGTON based Cheshire cadets are looking to recruit new members and raise their profile in the town.

The group held a summer fete at Bennett's Recreational Ground, Padgate, when special guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Warrington Coun Brian and Irina Axcell.

Formed in 1994 Cheshire Cadets are a non-profit making organisation and aims include keeping young people off the streets, while at the same time giving them something constructive to do.

As well as improving their profile the band is trying to raise money to get a seven and a half ton Layland Daf van fixed. The van is essential, as the band travels far and wide over the country to competitions including Leeds, Nottingham and Bristol to name a few!

The van is used to transport all the musical equipment, which includes full drum kits, 20 Brass instruments and xylophones.

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Spotlight on Business

Care firm creates 60 jobs

A WARRINGTON couple are celebrating the second anniversary of their unique home care business, which has created more than 60 new jobs in the area.

Philip and Tracey Adlem own and run the Warrington office of national home care company Home Instead Senior Care.

They are particularly proud that following their success, the national head office of the company has relocated from Chester to Lower Stretton as it needed a more convenient location to support its 33 UK offices.

Home Instead Senior Care is the only UK care business specialising in the non-medical care of older people.

Services offered include companionship, meal preparation, light housekeeping, post-discharge care, personal care, medication reminders, shopping and errands. The Warrington office has supported more than 120 clients and employs more than 60 care

givers. Philip said: "We are extremely proud to have built a business that has made a real difference to the lives of our clients and created so many jobs locally. We promote independence and want to give people the opportunity to choose the type of care they receive.

"We are really keen to talk to people who currently work as carers or who are interested in working in the sector. Because of the way we deliver our care service our caregivers achieve high levels of job satisfaction whilst building strong relationships with their clients.

"We are passionately committed to providing the highest levels of care to our clients and we are looking to add to our already fantastic team."



Trevor and Sam Brocklebank, founders of Home Instead in the UK, with Tracey and Philip Adlem from Warrington.

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Spotlight on Business



BNI celebrate 10th anniversary in style

WARRINGTON BNI celebrated their 10th anniversary in style with a champagne breakfast at the Paddington House Hotel - their spiritual home since their formation in July 1999.

The Chapter still includes many founder members, including current Chapter Director Gary Skentelbery, Editor of warrington-worldwide, Margaret Black and David Watkinson of Warrington accountants Watkinson Black, Paddington House Proprietor Robert Abson and Mike Allen, from sign makers Signarama.

Since its formation the Chapter has passed thousands of referrals generating millions of pounds worth of business.

Hotel Proprietor Robert Abson told members that simply hosting the meetings had generated in excess of £100,000 over the 10 years and that didn't take into account many other referrals for various functions.

Members can be seen celebrating their milestone.

For more details on the successful Warrington Chapter visit www.bni-warrington.co.uk a website hosted by another member, Bruce Gorniak from Miltech.

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Tim Minchin

Friday 4 September

The Comedy Store

Saturday 5 September

The Rat Pack

Sunday 20 September

Tony Stockwell

Wednesday 23 September

Room On The Broom

Sunday 27 September

Mica Paris

Thursday 1 October

Tickets & Information
01925 442345

www.pyramidparrhall.com



Unmissable events at Pyramid and Parr Hall

With the launch of a brand new bar and café, events galore and more activities than you can shake a stick at – there's so much to choose from over the next few weeks. So book now for these fabulous shows and make sure you don't get left out in the rain!

Friday 4 September – Tim Minchin - Ready For This?

Parr Hall, 7.30pm, £17.50. After a sold out UK tour last Autumn,



uberminstrel Tim Minchin lugs his piano back out on the road to give those poor souls who missed out another chance to see his biting and brilliant show.

Sunday 20 September – The Rat Pack - Vegas Spectacular



Parr Hall, 7.30pm, £18/£16. Fun all the way as the 'Purveyors Of Cool' come to Parr Hall with an exciting show featuring the greatest music of the 20th century. Every song is an absolute classic - Come Fly with me, Volare, Under My Skin, Mr Bojangles, Lady Is A Tramp, Mack The Knife and many more of your favourites.

Wednesday 23 September – Tony Stockwell – An Evening of Mediumship

Parr Hall, 7.30pm, £19.50

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to connect people with loved ones who have passed on. Deeply compelling, often startlingly accurate and always humorous.

Sunday 27 September – Room On The Broom

Pyramid, 1pm & 3.30pm, £6

How the cat purred and how the



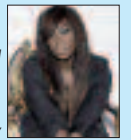
witch grinned, as they sat on their broomstick and flew through the wind... Songs laughs and scary fun for children aged 3 and up (and their grown-ups)

Pyramid's brand new bar & café launches!



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Tickets are now on sale for Mica Paris (1 October) and also The Stylistics (28 November)! Plus: The Comedy



Store, Tony Stockwell, Room on the Broom, Ricky Tomlinson ...



this is just a taster of what's on at Pyramid and Parr Hall, check the website for even more events and activities!

Tickets and information 01925 442345 or book online at www.pyramidparrhall.com

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New addition

A new addition to our Warrington team is Chris Chadwick who has previously been based with Widdows Mason in Leigh. Chris is a Solicitor with many years experience in all aspects of Wills, probate, tax and trusts and joins Geoff Thompson.

The Family Law team have many years experience in advising clients with concerns about issues relating to

divorce, and their rights regarding finances. Their practical and sympathetic approach has proved time and again to help clients get through what can be a very difficult and emotional time.

For business clients, Widdows Mason offer advice and services on forming a company, the management administration of the company's affairs, taxation, service contracts and the liabilities of the company and it's directors. They can handle takeovers and amalgamations and deal with the many complex issues arising from such transactions.

A regular Employment Bulletin is available, free of charge, on-line at our website – www.widdows.co.uk.

In today's fast-paced environment an increasing number of clients prefer contact with their Solicitor by telephone, fax or email. Nevertheless our clients are welcomed to the office where parking facilities are available on site and appointments are not always necessary.



Widdows Mason would like to congratulate the team at *warrington worldwide* on their 10th anniversary and wish them continued success!



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New assistant chief executive appointed

WARRINGTON Council has appointed **Katherine Fairclough** as the authority's new assistant chief executive.

Currently leading Wigan Council's multi-million £ programme to transform its leisure and public service, she has more than 15 years local government experience at senior level, where she specialises in policy and improvement and business transformation.

She previously managed a review of support services at Wigan, helping guide the council to a four star rating from the Audit Commission.

Warrington has not had an assistant chief executive for some five years.

Ms Fairclough said: "Leaving Wigan will be a wrench, but I'm very excited about coming to Warrington, joining a successful team and working with them for the benefit of the town and local residents."

In her new role, she will be providing strategic leadership and advice across a range of corporate services and initiatives.

Chief executive Diana Terris said: "I am confident that we have attracted exactly the right person to take the lead in delivering the council's vision, values and ambitions through effective policy development. She will help the council ensure that Warrington is recognised as one of the best places to live and work in the



UK, where everyone enjoys an outstanding quality of life."

Leader of the council Ian Marks said: "Katherine has all the necessary skills, experience and drive to develop and build on the council's success in making sure we are responsive to the diverse needs of everyone who lives and works in Warrington."

"She is passionate about putting local people at the heart of service planning and engaging key partners and stakeholders to make sure we deliver outstanding public services for the people of Warrington."

Ms Fairclough will take up her new post with the council in October.

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by Christina

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Ex-high school pupil killed in Afghanistan

A FORMER Warrington schoolboy is among the latest British soldiers to be killed in Afghanistan.

Fusilier Simon Annis, aged 22, was a pupil at Culcheth High School and was married only six months ago.

He died along with two others while trying to stretch his section commander, Lance Corporal James Fullarton, to safety. Both men were killed, along with Fusilier Louis Carter who dived onto the stretcher in a desperate attempt to save L/Cpl Fullarton.

The soldiers were killed on patrol in Helmand.

Fusilier Annis, who grew up in Warrington, only married his wife, Caroline, in February.

She said: "He was a true hero who made all of us proud. He was a perfect husband. We will love and miss him always."

Fusilier Annis joined The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, when he was just 19. His death has saddened former teachers at Culcheth High School.

Head teacher Martyn Froggett said in a statement: "It is with great sadness that we have been informed of the untimely death of Fusilier Simon Annis on Sunday 16 August 2009 whilst serving for the 2nd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in Afghanistan.

"It is difficult to put sentiments into words when we hear of the death of

one of our former pupils.

"Simon attended Culcheth High School from 1998 to 2003.

"Our memory of him is one of a sunny natured young man with a great sense of humour who, even then, was committed to joining the army.

"Our heartfelt condolences go out to his wife and all his family and friends at this very difficult time."

Dedicated

His Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Calder, said: "Fusilier Simon Annis was a larger than life character, and a dedicated soldier. Always at the heart of whatever was going on, it was no surprise to me that he died whilst trying to save his mortally wounded Section Commander. He should be seen as a shining example to the nation of what selfless commitment really means. The heartfelt condolences of every Fusilier in Afghanistan go to Caroline, his wife of only a few months."

Lieutenant Colonel Rob Thomson, Commanding Officer, 2 RIFLES Battle Group, said: "Fusilier Annis was delightful in addition to being a quality soldier. A huge man, I used to encounter him on my way to breakfast on an almost daily basis and he used to stop me and ask me if I was OK.

He had an ever-present grin and used to carry far more than his normal share on patrol. He was always laughing and used to lighten the mood in the darkest of times, often by breaking into particularly tuneless song."

Secretary of State for Defence, Bob Ainsworth, said: "These three brave soldiers have made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the security of all of us in the United Kingdom. Their deaths are truly heart-rending and their families are in my thoughts; the loved ones they have lost are true heroes."

Simon and Caroline on their wedding day.





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School site given splash of colour

CULCHETH'S super new high school may still be a building site - but artistic pupils have created a colourful screen around the site.

Youngsters from the High School were joined by pupils from Culcheth Primary, Culcheth Day Nursery and the Early Birds pre-school nursery to paint murals on the theme "Our school will be..."

The murals, placed around the site boundary, state the new school will

be "A tree of light in a dark forest", "An ocean of opportunity", "A contribution to a rich landscape", etc.

Materials for the youngsters to create the murals were provided by contractors BAM, who are building the new school.

The high school will move into the new buildings in 12 months' time.



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Alan satisfies appetite for great tasting food

TO satisfy his appetite for great-tasting food Alan McInnes has now started his own business delivering fresh organic food door to door in the Warrington area.

Now as well as enjoying fresh food he has discovered the added benefit of getting his 10 year-old son to eat fruit.

He has joined Riverford Organic,

based at Stockley Farm, delivering award-winning fresh seasonal organic fruit and vegboxes straight from the farm to homes in the area.

Young musicians wanted

ENTRIES are being sought for the Warrington Competition for Young Musicians 2010 - with opportunities for musicians under 19 to win up to £400 plus a handsome trophy.

The competition, organised by the Warrington Arts Council Initiative for the Development of Music (WACIDOM), is open to musicians who will be under 19 on April 1 next year and residents in the WA, CH, CW, L or BL postcode areas.

Just by entering the competition, the youngsters receive a masterclass from a professional musician, a written adjudication of their performance, a presentation and platform skills workshop and an opportunity to rehearse and perform with a professional accompanist, if required.

The competition is open to piano, any solo orchestral or brass band instrument, voice, recorder and classical guitar, all with piano accompaniment as required.

Applicants must be recommended by their teacher or tutor.

Programmes should be balanced in content and contain some contrast and a minimum of two pieces by different composers is expected. Competitors will not be required to play from memory and can perform with their own accompanist if they wish, although an official accompanist will be available, with who rehearsal time will be available.

The competition is organised on two levels - the Upper Division for Associated Board Grade 7 standard and upwards or equivalent and the Lower Division for Grade 4-6 standard or equivalent.

Closing date for entries is November 21 and application forms are available from WACIDOM, 103, Common Lane, Culcheth, Warrington WA3 4HQ or from the website www.musicinwarrington.org.uk

Alan says to think of Riverford "as your allotment, without the digging." Riverford grows as much as possible on Stockley Farm with the help of local growers, so you get really fresh veg.

The box scheme is easy and flexible - and delivery is free. You can top up your order with organic meat, milk, eggs and more. Every week Riverford keeps in touch with a newsletter and a recipe to help you get the most out of your box.

Alan is passionate about good food and decided to set up the business to help spread the word to local people. "I've always had an interest in food," explains Alan, "but struggled to find really great-tasting produce. All that changed when I became a Riverford customer - the vegetables taste like they should. Getting a box also reawakened my love of cooking - and best of all, I even managed to get my 10 year old son, to eat fruit!"

Setting up deliveries in the local area was the next step for Alan. "I was so impressed by my Riverford vegboxes that I decided to start my own business delivering them. Eating good food is so important and I really want to get the message out to local people that organic doesn't have to be expensive. Our vegboxes work out around 20% cheaper than the same produce in the supermarkets, and that's without factoring in our free delivery. By choosing a Riverford vegbox, you're getting the best-tasting, freshest organic



vegetables, supporting Stockley Farm and local growers - and you might even find the kids enjoy them too."

Vegboxes start from just £8.35. For more information see www.riverford.co.uk/stockley or call 0845 600 2311.

200-space car park plan

PLANS for a 200-space car park for Warrington's Bank Quay railway station have been given the go-ahead.

The car park - which will be provided on former industrial land in Sluthers Lane - is intended to provide parking for the station's engineering operations, rather than rail passengers.

There will be lighting and CCTV security systems.

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Smart new buses now in service



WARRINGTON Borough Transport's bus company Network Warrington has introduced twelve new smart eye-catching Volvo buses into service.

The buses are fitted with bodywork by Wrights of Northern Ireland and bring even greater standards of comfort to bus passengers in the town.

More and better seating, improved interior lighting and ultra-clean environmentally-friendly engines are just some of the qualities the new buses offer.

Naturally, they incorporate the usual low-floor features – spaces for buggies and wheelchairs, electronic destination displays and CCTV.

The buses will spend most of their time on services 16 and 16A serving Whitecross, the hospital, Bewsey and Dallam in addition to services 20 and 21 which cover the Longford and

Orford areas. They will also venture onto some other Network Warrington services from time to time. Customers are sure to be impressed as soon as they get on board.

Les Hoyle, Warrington Borough Transport's Chairman, said: "The introduction of these new buses is a further demonstration of our commitment to provide the best possible bus service for everyone who lives, visits and does business in Warrington."

These latest additions bring the total number of low-floor buses in the fleet to 94 and will ensure that over 95% of Network Warrington journeys will be operated by easy-access buses.

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Wolves back new community venture

WARRINGTON Wolves stars Chris Riley and Lee Mitchell joined the Mayor and Mayoress of Warrington for the recent grand opening of a new Community Outreach Centre in Orford Park.

The Wolves Foundation, working in conjunction with Cheshire Police and The Princes Trust, has helped to organise and refurbish an old park ranger's cabin into a Community Outreach Centre in a bid to reduce anti-social behaviour.

The cabin is the result of hard work by Police Liaison Officer for Golden Gates Estate Alison Young, PCSO Catherine Harkin and Wolves Foundation Community Sport Officer John Wilkinson. The trio of community activists wanted to provide the area with a contact point for concerned residents, as well as providing the young people with a safe place to meet up at the weekends.

The park is a popular hangout spot for young people, many of whom are being unfairly labelled by concerned residents. Alison Young spent four weeks talking with young people on

Friday and Saturday nights around the Orford Park area. She came to the conclusion that residents were often too quick to label young people as 'thugs' looking to cause trouble.

She said: "People have a bad perception of youths in general. When we asked the kids hanging round on the streets, most just said they wanted somewhere safe to meet and spend time together".

Catherine Harkin sees the cabin as something that will benefit the community as a whole, not just the children. She said: "It's a community contact point. It's here to build relationships and work positively with young people."

The Princes Trust was keen to help with the project, immediately stepping in to carry out the refurbishments. Nine youth volunteers spent a week packing shopping bags at Tesco in



Wolves stars Lee Mitchell and Chris Riley with all those involved in the Orford Park project

order to raise the £800 needed for repairs and supplies. Over the following weeks the volunteers painted walls, ceilings and even built a small garden which has transformed the look of the cabin.

Wolves full-back Chris Riley, who lives next to the park, wishes it had been as well equipped when he was a young lad. He said: "It's an

excellent opportunity for youngsters. We never had anything like this when I was growing up. All I saw were kids drinking and stuff, and it's very easy to go down that road. I'm lucky I had the right support."

The Outreach Centre will continue to operate on Friday evenings having already made a positive impact on the area.

Largest play area officially opens

WARRINGTON'S largest play area is now officially open - offering a wide range of activities for children and adults.

The play area in Orford Park was launched with a family fun day, featuring a picnic, face painting, t-shirt making, circus skills

workshops, story telling and more.

It boasts a daredevil zip wire, climbing wall and outdoor gym for both young people and adults and a wheelchair friendly roundabout as well.

Mayor and Mayoress Brian and Irina Axcell, council chief executive

Diana Terris local councillors Mike and Kate Hannon and hundreds of families were present to officially open the park in a flurry of bubbles provided by local youngsters.

The project was funded by the Big Lottery, the DCSF Play Builder Fund and environmental charity WREN.



Coun Mike Hannon joins local youngsters blowing bubbles.

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peace *talks*

The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace

Newsletter Autumn 2009



Gemma's story

Page 4



Partnership gets Lottery go-ahead

Page 4



Message from our Chief Executive

Welcome to the second edition of Peace Talks for 2009. The year is certainly flying by and we have undertaken a lot in a brief period of time. We hope that this newsletter will give you a flavour of what has been accomplished, as well as giving you information about our supporters and upcoming events.

The big news in this edition is our successful joint application with the Warrington Wolves Foundation to the Big Lottery Young People's Fund. This funding will directly benefit young people in our home town of Warrington over the next two years. After a number of years expanding nationally and internationally it's lovely to receive funding to enable us to bring our expertise to benefit young people on our own doorstep. You can read more about this on page 4.

This edition also highlights our work with

victims and survivors of political violence who live in England and there are several articles written about the 'Survivors for Peace' project, including the first 'Leadership for Peace' Day in which survivors came together to speak about positive actions they have undertaken since being affected. This included our chair, Colin Parry, and also a young woman affected by the London bombings.

There is a European flavour to the edition with articles about our work in Vranje, the European Victims Network and a workshop with young people from across Europe who were brought to the Centre by the Rotary. These articles can be found on pages 5, 7 and 9.

Once again, my thanks to our dedicated team, who you will see have worked extremely hard over the recent months and to all our supporters.

You can keep up to date with news and events by visiting our website www.foundation4peace.org.

Clare White

Chief Executive

Wayne Cycles across America for charity

Wayne O'Brien, a Senior Lecturer in Television Production at the University of Chester, Warrington, undertook a bike ride of a lifetime to raise money for the Foundation and 'Help for Heroes'.

Wayne cycled 7,000 miles across America, Europe and Great Britain. His adventure began in June, when the 2,500-mile trans-American leg of his trip took him from Fort Mason, the former military barracks in San Francisco on the west coast, to New York in the east: Wayne flew from the Big Apple to Gibraltar and began the second leg of his epic ride from Gibraltar to the UK, finishing in Warrington.

Wayne said: "Both charities are very worthwhile causes. My son has served in Iraq and is due to go to Afghanistan later this year, so I know all about the work of Help for Heroes, while the Foundation for Peace obviously holds a strong connection for Warrington people."

Wayne's supporters include Dawes Cycles, who kindly supplied him with a 27-gear top-of-the-range bicycle, and the Bike Factory in Chester, who provided a range of other essential equipment.

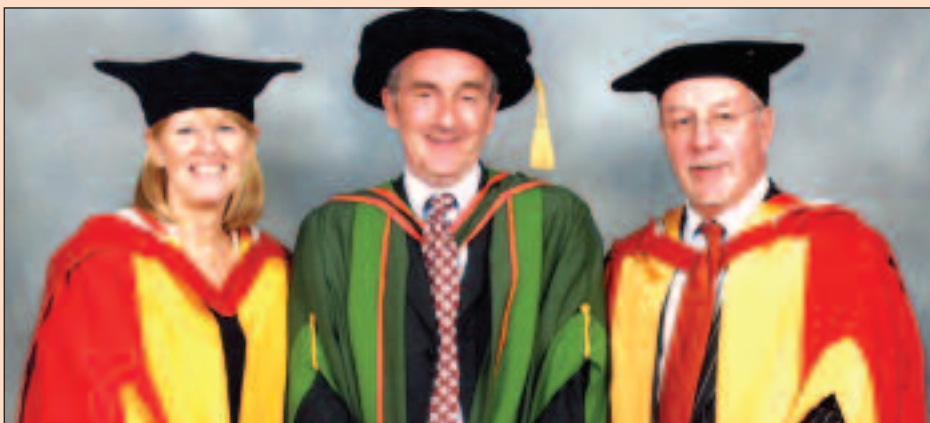


Honorary Doctorates

On Friday 17th July, both Colin and Wendy were presented with Honorary Doctorates at the University of Bradford by the University Chancellor, Imran Khan.

Professor Mark Cleary, the Vice Chancellor, said; "Mr and Mrs Parry received the award in recognition of their work for the Foundation and promoting peace. It is with great pride that we have been given this opportunity to honour these distinguished colleagues, and their achievements are an impressive testament to their talents."

Colin Parry said: "My wife Wendy and I are absolutely delighted that the charity we founded and the work which we do in memory and honour of Tim and Johnathan have been recognised by bestowing upon us the title of Honorary Doctor of the University of Bradford. To be given this accolade is very special for us and our family and I feel sure that Tim would wear a beaming smile of pride for his parents' hard work in his name."





Sir John raises awareness of the Foundation's work

The Rt Hon Sir John Mayor KG CH, Patron of the Foundation, hosted a dinner at Arley Hall, Cheshire, to raise awareness and funds for the Foundation.

Guests, including leading figures from the North West, came to hear Sir John speak about his experiences during his time in office as Prime Minister and about the vitally important work the Foundation undertakes with young people and victims of political violence.

Speaking of the event, Co-founder and Trustee, Wendy Parry said: "We are extremely grateful for the help and support Sir John has given us over the years. He is a fantastic host and guests really enjoy his company plus the great surroundings and atmosphere of Arley Hall make this a night to remember for everyone."

The Foundation would like to thank RBS, Nat West, M&S Money and Handlesbanken for supporting this event.



Mayor of Salford supports the Foundation

During 2008/9, the Mayor of Salford took the Foundation as one of three charities to benefit from fundraising activities organised during her Mayoral year. In May, each charity was delighted to receive a cheque for £12,700.

Fundraiser Wendy Parry said: "We are so grateful for the help and support the Mayor of Salford has given us during her Mayoral year. Not only has the Mayor helped financially but she has championed our cause whenever possible over the past 12 months. The fundraising committee has worked extremely hard and we would like to thank each and every one of them."



Partnership gets Lottery go-ahead

A partnership project between the Foundation for Peace and Warrington Wolves Foundation has been given the go ahead by the Big Lottery Fund.

The project will offer 60 young people from Warrington the opportunity to learn skills and knowledge to help make a positive impact within their local community.

Aimed at young people aged 13-18 years of age from disadvantaged backgrounds or those with potential to get involved in anti-social behaviour, it incorporates elements of conflict resolution, leadership, mediation and self awareness and identity, as well as practical skills in the areas of arts and

culture, sport leadership and health and education.

The project offers a response to the negative publicity young people have received in the Town by enabling them to positively and publicly demonstrate their achievements. This will be done through community volunteering, public events and an annual conference.

And local businesses will be offered the opportunity to help mentor the young people through the planning and development of their community event.

The project will be led by the young people who will be able to use their newly acquired skills to develop and deliver community events. At the end of the two-year programme there will be a cohort of 60 young peer mentors and leaders, active within their community.

Speaking about the Big Lottery Fund announcement, Foundation for Peace Chief Executive, Clare White, said: "We are delighted that we have received funding for a longer-term project



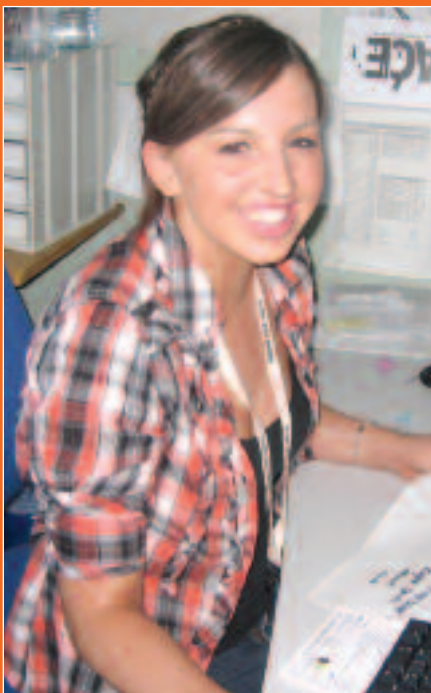
within our home town. Over the last few years there has been a greater demand for our work nationally. It's great to finally get some funding to back our work locally. By joining forces with the Wolves Foundation we can deliver a really interesting and appealing project for young people to sign up to and make their own."

Warrington Wolves Foundation Chief Executive, Neil Kelly, said: "The Wolves Foundation is delighted to be working in partnership with the Foundation for Peace. By combining the expertise and strengths of the two charities, we will make a real difference to the lives of a group of young people that will ultimately benefit the town of Warrington."

The project will launch in January 2010. Further information will be publicised and can be found at www.foundation4peace.org



Gemma's story



My journey with the Foundation started in March 2007 when I was asked to participate in the Tim Parry Leadership Development programme. As a young gymnastics coach and member of the school rugby team, I had experience of working with young people and looked forwards to an opportunity to develop my skills through this programme. I am a people person and have always been interested in things that affect people...so the chance to learn more about the Anglo Irish conflict was something I was keen to do.

After three long weekends of living, working and learning alongside our peers from the north and south of Ireland, I was determined to continue being involved in the work of the Foundation. From my involvement in the Foundation's youth group to a year as a young trustee, I continued my involvement in the Foundation's work. My passion and enthusiasm (*and*

pestering!) eventually got me the opportunity to do some volunteering for the Foundation. Working alongside facilitators Jon and Kerry gave me the opportunity to learn more about how we educate our young people here at the Foundation, and reminded me of my own experiences – and how what we do truly does make a difference to the lives of young people!

I am pleased to report that after four months of volunteering, I will be starting an apprenticeship with the foundation in September 09. I am so pleased that I will also get the chance to earn, learn and develop whilst involved in something that I am passionate about! First stop is to work with the Foundation's youth group to look at how we can organise a reunion event with our past participants!!

Bye for now . . . Gemma

Working in Serbia

In April of this year the Foundation facilitated a week long seminar for Generator, a peace building charity based in Vranje, South Serbia.

The participants came from Kosovo, Serbia, Macedonia, Greece, Albania, Estonia, Romania and Germany. With the use of Theatre, the workshop shared interactive methods for preventing and solving conflicts in the lives of young people. The event gave people from outside the region a chance to visit an area which has recently experienced armed conflict. Some of the young people taking part were from countries currently experiencing political tensions (Greece and Macedonia, Kosovo and Serbia,) so, in addition to developing new skills, some of those taking part had the chance to meet people they would not otherwise encounter.

The idea behind using the medium of Theatre to help manage conflict lies in the fact that, in order to play theatre games and make presentations, groups and individuals need to develop trust. The week was spent doing problem-solving challenges, sharing stories and engaging in creative work based on the challenges experienced by the students



in their home countries. Difficult scenarios were set and alternative strategies were experimented with. As often happens with expressive work such as this, the participants were frequently surprised and amused by the similarity of their lives and those of other participants. New relationships were being made, and common experiences beyond borders and boundaries were shared.

The work was very similar to projects we are delivering in the UK. In South Serbia there are communities separated by dividing lines which don't appear on maps: the town of Bujanovac, for example, has Roma, Albanian and Serb areas. Clear associations can be made with Bradford and Leeds where we have been working with a variety of mixed ethnicity groups. There too, people are rarely encouraged to go to different areas and often fear builds barriers. However, these barriers can be brought down with well managed, fun and challenging activities no matter where they are. The group in Vranje was taken on a trip to Bujanovac, where we visited a Mosque and a nearby Orthodox Monastery: a group we have worked with from South Leeds has had similar trips to complement their work on divided communities.

The Generator group was very keen to demonstrate their co-operation and communication to a wider audience, and took the opportunity to present a short selection of improvised sketches at a local theatre. The evening produced many possibilities for interaction and allowed the group to prove, in public, that it is possible to make some unexpected friends and to produce with them, very quickly, something of good quality.



Victoria Road Primary School

Following on from our work with teenagers from the Rudheath area with Cheshire Police, we were asked to undertake some work in Victoria Road Primary school at the heart of Rudheath. There were some concerns expressed about some of the children reportedly becoming involved in some anti social behaviour and low level criminality. The head teacher was particularly concerned by the children's association with a group of older young people who were believed to be 'leading' the younger children into increased negative behaviour and activities.

Using learning from our Johnathan Ball Tiny Steps for Peace project and the successful Leadership Development Programme model, the Foundation



worked with the school to identify need and tailored a programme of conflict resolution, communication and leadership which would be delivered to a staff and children. The aim was to help develop a sustainable approach to conflict management and leadership within the school. This key stage 2 project provided us with the opportunity to try and test a programme that we knew could lead to real change with this age group.



Kerry Gibson who is leading on the project commented that: "We have been working with teenagers on this type of training for many years. For some time now, our organisation has been keen to work with this age group. The earlier that children and young people are able to develop skills in conflict management – the more likely they are to develop inclusive and positive mindsets and to talk, rather than using violence to resolve conflict."

Between April and July the Foundation delivered an intensive ten-week programme of peer mediation to a class of 18 year 5 pupils which gave the

children a greater understanding of the causes and consequences of conflict before training them to take on a role as peer mediators for the school. Through activities such as discussions, role plays, communication games and problem solving challenges the children learned the skills, strategies and processes needed to facilitate a conversation between two people to help them to resolve a conflict. Aspects of leadership and citizenship were also incorporated to build confidence and to encourage the children to

have the courage and self belief to be able to say 'No' to some of their negative influences.

"I used to fight but I don't fight as much anymore. To sort it out I say sorry now or make friends with them."

Within the school the peer mediators are now successfully helping children who have had disagreements, arguments or fights to come together to talk through their problems and to find a shared solution which is agreed

on by both sides. This has given all children in Victoria Road Primary School an opportunity to talk through their problems and to take responsibility for resolving them non-violently.

"It made me quite happy because I didn't really think this mediation thing would actually be any good because I just thought nobody would want to do it but I've been surprised at



how many people have come in."

Towards the latter stages of the programme the peer mediators visited the Peace Centre to create a DVD resource which will be used to train future peer mediators within Victoria Road Primary School. Through the making of this DVD the children were able to share their knowledge with others and also to recognise and celebrate their own achievements.

"It helps me because when I'm in conflict with someone, I know how to mediate other people . . . and it's much easier because I know what to do"



Over the coming months the Foundation will continue to support the school staff and children in the future development of their peer mediation service and the training of new peer mediators to ensure the sustainability of the programme.

"I know that if you solve people's problems it can stop them having a fight and it just makes it all fair for everybody else."

Priesthorpe School take part in a Leadership Development Course

In March and June two residential courses were held for 44 students from Priesthorpe School, which is situated between Leeds and Bradford and receives young people from both of those cities. We were asked to design and deliver the courses in response to some actual and perceived tensions

between different groups at the school. The students were taken through a number of exciting interactive games and challenges; they also viewed and discussed a range of stimulating films which addressed issues of race, conflict and leadership.



A key function of the Leadership Development Course is to directly link experiences with issues in the everyday lives of those taking part. We also looked at specific conflicts that may have occurred and use activities to develop prevention and reduction

techniques for future use. Difficult topics are discussed and worked through in the safe and friendly environment of The Peace Centre. The young participants were encouraged to identify and develop leadership skills to help them deal with conflict and support their peers.



Both groups from the school fully engaged in the process which, before and after the residential courses, included preparation and follow-up work at school. Many of the themes and issues explored during the course have been re-visited in Assemblies and lessons on all subjects. The Foundation has been invited to do further work with the school and we are in the process of planning more events and activities for the students and staff.

European Students visit the Peace Centre

In July, Students who were taking part a Summer Camp organised by the Rotary Club Warrington, took part in the Foundation's Leadership Development Programme. The aim of this programme is to give young people a greater understanding of the nature, causes and resolution of conflict. The students, and members of the Rotary Club, took part in activities such as role play, discussion and debate.

Malcolm Ross, Rotary Club President said: 'We had some reservations due to the students being from several countries across Europe and any potential cultural & language difficulties, but Jon, Kerry and Gemma dispelled any of these reservations



within the first half an hour of the course. The facilities made an impact on the group and by the end of the day the students had a good understanding of conflict resolution and how they would be in position to positively deal with live situations.

"We also commend the team for providing the memory cards in the students own language – it shows that at the Foundation go that extra mile in putting themselves out for people – Service above self which is

the Rotary motto - thanks to all who made the day special for our students and for providing a unique experience.

"The facilities are excellent and well balanced – the Peace Centre caters for learning and leisure activities with areas to relax and unwind. Our Summer Camp students took time to chill out in the gym and also on the various high-tech games as well as playing table tennis."

The Foundation's first Survivors For Peace conference

On 30th May, Survivors for Peace participants held their first 'Leadership for Peace' event.

The event celebrated and explored the contributions made by people who have been impacted by conflict and acts of political violence, and heard how others have found a positive outlet for their experience and made a positive contribution to peace in their communities.

A resonating theme from the day was that of 'choices'. Many of the presenters spoke of reaching a turning point where they made the 'choice' that their experience would not hold them back; that their life should count for something and that they felt a responsibility to make their experience and life matter in the name of their loss or trauma.

The speakers included Colin Parry, who spoke of how he had felt after losing Tim in the IRA bombing of Warrington in 1993 and of the process that led him, along with his wife Wendy, to make the choice to dedicate his life to



the promotion of peace and reconciliation, through the creation of The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace. Mo Norton, who lost her brother Terence in the

M62 Coach Bombing, spoke of how her participation in the work of the Foundation had led her on a journey in an attempt to gain a better understanding about the Northern Ireland 'Troubles'.

Lisa French spoke of her experience as a survivor of the London bombings on July 7, 2005 and of the humanity she experienced on that day from strangers, colleagues, friends and family who all rallied round to support and help her. She talked about how, in her attempt to overcome her experience, she got involved in supporting the work of the Mines Advisory Group in Cambodia.

'I was privileged to be asked to speak at the 'Leadership for Peace' event on 30th May, representing the Miriam Hyman Memorial Trust. It struck me that there were common themes throughout the day, with five speakers bringing diverse experiences to the audience. The most powerful theme, I felt, was the concept of making positive and constructive choices in the face of adversity, and indeed in day-to-day life. As a newcomer to the Peace Centre, I appreciated the opportunity to visit and the warm welcome received there.'

Esther Hyman



'I thought it was inspiring to listen to others' experiences of how they made something positive out of such tragic events. I felt very moved listening to all the speakers. It was interesting to hear an ex-soldier speak about his return to Northern Ireland and how he has gone on to help others who struggle to come to terms with their trauma.'

Mo Norton

Europe gives a voice to victims



VNET is an Association set up to assist victims of the 2004 train bombs in Madrid. In 2008, funding was secured from the European Union to create VNET II, The Voice of the Victims. In late 2008, a year-long project started with the first of four conferences taking place in the Peace Centre.



VNET Madrid: To commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Madrid train bombing, the VNET founders held the second event. This also marked the 4th European Day in Memory of the Victims of Terrorism and a memorial service was held in Madrid's El Retiro Park. Victims from across Europe came together to lay flowers beneath the 191 cypress trees planted in memory of those killed in the Madrid attacks.

VNET Turin: In May, the Italian Association of Victims of Terrorism hosted the third of the year's events in Turin. The conference focused on the theme of 'National, European and International Rights of Victims of Terrorism'. The event heard from victims and survivors from across Europe about their experiences as well as from legal experts. The delegation reflected on the varying support and legislation provided for victims of terrorism in their respective countries. It revealed the vast disparity in legislation between the UK and other European countries. Trevor Lakin, whose



son Jeremy was killed in the Sharm el Sheikh bombing in 2005, joined the Foundation's delegation at the Turin event and shared his experiences with the conference.

VNET Amsterdam: The closing event of VNET II was held in Amsterdam on 30th June. The theme for the event was 'European Values and Social Cohesion'. The event explored how the bonds that bind communities together are affected by acts of terrorism and the role victims can play in healing communities. The conference heard from six victims who spoke of the challenges they had experienced in dealing with their experiences. A common theme shared by all the speakers was the lack of understanding and acknowledgement received from the general public around their experience, which compounded feelings of isolation. The conference highlighted the important role victims could play in educating wider society about the human impact of traumatic events.

"I told the truth about how the British Government abandons victims of overseas terrorist attacks once they are back in the UK, and that the Government does not help with any financial compensation. This left the conference delegates amazed that the country that leads Europe in the fight against terrorism does not compensate its own citizens when the incident occurs overseas. The support offered by the delegates was amazing and now much work is needed. Attending conferences can sometimes be wasteful but not on this occasion. Every presentation was relevant to UK victims of terrorism and I, along with others, will try and replicate what other European countries have in place for their citizens. It is a sad reflection on the UK that we are so far behind Europe in the support for the victims of such atrocious acts of terrorism."



Personal statement by Trevor Lakin

Critical Incident Response Advisory Group (CIRAG)

The Foundation set up CIRAG in 2005. The Group is made up of different agencies from the Voluntary and Statutory sectors. Membership includes Brent Bereavement Services (who provided the response for those affected by 7/7), ASSIST Trauma Care, Cruse Bereavement Services, Combat Stress, Victim Support, the Emergency Planning Society, the British Red Cross, the Ministry of Defence and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

The Group originally met in May 2005, just before the London bombs on 7th July and the organisations in the room were aware that a major attack was expected and discussed what gaps there were likely to be in the provision of services. At this point the group members agreed that in the immediate aftermath of a critical incident, emergency plans come into place and appropriate services are provided to address the needs of those affected. In the months and years following the incident, the medium term needs of the bereaved, survivors and responders is not as well planned, and people are often unsure of where to turn for help and assistance, well into the long term.

The Foundation provides the Chair and Secretary for the Group which meets 3 times a year. They are in the process of putting together a guide for responders to help deliver an improved service to the bereaved, survivors and families following incidents. It will pull together all the learning from each member organisation about what constitutes a good response and how best to support people in the short, medium and long term. It is hoped that this guide will be used by emergency planners, crisis support workers and any responder after an emergency. It is also hoped that it will be a useful guide to what should be delivered in the medium and longer term, helping agencies to know what to expect months and years after an event. The guide is being written to complement existing resources and will be a practical 'hands on' booklet.

Storytelling residential

A soldier's tale

Written by Graham Matthews

Each and every one of us has a story that is waiting and needs to be told.

For some the past is like a thorn in the side of one's flesh, which if not treated, spreads poison maliciously throughout the body until the pain screams out from the head. The facts of the incident or incidents, may not be easily demonstrated or have a proven existence and for fear of being misunderstood or reprisal, the storyteller remains silent. The poison that spreads throughout the body is suffered and the pain used as a punishment for the increasing familiarity of guilt; silence results in the disintegration of self and alienation from others.

Nothing is more difficult than speaking of things that are neither demonstrable nor verifiable but The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace offers a safe environment where it is possible to speak-out.

The Storytelling Residential I attended helped me to take a step closer to making real the incidents and the memories that are the cause of my self-inflicted guilt.

Throughout the weekend all participants have space to tell their story without the fear and shame. There was no judgment by the other participants and by listening and sharing each other's story, however humbling one's own story is; the effect was one of individual and group strength. The desire to belong is possibly the common thread that had brought us together as a group; the need to share without recrimination.

For every one who fears to speak their story, there is at least one person who on hearing this will be strengthened and begin taking steps to tell their own story.

My story can be traced to events some thirty years ago and over this time my wound has festered making me unable

to fulfil my responsibilities to myself and others. It took a work colleague to point out my abnormal behaviour before I admitted to having a problem: previously noticed and commented on over a couple of years by my wife, but dismissed by me.

With help from my NHS GP and the fortunate introduction to the surgery's personal counsellor, I started to 'come-out' and speak-out the events of the past that were destroying my character.

I first heard about the work of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace some years before my problem surfaced, but was then reminded by contact with the Northern Ireland Veteran's Association shortly after embarking on my journey to understand 'who I am'.

I contacted the Foundation and needed little persuasion to join the 'Storytelling Residential'. However as I was and to a large extent still am unable to tell my story to my wife, as with partners or close family – this is not abnormal, as the fear of telling one's story may impact a sense of guilt, grief or misunderstanding on those who care for us – it took a little time before my wife would agree to accompany me. My argument to persuade her was that maybe by sharing my story at the residential I might begin to open the closed doors of my memory to her, I cannot say they are open but the doors are ajar.

I believe that her presence at the residential was of great benefit to others as well as me; in some ways perhaps her presence enabled others who were to speak in public for the first time to address themselves to her as a substitute carer.

I hope this course of action can be repeated by others because the carer's story is significant in the healing process and they themselves despite being removed from the event take-on a role as a victim.

We both have a tremendous respect for the professional running of the residential and all those who organised and supervised. Perhaps their care, compassion and discipline resulted in the bonding of those taking part and even though individuals may have represented opposite sides of the divide of conflict the love or closeness among us was very evident.

The need for total anonymity of each other's story was especially significant in individuals telling their story; this sense of security must be without compromise.

For myself I gained self-respect and a tremendous rush of energy after attending, for my wife she was exhausted but welcomed the experience and understood a greater sense of the difficulties of speaking-out to those in her role. Together we both felt great compassion and humility for everyone else and a rewarding sense of privilege to be a listener to others who are troubled as a result of conflict.

Once more I would like to express our thanks for the organisation and the dedicated team who administer the programme. If anyone should read this then I urge those who are similarly troubled by conflict to put their trust in the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace.

No one's story is less significant than anyone else's and the effects of guilt, the feeling of uselessness or the debilitating illness that afflicts us who directly or indirectly experience conflict need to be listened too.

Storytelling by itself cannot mend an individual but the process and the respect gained by the individuals' account helps make concrete and balance what the memory might recall as unarguable.

THE TIM PARRY JOHNATHAN BALL FOUNDATION FOR PEACE

FAMILY FUN DAY!

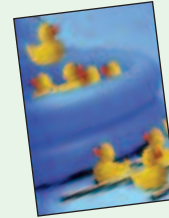
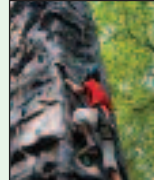
to celebrate

One World Peace Day

September 20th – 11.30am - 5pm
at David Lloyd Health Club

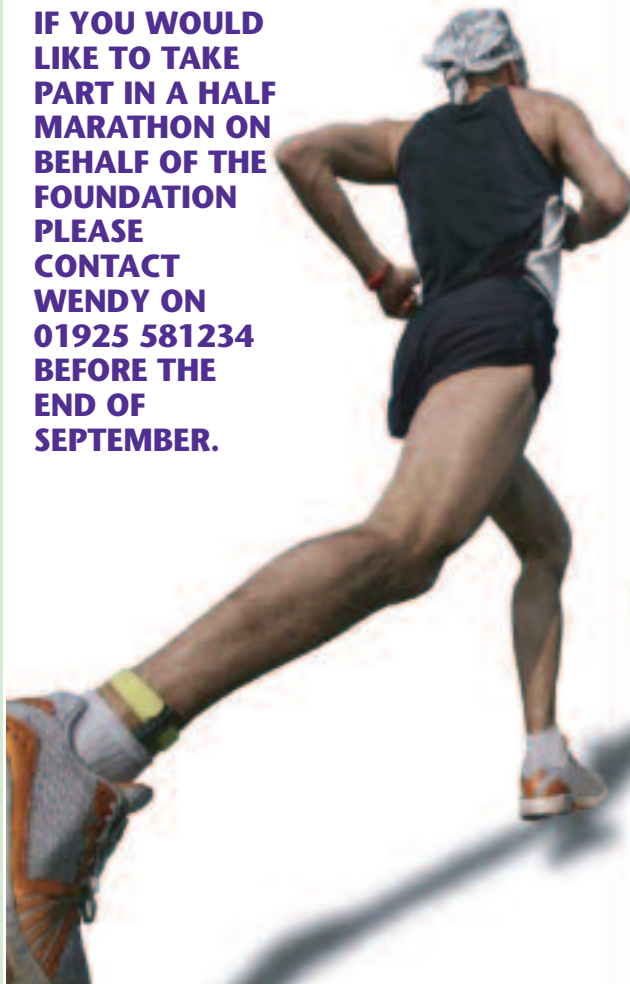
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Vince Pearson

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

For further details for all events please call Wendy on 01925 581234
or email info@foundation4peace.org



Christmas Party

SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER
AT THE PEACE CENTRE

Following the success of our first Christmas Party in December 08 and the demand for a repeat, the Foundation has decided to make this an annual event. Tickets are £30.00 per person (tables of 10) and will include great food, live entertainment and a whole range of hits brought to you by our first class DJ.

Such is the demand for this event we now only have 5 tables left.



Charity Golf Tournament

WEDNESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 09
AT PORTAL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE

£360 for a team of 4 includes:
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SHOT GUN START AT 1.30pm

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Starts 7pm at
The Peace Centre
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sg@disabilitypartnership.org.uk

Address:

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Hospital branding takes to the roads

A PRIVATE hospital in Warrington is hoping to attract more business by promoting its services on branded taxis and ad vans.

Spire Cheshire Hospital in Stretton has commissioned the vehicles to raise awareness of the hospital and its services.

Promote

The ad van is a billboard sized van that will promote services such as cosmetic surgery, orthopaedic surgery, gynaecology and general surgery around Cheshire and Merseyside. The taxis will be on the

streets of Warrington and St Helens. Hospital director Andy Eadsforth said: "We have a great hospital with a great team and we're proud of the service we provide so we think its right to shout that as loud as we can."

He said the aim is to get people to know the Spire name, which is less well-known than its previous Bupa brand, and the range of services on offer at the hospital.

The hospital, on the A49, opened



in 1988 and it is set in secluded grounds, just off junction 10 of the M56 motorway. It attracts patients from a wide area and offers a wide

range of operations, treatments and tests and on-site diagnostic facilities including X-ray, CT and MRI scanning.

Facelift for play areas

WORK has started on improving three play areas in Warrington - with designs based on riverside, carnival and farmyard themes.



Coun Paul Kenny (in the digger), Coun John Joyce, Peter Cox, managing director of WREN, Margaret Dolan of the Howley Residents Association and local residents at the celebration.

The sites in Howley are to be refurbished to offer improved facilities and opportunities for play and social gathering for local children and their families.

Work on the £305,000 project, in Parr Street, Harbord Street and Howley Park, is due to be completed by the end of the month.

During the early stages of the project parents and children were consulted to find out what they thought about the play areas and what facilities they would like there.

New and innovative versions of old favourites such as swings, roundabouts, mobiles, see-saws and slides, as well as modern, challenging modular play units will be installed. Additionally, at Howley Park, there will be a children's fun run, fitness trail and an unusual yo-yo swing. Parr Street will be constructed with a riverside theme, Harbord Street

like a farmyard and Howley Park themed as a carnival.

A gathering attended by residents, councillors and representatives of environmental charity WREN, one of the funders, was held at Howley Park to mark the start of the work. An official launch event involving the local community is planned on completion of the work.

Coun Paul Kenny said: "Thanks to the hard work of local people and the support of the council and WREN, the local community can celebrate the start of work to transform these three sites in the Howley area."

Richard Smith, project manager for WREN, said: "Soon the community in Howley will have top class play facilities and I hope they are enjoyed by a great many young people for years to come."

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Exhibition by parents and children

AN exhibition of paintings produced by parents and children who attended family portrait classes earlier this year has been running at Warrington Museum.

Organised at St Peter's Primary School Family Learning Centre, Woolston by Janice Pounds, the borough council's arts advisor and artist Mark Waterman, the aim of the course was to encourage parents and their children to learn together in an environment away from home.

"Students" attending the classes enjoyed tuition in portraiture, the use of acrylic paint, demonstrations of different painting techniques and art appreciation.

Jen who attended the classes with her 10 year old son, Jordan said: "When this opportunity came up my son and I jumped at the chance to try it. We



Some of the artists who took part in the classes with their pictures.

both really enjoyed it and seeing the finished artwork exhibited in the museum was great.

"Mark - the artist - was great with Jordan. He was really patient, showing him how to get the best from his self

portrait; I will definitely look out for more of these sessions in the future."

The free classes were well attended and after the exhibition finishes each family will get to keep their canvas.

Tribute concert for musician

A TRIBUTE concert for a man well-known in brass band circles is being held in Warrington.

The brass band concert, at the Salvation Army Citadel and Community Centre on October 23, is in memory of former Warrington resident Bill Lacey.

Bill was born and brought up in

the valleys of South Wales and learned to play an instrument when he was seven. He played and conducted in many bands including well-known bands such as Brighthouse and Rastrick.

He taught many young people to play and his legacy lives on in his children and grandchildren, who all play musical instruments. Most of them will be taking part in the tribute concert.

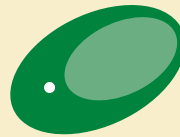
He and his wife Jean lived in Warrington until 1995, when they moved to Knutsford. He played in bands for more than 70 years,

including Birchwood Community Band, until he stopped due to ill health.

Jean said: "He never gave up and his instrument, a euphonium, remained in its open case in the spare room, where he could pick it up and practice at any time."

Sadly he died at the age of 80 after suffering from cancer for 12 years.

Proceeds from the concert will go to the East Cheshire Hospice. Tickets are available by phone on 07845 129925 or 07747 302064.



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£13m school building programme

TOWN Hall chiefs at Warrington have approved a £13 million primary school investment programme which will 'transform learning opportunities across the borough.'

Coun Sheila Woodyatt, (pictured) the borough council's executive member for Children's Services said: "This isn't just good news - it's excellent news.

"It's such good news we should all be dancing around the room."

Funding is available to:

- Extend Oughtrington Primary School

from 315 places to 420 places at a cost of £1.524 million.

- Improve and modernise Winwick CE Primary at a cost of £500,000.
 - Modernise and improve St Joseph's RC Primary at a cost of £1.2 million.
 - Build a replacement nursery at The Cobbs Infants School, Appleton
 - Relocate Sycamore Lane Primary School, Great Sankey, to Chapelford Urban Village at a cost of £4 million.
- This will leave a balance of £5.596 million to deliver improvements at a number of other schools, depending on priority.

These include Great Sankey Primary, St Margaret's CE, Evelyn Street, Dallam, Bewsey Lodge and Woolston Primary.

Coun Woodyatt said the programme would "close the gap" between the deprived and more affluent areas of the borough.

Coun Keith Bland said he was pleased

much of the work would be carried out in inner wards of the borough.

Council leader Ian Marks said the council must take advantage of the fact that contractors were putting in lower tender bids during the current economic recession.

"This is one of the 'up-sides' of the situation," he said.



Lights, Camera, Action!

STUDENTS from the creative and performing arts section at Warrington Collegiate were awarded for their excellent talent and skills in the nationally recognised UK Skills competition.

Principal, Paul Hafren said "This is an excellent achievement for our Creative and Performing Arts students. We value the strong determination and commitment of our students and want to recognise their success and hard work."

After successfully getting through the regional finals in June, students showcased their talent at the national finals to an audience, including several judges. The students put creativity to the

test, bringing back gold, silver and bronze medals from various categories. Ellie Condren 19, won gold medal in Musical Theatre and was surprised with the result. "I didn't register when the judges called my name. The competition was of such a very high standard."

Amongst the winners was the group category for Choreography Contemporary Dance. Jade Stubbings won gold for her group where she choreographed a dance piece for dancers Rachel Hughes, Kadie Braide and Nichole Haworth. The group were practicing every day leading up to the final to ensure it was to perfection. Overwhelmed Jade adds "I was really surprised to win gold, when they announced bronze and silver I thought we hadn't got through."

Additional winners included Sarah Goggin who received bronze in Acting and silver in Musical Theatre. Jessica Burgess also won bronze in solo choreography. The students now have the opportunity to be placed in the Worldskills competition.



PCT re-appoints three board members

THREE board members have been re-appointed to NHS Warrington to continue their work on improving health services for local people.

The two non-executive directors and the audit chairman will carry on their work with other directors to oversee changes at the Primary Care Trust (PCT).

Audit chairman Catherine Vannerem-Martin joined NHS Warrington in June 2005. She has been a tutor in various colleges, has 10 years' experience as a senior accountant and auditor, and is currently an accountant at St Rocco's Hospice.

Non-executive director since October 2006, Sandra Brusby, has developed a career encompassing rationalising company structures, economic development and change management. She has been chief executive of Business Link Cheshire and Warrington since Sept 2000.

The other non-executive director Bruce Rigby joined in October 2006. He has over 42 years experience and service in the public and third sectors. He is a full time carer and is chairman of the national mental health charity Making Space.

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Dream comes true for soccer fans

A DREAM came true for two young footballers from Warrington when they escorted their heroes, Manchester United, onto the pitch for their FA Community Shield match against Chelsea.



Reece pictured third from the left with other mascots.

Reece Kian Farmer, aged seven, and Ryan Taylor, 10, were given the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be a Player Escort at Wembley.

And for Reece, a pupil of Cinnamon Brow Primary School and player for Fife Rangers, it was a double treat weekend. As the day before he had seen his beloved Warrington Wolves qualify for Wembley.

His grandmother Margaret Farmer, who entered him for the mascot competition, said Reece was due in Wembley on the Saturday but was double-booked as he did not want to miss the Warrington match. Reece

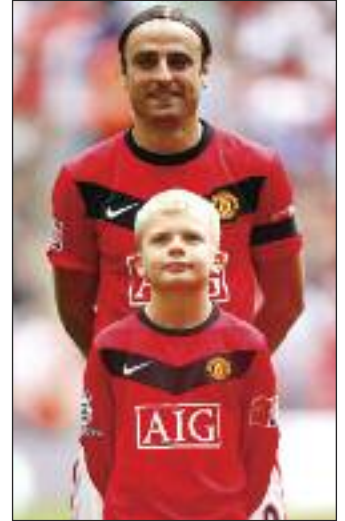
has been a fan since he was three and he and dad Ian are season ticket holders.

Organisers agreed to him missing the special lunch and meeting with World Cup hero Geoff Hurst the day before the United match – but he was in plenty of time for the Sunday game.

The two Warrington boys were among others chosen after relatives entered them into a competition saying why they deserved the honour of accompanying players onto the pitch.

Reece said: "I've had the best day ever. I can't believe I got to meet my favourite players and walk them out onto the pitch at Wembley!"

Ryan added: "This has been a day that I'll never forget."



Ryan Taylor with Dimitar Berbatov.

Sports festival success

A FIVE-day sports event at Warrington Peace Centre proved popular with more than 80 young people a day taking part.

The sixth annual Summer Sports Festival was organised by the NSPCC and Participation Through Sport.

Youngsters, under the supervision of staff and older teenagers, enjoyed a range of challenging

activities which included team building and sports. There were also sessions on T shirt design utilising images from around the world, children's rights and food relating to different cultures.

NSPCC Participation Through Sport development officer Jameel Hadi said: "We promote the personal development and volunteering of young people, organise sports, taster sessions, day trips and holiday events.

"It has been so successful over the past years that our young volunteer leaders keep returning. We're delighted to offer the facility as part of Warrington's Summer Fun programme."



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Financially yours

By David Watkinson

You need to outsource your business tasks!

FIRSTLY, a warning to all readers, whether taxpayers or not. There are a number of e-mails currently circulating which appear to be from the tax office and which state that you are due a tax repayment. If you follow the link then you will be asked for personal details, including information about your bank account. Please be aware that HM Revenue and Customs have stated that under no circumstances will they ever contact a member of the public and ask for personal details by e-mail. If you receive an e-mail of this nature then you should immediately delete it. If you have any doubts of it's fraudulent nature then telephone the Revenue and Customs help-line and ask whether they have contacted you by e-mail.

Back to business! Do you find yourself short of time, spending too much time working in your business and not enough time working on your business? Or do you want to spend more time with your family? Do you really want to spend your valuable time trying to do work that you are not expert at, rather than earning money doing your real work? The answer

to all of these questions may be to outsource some of the tasks that you find yourself getting bogged down with.

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David Watkinson and Margaret Black

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