

Frodsham Life

FREE EVERY MONTH

Issue No. 116
November 2014

D.R.B. Jewellers

See our
main advert
on page 9

01928 731675

COVERING: FRODSHAM • HELSBY • KINGSLEY • NORLEY • ALVANLEY & SURROUNDING PARISHES

Beauty & the Beast

Page 3



**GRAHAM
EVANS
MP**

See advice
surgery
dates on
page 2



www.frodshamlife.co.uk for all the latest news

Editor's Comment



Editor
Gary Skentelbery

Production
Paul Walker

Advertising
James Balme
Nick White

Freephone
0800 955 5247

Editorial
01925 623631

Email
info@frodshamlife.co.uk

Websites
www.culchethlife.com
www.frodshamlife.co.uk
www.lymmlife.co.uk
www.warrington.tv
www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk

Address
New Media Centre
Old Road Warrington
WA4 1AT

Frodsham Life is published monthly by Orbit News Ltd.

The contents of this magazine are fully protected by copyright and nothing may be reprinted or reproduced without prior permission of the publishers.

The publishers are not liable for any statement made or opinion expressed by third parties in this publication.

Printed by TwentyFourSeven

IS it conceivable that the restoration of the Halton Curve - that short length of railway linking Frodsham with Runcorn which local campaigners have been fighting to save for years - could actually do Frodsham more harm than good?

As we report elsewhere in this issue, there are people who believe it could. We remain to be convinced, but if, as has been suggested, it could lead to a worsening of parking problems in the town centre, it is

Choir seeks new members

RECENTLY reformed community choir Frodsham Sings is on the look out for new members - of any age and ability. The choir repertoire is well known, popular songs and no auditions are necessary.

Currently they are preparing for Christmas performances, with rehearsals on alternate Saturday mornings and Monday evenings.

The choir entertained guests at the opening of the refurbished Castle Park Arts Centre with a selection of World War 1 songs and also took part in a WW1 Commemoration at Frodsham Community Centre and in the "OneDayOneChoir" world song for peace. The choir can be contacted by emailing Christine at frodshamsings@outlook.com

an issue that certainly needs to be considered carefully.

Frodsham has an excellent shopping centre which, despite the economic recession of recent years, has continued to provide a good blend of independent traders and multiples which attract shoppers from a fairly wide area.

One of its strengths is free parking. Admittedly, not always readily available free parking, but nevertheless parking which can usually be found if you avoid market day.

Take it away and Frodsham could suffer the difficulties encountered by other market towns where parking charges have been introduced.

This is what some shopkeepers fear - and having seen what can happen in other areas, no-one can

blame them.

We are looking well ahead, of course, to a time when the Halton Curve is back in full use and the Mersey Gateway bridge in Halton has been built. Would significant numbers of motorists converge on Frodsham Station and travel into Liverpool by train to avoid paying a toll on the bridge? Would the station car park be unable to cope with the increase in vehicles?

We repeat that we remain to be convinced, but it seems others have studied the issue more closely and are concerned, so we would be the last to suggest it be ignored.

In an ideal world, of course, the bridge tolls would be axed, as they have been elsewhere in the country. But at the moment, that appears to be too much to ask.

JPW Body Repairs

ACCIDENT & BODY REPAIR SPECIALIST

- 30 Year Experience
- Quality Plastic Bumper Repairs
- Perfect Colour Matching
- Courtesy Cars Available
- All Major & Minor Work Undertaken
- Collection & Delivery
- Oven Bake Finish For All Vehicle Repairs
- Free Mini Valet

Tel: 01928 787887 www.jpwbodyrepairs.co.uk
Meeting House Lane, Kingsley WA6 6TP



GRAHAM EVANS MP

Serving the people of Frodsham

CAN I BE OF HELP?

If there is anything that I can help you with, please contact me with as many details as possible:

Graham Evans MP,
The Bungalow, Sheath Street,
Northwich, Cheshire CW9 5BH

01606 350 323

mail@grahamevansmp.com

www.grahamevansmp.com

@grahamevansmp

MP'S ADVICE SURGERIES

November

Friday 7th
Northwich Constituency Office 4pm - 5pm

Friday 14th
Beechwood Community Centre, Runcorn 2:30pm - 3:30pm
& Helsby Community Centre - 4pm - 5pm

Friday 21st
Halton Direct Link, Runcorn - 4pm - 5pm

Friday 28th
Asda Supermarket, Halton Lea - 2:30pm - 3:30pm
& The Knoll Surgery, Frodsham - 4pm - 5pm



Revised draft strategy to go to council

A REVISED draft strategy for Frodsham is to be presented to the next meeting of the Town Council.

The original draft was prepared some months ago but has been the subject of ongoing feedback and input from residents – not least from the large scale survey undertaken by the council earlier this year, the results of which are to be released soon.

Chairman Cllr Mark Warren will present the revised strategy to the council and, once agreed, it will be made available to the public.

He said: "The survey and strategy are important documents that will really help us get our priorities in line with those of residents.

"We will be able to make sure that all the decisions we make are in line with our overall vision for the town.

"This vision has been, and will continue to be, forged in consultation with our residents. And there will be plenty of scope, in fact a need, for residents to play a full part in making this strategy a reality, for example by getting involved with our Neighbourhood Plan".

The council has sought professional advice on the production of the Neighbourhood Plan and work will start on it shortly.

The area to be covered is currently being defined and the council is contacting neighbouring parish councils to see if they wish to join in and will be inviting community groups to be part of a steering group.

The council is also engaged in producing a Community Resilience Plan that will enable the town to be ready to play its part in responding to future emergencies occurring locally.

Interested community groups who wish to get involved in any of this work, or who require more information, are invited to contact the Town Clerk by emailing townclerk@frodsham.gov.uk

Beauty and the Beast offers a pre-Christmas treat



FRODHAM Players' production of "Beauty and the Beast" offers an ideal pre-Christmas treat for all the family.

A highly imaginative story, based on a famous French fairytale, this version is an adaptation by Laurence Boswell, originally for the Royal Shakespeare company. It tells how a brave young girl leaves her beloved, if chaotic family, to discover the mysteries of passion, imagination and live in the glorious Palace of the Beast.

Boswell asked his own children what kind of story they preferred and the result takes the audience on a breathtaking journey from the formal grandeur of 18th-century Paris to the bewitching splendour of the Beast's Palace.

Performances will take place in the atmospheric setting of St Laurence's Church, Frodsham, from Wednesday to Friday, November 19-21 at 7.30 pm, with a final performance on Saturday November 22 at 6pm.

Tickets are priced at £9 for adults and £7 for children aged 12 and under, and may be reserved at www.frodshamplayers.com or by telephone at 01928 732 515. Early booking is recommended as seating in the church is limited.

Short of space?

What is Self Storage?

Rent your own lockable storage room of any size from 25 to 10,000 sq ft and for any length of time - Whenever you like, with just one simple phone call.

- You are the **ONLY** key holder
- Fully secure with 24 hour CCTV security
- On-site helpful staff
- Full range of packaging materials available
- FREE use of trolleys
- FREE customer parking
- Forklift truck service
- Competitive rates

Self storage rooms for home or business



YOU CAN STORE VIRTUALLY ANYTHING

- Personal Possessions • Family Heirlooms
- Stock Samples and Materials
- Household Contents • Business Equipment
- Garage Contents *and much much more!*

50% DISCOUNT

on all units for the first 3 months

- Attractive rates from £9.75 per week
- You have your own lock and personal key
- Free easy access
- Safe place to archive documents
- From 20 to 10,000 sq ft - any length of time

OTHER DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE



H&L SELF STORAGE

01928 701 555

Unit 5, Ashville Way, Sutton Weaver, Runcorn



NEW BETH TWEDDLE GYM STARS CLASSES AT FRODSHAM LEISURE CENTRE!



BETH TWEDDLE GYM STARS

FREE Trial Session for Frodsham Life Readers!
Quote: FRFREE. Valid until 31st December 2014

Beth Tweddle Gym Stars gives children the opportunity to learn the basic fundamental movements of gymnastics in a structured, fun and safe environment.

They will work through their star awards, gaining certificates, badges and stickers along the way. When you become an annual member of Gym Stars you will receive a t-shirt, progress booklet, drinks bottle and kit bag for your child to use in their gymnastics classes.

Classes are running in partnership with Brio Leisure at Frodsham Leisure Centre, Princeway, Frodsham, WA6 6RX:
Thursday 9.30am - 10.30am (age 2 - 4 parent and child)
Thursday 10.30am - 11.30am (age 2 - 4 parent and child)
Thursday 1pm - 2pm (age 2 - 4 parent and child)

Call 0161 979 0611, email info@totalgymnastics.co.uk or visit www.totalgymnastics.co.uk to book your space today!



'Meet the craft maker'

FRODSHAM Methodist Church is to hold a "Meet the craft Maker" craft fair on Saturday, November 8 at the church on Kingsley Road.

The fair, which will be open from 10am to 3pm, follows the success of a similar event last year.

Stall holders selling a wide range of art and hand-crafted items will be present offering plenty of Christmas gift ideas, including photographs, artwork, jewellery, glass, wood, soap and textile items.

Entry is free and there will be demonstrations and activities for children and young people and refreshments on sale.

Proceeds from this event will be divided between church funds and the church charity the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace at Warrington.

More details can be found at www.facebook.com/meetthecraftmaker

CONNECTING CHESHIRE

Check availability at: www.connectingcheshire.org.uk

Superfast Frodsham

Fibre broadband is here!



 EUROPEAN UNION
Investing in Your Future
European Regional Development Fund 2007-13

 DEPARTMENT FOR CULTURE
Media & Sport

SUPERFAST BRITAIN

 BT

 Cheshire East Council

 Cheshire West and Chester

 HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

 WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Frodsham's community pride!



Deputy Mayor Fran Sutton with Ian Cotton, of Essar Oil UK, who sponsor the Cheshire Community Pride competition.

FRODSHAM picked up one of the top prizes in this year's Cheshire Community Pride competition.

The town came first in the section for communities with a population of 5,001 to 10,000 and also received awards for its cemetery and for its innovative Junior Mayor scheme.

Town Council chairman Cllr Mark Warren said: "I'm absolutely delighted. We scooped three awards this year - one for the pristine state and upkeep of the cemetery, for which a big pat on the back must go to our groundsmen; one for the junior Mayor scheme, with which we've taken a great deal of satisfaction in watching it bolster our civics; and the 'Best Kept' award which the whole community can comfortably bask in the pride for.

"The fact that Frodsham can clean up, yet is but one small town of many within the county of Cheshire that enters in the competition means we must be getting something right."

Deputy Mayor Cllr Fran Sutton received the awards on behalf of the town at a special ceremony at Congleton Town Hall.

Helsby also caught the attention of the judges, coming a creditable fourth in the "best kept" section for communities with a population of between 2,501 and 5,000.

Tarporley came second in this category. Overall, the championship award for the best kept community in Cheshire, went to Sandbach.

Charity group aims to open new club

CHARITY group Rural Community Services (West Cheshire) is planning to open a new club for older people living in the community in Frodsham.

The venue and day of the week when the OPAL Club will be open have yet to be confirmed.

But the charity is looking for local people to help as cooks, drivers to offer transport, general helpers on the day, key volunteers to lead sessions and activities and committee members.

The charity already runs five well supported clubs across Cheshire and are anxious to do the same in Frodsham.

OPAL Clubs are designed for elderly people living in the community who are at risk of social isolation. They operate one or two days a week from 10am to 3pm and provide a hot mid-day meal, activities, trips, transport and support.

They cater for between 12-20 regular members who are asked to contribute £10 towards running costs OPAL Club organiser Zoe Blocksidge said: "We are aware that as people get older, they find it more and more difficult to get out and about to meet friends, and this is where our clubs come in

"The clubs are run largely by volunteers, with the support of a paid member of staff so we urgently need new volunteers to come forward and help us get established in Frodsham."

More details are available from Zoe at zoe.blocksidge@rcswc.org.uk



Commercial
Commercial Property
Litigation
Employment
Wills
Trusts
Probate
Personal Injury
Conveyancing
Crime
Family & Divorce

Warrington

01925 231000

Stockton Heath

01925 604713

Frodsham

01928 739300

info@fdrlaw.co.uk

www.fdrlaw.co.uk



Sutton Weaver swing bridge restoration completed

A £4.5 million restoration of Sutton Weaver Swing Bridge over the River Weaver, near Frodsham, has been completed.

The bridge, which carries the busy A56 trunk road, has now reopened to traffic and work has started to dismantle the temporary bridge which has kept road traffic moving while the restoration of the swing bridge took place.

Funding for the project came from Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC), the Department for Transport and the Canal & River Trust. The project was managed by the Trust, in conjunction with the Council, with Kier as the main contractor.

The restoration of the 88-year-old bridge, which carries 20,000 vehicles a day, started in summer 2013 and is the first complete refurbishment in its history. This project will extend its life by over 50 years.

At a special ceremony to mark the project's completion a vintage Leyland Cub lorry and a modern day HGV, supplied by Huntapac Produce Ltd, drove across the bridge to highlight the vehicle weight changes the bridge has had to cope with since it opened in 1926. On the river, a flotilla of rowing boats from Runcorn Rowing Club and boats from the River Weaver Navigation Society also joined in the celebrations.

Canal & River Trust Project Manager Andy Johnson said: "The restoration work has given a new lease of life to a bridge that had become a rusting eyesore.

Its restoration has been a challenging project but with its gleaming new paintwork, we hope local people will again be rightly proud of this iconic, historic waterway structure.

"Although the newly painted bridge certainly looks impressive, much of the project has been devoted to repairing the bridge structure itself. The bridge now has a completely new deck and beneath the bridge we have carried out extensive refurbishment of the unique buoyancy tank structure on which the bridge swings.

"Corrosion was a major concern but engineers were only able to evaluate the full extent of the problem once traffic had been diverted and the bridge deck removed. Further investigations resulted in additional steelwork repairs being scheduled as the project progressed, with the project team working hard to keep the repairs on programme. The end result is a bridge capable of supporting 40 tonne HGVs and a structure fit for the traffic demands of the next 50 years.

"The temporary road bridge has been a huge success and allowed traffic to keep flowing while restoration work was carried out on the swing bridge.

By removing traffic completely, the engineers had unhindered safe access to the swing bridge and were able to complete the project more quickly."

Whilst the temporary bridge has been in place, the Council has taken the opportunity, with the assistance of Kier and the Canal & River Trust,

to alter the traffic signalled junction and restore the direct link between Frodsham and Sutton Weaver which was closed during the work. Pedestrian and cyclist facilities have been improved and the carriageway has been re-surfaced.

Councillor Lynn Riley, Executive Member for Localities and a CWaC Councillor for Frodsham said: "The whole project has been a resounding success and follows on from a more flexible way of being able to finance major schemes. The Council and its partners came together to make this happen and the funding contribution received

from the Department of Transport Pinch Point Fund has been most welcome."

CWaC Frodsham Councillor Andrew Dawson said: "The community of Frodsham has greatly appreciated the investment made on this project and the way in which everyone worked with the local community to minimise disruption. I am delighted that we now have an excellent gateway to Frodsham."

CWaC Kingsley Councillor Ralph Ultram added: "The restoration of this important bridge looks great; the community of Sutton Weaver as well as all those drivers who followed the

diversion to travel in that direction, have worked with us during the temporary arrangements, and Graham Evans MP, who performed the opening ceremony, said: "I am delighted that this project to deliver better transport for the community in and around Sutton Weaver has been so successful.

"The Canal & River Trust, Cheshire West and Chester Council, along with pinch point funding from the Department of Transport have ensured that transport infrastructure in Weaver Vale is better than ever."





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.

Cheshire West and Chester Council sets its budget

At its Council meeting in October CWaC set its budget for 2015-16. This is the budget for year 2 of a 3 year budgeting determination set out in March 2014. As everything remains on track setting the year 2 budget early makes sense as it allows all of CWaC's departments and the Council's public sector partners to benefit from knowing at an early stage what CWaC funding is available.

CWaC will set the council tax rate as normal in February 2015 but with the budget now set CWaC does not need to raise the council tax rates. This will mean the council tax will have been frozen for 3 years in a row and there is the prospect of freezing it again for 2016-17.

Even though public sector austerity continues this £274 million revenue budget sees CWaC planning to spend an extra £2.3m to help the growing number of children in care, an extra £2.4m for young adults with learning disabilities and some £0.5m in welfare assistance through the continuation of the HELP scheme.

The capital budget of £203m is funding a variety of capital projects like the new theatre in Chester, new leisure centres, new schools buildings and facilities and ongoing extra investment in our highways and footways.

Sutton Weaver Swing-bridge, road crossings and speed limits

Setting budgets is the way in which the council can plan its expenditure on major projects such as the Sutton Weaver Swing-bridge. As is obvious, even though the bridge is re-opened work continues on the associated infrastructure and we do have road resurfacing to come. This will mean a short period of traffic light controlled single-lane traffic.

The left-hand filter lane and the improved pedestrian and cycle facilities are working well.

We're sure everyone will have noticed the reduced speed limits on the A56 between Frodsham and Helsby. This, and the results of the town wide consultation earlier in the year means that work to put in a new crossing point near the Netherton will start in November.

The planned crossing for Weaver Vale School on Ship Street looks set to be installed for Christmas.

We've also been asked to look at the speed of traffic around Mill Lane and the technical assessments for this have been requested.



Good neighbours stop rogue traders

As part of National Consumer Week 2014 3rd -7th November, please look out for rogue doorstep traders preying on elderly and vulnerable neighbours. The 'Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders' campaign highlights the impact community-spirit and the goodness of neighbours can have in making us all feel safer. Doorstep crime goes beyond theft and can make people feel afraid and anxious. Neighbours, friends, relatives and carers can help stop this.

Some signs that an unwanted doorstep caller is visiting a neighbour can include:

- Rogue traders have been cold calling in the area
 - Building or maintenance works starts on your neighbour's house or garden unexpectedly;
 - Poor quality work is visible.
 - Your neighbour appears anxious or distressed
- What you can do:
- Ask your neighbour privately whether everything is ok;
 - Note vehicle registration numbers from suspicious vehicles;
 - Keep hold of any flyers that may have been received;
 - Ask if the suspect trader has left any paperwork;
 - Call Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 040506 to report the matter; and
 - If the situation with the rogue trader makes you feel scared call the Police.

You can register to receive local police news and alerts at www.cheshirepolicealert.co.uk

Everyone has a story – Frodsham Library

Did you try your hand at a 'short short story?' Inspired by authors such as David Gaffney to write a story no more than 150 words long this local library competition has seen some great entries. Why not check out all that the local library has to offer?

Christmas in Frodsham

There are 56 days to Christmas but there is only a month to Frodsham's Christmas Festival. The Festival is being organised locally this year although we've given the Festival a substantial grant from our members' budgets. CWaC will have a stall at the Christmas Festival and we'll be showcasing support for our older residents. Do please stop-by at the stall.

Calling all young entrepreneurs

Since 2009, our CWaC budgets have been used to support many great local projects, clubs and community groups, with you voting for which projects to support. We're looking to reinvest the profit from the Life through the Lens photograph competition matched by our councillor grants into projects run by young entrepreneurs. We're aiming for this to be launched in January so watch this space for more information.

Congratulations

To Nicola Miloleizik for being awarded Rural Woman of the Year. Nic puts all her energies into helping young people and developing an ever expanding range of opportunities for them. Frodsham Youth Association is a thriving and successful operation thanks to Nicola and its committed management team.

Getting Older and FTC's 'Over 70 vouchers'

We are lucky in Frodsham to have so many fabulous community groups and facilities to support our older residents and the gift vouchers from the Town Council for the over 70s is just one example. If you are not on FTC's list and you think you may qualify – get your applications in. Phone Anne at FTC on 01928 735150.

We've also secured some extra funding to help set-up an Older People Active Lives (OPAL) Club in Frodsham. There are plans to pilot a weekly club for the next 12 months. The club will be managed by local charity, Rural Community Services who run the popular club in Helsby. OPAL are looking for a suitable venue, to recruit volunteers and agree a day for the club to operate on. It is very much hoped that the club will be up and operational by February 2015. Please watch this space for further details.

To find out more contact:

Cllr Andrew Dawson

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

Follow me on:

Twitter @CllrAndrewDawson
Blogsites:
www.frodshamtories.blogspot.com

Cllr Lynn Riley

Email: Lynn.Riley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Tel: 07800 869350
Twitter: @mustbecwaced

Political website

www.frodshamtories.co.uk
Visit:
www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
www.talkingwestcheshire.org

Celebrating 40 years of the Sandstone Trail

WALKERS from Frodsham joined others from across Cheshire to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Sandstone Trail.

Local schools, environmental craft and education groups and historical actors all came together over a period of three days to bring alive parts of the modern and ancient history of the popular walking route.

Luke Neal from the Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership walked much of the 34 mile trail from Whitchurch to Delamere visiting communities along the way, and carrying with him a hand-crafted giant white-faced darter dragonfly.

Frodsham Festival of Walks Group, headed south from Frodsham to meet Luke at the finish and to join the celebrations.

The rare white-faced darter dragonfly has a special new link with the trail, as it has recently been reintroduced to Delamere Forest - after a 10 year absence - from other healthier dragonfly populations at the southern tip of the trail near Whitchurch.

After setting off from Whitchurch, Luke Neal joined pupils from Tushingham Primary School at Cheshire Wildlife Trust's new Bickley Barn education centre near Malpas, as the youngsters learned about dragonflies and other creatures on the charity's wildlife-friendly farm

on the southern tip of the Sandstone Trail.

A day later, it was the turn of Harthill to join in the celebrations, as pupils from Bickerton Primary School and visiting Windsor Primary School from Merseyside joined The Earth Skills Project based in the village to present a musical and poetry show on the village green, in front of parents and visitors from the local Bolesworth Estate.

The schools also joined local Harthill resident John Brown as The Earth Skills Project officially opened a new all-access section of the Sandstone Trail, leading out from the centre of the village, thanks to a funding boost from Cheshire West and Chester Council, The Sandstone Ridge Trust, The Bolesworth Estate and Global Industries with much of the work being undertaken by further education students and Duke of Edinburgh award participants from across the country.

The final day of Luke's trek saw an early morning visit to English Heritage's Beeston Castle where a traditional medieval huntsman greeted visitors.

The three day event came to a bustling finish on Saturday at Delamere Forest, where the Sandstone Ridge Trust offered country crafts and costume demonstrations giving families the chance to get up-close to



ancient skills like metal casting, wood-working, sword-fighting and archery, along with discovering how modern-day archaeologists connect with the history of the Sandstone Trail.

Gary Ball, project co-ordinator for the Sandstone Ridge Trust's "Ridge, Rocks and Springs" Heritage Lottery Funded Project said: "Such a fun, interactive hands-on event was a great way for families and youngsters to discover the unique landscape of Cheshire, its rich history and wildlife in marking the 40th anniversary of the Sandstone Trail.

"Working with other organisations and their volunteers has helped cement the value of heritage and conservation groups based along the Trail and we plan to continue this work along the Ridge in protecting and enhancing this special place for future generations."

Chris Meredith, project officer for white-faced darters with Cheshire Wildlife Trust added: "This has been

a fitting and exciting celebration for our ground-breaking project with the white-faced darter and the opportunity to meet with so many communities along the Sandstone Trail - especially young people - means that we can hopefully keep both the natural history and the human story behind the Sandstone Ridge alive for another 40 years."

Denise Heayns from Cheshire West and Chester Council added: "We're delighted to have been involved with the Sandstone Trail celebrations, including working with Frodsham Town Council and their Festival of Walks project to connect up organisations right along the Trail route."

To find out more about the work of The Sandstone Ridge Trust visit: www.thesandstoneridgetrust.co.uk

You can still get involved or donate to Cheshire Wildlife Trust's white-faced darter appeal at: www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/white-faced-darter

Gibson's
KINGSLEY MILL

**EVERYTHING
FOR ALL YOUR PETS**



A HUGE RANGE OF
PETFOODS, ANIMAL FEEDS
AND LOTS OF ACCESSORIES
WILDBIRD FOODS & FEEDERS,
POULTRY, CAGE & AVIARY, SMALL ANIMAL
PRODUCTS & SO MUCH MORE....

Open 7 Days - Free & Easy Parking - Friendly Advice

CALL IN AND SEE US...

Kingsley Mill, Mill Lane, Kingsley, Nr Frodsham, WA6 8JA
Call us: 01928 788210 Email: sales@wtgibson.co.uk




Choir's 150th performance – with Rossini and friends

FRODSHAM and District Choral Society is to present "An Evening with Rossini and Friends" at St Laurence's Church, Frodsham on Saturday, November 8.

The concert will feature Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle, which is neither small nor solemn!

The society will be joined by four superb soloists who form part of the Heritage Opera group, including their artistic director, Sarah Helsby Hughes and her husband, Nicholas Sales and also Rachel Gilmore and Thomas Eaglen.

The choir will open their 150th performance with The Hebrew Slaves Chorus from Verdi's opera "Nabucco", which the choir performed for its 50th concert in 1987, followed by the soloists singing a selection of arias by Rossini, Puccini, Verdi and Mozart, including "Nessun Dorma" from Puccini's Turandot and "Largo al Factotum" from Rossini's Il Barbiere di Siviglia.

Howard Kane will be conducting and the accompanists are Lauren Hibberd and Robert Woods.

The concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £10 and are available from Dandelion, Church Street, Frodsham, June Ross (01928 890736), Ros Rowe (01928 733247) or on the door.

D.R.B. Jewellers

RADLEY

LONDON



FIGRELLI

JEWELLERY



My First Diamond Watch

With a sparkling diamond on each dial,
telling the time can be done in style!



'Open Call' for ideas for the Goods Shed

ARCHITECTS and designers across the North West are to be invited to put forward innovative plans for the future of Frodsham's dilapidated and currently deserted Goods Shed.

The invitation comes from Frodsham Foundation, who have been offered a 25-year lease on the building by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

This follows two years of discussions, during which the Foundation has held a number of open days and community events to develop ideas for the renovation of the building at Frodsham railway station - ideas that will benefit the community without diluting existing facilities.

A Foundation spokesperson said: "It's been a long slow process but now, with the offer of the premises, we are finally in a position to proceed."

As a result of the community events held earlier this year in conjunction with the University of Chester, the plan is to create a multi-functional space supporting both enterprise and community together in a centrally located, easily accessible building to form an attractive and welcoming gateway to Frodsham and the surrounding area.

The building will signpost visitors to other attractions and businesses in and around the town to boost local tourism, create local employment opportunities and develop skills.

The venture will generate a profit which will then be reinvested in wider community capacity building initiatives such as mentoring of young people/enterprise expansion/start up grants and community facilities.

First step is the issuing of an "Open Call" to architects and designers to translate the community ideas recorded by the University of Chester into architectural plans to support an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Open Call will be issued to all architects and designers in the North West, submissions will be shortlisted and a public display of shortlisted submissions will then be made available for a public vote.

The Foundation spokesperson added: "This is a unique and exciting opportunity for an architect, designer or team to be involved in the transformation of the currently deserted Goods Shed into a vibrant new gateway - a Space to Make, Think, Create, Share and Learn."

Architects and designers wishing to be involved are asked to contact Kate Dodgson of Frodsham Foundation via kate.dodgson@frodshamfoundation.net

Pictures by Mark Reeves of Felicitations Photography.



Keith's cycle challenge raised £2,000

HELSEBY Golf Club member Keith O'Neill raised about £2,000 for the club's powered wheelchair appeal with a 270-mile sponsored cycle ride.

Keith, who has previously raised money for the appeal by running the Great North Run twice, cycled from Helsby to the Old Thorns Golf and Country Club in Liphook, Hampshire.

When he got there he took part in the annual Peter Alliss Golf Masters competition.

This was a considerable achievement as he only took up cycling in March.

Over the years, members of the O'Neil family have regularly supported the appeal, with father Frank, mother Anne and their children, Keith and Karen all joining in.

Karen climbed Malchu Pichu. Altogether, the club has provided 382 powered wheelchairs to deserving youngsters to improve their quality of life.

Solicitors raise over £3k for hospice

FRODSHAM solicitors FDR Law has raised £3,120 for St Rocco's Hospice, thanks to a charity will week and golf day involving solicitors, staff and clients.

The firm's wills and probate specialists gave their legal services for free in a special will-making week in May when dozens of clients were asked to make a donation to the hospice in return for FDR's professional services. Wills and probate partner Emma Stride led the initiative which resulted in a £2,730 boost for the charity.

And in September, the firm's business associates battled on the greens of Delamere Forest Golf Course in aid of the charity. Commercial partner Margaret

Evans organised the popular annual golf contest which raised £390. The winning team comprised of Paul Richards (Mitchell Charlesworth), Jonathan Mckenna (RBS) and Eddie Coxon (GVA Dixon Webb).

Oliver Burton, FDR Law chief executive, said: "We have enjoyed a long association with St Rocco's and over the years raised thousands of pounds for the charity. It's really important for a law firm rooted in our local community to support such a worthwhile local cause. All our staff and clients have responded magnificently to the fundraising challenge."

St Rocco's fundraising manager, Claire Houghton, thanked FDR Law for its support. "With running costs of almost £8,000 a day, 365



L to R Norman Banner (FDR consultant solicitor and former senior partner/St Rocco chairman), Helen Latham (St Rocco's), Margaret Evans (FDR commercial partner) and Emma Stride (FDR wills partner).

days a year, we rely on the local community for our funding. One in three of us will be touched by hospice care. Each year St Rocco's

cares for hundreds of patients with a terminal illness and supports their carers, family and friends. Your support helps us continue this care."

Reproductive Health Group - free and discounted IVF cycles

THE Reproductive Health Group opened the UK's first integrated fertility hospital, the Centre for Reproductive Health, at Daresbury Park in April 2014. Feedback from patients and visitors has been highly positive.

Recognising that embarking on fertility treatment is an extremely

important decision and that uncertainty about costs and the chances of success can cause concern, RHG have decided to take a unique approach to funding for IVF treatment which demonstrates their confidence in the exceptional quality of fertility care they deliver.

After undergoing a full set of

diagnostic tests to identify the best course of treatment, patients can be offered one of two packages which include subsequent free or discounted cycles of IVF treatment should the first cycle not result in a pregnancy. RHG are the first clinic in the UK to offer such a scheme.

Free fertility consultations are

also available at the Centre for Reproductive Health. To book or to find out more, call today on 01925 202180, email info@reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk or see www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk.

Reproductive Health Group

To find out about our unique approach to funding IVF, including **FREE** and **DISCOUNTED** cycles, call us on **01925 202180** or visit www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk

What makes us different...

- We are the only private women's healthcare group in the North West to offer a full range of investigations and treatments in fertility and gynaecology
- The newest assisted conception centre incorporating the most up-to-date technologies and clinical facilities in the North West

Find out more by visiting...

www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk

To book your free consultation please call
Tel: 01925 202180
Email: info@reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk

Centre for Reproductive Health | Daresbury Park | Warrington | WA4 4GE





COMPLETE SECURITY SERVICE of Frodsham
EST 1983

Domestic & Commercial
Intruder Alarms Installed to
BS4737/DD243 STANDARD

- Specialists in Monitored Equipment
- City & Guilds Qualified Staff
- 24 Hour Emergency Service
- Award Winning Company

www.cssalarmscheshire.co.uk
01928 732549
72A Townfield Lane, Frodsham





EXCHANGE YOUR GOLD AND SILVER FOR INSTANT CASH



All items of jewellery accepted

Did you know...?
We accept silver jewellery, cutlery, tea sets, spoons, cigarette cases, candlesticks, trophies, trays, medals, coins and pocket watches.

ROLEX WATCHES WANTED! ANY CONDITION

Open: Tuesday-Saturday: 10am - 5.30pm
1 London Road, Stockton Heath (First floor entrance on Fairfield Road)
07544 486 621



GOLD & SILVER BULLION DEALER



FRODSHAM BREWERY
Award winning beers

Come and have a pint at Frodsham Brewery!

The shop and bar are now open from 11am - 4pm

NEW for 2014!







Bottle conditioned beers

Tel: 01928 787917 / 07776 391196
Lady Heyes Craft Centre, Kingsley Road, Frodsham WA6 6SU
www.frodshambrewery.co.uk email: enquire@frodshambrewery.co.uk

endless JEWELRY

Colour your life



from **£55**

LES HARRIS JEWELLERS
www.lesharrisjewellers.co.uk
90 Main Street, Frodsham, 01928 734223

HILLCREST RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME
Quality Providers of Residential & Dementia Care

Hillcrest is the premier quality Residential and Dementia care home close to the historic Cheshire town of Frodsham, enjoying beautiful views across the Cheshire Plain.



UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
Our new manager, Lorraine Purvor, started in August and has already had a positive impact on our residents, staff and visitors. For further information you are welcome to contact us for an informal chat, or alternatively just call in for a visit.

Manley Road Frodsham WA6 6ES
www.hillcrestcarehome.com Tel 01928 733615



Looking for a great course to play?
...why not try Helsby Golf Club with winter green fees from only £10!

Contact our pro shop to book quoting code FL Nov 14

01928 722021
Helsby Golf Club, Towers Lane, Helsby WA6 0JB
www.helsbygolfclub.org



Horse Rug Solutions...

We wash, proof, repair
Competitive prices, discounts for volume

We buy
£5 paid for each unwanted rug

We sell
Renovated rugs at very competitive prices

For more information call:
01928 789039 / 07792 759558
Email: info@topturnout.co.uk
Visit: www.topturnout.co.uk
Follow: [topturnout.rugwash](https://www.facebook.com/topturnout.rugwash)
Pop in: Lady Heyes Craft Centre, Frodsham WA6 6SU



TOP TURNOUT



rescued rugs

To get your business on track and in the 'Pink' contact James Bryan on

01925 631592

Keeping well

PEOPLE living in the Helsby area are being invited to a "Keeping Well in the Community" on Saturday, November 29 at Helsby Community Centre.

Organised by the Helsby and Elton Patient Participation Group (PPG), the event starts at 9.30am and will continue until 12.30pm and will be a one-stop shop giving out information and advice on local health issues.

PPG chairman Frank Thomas said: "We hope to give information on and promote a number of organisations who help our patients with existing conditions and general well-being, as well as giving advice on managing stress, including stress arising from debt issues. We hope to have representatives and information from organisations covering heart disease, debt management, diabetes, stop smoking, carers' support, Alzheimer's, Active Cheshire, Age Concern and our local keep fit trainer."

Doctor will be present checking people's blood pressure and giving out general advice. Face-painting and balloon art will be available to keep the youngsters occupied.

Remembrance Day service

A REMEMBRANCE Day service will be held at St Laurence Parish Church, Frodsham on Sunday, November 9 at 10am.

On Tuesday, November 11 there will be an 11am service at the War Memorial on Overton Hill, Frodsham, followed by refreshments at the Best Western Forest Hills Hotel.

'Heroes' exhibition opens refurbished gallery

CASTLE Park Art Centre's newly refurbished Gallery 2 re-opened with an exhibition which brought to life the heroism of the First World War.

"Frodsham's Heroes of World War 1" was organised by the Town Council's WW1 Commemoration Working Group.

Peter Vickery, chairman of the Castle Park Art Centre Trust, welcomed guests and Susan Sellars, High Sheriff of Cheshire, cut a ribbon to open the gallery and the exhibition.

Among more than 150 invited guests were Lord Mayor of Chester Cllr Bob Rudd and his consort, Sandra, Frodsham Mayor Cllr Allen Wales and his consort, Ruth Deputy Mayor of Frodsham Cllr Fran Sutton, Junior Mayor Charlie Villiers, Working Group, councillors and staff from Frodsham Town Council and Cheshire West and Chester Council, and others.

The Bluegrass Ensemble and the Frodsham Choir entertained the guests as they admired the exhibits, including artworks produced by local school pupils. The evening finished with a buffet."

Later Paul and Lena Shiel displayed their collection of WW1 memorabilia, which visitors, including many children, were allowed to handle.

Lena served cakes and biscuits that she had cooked from authentic recipes for the visitors to see and taste - "trench food" as sent to soldiers by their mothers, sisters, wives and friends.

The exhibition continues until November 6.



The High Sheriff cuts the tape watched by Peter Vickery.



Volunteers who set up the exhibition.

School went pink and green for charity



PUPILS and staff at Frodsham CE Primary School dressed in pink and green to raise money for the Macmillan and Breast Cancer Care charities.

Lots of generous parents baked cakes for a "pink and green cake sale" and children were able to take part in a very popular "guess the number of pink and green sweets in the jar" competition.

One of the pupils said: "We thoroughly enjoyed the day. We dressed in pink and green and we bought lots of cakes."

In total the parents, children and staff managed to raise a fantastic £452 to be split between the two charities.

THE NEW MEDIA CENTRE
OLD ROAD, WARRINGTON WA4 1AT
01925 240247
info@247print.net



10,000
A5
FULL COLOUR
£248.00
PAY FOR 1 SIDE
GET THE OTHER
SIDE PRINTED
FREE

500
FULL COLOUR
Digital Business Cards
(Buy 1 set, get 1 set free) **£35.00**

100
A3
£38.00
FULL COLOUR
POSTERS

60"X40"
FULL COLOUR POSTERS
ONLY **£12.00 EACH**

*ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO VAT

Storm over postponement of council meeting

THE October meeting of Frodsham Town Council was postponed for one week on the day it should have been held – amid claims and counter-claims as to the reason why.

Outspoken councillor Frank Pennington – currently excluded from all the council's committees and working groups following his comments comparing the council to Hitler – claimed a blunder had led to the council failing to give adequate notice of the meeting on its website and on council notice boards around the town.

He said members of the public were entitled to have seven days notice of a meeting and if they were not the meeting could not legally be held.

He said: "It is the first time in the 39 years I have been on the council that a meeting has been cancelled like this. I have been saying for ages that the council is in chaos and this is another example of it."

Cllr Pennington added that the council had regularly failed to meet the seven-day deadline over the last three years, but no-one had noticed.

But council chairman Cllr Mark Warren responded: "Cllr



Cllr Frank Pennington.

Pennington, after 39 years, ought to have a better understanding of our Standing Orders that he, himself, voted in.

"Our Standing Orders reflect the Local Government Act 1972 – that three clear days notice are given.

"This ordinarily means that for a Monday meeting it should be called by the preceding Wednesday at the latest. As it happens, the meeting was called on the Tuesday.

"Cllr Pennington is, I suspect, incorrectly referring to the necessary call period for a town meeting, which is one week.

"There is a separate issue, that



Cllr Mark Warren

of public notice of the agenda. The Local Government Act says the agenda must be posted in a place prominent to the public.

"Frodsham Town Council has a number of locations where the agenda is published, including public notice boards, the library, medical centre, Castle Park and our website.

"We had reports from a member of the public that the agenda wasn't posted on the website and at least one of the public notice boards with three clear days' notice. This was certainly the case with the website, and in light of the

fact that important decisions are taken at Town Council meetings, concerning public money, we erred on the side of caution to enable the agenda to be as widely available as possible. The decision was taken that the meeting be postponed.

"To my knowledge, this is the first time the agenda has been missed off the website until such a late stage, but the issue brings about some interesting possibilities about other 'prominent places' we could post and increase our profile, such as the social media."

Town clerk Jon Wild said: "The meeting could have gone ahead legally but it was decided, in the interests of good communication, to postpone it for a week. There was no cost to the council in doing this."

A defiant Cllr Pennington retorted: "I stand by what I said. Seven days notice should have been given. If a member of the public had not reported the matter the meeting would have gone ahead – but would have been illegal."

**Frodsham Life had gone to press when the meeting was held and reports will appear on our website, www.frodshamlife.co.uk or will be held over to the December issue of the magazine.*

Charity bonfire

A CHARITY bonfire and firework display will take place at Kingsley Village Playing Fields on Saturday, November 1.

The bonfire will be lit at 7pm and the fireworks will follow at 7.30pm.

Hot food and drinks, tea and coffee, toffee apples and parkin will be available along with other novelties.

Victory for rail users group

THE Frodsham-based North Cheshire Rail Users Group has won a battle to maintain rail services in Frodsham and Helsby.

Arriva Trains Wales put forward proposals for the mid-morning Manchester to Chester service, which currently stops at both Frodsham (10.37am) and Helsby, five minutes later, to miss out both stops.

But after the Rail Users Group lodged objections, rail chiefs had a re-think and decided the train would continue to stop at both stations.

Janet Briggs, chairman of the Rail Users Group, said: "This would have left a two-hour gap between stopping trains at Frodsham and Helsby which we decided was unacceptable.

"We objected – and fortunately Arriva agreed with us. But I think it is fair to say that if we hadn't objected, it is likely the changes would have been introduced."

Prime Minister praises the work of local media

PRIME MINISTER David Cameron praised the work of local newspapers and magazines during a special reception at 10 Downing Street.

The event was attended by local and regional editors and publishers including Frodsham Life editor Gary Skentelbery, who was a guest of Weaver Vale MP Graham Evans.

During the reception Mr Cameron said local newspapers and magazines were vitally important for reporting on important issues within local communities.

Commenting on the event Gary said: "Whatever your politics you can not help but be impressed by 10 Downing Street and all the famous faces pictured on the walls as you walk up the stairs. You literally walk through history.

"As well as meeting the Prime Minister it was also interesting to meet other local and regional editors and publishers and hear how they have been faring through the recession and engaging more with online news.



Pupils receive commemorative bookmarks



Left: Cllr Fran Sutton presents bookmarks to pupils at Manor House Primary and right: Cllr Allen Wales with Abbi Smith and Corey Leigh, at Weaver Vale Primary.

PUPILS from Manor House and Weaver Vale primary schools have been presented with bookmarks to commemorate the centenary of World War 1.

The presentations were made by Frodsham Mayor Cllr Allen Wales and Deputy Mayor Cllr Fran Sutton, and followed similar presentations to pupils at Frodsham CE Primary and St Luke's RC Primary School.

Members of the Town Council's WW1 Commemorative working Group were also present and at Weaver Vale, last year's Junior Mayors, Abbi Smith and Corey Leigh, after receiving their certificates, performed "one more duty" and helped the Mayor in handing out the bookmarks.

Could a revived Halton Curve have a "downside" for Frodsham?

WHEN the news was announced earlier in the year that the Halton Curve rail link was to be brought back into full use, following a £10.4 million upgrade, it received a big welcome in the Frodsham and Helsby area.

The North Cheshire Rail Users Group – which was originally set up specifically to campaign to save the line – were delighted.

Weaver Vale MP Graham Evans, who had also campaigned for several years to get the line restored, said re-opening the line would provide a huge boost to the local economy and provide improved rail links for the people of Frodsham, Helsby and Runcorn, linking Cheshire, Merseyside, Halton and North Wales.

The Halton Curve runs between Frodsham Junction and Halton Junction. It has been closed to regular passenger services since the 1970s – but has been kept open by the running of an annual "Parliamentary train" which attracted hundreds of local people.

But now rail enthusiast Russell Hart, a Frodsham resident, has sounded an early warning that while the re-opening of the line will overall be beneficial it could also have a "downside" for Frodsham.

He forecasts that Frodsham Station could become a magnet for people from a wide area who will drive to Frodsham, park their cars and travel to Liverpool by train to avoid paying the toll on the new Mersey Gateway bridge over the Mersey between Runcorn and Widnes.

A number of shopkeepers in Frodsham echo his fears, pointing to the fact that free parking is one of the town's main attractions for shoppers.

If it disappears – taken by all-day parkers using the train – or through charges introduced to deter long-stay parkers, trade could be damaged.

Mr Hart said: "It could kill Frodsham as a shopping centre." Janet Briggs, chairman of the Rail Users Group, says Mr Hart's fears may not be unfounded.

"Frodsham Station has a large car park for a town of its size," she said.

"But with plans to bring the old Goods Shed into community use, any sizeable increase in the number of people travelling by train from Frodsham could mean the car park would no longer be adequate.

"Fortunately, it is likely to be several years before it becomes an issue so there is time to plan ahead."

How good neighbours can stop doorstep crime

RESIDENTS in Frodsham, Helsby and Kingsley are being urged to look out for rogue doorstep traders preying on elderly and vulnerable neighbours.

With as many as 170,000 incidents of doorstep crime occurring nationally each year, a national "Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders" campaign is focusing on preventing doorstep crime by encouraging neighbours, family, friends and carers to look out for those most at risk in their communities.

Rogue traders often cold call and offer to carry-out repairs which are poor quality, unnecessary and charged at extortionate prices, and sometimes they even drive the victim to a bank to withdraw money or threaten them.

Cllr Lynn Riley, Cheshire West and Chester Council's lead member for Localities said: "While trading standards officers strive to track down and prosecute rogue traders, community intervention is the first step in preventing detriment caused by doorstep crime.

"The 'Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders' campaign highlights the impact community-spirit and the goodness of neighbours, friends and relatives can have in making a safer place.

"The detriment of doorstep crime reaches beyond financial loss. It can cause a person's mental health to deteriorate and in some cases, suffer physical harm. Neighbours, friends, relatives and carers can help stop this."

Anyone who suspects rogue traders are active in the area can call Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 040506 to report the matter, or in an emergency, call the police.

**CLASSIFIED
FREEPHONE
0800 955 5247**

CARPET CLEANING

SIMPLY THE BEST CARPET CLEAN YOU will ever have. Cleaners UK Ltd. Est 26 yrs. Have your carpets & sofas beautifully deep cleaned leaving them fresh smelling & colour restored. Latest & best methods. Dry/steam. Leather cleaning specialist. Professional, reliable & affordable. **For more info call Neil Riley on 01925 264989/ 07831 336060 www.cleaners-uk.net** (01/15)

DELIVERY SERVICES

FURNITURE FERRY LIGHT REMOVALS. Collections arranged from Ikea, Costco and other stores, garden centres, auctions etc. You choose, you buy, I deliver – SIMPLE. Reliable, inexpensive service. **Tel: Matt 07970 178 333 or 01942 732768. www.furnitureferry.co.uk** (05/15)

GARDENING SERVICES

WOW GARDEN DESIGN and Construction. Patios, decking, planting, turfing and water features. Free no obligation consultation. Fully qualified designer. **07801 284723/01928 751449. www.wowgardendesign.co.uk.** (01/15)

HOME SERVICES

ATLAS
Your friendly local independent

PEST CONTROL CHIMNEY SWEEPING
Affordable, professional, guaranteed service.
Fully insured, fixed prices – no surprises once on site!
Discrete vehicles, no embarrassing signs
07999 487 925 / 01925 445 222
www.atlas4u.co.uk (06/15)

SITS VAC

Frodsham Life magazine is looking to recruit an experienced

SALES PERSON

Working on our other titles including warrington-worldwide and Lifestyle magazine you will have:

- Experience of selling advertising

You will be:

- Self motivated
- Flexible
- and computer/IT literate

The position offers a basic salary, commission and expenses.

To arrange an interview please email your CV to garys@warrington-worldwide.co.uk



Give life back to your old kitchen!

With a kitchen make-over from Dream Doors

It's so easy! Not only will a Dream Doors facelift save you £1000s, but you will not have to suffer the stress, upheaval and mess that comes with a traditional refit. Dream Doors offers you a one stop shop for all your kitchen needs with a huge choice of doors worktops, sinks, taps, appliances and accessories.

- Free estimating, planning & design service
- Fitted kitchens or replacement doors & worktops
- Huge choice of doors, sinks, taps & appliances
- Worktops, including laminate, granite & solid surfaces

Book now for
fitting before
Christmas*

DREAM DOORS®

Est.
1999

NEW LIFE FOR OLD KITCHENS

Call now for a Free Design quotation **01925 211308**

Visit our Showroom: 92 Knutsford Road,
Grappenhall, Warrington WA4 2PJ

See our reviews at

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

www.dreamdoors.co.uk

* T&C's apply, ask for details

Find
us on

