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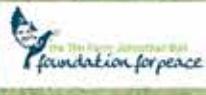


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# Editor's Comment

IT has always been said a week is a long time in politics – well since the country voted for BREXIT it would appear 24 hours is a long time in politics!

I made no secret of backing the REMAIN campaign – as my main fear was the uncertainty BREXIT would bring – and I don't think any one can argue that we are now charting through some uncertain times.

In the space of 24 hours David Cameron, quite rightly in my opinion, resigned and the country now has a new Prime Minister, while the Labour opposition is in somewhat disarray with their own leadership battles.

As a town Warrington voted to LEAVE by a margin of 54.3 per cent to 45.7 per cent much to the delight of Trevor Nicholls, Chairman of the local UKIP branch, who now says he will continue to work hard to get local members on the borough council in future local elections.

While I wish Trevor the best of luck I struggle to see what role UKIP can play at a local level. In fact I would rather see national politics put to one side at a local level, with local people campaigning on local issues and using their energies better by working together.

Having said that Warrington had a great opportunity to have more of a say over its own destiny with the offer of devolution and an elected Mayor. Unfortunately the local Labour group decided to block this which now means the status quo will be retained – with national government retaining

the keys to our coffers.

Apparently the Labour group didn't like the idea of being involved with Chester and Cheshire, with some preferring an option with Liverpool or Manchester – neither of which were on the table. Sadly the offer of devolution is now no longer available in the foreseeable future.

Meanwhile turning away from politics I would like to say a huge congratulations to my friends at Warrington Disability Partnership in

their 25th anniversary year.

Once again, despite some uncertain weather, Disability Awareness Day was a huge success and a credit to the charity which has continued to grow and deliver through tough economic times and set a shining example, inspiring many others to follow.

It is a great honour to be a trustee of the charity which I find to be truly inspiring with the can do mentality of those involved.



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# Warrington's first seal selfie!

A WARRINGTON girl may have captured the town's first "seal selfie" on the banks of the River Mersey.

Sophie Rutter, aged 20, was walking home near Warrington Rowing Club when she spotted the seal relaxing by the side of the water near Latchford bridge.

After taking pictures and video she managed to get a selfie of herself with the seal.

Seal sightings are becoming more common with the Mersey improving in water quality and now being home to salmon, providing a plentiful food supply for the usual sea dwellers.

There have been at least three different seal sightings recently – the one Sophie captured on camera being the largest seal of the three.

It was a happier outcome for Sophie's seal than one from the last century which has become an exhibit in Warrington museum's cabinet of curiosities after being shot dead in the Mersey.

Have you had a recent seal or unusual wildlife sighting and taken a photo? – if so email [info@warrington-worldwide.co.uk](mailto:info@warrington-worldwide.co.uk)



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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

# Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

## What is the cost of 'feeling good'?

**In this moment, as you read this article, do you feel good? Is your confidence good? Is your self-esteem where you want it to be? Do you feel you can take on the world and beat it? If you answered yes to any of those questions you are definitely doing something right!**

How do you do it? How do you stay feeling good? Is it with the help of cigarettes or e-cigarettes? A bottle of wine or a few pints in the evening. Or do you exercise and get the natural well-being feelings which exercise gives us?

Only you dear reader, will know the real answer. However I do know that many people go through life 'putting a face on', pretending all is fine and just getting on with everyday routines. For many confidence is low, but they pretend to themselves and others there is no problem. Denial adds to the problem, it takes emotional energy to keep smiling, to pretend, to just try and ignore problems and feelings of stress, anxiety, upset, and distress. However sooner or later the mask will fall, and then, people start to look for people like me. To make things right, and I

often can, given a chance.

But in this day and age it's easier to hit the bottle, or as we call it now, chilling with a bottle of wine. Walk past the nail bars and the hairdressers and you see the numbers of people putting on their metaphorical faces of confidence. However, confidence and self-esteem comes from within. It doesn't matter how you look it matters how you feel.

It takes a brave person to look within themselves and to recognise change is needed. It takes some work, some learning and some trust too. And yet that is what all the people I work with have done. They have been brave enough to look at themselves or their circumstances and decide they need a bit of help, guidance and encouragement.

So what is the cost of feeling good? There is the cost of time and effort, a financial cost too of course, but the cost is worth paying because until you have harmony in yourself, you are not living to your full capacity.

Stress will come and go, financial problems will come and go, some people in your life will come and go, but finding your internal balance and harmony is a skill, it

Michael Mahoney is a Clinical Hypnotherapist. He has research and patient trials experience. He is a member of the Hypnotherapy Association, an associate of the Primary Care Society for Gastroenterology, based at Woolston Surgery, Neighbourhood Hub, Warrington WA1 4PN.

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can become a powerhouse to move you on in exciting new directions, help you to see new opportunities, see your own potential in a way that you never realised.

Some readers will not be able to relate to what I am saying here, and that's fine, it is about timing, sooner or later we all recognise that we need a little help, guidance and encouragement. The danger comes when we realise it and we ignore it.

Because then poor coping strategies like drinking and smoking impact us physically. Denial drives down mood, causes anxiety and possible depression. When you have looked inside and you see the need for change, come and have a chat with me and lets see how we can make positive change – that lasts!

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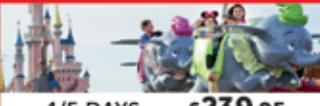
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# Fond farewell to popular minister

**THE Warrington community has bid a fond farewell to popular Borough Minister the Rev Stephen Kingsnorth.**

The former Bold Street Methodist Minister, who became heavily involved in the peace process following the Warrington bombing in March 1993, has retired after 24 years loyal service.

He went on to take on the unique role of the Warrington Borough Minister and played a key role in engaging with the various faith communities around the town, as well as being faith adviser to the borough council.

Rev Kingsnorth also provided a weekly "Cyberchurch" column during the formative days of

**warrington-worldwide** website

Around 200 members of the community attended his farewell "celebration service" which took place at the Warrington Islamic Association on Lock Lane, Bewsey.

Guests speakers included Lord Lt. of Cheshire David Briggs, Susan Sellers DL, former High Sheriff of Cheshire, his wife, Methodist local preacher Denise Kingsnorth, Unitarian Minister the Rev Bob, Janis-Dillon, Rev Simon Schofield from the Town Centre Clergy Group, Rev Paul Wilson from Warrington Parish Church and

Mohamed Abdalla from the Council of Faiths Mosque and former deputy leader of the borough council Mike Hannon.

During the event Methodist District Chair the Rev Dr Sheryl Anderson, praised Stephen for his unique role, which she said would be a hard act to replace. As the role had been unique to Stephen, it would be difficult to replace him, alongside the funding issues for the role.

Following the celebration service there was tea and cakes to round off proceedings.

**warrington-worldwide** Editor Gary Skentelbery, who attended

the event said: "Stephen has been a fantastic servant to the Warrington community and played an important role in the peace process following the Warrington bombing.

"He will be sadly missed by many people and I only hope the local churches and the local authority can find a way of ensuring his legacy carries on for the benefit of future generations."

Gary added: "The only thing which surprised me was that the whole event passed by without the mention of the b word – for buffet, something Stephen became renowned for enjoying during his many public services."



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# Busy summer of development ahead

by Steve Park

**WITH this summer months upon us many will be taking time out for a hard earned rest, however this is not the case when it comes to the regeneration work underway in Warrington.**

Work is now at fever pitch on the Warrington University Technical College in the Stadium Quarter which is due to open in September; and staff, students and governors are all eagerly anticipating the first day of this state-of-the-art facility in the town centre.

Staying with the Stadium Quarter, activity at The Base is also hotting-up with new tenants taking office space

in this purpose-built facility – more announcements will be made next month, so watch this space.

Hats off to Golden Square who are really making the most of the Old Fish Market, with new restaurants, expansion plans and a visible increase in vibrancy and footfall. All adding to the family friendly offer that Warrington's town centre is in much need of – and is clearly delivering.

## Birchwood firm lands £75m MOD contract

BIRCHWOOD-based Amec Foster Wheeler have landed a £75m contract with the UK Ministry of Defence.

A specialist team at the firm will supply independent nuclear propulsion safety and technical advice for the Royal Navy's submarine fleet.

Clive White, President of Amec Foster Wheeler's Clean Energy Europe business, said: "This contract consolidates Amec Foster Wheeler's position as the largest provider of independent safety assurance in the UK nuclear sector."

The contract was awarded after a competitive tender and runs over five years.

Amec Foster Wheeler's Clean Energy Europe business employs 1,200 people in Knutsford and Birchwood in Cheshire and 250 at Sellafield and Barrow in Cumbria.



## First five join Mayor's new business initiative

THE Circle – the Mayor of Warrington's new business initiative – has signed up its first five members who will start to benefit from his promotional support.

They are: the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, David Briggs of Dawson's; Cheshire and Warrington Growth Hub; Knight Corporate Finance; I and H Brown Ltd, a civic engineering company and Taylor Business Park.

There are also several more companies who have expressed an interest in becoming part of the Circle.

Cllr Faisal Rashid launched the Circle to bring businesses together to support and promote each other, creating unique business opportunities and produce an even more economically strong and more socially active business community.

He said: "It's great that the Circle has got off the ground and businesses are going to start benefiting from their membership. Warrington already has a strong business community. I want businesses to benefit from helping and supporting each other, creating mutual opportunities to create even more prosperity."

Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire,

David Briggs of Dawson's, said: "I'm very impressed with the way in which the Mayor is trying to use his year in office to help business and communities in Warrington and am delighted to help him achieve his goals."

Jim Crook from the Cheshire and Warrington Growth Hub said: "We are delighted to be working with Warrington's new Mayor's Circle initiative and are looking forward to working with other Circle members. We hope to help many more local Warrington SMEs to get the business support they need."



And speaking of the town centre, the Time Square development is really motoring now, with the temporary market steelwork construction flying up and very visible in the town centre, and becoming something of a talking point amongst shoppers and workers alike.

It is providing an early indication of the sheer scale of this development, something that will truly transform the town centre.

In July we will see the demolition of the market multi-storey car park on Academy Way, and Warrington & Co are pleased to be working with Warrington's Civic Society in preserving the original opening stone as a heritage piece for future use.

The construction of the new 1,100 space multi-storey car park will start later this year with the local company I&H Brown.

Over at Omega the 250,000 sq ft manufacturing unit being built for Plastic Omnium, who manufacture automotive parts, is now operational and a new speculatively built unit is also being built. The extension of Skyline Drive which will connect Junction 8 of the M62 across to Omega Boulevard by the Royal Mail building is also now complete."

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# Take your bucket and spade to Warrington-by-the-sea

ANYONE who fancies building sandcastles or lounging in a deck chair you won't have to travel to the coast this summer as Warrington's Bank Park is set to get its own man-made beach.

LiveWire in partnership with W Chadwick and Sons will bring the seaside to the town centre with deck chairs, face painting and a family funfair just some of the many activities available.

The Beach at Bank Park is free to use and will be open every day from 1-5pm from Saturday July 23 until Sunday August 21.

It will be officially opened by Emmerdale star Joe Warren-Platt who plays Jacob Gallagher in the soap.

A Punch and Judy show will also be on offer to mark the official opening and provide a Victorian beach feel.

This is the first large scale event at Bank Park since leisure and cultural organisations, LiveWire and Culture Warrington took over the management of the park and its

pavilion earlier this year.

The beach opening times will coincide with LiveWire's weekly activity programme at the park which offers pop-up sports activities for children and families including touch rugby, bowls and table tennis.

After building sandcastles and catching some rays on the deckchairs, families will have the chance to refuel at Café Revive in the pavilion with cold drinks, hot food and snacks available.

Walter Chadwick, from W Chadwick and Sons, said: "We're really excited to be bringing Warrington's first propose built beach to the town centre.

"The activities will allow families to enjoy the seaside without leaving Warrington this summer and with free access to the beach, this is not to be missed."



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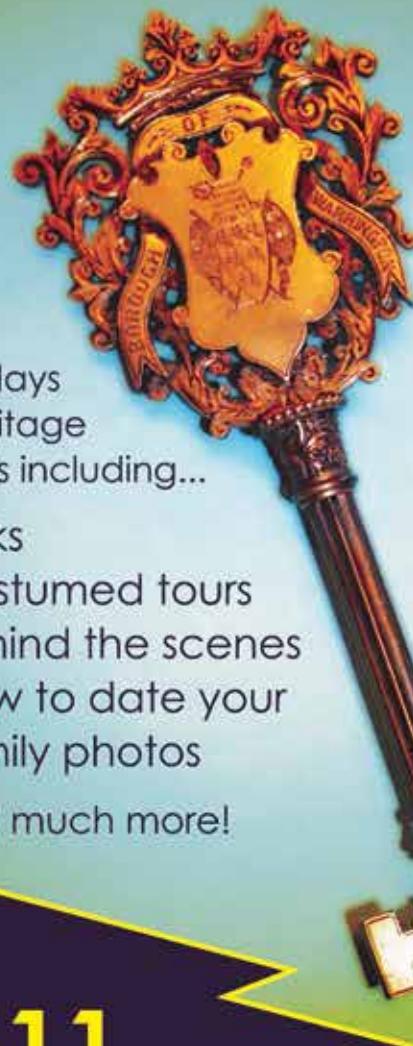
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### Building communities matters more than ever.

It certainly seems like a lot has changed in the last month! We are facing a lot of uncertainty, both now and in the future. Just like how Britain is reflecting on its position in the world, the local business community will be doing the same. Now is the time to see how Warrington can grow – and it's fantastic to hear the local council is committed to the redevelopment plans it has for the area.

As a business owner it is natural to start to plan what will happen in the immediate aftermath and the impact it may have on you.

One thing is for certain – the community you build for your business (and yourself) matters more than ever for success in the new landscape.

Both on and offline, develop relationships with people who have local businesses and cultivate a network on social media and beyond.

Just like the plans for Warrington to build a new infrastructure that will allow for future growth, the same goes for you.

Use LinkedIn to build more connections online. Go to those networking events you would normally swerve. Reach out to the business next door. Talk to people; support others in their business journey. Shop local, connect people who can help each other, ask how you can help.

Build a supportive community around you and your business that benefits everyone involved.

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# The wonder of Warrington Walking Day

**WHILE a week is a long time in politics the wonder of Warrington Walking Day carries on after more than 180 years.**

While the country had voted to leave Europe and political parties are in disarray it was a case of on with the show as thousands turned out for what is believed to be the 182nd Warrington Walk of Witness.

The Rev. Paul Wilson from St Elphin's Church led the prayers as he was joined by local churches and Warrington's multi-faith community in front of the town's first Muslim Mayor Cllr Faisal Rashid.

Walkers were greeted by a mixture of sunshine, cloud and light showers as they paraded from the town hall through the streets of Warrington. People of all ages, from faith groups and schoolchildren, to musicians, scouts and brownies played their part, surrounded by the sounds of drumming, bagpipes and brass bands, and the sights of colourful flags and costumes.

The Mayor of Warrington, Cllr Faisal Rashid, said: "It has been an absolutely fantastic day. Being part

of this special occasion has made me extremely proud to be Mayor of Warrington.

"Everybody knows that celebrating all cultures and strengthening the community bond is hugely important to me, so it was wonderful to see people of all faiths coming together in friendship and unity. And to make a perfect day even better, the rain held off!"

Council leader, Cllr Terry O'Neill, said: "What a great day it has been. Walking Day always brings back fond memories for me of when I was a boy. I would walk from Sacred Heart School, over the bridge, to Bank Park, for the special event. I would have a pocket full of pennies, ready to spend at the fair.

"It's wonderful, that all these years later, Walking Day is still going strong. It's such an important part of our history and heritage, and an event which I hope we will always come together to celebrate."



# What is Marketing Automation?



One of the biggest challenges for a modern business, is that the customer is driving the buying process more and more, especially through digital interactions.

To the uninitiated, the modern day customer life-cycle can appear to be a complex and daunting series of multi-channel touch-points with your brand – difficult to comprehend and impossible to control.

Contemporary marketing strategies must now connect with every step in the buyer



journey in order to engage customers and grow revenue. Smart marketers have been turning to 'Marketing Automation' as a new way to successfully shepherd customer engagement opportunities that will lead to improved sales outcomes.

Marketing Automation enables businesses to create and manage customer interactions with greater speed and greater effect. One of the most important outcomes of marketing automation should be improved customer experiences. It frequently increases the lifetime value for individual customers, which obviously impacts business success and ongoing revenue.

Through marketing automation processes, customer segmentation, personalisation, and lead scoring criteria, businesses can get to know their customers better, and how they prefer to interact with the brand – for future as well as current needs.

Marketing automation done right can prevent a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to customer interactions and can do a much better job of giving customers what they need when they want it

To find out how marketing automation could help your company - call Warrington's digital engagement specialists; Dreamscape on 01925 755 960.

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# Plucky Penketh braves the puddles



Report and pictures by Paul Jackson

**ON a day that began with torrential downpours the plucky residents of Penketh carried on regardless and paraded through the local streets with umbrellas and rain coats the order of the day.**

As the walk started the rain slowed and the clouds began to disperse. The procession made its way to the Greystone Rec. where there was a host of entertainments and refreshments and competitions waiting for the happy crowd.

Kicking off proceedings in the arena came Beatlife, a Liverpool samba band whose energetic performance got things off to a lively start. Next were the Viscaria Dancers who were wonderful. Five piece band The Brothers Grim had the ever growing crowd singing along to their collection of classic tunes and it was all hilariously compared by Paul Dean.

Next came the main event, the Tug of War. This year along with the local pub and club teams there was a Police team entry too captained by the local Councillor and new Cheshire PCC David Keane. In what was a very hard fought and hugely popular event a huge crowd witnessed some very powerful men and women compete against each other in a best of three knockout contest. In the final pull, Eagle RUFC managed to keep their cool and their grip to emerge victorious.

Sally Humphries had the weighty task of organising the competition and she said afterwards "The tug of war this year was amazing and I would like to thank every team, The Ferry, The Conservative Club,

The Penketh Tavern A and B teams, The Crown and Cushion, the Police and of course our amazing winners Eagle RUFC.

"The crowd was amazing I would like to thank every team. The crowd support was fantastic and so was the atmosphere well done to all of you, also Barry Roberts, the best referee ever, and Cllr Linda Dirir for providing and presenting the amazing tug of war shield."

All the competitors were helping to raise funds and awareness for the Shannon Bradshaw Trust.

Cllr Amanda King said of the carnival: "The Penketh events team work hard to ensure the carnival is successful each year. It grows from strength to strength with additional elements such as the stage , music and beer tent. All round family fun too with the fair and games. I really enjoy volunteering to help the team each year."

Amongst this year's helpers were Cllrs Amanda King, Dave Keane, Linda Dirir, Alin Dirir, David Simm, Chris Whitfield, Andrew Mulholland and many others.

They stressed the importance of events such as these as they bring together the local community and help local businesses and charities but above all give the local people a great day out.

More pictures on line at [www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk](http://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk) and search Penketh Carnival





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# Councillors say 'thanks' to Padgate walking day volunteers

**POULTON** North councillors Diana Bennett and Graham Friend have offered their thanks to all the local volunteers, including Birchwood Lions, who marshalled Padgate Walking Day.

This was very much a last minute plea and without their willingness and commitment the event would not have been able to take place.

Cllr Bennett said: "In these changing and challenging times I find it helps to look back at our heritage and traditions. It is interesting to note that according to the archives in Warrington Library the earliest record of Padgate Walking Day dates back to 1872 and Silcock's Fair 1915.

"This year, the sun shone, the bands played and it was good to see so many children enjoying the walk just as much as I had as a child."

Cllr Friend added: "As a council, we are committed to building stronger communities and I have promised to carefully consider the provision we offer all the walking days in and around Warrington to decide how best we can support these events in future years."

All three Poulton North Councillors are keen to support all local community and residents groups in their many and varied initiatives.



*Pictures: Jim Hunters*



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# Celebrating 25 years of Disability Awareness Day

**DESPITE** over cast skies and showers thousands flocked to Walton Hall and Gardens to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Disability Awareness Day organised by the "awe-inspiring" Warrington Disability Partnership.

The threat of rain did little to deter people from visiting the largest voluntary led disability awareness event in the world, which has reached out across the globe, inspiring others.

Despite a few showers the sun also shone as a wide variety of organisations exhibited at the event which has helped put Warrington on the worldwide map, thanks to the hard work of founder Dave Thompson and a DAD's Army of volunteers.

Special guests at the event included the Queen's representative for Cheshire Lord Lt. David Briggs, who described the work of the charity as "awe-inspiring," High Sheriff Kathy Cowell, Chair of

Principal sponsors Your Housing and a long term supporter of the charity and the Mayor of Warrington Cllr Faisal Rashid, who has adopted WDP as one of his chosen charities.

During his vote of thanks Dave was overcome with emotion as he talked about the support of those who had been there from day one following the sporting accident, which left him with a broken neck, including his wife Pam, son Gavin and daughter Emma.

Also in attendance was former Walton Hall and Gardens Head Ranger Nick White, who helped with the first event 25 years ago and has been a volunteer ever since.



For more pictures and video visit [www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk](http://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk)



Town Crier Peter Powell helps launch the event.



Lord Lt. David Briggs with Dave Thompson and his family.

## Warrington Charities Trust to relaunch

A CHARITABLE Trust which has distributed more than £250,000 to local good causes in Warrington is set to relaunch to help embrace new technology.

Warrington Charities Trust has been successfully distributing much needed funds to local charities for nearly thirty years and has decided it's time to modernise the approach they take in the borough to continue the good work they've been doing.

The Trust takes applications from organisations throughout the year and they help charities fund everything from basic running costs such as postal and telephony expenses, to helping develop new ideas or to repair of property that the charities use.

Paul Taylor, Vice Chair of Cheshire Business Leaders and Director at Taylor Business Park in Warrington has joined the board of the Trust with a view to helping them more effectively use social media and modern technology to raise awareness, attract new investors and more importantly make the local charities aware of the organisation so that they can receive the help they need.

Paul said: "Warrington Charities

Trust is a great organisation that is run by some fantastic people who have put a lot of time and effort into the trust over nearly thirty years. We're going to do a big push over the next twelve months to boost the fund's income from local companies and help distribute those funds to where they're needed."

"We will be launching a range of membership options for companies that want to make regular annual donations to the fund that will have different benefits for those who sign up."

"We have some well known businesses in the area that are keen on supporting local causes. The beauty of the Trust is that it has a great system in place to make sure that money from those who are generous enough to donate goes to where it's most effectively used. They have a great set of criteria for applicants and a very thorough and accountable vetting process."

The Chair of the Trust, Bill Spiegelberg, is looking forward to the future for the trust and says, "I have had the honour of being Chairman of Warrington Charities Trust since 1994, when I took over from the Rector of Warrington, the

late Rev. Canon Joc Colling. In fact I have been a member of the Trust since its formation 30 years ago when I was Company Secretary of The Greenalls Group."

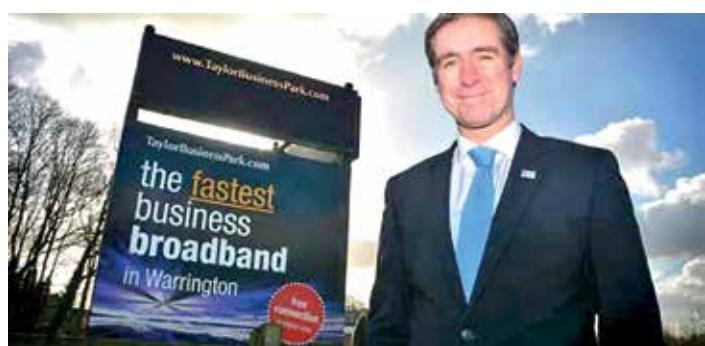
"During that time we have distributed a quarter of a million pounds to over 400 local charities, giving them a lifeline to continue their invaluable work in the Borough of Warrington."

"Sadly in recent years for various reasons our funding has fallen but I am delighted that with the arrival of Paul Taylor on our Committee, there is every chance that we will be able

to continue."

Paul added "It's a great way for local companies to pool their usual donations and funds and know that the money reaches the right place. The fact that nobody at the Trust receives an income, nor do they claim any business and travel expenses is both reassuring and refreshing in this day and age. Your money goes straight to where it's needed."

To get involved please call 01925 768401 or email [paultaylor@TaylorBusinessPark.com](mailto:paultaylor@TaylorBusinessPark.com)



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# Proms in the Park celebrates 300 years of Corps of Royal Engineers



A special Proms in the Park took place at Peninsula Barracks in Warrington celebrating the 300th anniversary of the Corps of Royal Engineers.

The event was organised by the 75 Engineer Regiment and included performances by the Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers, Warrington Male Voice Choir and Warrington Pipe Band.

Special guests included the Mayor & Mayoress of Warrington Cllr Faisal and Mrs Aleeza Rashid.



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# Financially yours

By David Watkinson

## Importance of small businesses

Last month we looked at some of the changes in taxation since 1999, one of which was the reduction in Corporation Tax for larger companies from 30% to the current rate of 20%.

However, the rate for smaller companies has remained static at 20%, whilst income tax has only fallen 3%, from 23% to 20%.

Whilst large companies are important to the economy, perhaps it is time to remind the Chancellor that nearly 30% of all businesses are sole traders and partnerships, and according to the Office for National Statistics over 95% of all businesses have a turnover of below £2m per annum. Therefore, small businesses are fundamentally important to the UK economy.

Before the referendum vote, the Chancellor stated that if the vote was to leave the EU then there would be a speedy emergency budget that would both slash government spending and increase tax. We now learn that, far from increasing tax, the Chancellor is now suggesting that Corporation Tax, which is due to fall to 17% in 2020, may fall even further to 15%. He argues that it is important that Britain is competitive on the global stage.

Which brings us back to the point about the importance of small businesses to the UK economy. No doubt, if there was a major transfer of financial services from London then this would ultimately have repercussions in Warrington. Similarly, if car manufacturers transferred the development on new models from the UK factories then this would ultimately have repercussions in Warrington. However, the employment prospects, including self-employment, of many local people are more closely and immediately tied up primarily with those 95% of smaller businesses, 30% of which are unincorporated.

Over the past few years the UK government and their counterparts in Europe have been working to decrease the impact of "tax havens" on the total tax take. They have had some effect, although many people have complained that the changes are too little, too slow. It is important that this work continues to help pay for those much needed hospitals promised us by the "Brexit" camp. The last thing we want is for the UK itself to become a "tax haven" as warned by the Shadow Chancellor. That might help the bankers and other members of the "financial class" in London, but it will have little effect on the man in the street up here in Warrington.

Our plea to the Chancellor? Don't forget the little guys!

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

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## Wolves star Atkins makes school prom unforgettable

WHEN a 16-year-old Warrington school boy answered the door expecting a lift to the prom – what he didn't expect was one of his rugby heroes to be standing in front of him.

School boy Adam opened the door dressed in his prom suit to be greeted by Warrington Wolves and England centre Ryan Atkins.

To his shock, he was told that Diane, his Warrington Borough Council social worker and his foster carer Craig, had been planning the surprise for weeks, arranging for Ryan to escort him to the end of year prom, giving him a pep talk along the way.

Craig Metcalf, Adam's Foster Carer of three years, said: "Adam is a Warrington Wolves super-fan and hasn't had the easiest start to his life.

"All 16 year olds need support and guidance to keep them focused on taking the right path and this was definitely the boost Adam needed. I can't thank Ryan and Diane enough – they have made a young boy very happy."

"He was ecstatic. It was an inspiring and emotional moment to see his face light up as he opened the door."

Cllr Jean Carter, Warrington Council executive board member for children and families, said: "Supporting our most vulnerable young people to live full and active lives is one of our utmost priorities.

"We developed a series of pledges, in conjunction with our Children in Care Council, which reflect how we are committed to supporting the young people in our care.

"These include: 'Allow us to choose our own activities and

support us in our interests' and 'Our dreams can come true if you support us'.

"Events such as this are perfect examples of how we are keeping these promises. By using our community resources, we can ensure positive outcomes for our young people; guiding them in the right direction by engaging them where their interests lie.

"It is heartening to see how much Adam has gained from this experience and we wish him the very best for his future."

Ryan Atkins said: "I gain so much from these experiences, inspiring and encouraging the next generation to take positive steps forward is something I am very passionate about."

"Growing up can be tough – keeping yourself busy and focusing on your goals is key. Adam and I had a great chat and I'm hopeful it's had an impact."

"I know he's a keen boxer, as he trains at the gym a friend of mine is a coach at, so I'll be checking in on him from time-to-time. I'll look forward to seeing him again and hearing about his progress."

Could you help nurture a young person like Adam? Visit: [warringtonfostering.co.uk](http://warringtonfostering.co.uk) and find out more about becoming a foster carer. Submit an enquiry form online and come along to one of the monthly information sessions at Orford Neighbourhood Jubilee Hub to start your journey.



# Warrington Town fixtures

WARRINGTON Town will kick off the new season in the Evo-Stik Premier Division with a home game against Stourbridge on Saturday August 13.

This will be followed by a long trip to Spennymoor Town on the Tuesday evening, who also won promotion via the play-offs.

Fixtures are subject to change. Games listed are league matches, unless followed by competition in brackets. Some dates are reserved for future rounds of cup competitions.

## WARRINGTON TOWN – EVO-STIK LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

### August

Sat Aug 13 Stourbridge H  
Tue Aug 16 Spennymoor Town A  
Sat Aug 20 Grantham Town H  
Tue Aug 23 Whitchurch Town H  
Sat Aug 27 Matlock Town H  
Mon Aug 29 Marine A

### September

Sat Sep 3 Emirates FA Cup 1Q  
Sat Sep 10 Ilkeston FC H  
Wed Sep 14 League Cup Prelim  
Sat Sep 17 Emirates FA Cup 2Q  
Tue Sep 20 Mickleover Sports A  
Sat Sep 24 Coalville Town A  
Tue Sep 27 Nantwich Town H

### October

Sat Oct 1 Corby Town H (Emirates FA Cup 3Q)  
Tue Oct 4 Blyth Spartans A  
Sat Oct 8 Skelmersdale United A (FA Trophy Prelim)  
Tue Oct 11 Buxton H  
Sat Oct 15 Workington H (Emirates FA Cup 4Q)  
Tue Oct 18 Rushall Olympic A  
Sat Oct 22 Halesowen Town A  
Sat Oct 29 FA Trophy 1Q

### November

Tue Nov 1 Blyth Spartans H  
Sat Nov 5 Stafford Rangers A (Emirates FA Cup 1)  
Sat Nov 12 FA Trophy 2Q  
Wed Nov 16 League Cup 1  
Sat Nov 19 Barwell H  
Sat Nov 26 Sutton Coldfield Town H (FA Trophy 3Q)  
Wed Nov 30 League Cup 2

### December

Sat Dec 3 Frickley Athletic A (Emirates FA Cup 2)  
Sat Dec 10 Hednesford Town A (FA Trophy 1)  
Sat Dec 17 Stafford Rangers H  
Sat Dec 24 Spennymoor Town H  
Mon Dec 26 Ashton United A

### January 2017

Mon Jan 2 Marine H  
Sat Jan 7 Stourbridge A (Emirates FA Cup 3)  
Sat Jan 14 Corby Town A (FA Trophy 2)  
Sat Jan 21 Skelmersdale United H  
Sat Jan 28 Buxton A (Emirates FA Cup 4)

### February

Wed Feb 1 League Cup 3  
Sat Feb 4 Rushall Olympic H (FA Trophy 3)  
Sat Feb 11 Workington A  
Sat Feb 18 Halesowen Town H  
Wed Feb 22 League Cup Quarter-Final  
Sat Feb 25 Coalville Town H (FA Trophy 4)  
Tue Feb 28 Nantwich Town A

### March

Sat Mar 4 Ilkeston FC A  
Tue Mar 7 Mickleover Sports H  
Sat Mar 11 Frickley Athletic H (FA Trophy Semi-Final 1)  
Sat Mar 18 Sutton Coldfield Town A (FA Trophy Semi-Final 2)  
Wed Mar 22 League Cup Semi-Final  
Sat Mar 25 Hednesford Town H

### April

Sat Apr 1 Barwell A  
Wed Apr 5 League Cup Final  
Sat Apr 8 Grantham Town A  
Sat Apr 15 Whitchurch Town H  
Mon Apr 17 Ashton United A  
Sat Apr 22 Matlock Town H

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[J7/16]

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[J10/16]

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[G1]

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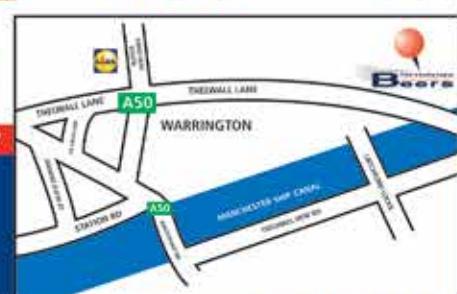
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