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See Page 3

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IF Warrington is to compete successfully with the big, regional shopping centres, something has to be done about parking. Not just in the south of the borough where the council's recent proposals for pay-and-display parking have met with anger and dismay, but throughout the whole of Warrington.

When 5,000 people sign a petition asking for more free parking in Stockton Heath and Lymm and the council's response is to end free parking altogether, it is little wonder there is anger. And when those people discover that no other outlying area of the borough has to pay for parking at all, that anger turns to outrage.

The council maintains that 30p is not a lot to pay for two hours parking, and this is true. But for the motorist stopping two minutes to pick up a pint of milk, 30p almost doubles the cost of milk.

In the neighbouring borough of Trafford the first hour of parking costs just 10p, two hours costs 30p and three hours 70p. This has resulted in more than twice as many people using the car parks, which presumably means more than twice as many people are shopping locally.

But it is not only the pricing structure that is wrong in Warrington's flawed parking policy. In the town centre, on-street parking is free. But in most places there is a waiting limit of half an

hour.

Do any members of the council shop in Warrington town centre? Do they realise the impossibility of completing anything but the briefest visit in half an hour?

This absurdly short waiting time makes comparison shopping, or a visit to a café, impossible.

Yes, we know about the multi-storey car parks, but many people, particularly women drivers and the elderly, potentially the biggest spenders, just won't use them!

Finally, let us consider the purpose of the parking policy. The

council says it is not to make a profit. The idea is to encourage a turn-over of vehicles and deter all-day parkers while at the same time balancing the books – a worthy aim.

In fact, most of the income comes from people who simply forget to pay-and-display, or forget how long they have been away from their car. People who will probably, when caught by the prowling parking wardens, decide not to shop here again. And the parking service still runs at a thumping great loss!

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Soccer legends help launch club's 2020 Vision

WARRINGTON Town FC aims to change the landscape of football in the town with a 2020 vision to take the club to the Football League in a new purpose built stadium.

The club's 2020 vision launched at the Village Hotel involved setting clear and concise goals for where the club expects to be by the year 2020.

Former Manchester United and England star Bryan Robson supported the club as they unveiled their plans to take the club from the Evo-Stik Division One North to the Football League, involving

four promotions over the next seven years. Bryan Robson sports is working in partnership with the club in its attempts to deliver a new stadium facility.

Bryan was joined by other footballing legends, including former Everton and England star Peter Reid - brother of Warrington Town Manager Shaun and former Manchester City star Gary Owen, who works as an ambassador for the club and who played for Warrington Schoolboys.

Chief Executive Richard Sutton said: "Many people will know that we have been working hard to try

and secure a relocation for the club and this is the cornerstone of our 2020 vision. In a nutshell the 2020 vision is as follows.

1. WTCF in Football League.
2. Operating from a new purpose built stadium complex.
3. A Junior and Youth section that is a centre of Excellence that provides a clear path for players' right up to the first team.
4. A Community Development programme that consists of a team of people engaging all sectors of the public to encourage participation in sports as part of a healthy lifestyle.

Richard added: "It's an ambitious vision, it's an exciting vision, and we know it will be a real challenge, but let me assure everybody reading this- The individuals involved in running this club will leave no stone unturned to reach our ultimate goal.

"We have geared all our efforts this year towards a promotion push and it promises to be a great season ahead. For those fans who have been with us for years we thank you for your continued support and for those new fans joining us for the first time this year, we welcome you on board."

Any local business interested in finding out more about the club's 2020 vision and investing in the club should email richard@warringtontownfc.co.uk

Meanwhile the club have also unveiled their new shirts for the forthcoming season, which are



supplied by Umbro with Warrington Collegiate once again the principal sponsor.

Winger Chris Gahgan and striker Ciaran Kilheeny are pictured above modelling the shirts.

Replica shirts are available to order for just £25 and £20 for members of the supporters club.

To order a shirt email admin@warringtontownfc.co.uk



2020 Vision launch (L-R) Soccer legends Peter Reid, Bryan Robson and Gary Owen with Warrington Town directors Richard Sutton, David Pickering and Toby Macormac.

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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

Magic moments

Some people manage to live life by coasting along, taking each day as it comes, but for others life feels constantly difficult and full of pitfalls and unhappiness. Generally for most people, life is full of ups and downs, with variations of peaks and troughs, but there are also times when we can get stopped in our tracks, very unexpectedly, and for numerous reasons, for instance, illness, accidents, bereavements, or on a more positive note, promotion, change of job, new relationship, and birth of a child.

Changes in circumstances or of attitudes and behaviour can also be altered by what some people may term as 'an act of God', divine intervention' or 'someone looking down on me!'. These are the 'magic moments' when a person cannot explain what has happened to cause a change in them or in what they are going through at the time. An example of this may be, a feeling of intense anxiety and panic about attending an important function but suddenly a feeling of calm serenity enables their natural coping skills to

emerge with a change of attitude and ability to manage the situation with ease.

However, it is important to remain open to the possibility of these things happening, some people totally close themselves off because they are so low in mood and lack self worth that they think 'magic moments' can only happen to other people. If they reach out to another person for help or offer an act of kindness to someone else, they may then acknowledge when a magic moment happens. Negative thinking and worrying thoughts cloud judgement and self belief, and causes doubt about whether human kindness and positive experiences really exist.

It is always astounding though, even for those people in the depths of despair how something unexpected happens to make positive changes. Any form of caring interaction between two or more people can bring this about.

Love is the answer; everything around us exists because of love, the lyrics of songs, many of the storylines on the soaps and films on TV. We all want someone to love us and accept us, if we feel loved then life feels better, and it is during times of celebration that love makes everything seem so much better and

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, based at Woolston Surgery, Neighbourhood Hub, Warrington WA1 4PN.

Tel: 01925-658322 email timelineservices@aol.com www.michaelmahoneyhypnotherapist.com

brighter.

Our daughter's wedding was a wonderful example of how people are brought together, and who forget their differences when they all want to celebrate in the love of the union between two people. During these times magic moments are constantly happening, when people talk to others they haven't spoken to for years and are instrumental in creating an environment of security and meaning for the happy couple.

The feeling of love attracts people like bees to nectar; everyone wants to share in it. If you are struggling in your experience of feeling loved or being loving, and are feeling lacking of those 'magic moments' in any way, then please do not hesitate to contact myself or Cate Todd on 01925 658322 to discuss how we may be able to help you open up to experiencing those loving, caring 'magic moments'.

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New hairdressing academy set to open

A NEW hairdressing academy is set to launch in Warrington delivering apprenticeship opportunities which could create at least 20 new jobs every year.

Based at Callaghan's Hairdressing on Sankey Street, Warrington, the Cheshire Academy of Hairdressing, is the first facility of its kind in the area and is now actively looking to recruit apprentices aged 16-19, providing exciting opportunities for highly motivated people to acquire skills and qualifications, while working in the hairdressing industry.

Under the guidance of Salon and Academy Director Stuart Callaghan, Academy Director Claire Aldous and Creative Director Andrea Potts, who between them have more than 60 years combined experience in the industry, apprentices will undertake a programme of training tailored to meet their needs, starting in September.

They will work towards gaining NVQ's at level 2 and 3 and qualifications in functional skills Maths and English, Employment Rights and Responsibilities, Equality and Diversity and Personal Learning and Thinking Skills.

Apprentices will have the opportunity to experience all aspects of the hairdressing industry, involving theory to back up the practical skills of cutting, colouring and all other related tasks. Classes will be small, with a maximum of 10 students.

"The Academy offers an inspirational and contemporary working environment for technical and artistic excellence," said Stuart, who has been a salon owner for 16 years in a hairdressing career spanning 24 years.

"We believe a team driven, professional and friendly atmosphere allows trainees the optimum opportunity to develop to their full potential. Our philosophy is to provide excellent standards of training at all levels," added Claire, who embarked on her career 27 years ago, running her own successful salon for the past 10 years, during which time she has trained staff to management level.

Although based at Callaghan's the Academy will offer placements for other salons within the area.

For more details call 01925 575785 or visit www.callaghanhairdressing.co.uk



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- Apprenticeships are for people of all ages from 16-19 years of age. The apprenticeship programme provides an exciting opportunity for highly motivated people to acquire skills and qualifications whilst at the same time working within the hairdressing industry.
- Apprentices will undertake a programme of training tailored to meet their needs. They will be working towards gaining NVQ's at levels 2 and 3 and qualifications in Functional Skills, Maths and English, Employment Rights and Responsibilities, Equality and Diversity and Personal Learning and Thinking Skills.
- Our apprentices will have the opportunity to experience all aspects of the hairdressing industry. This will involve theory to back up the practical skills of cutting, colouring and all other related tasks.
- Assessment of skills and knowledge will be assessed both at the Academy by qualified and experienced trainers and in salon.
- Classes will be small – with a maximum of 10 students. Students have found this to be a friendlier atmosphere to work in and the tutors have a better relationship with all of their students.

For more details contact



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Business

New Stadium naming partner unveiled

WARRINGTON Town are delighted to announce a new stadium naming partner for the forthcoming season - HG Driver Recruitment, who have also taken up the option of being back of shirt sponsor.

The five figure sponsorship deal has provided a major boost for the club who will now be playing at the HG Driver Recruitment Stadium.

MD Carl Stairs said: "Our company has recently expanded and opened offices in the Warrington area and we see the football club as the ideal vehicle to promote our brand in the local community."

"The board of directors are clearly very passionate with an exciting vision for the future of the

club.

"We are delighted to be able to be part of what looks set to be an exciting journey."

Company drivers have all been provided with Hi Vis jackets promoting the Warrington Town brand on their travels.

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HG Recruitment Warrington Branch Manager Neil Roberts and members of his team unveil their stadium sponsorship deal with Warrington Town Chairman Gary Skentelbery and Operations Director Toby Macormac.

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Dental practice goes from strength to strength

GRAPPENHALL Dental Practice is pleased to announce further expansion due to increased demand allowing them to accommodate new patients.

A third surgery has been added and two new dentists have joined the current team.

Grappenhall Dental Practice was set up from scratch in 2006 by Dr Andrew Brown who had previously worked for the NHS in the centre of Warrington for 10 years.

Andrew decided he wanted to open his own practice and recognised the shortage of NHS dentists in the south of Warrington. Although he wanted to continue to offer NHS dentistry to his patients he was informed by the primary care trust that they had no money to allow him to do so.

Andrew did not want to charge very high private fees to his loyal patients so decided to provide independent 'nhs style' dentistry.

He said: "Our prices have actually been cheaper than the NHS for over seven years. We provide a full range of general dentistry both NHS quality and private quality and are able to give the patients all the options without any restrictions or limitations from NHS bureaucracy."

Due to the fairness and popularity of how his system operated Andrew quickly became too busy and added his second surgery in 2007.

Another Andrew, Dr Booth, joined the practice and was happy to work under the same ethos.

"We are now opening our third surgery and are very pleased to welcome Dr Ivan Wolfe to our practice. Ivan is a very dedicated enthusiastic and compassionate dentist."

Having qualified in 2012 in Cork, Ireland, Ivan has worked in a mixed NHS/Private dental practice near Manchester for the past year gaining a wealth of experience in general dentistry.

He now brings his skills to add to the team at Grappenhall.

Meanwhile a fourth dentist, Dr Laura Pumford, will be joining the team in September.

Laura qualified in 2010 in Liverpool and has worked in both NHS and private practices.

Andrew concluded: "We are all committed to providing the very best of care using the latest equipment/techniques in a compassionate way with a fair and reasonable charging system."

"We are now able to accept new patients with no waiting lists, emergencies seen same day and we are also introducing a late night clinic to accommodate patients who struggle to attend during normal working hours."

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Flying high

FORMER Priestley College student Ashley Loftus is flying high after becoming national student of the year for his course.

Ashley (pictured right), aged 19, from Woolston, Warrington, who aims to become an air traffic control officer in the Royal Navy, was named Outstanding Public Service Student of the Year at the National BTEC Awards, which were held in honour of nearly one million students who took the qualifications.

The former St Gregory's High School pupil enjoyed a Parliamentary reception at the House of Lords before receiving his award at a ceremony hosted by Radio 1 DJ Matt Edmondson at the Royal Horticultural Halls. Baroness (Tanni) Grey-Thompson also spoke at the ceremony.

"My BTEC has given me more self-confidence as well as the determination, motivation and the desire to accomplish my ambition of becoming an air traffic control officer in the Royal Navy," said Ashley, who studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Public Services and an A Level in Law.

Head of Public Services Colin Whittaker said: "Ashley always impressed us with his commitment and drive both in the classroom and during visits to various public service organisations.

"He was an outstanding ambassador for the college and has regularly offered advice to



other students about their options after college. His sense of humour and leadership skills also impressed and will no doubt help him achieve his goal in the Royal Navy."

Ashley represented Priestley College during the mooted competition at Stockton Heath Police Station and in the Warrington Mock Trial.

His drive and enthusiasm even impressed the Red Arrows during a visit to their base, which was organised by Priestley College.

Ashley went on to successfully complete his Extended Diploma and A Level, and has begun training as an officer in the Navy.

"It is vital to support and celebrate the hard work and achievements of outstanding BTEC students and their teachers," said Rod Bristow, President of Pearson UK who own Edexcel, the awarding body for BTECs.

"This year's judges were impressed by the quality and number of nominations we received but Ashley really stood out as a truly exceptional student."

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Salon celebrates two years of success

JUST two years ago, Paul Kemp Hairdressing opened in Warrington town centre with a handful of staff.

Now it boasts an 11-strong team renowned for its creative talent and client focus.

Salon director Paul Kemp said: It's been an unbelievable two years. We've taken on some truly talented new stylists plus developed two apprentices into fully skilled hairdressers, with a third well on the way - the team is going from strength to strength."

The salon recently recruited a new stylist, Michelle Railton, 24, (pictured) from Warrington. With almost 10 years' experience, Michelle is a perfect fit for the team.

She said "Being part of such a strong team is really exciting, I can't wait to build up a new client base and push my skills to the limit. I wouldn't have chosen to work in any other salon!"

More details about the salon can be found at www.paulkemphairdressing.com.



Peaceful protest from cannabis campaigners

PRO cannabis campaigners staged a peaceful protest on Warrington town hall lawn, openly smoking the drug, following the council's controversial drugs awareness campaign "It's Not Just a Joint," which suggested cannabis was stronger than heroin.

Around 20-30 protestors staged a sit down protest, many suffering from illnesses and conditions such as arthritis, which they claimed benefited from the use of cannabis.

A spokesperson for the Merseyside Cannabis Supporters Group, who were among the many who bombarded the council's facebook page, forcing it to close, following the launch of the campaign said: "Whatever statistics the council came up with for their claims that cannabis was stronger than heroin, were clearly flawed.

"The campaign was clearly targeting younger people who could have been misled into thinking heroin was a safer drug.

"Cannabis has been proven to help people who suffer from various conditions including arthritis and MS.

"The fact that the council has withdrawn the campaign and issued a public apology is too little too late."

The council campaign had cost £1,500 prior to being withdrawn following a storm of protest and was followed by an apology to anyone who felt they had been misled by the drugs message.

The campaign is currently being reviewed.

The 'It's Not Just a Joint' initiative was launched via the council's own electronic newsletter - "The Wire" and sparked outrage from pro-cannabis campaigners who accused the council of suggesting heroin was a safer alternative to cannabis.

Hundreds of people had commented on the council's Facebook page forcing the council to close the page.

The council's class B drug awareness initiative included the comment: "Did you know that cannabis can be stronger than heroin and cannabis related crime is now the most common drug related crime in Warrington?"

The "It's not just a joint" campaign was due to run throughout July, August and September in Warrington, with adverts on buses and bus shelters in various locations around the town, and promotion via social media.

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Bus company launches 'Happy Sundays'!

LOCAL bus company Network Warrington has launched a special "Happy Sundays" service which runs until September 15

All evening bus services will be extended by approximately two hours on Sundays and bank holidays. Plus, it's only £1 per single journey and 70p for kids, anywhere you want to go on the network.

These changes are all part of Network Warrington's initiative to encourage people to get out and about this summer and enjoy what our town has to offer.

Maureen Banner, Network Warrington Chair, said "It's clear from customer feedback that people want extended Sunday services so in response we have decided to trial it for a six week period. If it's successful we will consider providing an improved Sunday evening service."

For detailed timetable information go to networkwarrington.co.uk or pop into the Travel Centre at Warrington Interchange.

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Tweeters, texters and trolls

by Jonathan Conder

The problem of internet 'trolls' who send malicious, threatening or obscene messages in the often mistaken belief that they can remain anonymous, is growing. To many, tweeting and texting is as natural a part of the daily routine as eating and sleeping. It may therefore be easy to forget when typing into a keyboard, phone, or iPad that once sent a tweet, text, Facebook message or email will be impossible to retrieve. It may be re-tweeted or re-sent and seen by many other people. Although such activities are commonplace the consequences can be very serious if they are pursued in a malicious or thoughtless manner.

Given that Twitter alone currently has over half a billion users worldwide, sending an average of 58 million tweets every day, the task of monitoring internet traffic is a

gargantuan one. However the recent case involving Labour MP Stella Creasy illustrates how the police can and will intervene if they believe that a tweet or other electronic communication contravenes the criminal law. Two pieces of legislation are of particular relevance. An offence of harassment under the Protection From Harassment Act 1997 is committed where there is a course of conduct involving at least two separate acts which causes alarm, distress or fear of violence to a particular individual. It often arises where a relationship has broken down and feelings of sorrow or anger are expressed persistently in an unwelcome or threatening manner. The course of conduct can include the sending of texts or other forms of electronic communication. Online bullying and trolling can also amount to harassment and whatever the context perpetrators can receive

prison sentences especially where threats of violence are made. An offence under the Communications Act 2003 does not require a course of conduct. A single electronic communication, can amount to an offence if it is grossly offensive, indecent, obscene or menacing.

Tweeters and bloggers also need to be wary of the possible consequences in civil law of commenting on a person's character, however briefly. The internet clearly provides useful tools for those who wish to organise campaigns, communicate their views about matters of public interest or simply to gossip in a public forum. But as the wife of the Speaker of the House of Commons discovered to her cost recently, the law of defamation applies to such communications just as it does to more traditional forms such as a newspaper article.



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Withington Girls' Success

High-flying Appleton sixth former Rhona Dawson is really going places.

The 17-year-old Withington Girls' School pupil, who scored eight A* and three A grades in her GCSE examinations and is now studying A-level biology, chemistry, physics and maths, has enjoyed exciting school trips to France and China. She has also been voted Deputy Head Girl for the coming year.

Taking full advantage of the extensive extracurricular programme at Withington, Rhona plays clarinet in the school's senior orchestra, is lacrosse first team captain and is completing her Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Acclaimed advice on careers and regionally unrivalled expertise in securing places at top universities – 92% over three years – alongside outstanding examination results, saw Withington again named as 'best value independent school in the country' by the *Financial Times*. Withington was also included in the *FT's* list of the country's top 20 schools – the only one in the north of England to be listed. In July, Withington was named as 'best school in the North West' by *The Sunday Times*.

In 2012, A-level candidates achieved a 96% pass rate at A*, A and B. The GCSE pass rate at A*, A and B grades was 98.6%.

Withington's lively, friendly and purposeful atmosphere produces an exceptional quality of opportunity, independence of mind and high aspirations. Girls relish the chance to engage in opportunities from music and drama to sport; mathematics and science Olympiads; Model United Nations; UK and overseas travel; debating; Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Young Enterprise schemes, to name but a few. The Withington community is proud of its multicultural and multi-faith nature and inclusiveness. One-in-six senior pupils receive means-tested bursary support.

Pupils come from a wide area – many, by dedicated bus services. The Warrington area service is provided by Maynes, and drops the girls directly outside the School.



Rhona Dawson

“Happiness does not come from doing easy work but from the satisfaction that comes after the achievement of a task that demanded our best”

Theodore Isaac Rubin

OPEN DAYS

Junior and Senior School

For girls aged 7-11 & 11-16

Thursday 7th November
4.30pm to 6.30pm

Saturday 9th November
10am to 12noon

Sixth Form

For girls aged 16+

Tuesday 15th October
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Travel card arrives on the buses

BUS operator Network Warrington has launched a new travel card which will enable passengers to travel without carrying cash.

The Midas Card can be used on any Network Warrington service at any time of the day.

It should help speed up boarding times and so make it easier for buses to run to time.

Hover

Passengers using the card simply have to hover it over the target on the ticket machine and their fare is deducted from the credit on the

card. The card can be topped up on the bus, or at the Travel Centre.

Easier

Network Warrington chairman Maureen Banner said: "The Midas card has been introduced to make travelling easier for our customers.

"It will also speed up boarding times as the driver doesn't need to issue change to every passenger.

"We will continue to make improvements to the card and we hope to introduce an online top up service in the near future."

More details of the card can be found at www.midascard.co.uk

New CEO for law firm

WARRINGTON law firm Forshaws Davies Ridgway (FDR) has a new chief executive at the helm.

Oliver Burton, aged 30, has joined the firm after enjoying a meteoric career in the commercial and corporate banking sector.

A graduate of the top-rated Lancaster Business School, Oliver will be bringing his commercial and business expertise to the successful law firm which includes 18 partners and more than 100 staff.

He will be based at Palmyra Square, Warrington and managing staff in Stockton Heath and Frodsham as well as the specialist commercial branch in Bold Street, Warrington. As part of his CEO role, he will also be a director of fdrIM (FDR Investment Management).

Oliver said: "I am delighted to join a law firm with such a strong reputation in all legal sectors. My appointment signals the partners' determination to focus on delivering business excellence, providing a top class professional service to all our clients, whilst also ensuring we invest in our people and their future.

"With the economic downturn and the recent changes to legal aid, many law firms are struggling to survive, never mind adapt and evolve. We will stand on the shoulders of our already successful platform and ensure that FDR will not just be fit for now, but also well-placed to take advantage of all future opportunities."

High school's eventful year

WARRINGTON'S Birchwood High School has become an Academy school – little more than a year after governors first decided it would be in the school's best interests to convert.

The school, one of the first business and enterprise colleges in the country, is celebrating an eventful year in which its young people extended their learning in a variety of ways.

A spokesperson said: "An important part of our ethos in the school and college is to encourage learners and students to support their learning by getting involved in activities beyond the classroom.

"This year has been no exception, with our young people extending their learning in all sorts of ways."

In science, pupils from Years 9 and 10 took part in the Discovery Scholarship programme, designed to build links with local organisations whose expertise is in different aspects of science.

Four high achieving Year 8 pupils took part in the Salter's Chemistry Festival at Manchester University and three Year 10 pupils were selected by Cambridge University to take part in residential Salter's Chemistry Camps.

Year 10 pupils Sophia Pagonis, Gemma Kersey

and Oliver Thomas, took part in a national debating competition, Youth Speaks. Oliver Thomas also won the Chairperson's Award.

They were commended for showing maturity, determination and importantly, respect for the other competitors, as well as being one of the youngest teams in the event.

More than 90 pupils from Years 10 and 11 completed the expedition part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

A group of 21 Year 9 pupils undertook the Learning Initiative for Enterprise programme, where learners are invited to work one day a week with local companies, setting up their own enterprises and learning valuable skills such as communication, problem solving and presenting. In addition, six Year 9 pupils reached the final of the National Enterprise Competition in London.

Birchwood College students also extended their learning through opportunities including A Level and BTEC Level 3 Sport expeditions, attending UCAS and university conferences and an A Level Law visit to the Royal Courts of Justice in London.

The school has an open evening on Thursday, September 19.



Thursday
19 September
4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

There will be a presentation by the Headteacher & Senior Staff at 5.30pm & 6.30pm

For more information please go to
www.birchwoodhigh.org

OPEN EVENING 2013

Lowton Church of England High School

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LANGUAGES MONDAY Advanced Spanish, Introduction to Italian, Japanese.
TUESDAY French, British Sign Language, Improvers Italian **WEDNESDAY** Beginners Spanish



ART & CRAFT MONDAY Painting & Drawing, Jewellery Making
TUESDAY Oil Painting, Crochet, **WEDNESDAY** Book Transformation **WEEKEND** Pottery



LEISURE & PLEASURE MONDAY Psychology, Counselling Skills, Introduction to Family History
TUESDAY Introduction to Photography, Passing the Driving Theory Test
WEDNESDAY Green Medicine & Herbal Remedies, Photography Club, Improvers Family History
WEEKEND Indian Head Massage, Garden Design



FUNCTIONAL SKILLS MONDAY Maths (Level 2) **TUESDAY** English (Level 2)

FOOD & DRINK MONDAY Come Dine with Me! **TUESDAY** Cake Decorating Beginners
WEDNESDAY Cake Decorating Improvers **WEEKEND** Festive Cookery Workshop



QUALIFICATION COURSES TUESDAY Level 2 Certificate in Counselling Skills
WEDNESDAY GCSE Psychology, GCSE French,
Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies.

Enrolment for all courses

Adults wishing to enrol upon a course are invited to attend the appropriate enrolment evening. The School's enrolment programme will begin on Wednesday 4th September 2013.

Course Start Date	Date / Time for Enrolling
Courses starting on a Monday	Wednesday 4th September between 5 – 7pm
Courses starting on a Tuesday plus the two cake decorating courses and the pottery workshop	Wednesday 4th September between 5 – 7pm
Courses starting on a Wednesday (except for cake decorating see above for details)	Thursday 5th September between 5 – 7pm
All Weekend Courses / Workshops (except for pottery see above for details)	Thursday 5th September between 5 – 7pm

We have a number of weekend workshops in the build up to Christmas for those wishing to learn new skills or to make personal gifts for family and friends.



Festive Cookery Workshop
Baubles, Bows and Artificial Christmas Flowers Workshop
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For more information
www.lowtonhighschool.co.uk

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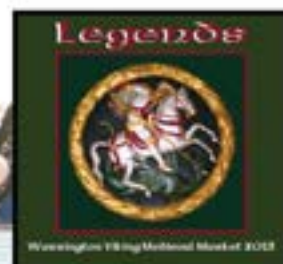
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By David Watkinson

Operating through a limited company

There are two main reasons why people consider using a limited company through which to trade.

Firstly, companies frequently enjoy a lower rate of tax than individuals, especially for levels of income that would take an individual into higher rate tax bands. Also, there are more generous tax deductions available in some circumstances, although that needs to be set against the more onerous rules concerning benefits-in-kind, especially company cars and car fuel. We have looked at this previously, and will no doubt come back to this at some point in the future.

Secondly, operating through a limited company helps to protect the personal assets of the individuals involved in the business. However, this protection is not complete. For instance, a bank may require a personal guarantee from a director before granting a loan or overdraft facility to a company. Also, the Courts may hold a director personally liable where there has been "wrongful trading", which normally means trading whilst insolvent.

Moreover, within the last month

Business Secretary Vince Cable has proposed making fraudulent or negligent directors of UK companies personally liable for the firm's debts as part of an overhaul of company rules. He also said that directors deemed to be reckless should be disqualified from being able to work at another firm, and that industry regulators should have the power to disqualify directors in their particular industries.

He also suggested a number of other proposals. These include extending the time limit for bringing director disqualification proceedings in insolvent company cases from two years to five, as well as preventing an individual banned from running companies outside the UK from being a director of a UK company.

Mr Cable said: "We're proposing tough measures to beef up the system for holding directors to account if they don't play by the rules or take their responsibilities seriously. This will mean honest, hard-working directors are not disadvantaged and will give the public greater confidence that irresponsible directors will face consequences for their actions."

We do not think that anyone could



disagree with the intentions behind these proposals. Business groups have generally supported them. However, concern has been expressed that the measures could go too far. Simon Walker, Director General of the Institute of Directors, said: "Businesses can and do fail. But this experience should not necessarily spell personal financial disaster for a director, or prevent a director from trying again."

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

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Gold dealer is a gem



A STOCKTON Heath jeweller has emerged as a fair and honest trader in an investigation into unscrupulous gold dealers.

Undercover reporters from a national newspaper were investigating online gold merchants alleged to be ripping off hard-up families who were selling treasured jewellery out of desperation.

They offered jewellery which they already knew was worth £220 to a number of online dealers and pawnbrokers – and were offered as little as £31.

But when they took the jewellery to John Gregson's Cheshire Gold Exchange in Stockton Heath he offered £220.50.

Mr Gregson said: "I didn't know I was dealing with an undercover reporter – I simply offered what I knew to be a fair and reasonable price for the jewellery.

"It just goes to show that you can't be too careful. It pays to deal with someone local who you can speak to face-to-face."

Former IRA boss to deliver Peace Lecture

FORMER IRA leader Martin McGuinness will deliver a special peace lecture in Warrington as part of the 20th anniversary commemorations of the terrorist bomb attack on the town which claimed the lives of two young boys and injured more than 50 shoppers.

Now Deputy First Minister in the Northern Ireland Assembly, the former Sinn Fein chief negotiator in the Good Friday agreement, has accepted an invitation from peace campaigner Colin Parry, to re-visit the Peace Centre on September 18 to deliver the annual peace lecture on behalf of the Foundation for Peace - the international charity co-founded by Colin and Wendy Parry following the bomb attack which claimed the lives of their 12-year-old son Tim Parry alongside three-year-old Johnathan Ball.

The ticket only event will be hosted by Denis Murray, a former BBC Northern Ireland political correspondent.

McGuinness has acknowledged that he was a former IRA member but says he left in 1974.

During a visit to the Peace Centre in 2001 he said he was sorry that Irish republicans were responsible for the boys' deaths and that the Warrington bombing had been wrong.

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