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Issue No. 118  
January 2015

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**Emotional visit**

Page 11

**GRAHAM  
EVANS  
MP**

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surgery  
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page 2



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# Editor's Comment



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## IT comes as no surprise to us that speeding traffic is a constant concern for residents of Frodsham and Helsby.

Straddling the A56 as they do, both communities live with the daily problems caused by motorists exceeding speed limits, whether they be set at 30mph or 40mph. The problem is probably exacerbated by the fact that many motorists may only have recently exited the M56 motorway and become accustomed to driving at high speed.

Recent research has revealed not only the extent of the problem itself but also of the depth of concern.

The new Community Speed Watch in Frodsham caught 48 drivers travelling above 34mph during their first spell on duty. Police caught one driver travelling at 57mph.

At Helsby, more than 40 per cent of motorists passing an automated sign during a two month period exceeded a 30mph limit. Eight vehicles were travelling at more than double the speed limit – and one was clocked at 72mph.

The recent town-wide consultation carried out by Frodsham Town Council identified speeding as a major cause of concern locally. Sixty

per cent of respondents supported the 40mph speed limit on the A56 between Castle Park and Helsby High School and 53 per cent were in favour of a 20mph limit on residential roads.

Permanent enforcement of the speed limit on Fluin Lane was supported by 62 per cent.

The trouble is, enforcement of speed limits is a costly business and we cannot expect too much from voluntary Community Speed Watch groups.

Incredulity is often expressed that many of the offenders are local people, but this does not surprise us. Familiarity breeds contempt and drivers instinctively feel safer on roads they know well near their

homes.

So what is to be done? We cannot pretend to have an answer, but there is no doubt the speed awareness courses run by the police and offered to drivers who have transgressed once, but not by much, are extremely effective. Most drivers who have attended one admit it has changed their driving habits for the better – particularly when they realise that on most journeys, exceeding the limit saves only a matter of seconds.

Perhaps some incentive could be offered to drivers to attend the courses voluntarily? Maybe some elements of the speed awareness course could be incorporated into the driving test?

It probably won't happen, because of the cost. But it's food for thought as we start another year.

**Deadline for the February issue of Frodsham Life is January 27**

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## GRAHAM EVANS MP

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Northwich, Cheshire CW9 5BH

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mail@grahamevansmp.com

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### MP'S ADVICE SURGERIES

**Friday 2nd January**  
Northwich Constituency Office 4pm - 5pm

**Friday 9th January**  
Beechwood Community Centre 2.30pm - 3.30pm  
Helsby Community Centre 4pm - 5pm

**Friday 16th January**  
Halton Direct Link 4pm - 5pm

**Friday 23rd January**  
Asda Supermarket, Halton Lea 2.30pm - 3.30pm  
Knoll Surgery Frodsham 4pm - 5pm

**Friday 30th January**  
Weaverham Community Centre 2.30pm - 3.30pm  
Coachman Pub, Hartford 4pm - 5pm





# High school is the tops for sport



One of Helsby's sporting successes, the U14 basketball finalists

## HELSEBY High School has again been recognised as one of the top 30 state schools for sport in the country.

School Sport magazine has listed Helsby at 22 in the list, which is based on 20 different sports and the results of more than 120 different national competitions.

The list reflects competitive achievement in a range of sports throughout last year and honours those schools that take competition especially seriously.

More weighting is given to success in a range of sports rather than single

sports – not to mention competitions with more teams competing - and all results are inputted into a special computer programme.

Head of physical education Paul Park said: "It is a great achievement to be recognised at 22 in the list and a testament to all the hard work of the boys and girls who play sport as well as all the staff who freely give up their time to coach."

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# New health and wellbeing service for youngsters

**YOUNGSTERS at schools, youth groups and community groups across the Frodsham and Helsby areas will benefit from a new health and wellbeing service.**

The service, launched this month by the public health team at Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWC), it is specifically aimed at youngsters in the 5-19 age range.

It will tackle key issues ranging from weight management, smoking, alcohol, exercise and drug abuse to exploitation and improved attainment and absenteeism.

Cheshire and Wirral NHS Partnership Trust will provide the service which will involve a range of partners and will work through schools, youth clubs and community groups.

In 2012-13 just under one quarter (24 per cent) of the borough's children in their school reception year, were an "unhealthy" weight. Almost nine per cent of that total were classed as obese.

In the same period just under one third of West Cheshire children in their final year at junior school were an unhealthy weight – with almost

18 per cent classed as obese.

Fiona Reynolds, interim director of public health at CWC, said: "Excess weight and obesity in children often leads to excess weight in adults and this is recognised as a major cause of mortality and ill health."

Similarly worrying figures apply to walking and cycling – two activities with major benefits for general health and climate change.

Only 28 per cent of CWC adults are physically fit based on the advised 150 minutes of physical activity a week and it is estimated that around 140,000 people in West Cheshire – around 55 per cent – are completely inactive.

Ms Reynolds said: "If one third of car journeys under five miles were transferred to walking or cycling, it would save as many lives as all the other heart disease prevention measures put together."

Top 10 priorities listed in the

manifesto of the North West Directors of Public Health include:-

A television ban on the marketing of foods high in fat, sugar and salt before 9pm and a requirement on all schools to provide a minimum of one hour of physical activity, in line with UK guidelines for 5 to 18-years-olds.

More encouraging news is that last year 5,646 residents attended the NHS free Health Check – a remarkable 75 per cent increase on the previous year.

The screening programme for those in the 40/74-years-old age group aims to prevent major health problems through early intervention with GPs delivering free health checks paid for by CWC.

With 2,100 people in West Cheshire with a registered diagnosis of dementia, one of the greatest challenges faced by an ageing population is being met with an increase in "Dementia-Friendly Communities" and champions in the borough.

A West Cheshire Dementia Action

Alliance has been formed, bringing together organisations, businesses and individuals working to support and improve quality of life for those coping with the disease.

## "Mini show" celebrates WI members talents

FRODSHAM WI held its first mini show to celebrate all the talents of its members.

There were classes for cookery, art and photography and crafts. There were more than 70 entries and members voted for their favourites.

Also present on the evening were Rebecca and Paul Nichols the daughter and widower of Isobel Nichols, a member of Frodsham WI who died last January.

The first winner of the magnificent Isobel Nichols Cup was Kate Cawley. Winners of each section were Gill Postlethwaite for craft with her two fabric hens, Margaret McGuigan with her painting of a butterfly and Lorraine Williams with her coffee and walnut cake.

Frodsham WI meets the first Thursday of each month in Frodsham Community Centre, and visitors are most welcome.

## Police patrols stepped up at railway station

POLICE have stepped up patrols on Frodsham Railway Station following an increase in incidents of anti-social behaviour by groups of youths using the shelter to consume alcohol.

PCSO Neil Flanagan told the Town Council that normally the station was the responsibility of British Transport Police (BTP) but as they were based some distance away it was more convenient for local police to deal with the situation – particularly as many of the youths involved were known to them.

However, in the event of youths trespassing on the track, they would liaise closely with BTP.

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# Water company urges Winter Wise warmth towards older people

**UNITED Utilities is encouraging people in Frodsham to extend a little Winter Wise warmth towards isolated older people as temperatures start to fall.**

As well as helping householders to fight the freeze in their own homes through its Winter Wise campaign, the water company is urging people to support Contact the Elderly, a national charity tackling isolation among older people by organising regular Sunday afternoon tea parties.

Contact the Elderly is recruiting volunteers and seeking guests in an attempt to start a new group in Frodsham.

United Utilities has donated £3,000 in DIY store vouchers to the charity which will be used by volunteers from the water company to help Contact the Elderly guests buy pipe lagging materials and other items to prepare their homes for winter.

The partnership is part of the United Utilities Winter Wise campaign to spread practical advice on preventing the misery of a burst frozen pipe.

United Utilities recommends that householders:

- Lag pipes so they are much less likely to freeze
- Find and label your stop tap – the tap which controls water supply to your house, so you know where to turn the water off if you do get a burst.
- Keep the number of a good

plumber handy, just in case

•Find out more about becoming a Contact the Elderly volunteer by visiting <http://www.contact-the-elderly.org.uk/> or getting in touch with North West Development Officer Gwen Lightfoot on 01925 728969 or email: [Gwen.Lightfoot@contact-the-elderly.org.uk](mailto:Gwen.Lightfoot@contact-the-elderly.org.uk)

Further details about becoming a Freeze Fighter, preparing you home for winter and a full list of Winter Wise roadshow dates are available online at [www.unitedutilities/winterwise](http://www.unitedutilities/winterwise).

People prepared to #beatfreezefighter have already started sharing photographs from the Winter Wise road show on Twitter.

Stuart Atkinson, United Utilities water network manager, said: "We would like as many people as possible to become Freeze Fighters this winter, helping themselves and others to avoid the misery of burst frozen pipes.

"As well as encouraging homeowners to fight the freeze in their own homes, through our partnership with Contact the Elderly, we also hope to spread warmth in other ways by highlighting the charity's great work and helping it to recruit volunteers.

"While frozen pipes are something

that people only need to be concerned with in winter, isolation is something which affects many older people all year. Contact the Elderly's volunteers make a real difference."

Supported by a network of volunteers, Contact the Elderly organises monthly Sunday afternoon tea parties for small groups of older people, aged 75 and over, who live alone. It already has active groups in Macclesfield and Warrington, Cheshire.


Gwen Lightfoot, North West regional development officer for Contact the Elderly, said: "Winter

is a particularly difficult time for isolated older people. By partnering with United Utilities, we hope to raise awareness and encourage people to come forward and help make a difference.


"All we ask from our volunteers is a little of their spare time to either host a tea party in their own home, or drive and accompany guests to a tea party and then deliver them home safely afterwards. It is fantastic to know that the United Utilities volunteers will also be helping older people prepare their homes for winter."



Contact the Elderly guests attend a tea party at the home of volunteer host David Durling.



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# Talking Frodsham



## Welcome

This is the latest news about what is happening in our busy community.  
From your local Cheshire West and Chester Councillors, Andrew Dawson and Lynn Riley.

## A community swimming pool for Frodsham, Helsby and surrounding villages?

### Do we want a community swimming pool?

The answer to that question appears to be 'yes' especially taking into account both the huge interest on social media and the strong showing of support we got to our petition at the Frodsham Christmas Festival. In a few hours we gathered around 400 signatures of support. There were only 5 people who specifically said to either of us that they did not want a local pool.

### Can we afford to build a pool and where would it be built?

Sport England's figures suggest that a community larger than 13,000 can support a community pool. The population of Frodsham and Helsby combined is more than that. The catchment area for Helsby High School which includes the outlying villages is of the order of 18,000. The school is the obvious site for a community pool – there is plenty of land and good road access. It is a central, well known location and, of course, would be available for all our children to use during the day – including our primary school children.

A typical community pool with associated facilities might cost in the order of £3m to build. If we all agree that the community benefit fund associated with the wind farm development could be spent on the pool and seek additional capital funding from the likes of Sport England, Active Cheshire, National Lottery, CWaC and the Town and Parish Councils we are likely to be able to raise the capital.

### Can we afford to run a community pool?

Active Cheshire advise that around 90% of community pools require some form of subsidy to meet their running costs as ticket receipts alone cannot meet the entire costs. If a subsidy is required it will, most likely, have to come from the council tax either from CWaC or from the town and parish councils. The real answer of course is to build a facility where the running costs are kept under tight rein and as many of us as possible use it and make sure we maximise the revenue.

### Do we have support for this proposal from CWaC and others?

The good news is that Cllr Stuart Parker the Executive Member for Leisure and Recreation at CWaC supports us in what we are doing and has asked CWaC officers to examine the feasibility of a community pool for the area. All the Cheshire West and Chester Councillors for Frodsham and the surrounding areas and Graham Evans MP are very supportive of the idea and are committed to finding a solution if there is popular local support.

### So how do we take this forward?

We think we need to form a community steering group of interested local people who can bring their enthusiasm and expertise to explore with us, CWaC, the town and parish councils the practicalities and costs of building and running a community pool. We think the results of this feasibility study should be published and put out for public consultation. In the meantime it is likely that Peel Energy will go out to consultation on how the community benefit fund for the windfarm should be spent. Those of us who want a community pool should say so loud and clear – as without a sizable contribution from this fund it is unlikely that we will be able to raise the capital to build the pool.

### So what can you do?

Send us an email and tell us what you think or join in via social media. It would be wonderful if you could tell us whether you support the proposal to build a community swimming pool or not. Tell us too please if you would like to help work on the feasibility study. Please put 'Community Swimming Pool' as the title so we can sort the emails easily.

If you haven't got access to email you can still get in touch very easily. You can get a friend to send an email for you, you can go to our marvellous library and our wonderful librarians will help you send an email or you can write to either of us.



Cllr Lynn Riley, Graham Evans MP and Cllr Andrew Dawson.



Cllr Andrew Dawson, Cllr Lynn Riley and Helsby's Cllr Alan McKie.

#### To find out more contact:

**Cllr Andrew Dawson**

Email: Andrew.Dawson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk  
Tel: 07970 635629

#### Follow me on:

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# Solicitor puts on his dancing shoes



## FRODSHAM Solicitor Denis Stevenson put on his dancing shoes to help raise an impressive £2,500 for charity.

Denis, from Rowlinson's Solicitors, was one of 10 amateur dancers who took to the dance floor with the professional dance partners for the annual Strictly St. Rocco's event helping raise over £32,000 for the Warrington based hospice.

The glamorous evening was a great success; the room looked stunning, the dancers were outstanding and the outfits were fabulous.

The event took place at Mere Golf Resort & Spa with the dancers taking to the dance floor in front of judges

Bennie Westwood, Beryl Rigby, Ashley Taylor Dawson, Victoria Bennett and last year's winner Vicki Stockman.

A total of 400 guests attended the event and after judge's scores had been given and audience votes had been counted the winners were announced.

Although he didn't win Denis thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"I would like to thank all those people who supported me and made donations for a great cause," he said.



## Reproductive Health Group

### Patient Information Evening on Male Infertility

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# Shoes for charity

It was Principal from Penketh High, Ben Dunne and dance partner Emma Wilding's dance that wowed the judges and audience with their very cool American Smooth Quick Step.

In second place was Marketing manager from Foden Estates, Lisa Foden and professional dance partner Jack Clegg that did a sassy samba and got the guests up on their feet!

Hospice Matron, Alison White commented: "Strictly St. Rocco's was a fantastic night! It summed up

everything about St Rocco's that is so special - it captured the hearts and minds of the community and over £32,000 towards patient care at the Hospice. We would like to thank everyone who attended and the ten dance couples who were so brave and committed to St. Rocco's Hospice! Special thanks must go to our sponsor JLL and to Cadman's Dance Centre, whose support and expertise made it all possible. The judges and hosts also did a superb job on the night. All in all - a real night to remember!"



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# Corporal Jim - Frodsham's skiing silver medalist

**HE was awarded a silver medal for cross country skiing - but if medals were awarded for the fastest time achieved for obtaining a passport, he would surely have the Gold.**

Especially as he got it on the same day he was arrested for not having a passport at all!

He is Jim Turner, aged 77, of Frodsham. And although he has lived in the town for only seven years, he "loves it to bits."

Jim's extraordinary story dates back to 1958, when he was doing his National Service.

Too young to remember what that was? Well for today's youngsters, it was the two years military service every young man had to do when they reached the age of 18. It ended around 1960.

Jim was serving in the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment and was doing winter warfare training in Germany where his abilities as a cyclist - he had completed a 100-mile time trial with Manchester Wheelers - had alerted the army to the fact that they had an outstanding athlete on their hands.

"Ever tried skiing?" he was asked. And somehow he ended up skiing for the army, a member of the Ski Club of Great Britain and shooting off to the Swiss-Italian border to join the British

Army ski team.

Trouble was, he was travelling on an Army warrant - and was arrested on the border for not having a passport.

The word got out that the army's medal hopeful was in custody and somehow he was taken to the British Embassy in Innsbruck.

Jim says: "I was given a lovely meal - and got my passport the same day. I don't think anyone can have beaten that record."

Corporal Turner then went on to compete in the British Championships - which were held in Switzerland, presumably on account of them having rather more snow than us.

He picked up the silver medal.

After his military service, Jim worked for ICI for 49 years, as a training officer, and later did apprenticeship training in the Ellesmere Port area.

Born in Weston Point, he now lives in Frodsham with his wife, Anne.

"We love it here," he said. "If there was a bit more snow it would be great for skiing."





# Students make emotional visit to Auschwitz

**YOUNGSTERS from Helsby High School took an emotional journey to Auschwitz with Weaver Vale MP Graham Evans thanks to funds from the Holocaust Memorial Trust.**

A total of 150 students from schools and colleges across the North West visited and Graham ensured youngsters from Helsby High were among them in the lead up to Holocaust Memorial Day which takes place on January 27 each year.

## Devastation

"The Holocaust Memorial Trust funds visits to Auschwitz for groups of students so they can better understand the devastation which took place," said Graham.

"To visit the site is unforgettable and extremely moving. I am a huge believer in ensuring that future generations are given opportunities to visit to learn and to make sure atrocities like this never occur again."

Graham added: "Holocaust Memorial Day is a time for everyone to pause to remember the millions of people who have been murdered or whose lives have been changed beyond recognition during the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur."

The visit to Auschwitz was packed, with a very early and late return flight out of Manchester airport. On arrival the group was taken to the old synagogue in the town where the small town of Auschwitz is located.

## Atrocity

"This was incredibly emotional," said Graham, "Before the war, the town had a large Jewish community, and to be at the site where they practiced their faith and then to go to Auschwitz brought it home even more what an appalling atrocity occurred."

The Cheshire 6th Formers then went onto Auschwitz 1 where they went on a guided tour of the preserved camp which included an exhibition of stolen belongings, human hair and punishment cells.

Then they made the short trip to the larger Auschwitz Birkenau camp where they took part in a remembrance service with students from across Europe at one of the 4 Gas Chambers that was used to murder one million men, women and children.

"The visit was emotionally draining for us all however it was a great privilege to be with the students from Cheshire especially those from Helsby High who were a credit to their school and parents."

Graham added: "I would like to say a special thank you to the hard work and passion of the history teachers who made the trip possible and so special."







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# New kit brought good luck

**NEW kit proved lucky for Frodsham Girls Under 10s football team – they took on the previously unbeaten league leaders and won 1-0.**

The kit was donated to the team by Frodsham Charity Music Festival, following last year's

successful festival.

The team is made up of girls from school years 4 and 5 and all its

members are from local Frodsham schools.

Managed by Adam O'Reilly and assistant manager Chris Jennings, the girls train every Monday evening at Frodsham Leisure

Centre 7-8pm and play in the Mid-Cheshire League every other Saturday at Moss Farm, Northwich

Anyone interested in joining the girls for training should contact Adam O'Reilly on 07917 566948.



## Pupils uncover the story of a World War 1 hero

RESEARCH carried out by pupils at Kingsley St John's Primary School has revealed a fascinating story about one of the village's World War 1 heroes.

Pupils from Years 2-6 decided to find out all they could about James Burton Lewis – one of about a dozen World War 1 soldiers listed on Kingsley's War Memorial – as part of a history project.

They found his name was also on his parents' gravestone and enlisted the help of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to discover that his grave was in France and that he had been a bugler.

But it was when they managed to trace his great niece and nephew, Isobel Mercer and Michael Lewis, who both still live locally, that the story really became interesting.

Mrs Mercer visited the school and brought with her letters that James had written home to his family. These described conditions in the trenches from James' personal perspective, enabling the pupils to get a much better insight

into what life was like as a soldier in "the Great War."

Poignantly, the last letter he wrote before he was killed, expressed the hope that he would be returning home soon.

Teacher Sam Gibson, who supervised the pupils' research, said: "We were really quite surprised to find members of James' family still living locally, given the way people move around nowadays.

"He came from a farming family and, although members of his family still farm locally, he did not wish to stay in farming and hoped to become an electrician after the war.

"The children found the project very interesting. They had written poems about World War 1 and the soldiers on the Kingsley War Memorial. But finding out so much about a Kingsley soldier from his family and from his letters gave them a much better insight into what it must have been like."

## Guides need a leader

KINGSLEY and Norley Guides are looking for a new adult leader to join their existing team.

The group meets on Monday evenings during school term and involves girls aged 10-14. They enjoy lots of fun and exciting activities and being an adult leader is a reward voluntary role. Full training and support is given.

More information is available is available by emailing kandnguides@hotmail.co.uk

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# Helsby firm receives Queen's Award

**THE Duke of Kent visited Helsby-based firm Heat Trace Ltd to present them with the Queen's Award for Enterprise (Innovation).**

Weaver Vale MP Graham Evans was also there for the presentations which recognised the company's innovation and continuing development in the field of semi-conductive polymer heating

elements, or self-regulating heating cables.

Afterwards, Mr Evans said: "I am delighted that a dynamic and successful local business has received recognition for its great

work.

"I would especially like to congratulate Neil Malone, chairman of Heat Trace Ltd, on his excellent leadership.

"I am always delighted to support progressive businesses in Weaver Vale, and to recognise the importance of local employers.

I was also very pleased to learn that this award coincides with Heat Trace Ltd's 40th anniversary"

While at the site, Mr Evans met up with Liam Jones and Emilia Hoyle, both former Helsby High School pupils who now work for Heat Trace.



*Mr Evans is pictured with Liam and Emilia.*

## Frodsham firm taken over

FRODSHAM-based Golden Triangle Generators has been acquired by Aggreko – a leading supplier of temporary power and temperature control services.

GTG is already a leading provider of rental power solutions across Cheshire, Merseyside and North Wales and Aggreko say they will combine the experience, local knowledge and customer relationships of GTG with the global capability and capacity of the world's leading supplier of rental power and temperature control solutions.

Dan Ibbetson, managing director of Aggreko UK said: "During 26 years of operations, GTG has developed a loyal customer base throughout the North West of England and North Wales. Their reputation for delivering a high-quality product via an experienced and professional team makes GTG a natural fit with Aggreko.

"GTG maintains very close relationships with its customers and are well known for delivering excellent customer service. They run a high-quality fleet and employ a strong team throughout their operations."

Mr Ibbetson said GTG served a wide variety of local industries and provide critical power to well-known events and festivals throughout the region.

"Aggreko operates throughout the UK via an established network of 18 service centres.

"The North West is an area identified as a key growth area in our development strategy.

"The reputation and customer network GTG has built across the region offers Aggreko a solid foundation from which to further develop our business."

## Traditional festive ending for Frodsham Recorded Music Society

THE traditional final meeting of the year of Frodsham Recorded Music Society took place at Castle Park and saw the usual Christmas spirit pervaded all of the occasion with wine being available from the start.

The event was wonderfully organised by John Grenside and the interval contained quality food organised by Fiz Jennings and made by "the ladies".

Eric Jennings and Colin Walker separately presented an evening of recorded music covering many areas of music.

The only difference was that, sadly, only just over half of the usual number of attendees were present due in the main to medical

conditions preventing them feeling up to the liveliness that would be in view and in the likelihood of passing infections on to those present.

Eric kicked off with unique wind instrument music arranged mainly for wind instruments by John Sampson, which thrilled all present; the music was mainly from Folk Music and also included some of a jazz origin. It made an excellent start.

Colin then took over with varied excellent choices of music until the interval with happy music such as "Strike up the band" and artists such as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Sarah Walker, Pam

Agnes and The Ukrainian Singers who sang 3 glorious pieces.

In the second half Colin included more historically popular music of the past and many recordings by large choirs and especially enjoyed were the carol composed by the then Chester Cathedral organist John Sanders, "Tomorrow shall be my dancing day" and some lovely John Rutter music from "The Nativity."

Everyone returned home having enjoyed a thoroughly relaxed evening and looking forward to the first meeting in 2015 which will be given by the local resident and popular recording director - Brian Pidgeon.



# 'Live' air quality monitoring of the 'school run'

**LIVE air quality monitoring at Frodsham's schools to enable parents to see for themselves the effect of the "school run" has been suggested.**

Cllr Andrew Dawson believes it could help persuade some parents to stop running their children short distances and unnecessarily adding to air pollution.

"We all do it," he told the Town Council. "There would be a riot in the Dawson household if it was suggested that my daughter walk to school. But we have to find a way of encouraging more children to walk to school."

Cllr Dawson was commenting on recent publicity given by BBC radio to the air quality monitoring station

set up at Frodsham Manor House Primary School.

This was started a year ago, funded by the Town Council and by Cllr Dawson and Cllr Lynn Riley, through their Cheshire West and Chester Council member allowances.

The data collected so far suggested that Frodsham did not have a serious air quality problem, except perhaps in a few locations at certain times.

He had noted an increase in car fumes at Manor House Primary during the school run period that disappeared shortly afterwards. If

there was live air quality monitoring that parents could see it could result in fewer cars being used.

Monitoring could also be introduced at Weaver Vale Primary – not because they necessarily had an air quality problem but it would be better to have the data rather than rely on guess work.

Cllr Riley said it was pleasing that Frodsham's initiative in introducing air quality monitoring was being recognised nationally.

She was also pleased to note that Manor House Primary was using the results of the monitoring in science and numeracy lessons, enable pupils to use real data which affected the lives of people living in Frodsham.

## Town Council to join marsh management board

FRODSHAM Town Council has agreed to join a new board being set up to manage Frodsham Marshes – and will contribute up to £2,500 a year towards its running costs.

The board will consist of representatives of local landowners, local industry, the Highways Agency and local authorities.

Pumping stations which for years have contributed to the drainage of the marshes, but which have reached the end of their working lives, are being brought up to modern standards by the Environment Agency, prior to it ceasing to take responsibility for the marshes.

Frodsham Pumping Station will be taken over by the Highways Agency.

Cllr Andrew Dawson told the Town Council they had an opportunity to join a management board and have a say on future maintenance of the marshes. If they did so, they would be expected to contribute to its costs and help build up a fund to fund future works.

He understood Helsby Parish Council was looking at the suggestion as Helsby was more vulnerable to flooding from the marshes than Frodsham.

Cllr Graham Bondi said a significant part of the parish was covered by the marshes, as well as a considerable part of the local rights of way. These were suitable for use by pedestrians, cyclists and in some cases, even horses and carts. He believed the council should be represented on the board.

Cllr Dawson warned that if, at some time in the future, the council decided to leave the board it would be expected to leave any money it had contributed with the board. He would wish to stipulate that in this event, the money should only be used for purposes compatible with the council's own regulations and responsibilities.

## New OPAL club set to open next month

FRODSHAM'S new OPAL Club - which is designed for older people living in the community at risk of becoming isolated - aims to get off the ground by February.

It will meet every Tuesday from 10am to 3pm at Frodsham Methodist Church, in Kingsley Road, Frodsham WA6 6BA.

Run by charity group Rural Community Services (West Cheshire), it will cater for older men and women from Frodsham and the surrounding areas who would welcome a chance to get out of their own surroundings and spend time with other people, making new friends, enjoying a varied programme of activities and sharing a hot, two-course lunch.

But it will not be able to run without the help of a team of dedicated volunteers who come to help on a regular basis, usually fortnightly, to suit their own lifestyle.

Organiser Zoe Blocksidge said: "We are still in need of new volunteers to help us get the club off

the ground by February."

Volunteers will spend their time in a variety of ways helping members, both at the Methodist church and on visits or trips.

Some will cook and serve the meals, others plan and organise the activities with active support from the members so that everyone can enjoy the fun, friendship and family atmosphere.

Members can be picked up and taken home by volunteer drivers, or they can make their own arrangements.

Anyone who wishes to find out more should contact Zoe for details of how they can get become a member, a volunteer or just an interested friend.

Zoe is available on 07562 619 275 or email zoe.blocksidge@rcswc.org.uk

The charity already runs five well supported OPAL clubs across Cheshire.

## Tree removal

FRODSHAM Town Council had lodged an objection to a householders application for permission to remove five trees in the rear garden of a house in Newlands Close.

The applicant wants to remove a beech, two sycamores, a lime and a holly tree. But members of the council's planning committee said the trees were "fine residential amenity trees" - although the removal of one of the sycamores and the holly might be justified.

## Reader's Letter

Please send your correspondence to:  
Frodsham Life, New Media Centre, Old Road, Warrington WA4 1AT  
or email: info@lymmlife.co.uk

'Atrocious attitude' *Graham Burgess, Hillside Road, Frodsham*

I HAD a very similar experience to the writer of the reader's letter in your December issue. Again what was photographed was my car entering and leaving on two separate occasions. We sent them proof that we had picked up our grandchildren from school at 3.15pm so could not have been in the car park all day as they were claiming.

The Company's attitude was atrocious and they eventually said they would "on this occasion" drop the charge.

They are in my opinion unfit to run a car park as their technology is not fit for purpose and they have no customer relations skills.

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