

# Frodsham Life

FREE EVERY MONTH

Issue No. 114  
September 2014

Cheshire West & Chester Council

Talking Frodsham



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

## Pants Hats!

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[www.frodshamlife.co.uk](http://www.frodshamlife.co.uk) for all the latest news

# Editor's Comment



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published monthly by  
Orbit News Ltd.

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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

**IT was talked about for years before anything was done. Now it's almost finished and most people seem to agree that, despite the enormous cost, it hasn't been the problem that some predicted.**

We are, of course, talking about the restoration of the Sutton Weaver Swing Bridge, which despite dire warnings, has been carried out without destroying Frodsham's economy.

But the project has continued to be surrounded by controversy.

Fortunately, Cheshire West and Chester Council's plan to dispense with the traffic lights which eased

the flow of traffic over the bridge prior to the bridge works starting, has been dropped.

Faced with opposition from Frodsham Town Council, Sutton Weaver Parish Council, Halton Council and just about everyone else, they have agreed to reinstate the traffic lights and keep three lanes of traffic on the bridge instead of two.

This is a victory for common sense. We have used that bridge regularly for years and never found having three narrow lanes caused any problem. We cannot see that improving and strengthening the bridge will do anything other than

make things better.

But the story is not over. What are we to make of a suggestion, from private developers, that a roundabout, conveniently accommodated on land which they own near the bridge, would be the answer to any traffic challenges in the area?

They have consulted local people who, apparently, overwhelmingly support their ideas.

But that was before Cheshire West and Chester dropped their plan to remove the traffic lights.

According to highway planners, the cost of such a roundabout system could be £2 million – which means it is unlikely to happen.

Unless, of course, some other development is proposed in the immediate vicinity.

## Youth association seeks new secretary

FRODSHAM Youth Association is on the look-out for a new volunteer secretary.

Ruth Redhead, who has filled the post for about five years, is standing down and a computer literate replacement is urgently needed.

The job involves attending meetings, taking the minutes and sending out agendas and other documents to members by email.

Anyone interested in taking on the role should email Ruth at rgfhalle@hotmail.co.uk

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# Childhood cancer campaign launched – with a book

## A LOCAL woman has launched an innovative new campaign to help fight childhood cancer.

Emi Lou Howe, from Helsby, decided to launch the creative "Pants Hats Project" to raise vital funds for children's cancer research charity, Kidscan.

Inspired by her then one-year-old daughter's love of wearing her brother's pants on her head, Emi Lou decided to write a fun story and raise money in the process.

Her first illustrated book, "Pants Hats", set in a hospital, follows the story of very different characters

who like wearing pants rather unconventionally on their heads.

After losing her father to the disease when she was 24, Emi Lou has been a long time fundraiser for cancer research. Having children of her own resulted in her being drawn to children's cancer charities, with Kidscan standing out as the only children-specific cancer research charity in the UK.

Just two months into the Pants Hats project, Emi Lou herself was

diagnosed with cancer, allowing her to relate to sufferers all the more.

She said: "It set the project back for a while, but part of me thought, maybe there's a reason for this."

"Originally the book had been set in the home but following my experience I decided to set it in a hospital, with the message that you can have fun in a hospital. I've been over a hundred times, so I know it's true! And of course now I know how it feels to go through cancer, to lose all your hair, to have that experience. I can really relate to the cause."

The book, which was created with a creative mixture of paint, fabric, texture and graphic design, will be produced using Amazon's new Create Space print-on-demand

publishing arm.

On the book, Emi Lou added: "I feel very happy with the result, I wouldn't like to guess how many hours it has taken in trial and error! But the result is just what I was looking for: quirky, colourful and most importantly fun!"

Lowri Turner, fundraising manager at Kidscan, said: "It's hard to put into words how amazed we are by Emi's unwavering enthusiasm and commitment to supporting Kidscan."

"Both she and the 'Pants Hats' book are absolutely incredible, and we hope that everyone enjoys reading it as much as we do."

The book coincides with International Children's Cancer Month - September

## Weddings Open Day at the Forest Hills

FRODSHAM'S Best Western Forest Hills Hotel hold their next wedding Open Day on Sunday, October 5 – offering plenty of "goodies" for brides and bridegrooms and discounts from exhibitors.

The free event starts at 12 noon and continues until 3pm and offers an excellent opportunity to view the hotel. The hotel's function rooms will be set up as they would be for a wedding breakfast giving couples a chance to visualise their own big day.

Exhibitors will be present, showing off everything from cars to chocolate fountains. Special discounts will be available - Easter and Festive discounts, plus a great New Year package at just £2,015 when booking and taking a wedding in January or February 2015.

There will be a chance to view past weddings on the hotels Facebook page, Best Western Forest Hills Hotel, and the website in the gallery plus testimonials that speak for themselves.

Details of forthcoming events such as Murder Mystery nights, Ladies Night, Christmas, Dining offers...and much more.... [www.foresthillshotel.com](http://www.foresthillshotel.com)

Visitors can make an afternoon of it by staying for a traditional carvery lunch in the Hilltops Restaurant, at a special rate of £11 for a two course lunch.

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# Support group for people with lung diseases

**A SMALL support group is bringing help and comfort to people in the Frodsham area suffering from various Interstitial Lung Diseases, their family and carers.**

Interstitial lung disease (ILD) is a group of lung diseases affecting the interstitium – the tissue and space around the air sacs of the lungs.

The Frodsham group is run by Sue Stephan, whose Mum, Sally, suffered Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) but sadly died in February after a seven year battle

with the disease.

The group has eight members, plus friends and family and meets on the second Tuesday of every month at Frodsham Health Centre.

Sue said: "I began the group in June last year as my Mum and I both realised there was no support in this area for patients with lung

diseases."

Frodsham Medical Centre arranged for the group to use the downstairs meeting room.

Sue added: "We are a small group, but the members get a great deal from it and enjoy attending."

Sue is anxious to raise awareness of the diseases – in particular International IPF Awareness week which is from September 28 to October 5.

IPF is a serious disease where

the alveoli (the tiny air sacs of the lungs) and the lung tissue next to the alveoli become damaged and scarred.

The main symptom is shortness of breath that gradually worsens.

The exact cause is not known and treatments include steroids, and other medicines. Increasingly lung transplantation may be offered.

Sue can be contacted by emailing susiestephan1267@aol.com

## Britain's first integrated fertility hospital is officially open

THE Reproductive Health Group were delighted to welcome Graham Evans, MP for Weaver Vale, to formally open Britain's first integrated fertility hospital, the Centre for Reproductive Health (CRH) at Daresbury Park.

Mr Evans commented: "I am pleased to visit The Centre for

Reproductive Health to learn more about how they are supporting couples seeking fertility treatments. Couples struggling to build their own families need both emotional and medical support during their journey. I am very proud that we have such an innovative facility here in Weaver

Vale which will support couples across the North West."

Other principal guests included the Mayor of Halton, Councillor Shaun Osborne, alongside representatives from other local businesses, including **Frodsham Life** Editor Gary Skentelbery.

Mr Luciano Nardo, Consultant in Reproductive Medicine and Clinical Director at the Centre for Reproductive Health said: "The Centre, which is one of only a few of its kind in Europe and the only one in the North West of England, offers patients the very latest technologies and the highest quality individualised, integrated care to ensure the best possible outcomes. I am delighted to work with such a highly skilled and strongly committed multidisciplinary team that make a real difference to each patient's story."

Managing Director Simon

Shepherd added: 'Because the clinic was designed by consultants and embryologists, and because we offer much more than just IVF, we can carry out all the investigative procedures that may be required by infertile couples. Our team are gynaecologists first, and fertility doctors second – working very much with the interests of what is important for the patient in mind.'

CRH is the only clinic to offer comprehensive gynaecology, urology and fertility care. The Centre also boasts a fully-equipped operating facility in which to carry out day case surgical procedures.

To learn more about the Centre for Reproductive Health, or the Reproductive Health Group, please call 0845 600 9997, email info@reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk or see www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk



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# Sisters turn to baking therapy again!

**ELAINE Baines and her sisters are turning to baking therapy again to help raise funds for charity**

Baking is the perfect therapy for the family of sisters living with cancer, with another member recently diagnosed following a routine scan.

Elaine is one of eight sisters who are turning their passion for baking into fundraising for cancer charities.

Elaine, aged 57, from Frodsham, raised more than £700 from a MacMillan Coffee morning she helped organise at St. Laurence's Church Hall in Church Street last year - and now she is at it again at the same venue on September 20 from 11am.

She will again be joined by her sisters Wendy, aged 53, who has Ovarian Cancer and Brenda, aged 56, who has had breast cancer twice.

Now youngest sister, mother of three Gillian, aged 50 has been diagnosed.

The lump was discovered during a routine mammogram - she had no idea she had a breast lump and couldn't feel it. She's had this removed along with some lymph nodes and the indications are really favourable that all the tumour was removed and it has not spread.

She will have radiotherapy

and, perhaps but not definitely, chemotherapy. The outlook for Gillian is very favourable because the cancer was discovered very early.

Elaine said: "Being from a large family of eight sisters and two brothers, our mother was always baking for the family."

"It is a worrying time ahead and we find that baking cakes and holding fund-raising events is a good way of dealing with the anxiety," she added.

"I would like to thank everyone who supported our coffee morning last year, especially the local Frodsham businesses who donated raffle prizes."



Sisters from left, Julie Cropper, Brenda Leigh, Elaine Baines and Wendy Steen.

## Black tie ball for village defibrillators

COMMUNITY first responder Nicky Gavin is organising a black-tie charity ball to raise money for defibrillators in local villages - starting with Kingsley and Helsby.

Nicky has seen at first-hand the difference the availability of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) can make for heart attack victims and their families.

Speedy use of an AED offers the greatest chance of survival for a heart attack victim.

The ball will be at the Brook Mollington Banastre Hotel & Spa, Chester on September 20.

Nicky said: "I would love every village and town in every county to have an AED readily available in case of a heart emergency. To get the ball rolling, I'm starting locally and want, in the first instances, to equip

the villages of Kingsley and Helsby.

"On the Saturday night of the ball, guests will be treated to a lively auction, a surprise or two, great music to dance to and a sumptuous three-course meal. Costing just £55 per person, not only will the money you spend provide you with a great evening's entertainment but it will also contribute towards saving lives.

"Come along, have some fun and help us to raise money for AEDs, which will make a real difference to those who might otherwise be lost to us."

To buy tickets for the event or make a donation to the auction or raffle, contact <http://ticketwarrior.co.uk/event/heartsovers/>

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- Friday 19th  
Holton Direct Link, Runcom 4pm - 5pm
- Friday 26th  
Asda Supermarket, Holton Lea 2:30pm - 3:30pm  
& The Knoll Surgery, Frodsham 4pm - 5pm

**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,  
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# Air quality good – except for parts of the A56

Air quality in Frodsham is good, with the only significant pollution being from traffic on parts of the A56.

This is clear from existing monitoring data in the town.

But recently a local panel took advice from Professor Duncan Laxen from the company Air Quality Consultants and it was recommended that further data be obtained in the Frodsham area.

As a result, an air quality monitoring station has been set up at Frodsham Manor House School by Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWC)

This facility will record the levels of three different pollutants as well as weather data every 15 minutes, around the clock.

It follows concerns raised by CWC's Frodsham councillors Lynn Riley and Andrew Dawson, about whether existing and proposed industrial developments and their emissions, could have an impact on the residents of Frodsham.

Data produced by the monitoring station will provide invaluable information on local air pollution and its likely causes.

The monitoring station has been funded in part from the member

budgets of Cllr Riley and Cllr Dawson as well as a contribution from Frodsham Town Council.

Cllr Riley said: "We take our public and environmental health role very seriously and we are working hard across the borough to ensure that our air quality is good."

"This monitoring station is an important step in ensuring we have evidence of the state of air quality in Frodsham."

Cllr Dawson said: "Having the data to show how good our air quality is, is vital in providing community assurance and reassurance."

"It also helps industry demonstrate how well they are performing."

Chairman of Frodsham Town Council, Cllr Mark Warren said: "The council believes this is important work and is pleased to be able to support it financially, alongside colleagues from Cheshire West and Chester Council."

Anyone who wants to find out about current air pollution levels or complain about smoke nuisance or learn about local air quality management can visit [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/monitoringstations](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/monitoringstations)

## School gets busy support the Foodbank

PUPILS and staff at Frodsham CE Primary School have been busy supporting the local Foodbanks.

School councillors, Mrs Gaynor Gardiner and Mrs Jane Brady went down to the parish hall in Frodsham for a coffee morning to support the Runcorn Foodbank by raising money.

Afterwards, the children learned how important it was for them to collect food and raise money for people who cannot afford to buy enough food for their families.

In Runcorn, the food bank has already fed 4,000 people in need.

Later the school had a non-uniform day to raise money to set up a new foodbank in Frodsham.

Headteacher Mrs Lucy Kirby said: "This is a project which can really help our local community and our families have been supporting the Foodbank by generously donating food. It is a great way we can work together with our church, St Laurence."



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# £4.5m bridge works nearly finished – but the talking goes on

WORK is nearing completion on the £4.5 million restoration of Sutton Weaver Swing Bridge – but the project continued to be dogged with controversy to the end

Frodsham Town Council objected to Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWC) proposals to do away with the traffic light controlled junction when the bridge re-opens, on the grounds it would cause traffic chaos.

Similar objections came from Sutton Weaver Parish Council, Halton Council, bus companies and others – and as a result CWC backed down.

The traffic lights will be retained – along with three lanes of traffic on the bridge.

Then Helsby-based developers Steppingstone joined in the debate by launching a consultation in Frodsham and Sutton Weaver about their own proposals for solving traffic problems at the bridge by introducing a new roundabout system.

They, in turn, were taken to task by Frodsham councillors Andrew Dawson and Lynn Riley who demanded answers to a series of searching questions.

Steppingstone claimed 72 per cent of Frodsham residents work outside the town and the majority of them use the Sutton Weaver bridge.

They said they own several

parcels of land near the bridge which could accommodate a new, full-sized roundabout which would provide a solution to many of the traffic challenges.

According to Steppingstone, more than 750 people responded to their consultation – the majority of them supporting their proposals.

They said they were ready to discuss their proposals with CWC, Frodsham Town Council, Sutton Weaver Parish Council and the community.

But Cllr Dawson and Cllr Riley (pictured) say the company has failed to answer the questions they have posed.

These are:

\*Has Steppingstone costed the proposed works, which according to a CWC estimate, could be around £2 million?

\*Is Steppingstone offering to carry out the highways work or pay for it, or is it expecting CWC to pay?

\*As CWC does not currently have £2 million available, how are the works to be carried out and who is going to pay?

\*Is Steppingstone offering to transfer the land on which the roundabout would be sited to CWC, and if so on what basis?

\*Does Steppingstone link its roundabout proposal with the development of surrounding land

it owns and, if so, what kind of development is in mind?

\*As the land is in Green Belt, how does Steppingstone seek to demonstrate the "very special circumstances" that would be necessary?

\*What discussions as Steppingstone had with CWC planners on development proposals in the vicinity?

\*Does Steppingstone have a timetable in mind for the construction of the roundabout and any linked development?



## New domestic violence law will help abuse victims

PROPOSALS for a new crime of domestic violence will help hundreds of Cheshire people suffering in abusive relationships, says a local family law expert.

Ruth Hetherington, who is a partner at FDR Law, in Frodsham, welcomes the Government's plans to create a new law which will empower the police to intervene

in domestic abuse situations more easily.

Last year there were nearly 270,000 domestic abuse-related crimes in England and Wales, representing 8% of all calls to the police\*. Although existing laws already cover acts of violence, stalking and harassment, none of them specifically refer to personal

relationships or domestic situations.

The Government's consultation will look at strengthening the law by explicitly stating that domestic abuse includes coercive and controlling behaviour as well as physical harm.

The move comes after the way police respond to domestic abuse was condemned as "alarming and unacceptable" in a report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in March.

Ruth Hetherington said: "I have seen so many local women and men who have suffered abuse, mental as well as physical, before their relationship breaks down. This is a universal issue and affects both genders, across all sections of society.

"The psychological damage caused by a controlling, bullying partner can be just as harmful as a black eye or bruised ribs. Some people are fearful for their lives, but for many, domestic abuse manifests itself as psychological terror; constant undermining, threatening behaviour; isolation from friends and family; and a loss of financial control.

"To the outside world, the perpetrators often appear charming but behind closed doors, they can be violent, volatile and seek to control every aspect of their partner's life, making them feel worthless and isolated."

In support of the domestic abuse consultation, Home Secretary Theresa May said: "The government

is clear that abuse is not just physical. Victims who are subjected to a living hell by their partners must have the confidence to come forward. I want perpetrators to be in no doubt that their cruel and controlling behaviour is criminal.

"We will look at the results of this consultation carefully in order to continue providing the best possible protection and support for victims of domestic abuse."

Victims of domestic violence are one of the few groups who are still eligible for legal aid in divorce cases. For more information contact Ruth Hetherington on 019285 739300 or email: ruth.hetherington@fdrlaw.co.uk.



Ruth Hetherington of FDR Law

## School's £500 'wish list'

FRODSHAM Manor House Primary School has been presented with a £500 "wish list" of items to help enhance the school's commitment to outdoor education.

The donation came from Hull-based CTS Shopfitting, who had been working in the town, and included outdoor beanbags and other outdoor fittings for the school bell tent.

In addition, there was a high quality digital camera to help enhance the school's newly designed website.



# Jewel in the crown – or a waste of space?

## IS it the jewel in Frodsham's crown? Or is it a waste of space?

The matter was the subject of some debate at a meeting of Frodsham Town Council – and the topic was ... Hob Hey Wood. Which, according to some, should be pronounced "Hobby Wood."

Some councillors believe it to be one of Frodsham's treasured amenities. Some do not. Others are not even quite sure where it is – and some others believe that most



people in Frodsham don't know where it is.

The Mayor, Cllr Allen Wales, confessed that in 15 years living in Frodsham, he had never been there.

But, he said, he would rectify this immediately, by going there on his next day off.

He did just that and commented: "It's a lovely little wooded area, very quiet, well worth a walk through."

And he promptly emailed "Frodsham Life" a series of pictures he took during his walk – some of which we reproduce here.

Cllr Graham Bondi said he would like to see a lot more people using Hob Hey Wood. He believed that in years to come, people would say the Town Council had saved it from being despoiled by motor cyclists and paint ball operators.

"I would like residents who value Hob Hey Wood to stand up and be counted," he added.

But Cllr Frank Pennington said the council, which had owned three quarters of the wood for many years, had bought more of it with £22,000 of public money without having it valued, for the benefit of just 17 dog walkers. All they had done with it was plant 12 plum trees.

"It is not beneficial to the people of Frodsham – most of who don't even know where it is."

Cllr Ruth Redhead said the wood was used by people from outside the area as well as Frodsham people. Her daughter had taken friends to see it.

Chairman Cllr Mark Warren said the council had carried out a very methodical process of planting and management of the wood. He believed it was much more than a place for dog walkers.

Cllr Andrew Dawson said members of his family used the wood on an almost daily basis.

So what is Hob Hey Wood? It covers some eight acres and lies between Townfield Lane and Dingle Farm, Bradley. There is a charitable



group, "Friends of Hob Hey Wood" which exists to "preserve and conserve, for the quiet and peaceful benefit of the public, the natural woodland area of Hob Hey Wood."

It regularly features in Frodsham's annual Festival of Walks – and is on the Frodsham Pond Trail.

Last year, local scouts planted apple trees donated by Frodsham Transition Initiative, to establish a community orchard by the wood.

Pictures of the wood – featuring its wild garlic – have appeared in county magazines as far away as Sussex and Dorset and also on photo-sharing websites.

Four years ago the Town Council produced a leaflet showing local beauty spots – which included Hob Hey Wood.

How do you find it? Follow the footpath from Townfield Lane beside the allotments or alternatively go via Ellis Lane or Bradley Lane.

## Animal artists in exciting collaboration

FRODSHAM'S Castle Park Arts Centre is putting together an exciting collaboration between two of Cheshire's leading animal artists.

Finney and Fox; Feather and Fur is a collection of works by wildlife artist David A Finney and equine artist June Lesley Fox.

Each has their own specialities, yet both have a real empathy with the animals they portray.

June's lifelong love of horses started as a child and she regularly exhibits with both the Society of Equine Artists and the Society of Feline Artists.

David has been watching and painting birds since his teens, some 40 years ago, and now helps organise the National Exhibition of Wildlife Art (NEWA) on the Wirral each summer.

Both artists are regular contributors to both NEWA and the Wildlife Art Society International (TWASI) and both now serve on the committee of the Chester-based Grosvenor Arts Society, playing an active role in Chester's visual arts.

Their exhibition opens on September 24 in Gallery 3 at the Arts Centre (upstairs) with 60 paintings of birds, big cats, cute cats, sporting horses and a miscellany of British and African wildlife, in a variety of styles and media.

Although June and David have reputations for fine detailed studies and precise portraiture, they have both experimented with freer, more expressive styles.

Visitors to the show will be able to see June's painting techniques on Sunday afternoons September 28 and October 5 and David will be at the gallery October 12 and 19 and the exhibition continues until November 5.

Admission is free and the Arts Centre is open each day until 4pm.





Staff from the previous 50 years with Councillor Allen Wales and headteacher Ian Devereux-Roberts on the right

# School ends year with 50th birthday celebrations

FRODSHAM Manor House Primary ended the school year in style as staff, pupils and parents celebrated the 50th anniversary of the school site.

There was a week-long party with a range of events including a musical theatre day led by Liverpool Empire Theatre who the school frequently work in partnership with.

On the Tuesday there was an open day during which pupils were split out of their normal class groups in order to spend the day completing a range of activities working with different staff and different age groups which included making rockets, film making, moving pictures, treasure hunt, disco dance crazes, forest school art and interviewing past teachers and pupils.

On the Wednesday there was an instrumental concert in the evening led by local tutors Bev Greenwood and Stuart Williams.

The following day the school had a picnic in the park with a range of

activities and ice lollies for all.

Finale to the week was an assembly with more than 25 past members of staff in attendance, followed by the mayor of Frodsham Cllr Allen Wales, unveiling a new wishing well in the grounds.

All children were then presented with a commemorative pin badge and visited the well throughout the day to make their own personal wish.

In the evening there was a ceilidh attended by more than 200 followed by almost 100 folks camping overnight on the school field - enduring a torrential thunder storm.

The school has also said goodbye to their Year 6 leavers, retiring chairman of governors Adam Kilborn and deputy head Sarah Harrison who will become the head teacher at Kingsley Primary School in the autumn.



Josh Chow and Scarlett Fowles preparing for a game of rounders at Castle Park



28 years of combined headships at Manor House, Pat Hodder, Ian Devereux-Roberts and Val Cotteril.



Members of Year five with the new Bell Tent which they had just erected (with past pupils in the tent) donated by the Kilborn family, ready for the big camp out.



KS1 on the playground.

## 147 candles lit at Service of Remembrance



Picture by Geoff Abnett

MORE than 200 people attended a special Service of Remembrance at St Laurence Parish Church, Frodsham to honour the heroes of World War 1.

Organised by the church and Frodsham Town Council, a highlight of the service was the lighting of 147 candles – one each for the men of Frodsham who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Father Michael Mills welcomed the congregation and spoke about the state of the world in August 1914.

Aelison Wilson, chairman of Churches Together in Frodsham, gave a reading of "The boots of tramping warriors..."

Geoff Abnett, of the Royal British Legion, read a poem by Rupert Brooke and the Fayle brothers sang John Bell's hymn "What shall we pray".

The 147 candles were extinguished one at a time as the names and stories of the men were read by Frodsham Mayor Cllr Allen Wales and other volunteers.

Many in the congregation, which included the Mayors of Northwich and Winsford with their consorts and Weaver Vale MP Graham Evans were seen to dab their eyes when Susan Withenshaw played the Last Post on her bugle.

Other World War 1 commemoration events to take place shortly include:

1. "All Over By Christmas": choral performances by Theatre in the Quarter at Frodsham railway Station on Friday September 19 at 11.20am and 12.15pm
2. "St Laurence Remembers": Heritage Weekend at St Laurence Parish Church. Saturday September 20, 10am – 4pm and Sunday September 21, September 12 noon-3pm.
3. "Heroes of World War 1": An exhibition of original and replica artefacts, copies of "wills" and "letters home", extracts from newspapers and the parish magazine, photographs, artwork, a recording of Gunner T G Rogers and other memorabilia from the period in Gallery 2, Castle Park Arts Centre. Opening Friday October 3, 7pm – 9pm. Free entry.

Open Mon-Sat 9.30am-4pm and Sun 1pm-4pm. Ends on Thursday November 6.

## Pupils serve up a meal for parents

**YEAR Six pupils at Frodsham Weaver Vale Primary decided to treat their parents to a meal to thank them for their support over their time at the school.**

The children spent time in class practising and preparing dishes to serve to their parents.

They decided on the following menu: Starter: tomato soup; Main course: Lasagne with side salad; Dessert: Eton mess; Tea/Coffee with Brigadeiro (Brazilian chocolate truffle).

The class cooked the meal after school and served the meal as well and parents were invited to dine with the children, staff and governors.

Pupils comments included: "The meal was great and our parents really enjoyed it" and "The meal worked very well and everyone enjoyed it. Some people asked for seconds."

Later the children were rewarded for all their hard work by being taken to a Chinese restaurant for lunch

They enjoyed a three course meal with head teacher Mrs Suzanne Mills and the adults that had worked with them.



## Volunteer decorators

FRODSHAM Community Association and the adjoining youth club building were given a lick of paint when volunteers from a local supermarket offered their services.

Our picture shows the volunteers busy with rollers and brushes. From the left they are Katie Norton, Jayson Burgess, Lynda Jackson, Sam Hughes and Lewis Warr.

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# Cricket club plays host to visually impaired team

**KINGSLEY Cricket Club underlined its commitment to promoting opportunities to play cricket by hosting a special match against the Cheshire Cobras Visually Impaired Cricket Club.**

The match at The Croft – Kingsley's home ground – attracted a good crowd of friends and supporters and resulted in a win for the Cobras.

Match organiser, Kingsley CC's Owen Rowlands, said: "We were really pleased to be able to support this Cheshire Cricket Board initiative and it was a pleasure to play the Cobras and hopefully help raise the profile of visually impaired cricket and get people interested".

The Cobras were only established this year and have been playing teams across the county with the

aim of providing cricket for visually impaired people.

In excellent weather, the Cobras made 179 for seven in their 30 overs and a Kingsley XI managed 153 for seven in a good, competitive game.

The club thanked their sponsors and Round Table for help in developing their facilities in recent years.

Next big event at the club is their famous beer festival, on September 19 and 20, which helps fund their ground development and junior cricket programmes.



## A foodie day out for all the family



THE Cheshire Food Festival returns to Arley Hall on Saturday and Sunday, September 20-21 for a fun, foodie day out for the whole family.

Arley will be full of food lovers, chefs and artisan cooks for the return of an event showcasing more than 80 top local producers, a big serving of stunning hot food, real ale and wine bars.

There will also be craft and gift stalls, lots of activities and rides for the kids, top chef demos, stir in a cake competition and the popular Men v Food, with lashings of excellent live music.

The main chef demo area inside the Crook Barn hosts great local and regional chefs, all demos are free - as part of the admission ticket - to enter so everyone can pick up top foodie tips.

There are also regular Artisan foodie talks and the popular Great British Cake off.

The festival offers a great opportunity to get a real taste of the best of Cheshire and Great British produce but also sample some more exotic elements such as Thai pies, ostrich burgers, or Samosas.

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## SALES PERSON

### Frodsham Life

and its sister publications are looking for a self motivated person with good people skills who can work on their own and as part of a team.

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# Ironman Dave heading for Hawaii!

**FRODSHAM'S Dave Clamp has set his heart on becoming an Ironman world champion after winning the M55 age group in Bolton.**

His victory, in a time of 11hrs 01min 38secs, secured the fitness trainer a place in the world championships in Kona, Hawaii, later this year.

And the 55-year-old believes age could be on his side as he bids for international glory after missing out last year due to injury after falling off his bike during training.

Dave said: "I am the youngest in my age group, which is why I know I have a good chance this year."

"I took on a coach last year and we decided as a goal to try to win the world championships.

"We think there is a possibility and I will go to Hawaii as a contender, but I have got to raise my game.

"The guy who won it last year finished in 9hrs 10mins, but I know the Kona course will suit me a lot better than this one as it is on one big flat road and I can just go for it."

Clamp has raced for the Team GB elite team in the past and is a veteran of more than 40 Ironman races, even competing over double and triple distances.

He had hoped to break some world records last year but dislocated his shoulder after coming off his bike in training.

But Clamp is no quitter and is now looking to conquer the world - and do it in style in Hawaii!



## Employment minister in town

MINISTER of State for Employment Esther McVey dropped in at Frodsham Youth Club to chat with members.

The Wirral West MP and former television presenter was accompanied by Weaver Vale MP Graham Evans and while at the club she met Town Mayor Cllr Allen Wales, Cllr Lynn Riley and club members and officials.



(left to right), Courtney Greenway aged 14, Graham Evans MP, Heather Mason aged 16, Esther McVey, William Jones aged 19 and Jessica Burger aged 17 outside the club in Fluin Lane.

# 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.

It's been great to see so many people sharing their views about a whole range of local issues over the summer period. It's usually a quiet time, but not this year. One of the reasons we write this page along with the blog, website and other social media is to try and get as many people aware and involved in all that's going on.

The Swingbridge is just one example where over the last month we've not been backward in coming forward with local views on a proposed road layout once the road re-opens!

To make sure as many people had the opportunity to have their say officers from the Council's Rural Localities team took to the streets on Frodsham's market day. Lots of people formerly replied to the consultation and many more had a chance to better understand the proposal.

You may remember in early 2013 our community came together to make the case for a temporary bridge whilst the swing bridge was renovated! The project team at CWAC and C&RT responded to this groundswell of local support by delivering the temporary bridge alongside the long awaited upgrade. Totalling a £4.5m investment in the area!

With work due to complete in a matter of weeks, the question about what happens next is out there. Moving the traffic back onto the refurbished bridge and the junction on the Sutton Weaver side has been out to consultation. Not only has this triggered many of you to write in with your comments about whether to retain the arrangements on the temporary bridge or not, but its also brought forward a new suggestion from a private developer and we are all interested to know more. We've both been asking questions of the developer!

Obviously any new scheme has along way to go and in the meantime we'll soon be driving, walking and cycling over the much improved Swing Bridge. There were more than 300 responses to the consultation about what road junction we should have - with the vast majority of views received being overwhelmingly in favour of reinstating the traffic lights. This is in spite of the success of the free flowing traffic over the temporary bridge. Objections to keeping the temporary arrangements were raised by Halton Council and the parish councils of Frodsham and Sutton Weaver as well as Sustrans, the Blue Light Services and all the bus companies. So the traffic lights will return and we've been able to persuade the highway engineers to return the 3 narrow lanes even though they wanted just 2.

Thank you to everyone who contacted us with their views - it really can and does make a difference since new Government thinking, both nationally and locally allows greater flexibility in being able to sort local issues, locally.

In much the same way, we are proposing a new crossing by Weaver Vale primary on Ship Street to encourage more children to walk and cycle safely to school. In the past, this popular and sensible idea has never met national criteria, but now that same "new local thinking" is allowing us to use our members grants to fund this alongside Frodsham Town Council. The formal consultation will be starting soon so we'd love to hear from you.

## Frodsham Business Incubation

Do you work from home or are you a small business or sole trader? We are currently developing an idea around creating an incubation space in Frodsham, where you can share an open workspace for an hour, day, week or longer. You can share ideas and business opportunities with other professionals or small businesses.

We would like to invite all homeworkers, new and small business owners to Castle Park in Frodsham to have a chat about the business incubation idea, and look at what's available. Why not come and have a coffee on Wednesday 3rd September at 1pm to 2pm to see how this idea could help your new business to develop quicker in Frodsham.

If you would like to take this opportunity please e-mail [RuralCommunities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:RuralCommunities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk) to confirm your attendance

It's great to see people prepared to jump into the great swimming pool debate again. Recent work with Helsby High School shows that this long held aspiration is still alive and kicking today. If this is something you would like to see, why not join in the debate. We share the ambition of bringing a swimming pool to Frodsham and Helsby and are working to 'align the planets' to make this a possibility - but it will require overwhelming local support not only to build it, but also to run and maintain it.



## Young Innovators!

So many of you got involved in helping to decide how best to use our Council Grants back in April where we supported 18 of Frodsham's many community groups with funding for many fantastic projects! We now want to help our budding young entrepreneurs with some kick-start funding to bring their ideas to life.

Ali Wheeler (Good Squared CIC) is working with us on this to reinvest the profits from the "life through a lens" photographic project that was funded by £1000 of our member's budget back in 2013.

So if you are 13 to 24 years old, have an idea and want some help to get started, we want to hear from you!

Watch out for this exciting opportunity in late October. We plan to hold a "dragons den" like event to support you and your idea with not only some funding but help with marketing and business planning. You could put words and ideas into action and use kick-start investment from £50 - £1000 to get your idea off the ground - the small proviso is that you tell others about your success and reinvest 10% of your profits back into other opportunities for young people in our community. For more information or to register an interest please email: [ruralcommunities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:ruralcommunities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

## Congratulations to all our young achievers!

Well done to all of our students for all of their hard work through their GCSE's and A Levels!



### To find out more contact:

**Cllr Andrew Dawson**

Email: [Andrew.Dawson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.Dawson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07970 635629

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