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Issue No. 226 July 2018 FREE EVERY MONTH

**Lucky  
Warrington!**

**Page 3**



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# Editor's Comment

IT was a fantastic honour to be involved in the Warrington Business Awards this year as our publishing company Orbit News Limited celebrates 50 years of working in the local community.

As well as supporting the business community which supports us, it was a great opportunity to share in the celebrations of a wide variety of businesses, community groups and charities, who are passionate about our great town.

Seeing my long-time friend Dave Thompson collect a Lifetime Achievement Award made it even more extra special. Dave is certainly a unique individual who continues



**Deadline for the  
August issue is  
July 10**

to inspire many people, not just in Warrington but around the world!

I'd like to congratulate not just those who won awards on the night, but also all those who entered and not forgetting the organising committee who gave up their free time to help put on this fabulous event.

The giant marquee at Lymm Rugby Club makes a fabulous setting. The

marquee will be up again next year! It seems a shame such a great event only comes around every two years and many have asked whether it could become an annual event?

Over to you organising committee! I know there are people out there willing and able to come on board and help make this fantastic celebration of everything that is good about our business community, an annual event!



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# Lucky Warrington creates 60 lottery millionaires!

**WARRINGTON is certainly a lucky town when it comes to playing the national Lottery, creating a total of 60 millionaires.**

As the National Lottery announced reaching an amazing 5,000 millionaires analysis reveals Lottery luck is booming in Warrington. In all 498 players have banked a big prize and this includes a very lucky 60 millionaires.

Nationally more than 38,800 big winners of £50,000 or more have been made across all National Lottery games since 1994.

Astonishingly, the last 1,000 have been made in just 29 months, at the rate of more than one every day.

The new data reveals just how many of those winners are in Warrington (WA postcode) and provides insight into what winners say is the best thing about winning (you might be surprised) and also just what players in Warrington would do if they were to strike it



John and Patricia Gill who won £1m in 2015 pictured at the Golden Gates Warrington.

lucky.

John and Patricia Gill from the town scooped £1M in the EuroMillions raffle draw on Christmas Day in 2015. They bought their ticket just one hour before the draw was due to take place.

The couple, who have two children, say one of the best things the win has done for them has been to enable them to provide for their children and give them the best ever start in life, in addition to going on exotic holidays and writing and actually fulfilling a dream bucket list.

Andy Carter, Senior Winners' Advisor at the National Lottery said, "The winners team here at Camelot travel the length and breadth of the country paying out lucky winners every day. It is no surprise to me to see how lucky Warrington has been and I'm sure I'll be back there soon with another giant cheque."

Contrary to popular wisdom National Lottery millionaires have declared that the best thing about their win isn't the lifestyle it buys you, but rather the happiness from sharing the cash with others.

Research reveals that gifting to friends, family and charity remains the top priority for winners, with almost half declaring that it is the sharing of the win that has given

them the most happiness. These gifts include cash, holidays, cars and houses.

This gifting means that the 5,000 millionaires have created an astonishing 1,750 further millionaires by sharing their windfall. And National Lottery wins are now also starting to support future generations. In all 57% of winners will make their child or children a millionaire and 36% believe they will make their grandchildren millionaires in the future.

The research also revealed that National Lottery millionaires are shunning expensive material items for personal experiences and life enhancing travel. More than half of the millionaires are now spending more on experiences rather than on possessions.

Andy added, "After the shock and excitement nearly all winners first question is how they can look after their nearest and dearest. In many cases this seems to be the winner's even greater joy than thinking about how they can treat themselves.

"I see first-hand the effect a win can have on the circle of people close to a winner, and this always reminds me that at heart we are a nation that is kind and generous."

A survey has also revealed that the country's generous nature is alive and well in Warrington and

across the North West. The public revealed that gifting would be top of the list of things to do after a win along with getting a new home.

Almost 60% say a new home would be a top priority, with just over 50% saying they would use the win to help out family and friends.

Over 45% say they would prefer to use the money to go on fantastic holidays, while just 14% say they would use their lottery win to buy beautiful items such as cars.

Nearly half of the people interviewed said they would use their win to make family members millionaires – with almost 19% of these people saying they believe they could make up to four family members millionaires.

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# Young Warrington seafood chefs strike gold!

**TWO talented chefs from Warrington are continuing on their mission of success after taking home the gold medal at the regional heat of the UK Young Seafood Chef of the Year competition.**

Warrington & Vale Royal College students Mikolaj Mozul and Daniel Jones competed against colleges and universities from across the region and the talented duo didn't make things easy for themselves, with Dan having to go to hospital part way through the competition after cutting his finger.

But their hard work and dedication in the lead up to the event paid off, with their 50 hours of preparation allowing Mikolaj to go on alone, serving up food of an incredibly high standard that bowled the judges away.

Andy Macleod, Curriculum Leader for Hospitality & Catering at Warrington & Vale Royal College, said: "I am so incredibly proud of Mikolaj and Dan. They have done such an amazing job and to come

first and take home the gold medal when they had to compete against teams from professional catering colleges – it's just incredible.

"They worked so hard in preparation for the event, coming into college as early as 5am to give themselves extra time before class. Both Mikolaj and Dan are an absolute credit to the catering department and to the college."

The winning team of UK Young Seafood Chef of the Year will take home more than £4,000 worth of prizes, including £500 for each team member, a £1,000 Russums Voucher for the college and a Robot Cook Professional Heating Food Processor, worth close to £2,000.

Andy added: "Mikolaj and Dan are both absolutely over the moon to win the gold medals. They thought

it was all over when Dan had to go to hospital but it's such a testament to their talent and passion for the industry that they still went on to win.

"As a college, we have had such incredible support not only from other members of staff, but also from companies including M&J seafood,

who provided us with amazing fresh produce.

To find out more about the opportunities available at Warrington & Vale Royal College, visit [wvr.ac.uk](http://wvr.ac.uk) or visit an open evening on Wednesday 27th June, 5.30 PM – 8.00 PM.



## Fitting a kitchen will probably be the biggest investment in your home

DIY store B&Q has announced they will no longer be fitting the kitchens that they supply, but does it really make a difference, can't you just get any kitchen fitter to do install it?

**warrington-worldwide** spoke to Dave Charlton at JD Kitchens in Warrington, to see what impact it may have on the customer, and on the finished kitchen.

"Your kitchen is probably the biggest investment you will make in your home, and the place where you spend the most time. In terms of kitchen installation this means two things:

- 1) You need to design the space so that it works practically, and looks great
- 2) The detail and finish need to be perfect (you'll be looking at any mistakes forever)

To achieve this level of quality finish you need a fitter that knows the product inside out, understanding any nuances and installing it perfectly to the designer's

brief, and for the supplier to be on hand should the fitter have any problems or the manufacturer has sent the wrong part in error.

You also want the same fitter to be on hand until the job is complete, and even afterwards in case you have a problem after sign off – it is rare, but it does happen, and sometimes you can't get the same installation team back.

Finally, you need to understand what impact using an external installation company may have on your warranty for the units and appliances. Do your research before you choose your route.

At JD Kitchens our in-house fitters know our Schuller and Macintosh kitchens inside out, and they make sure that the finest details are finished to the highest quality. What's more we'll look after you every step of the way and project manage everything to make your home complete for a surprisingly attainable price".

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# Business Exchange goes from strength to strength

By Steve Park

The Business Exchange by Warrington & Co. now has over 100 members. Groundlevel Services Limited were our 100th member who signed up at the start of June.

There's an interesting, varied and growing calendar of events planned and underway for Business Exchange members and it is encouraging to see the enthusiasm for the events and the organisation itself.

When it launched only four months ago we set out the objective of it becoming the 'go to' place where businesses of all sizes and sectors, can collaborate with the aim of creating a better connected, more cohesive and stronger economy in Warrington. There is a very clear appetite amongst the business community to collaborate evidenced at all of the Business Exchange events and very much echoed at the recent Warrington Business Awards.

The Business Awards was a great night. Congratulations to the winners and all of those who were shortlisted. The event was in itself a fabulous networking opportunity and to me, demonstrated a

celebration and pride in having a business based in the borough. Warrington & Co. was proud to sponsor alongside Redwood Bank.

Warrington plc continues to perform well. Only last month stats published by global accountants, EY showed that Warrington was out performing most 'cities' in the North in terms of foreign direct inward investment. Warrington was ranked as a top twenty in the UK, only beaten in the North West by Manchester. More evidence that Warrington is a winner and a player on a global scale (if you'll excuse the World Cup pun).



Host Jenny Powell at the Business Awards.

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# Guinness World Record for Mental Health Awareness broken in Warrington



**A GUINNESS World Record for Mental Health Awareness was broken at the Halliwell Jones Stadium in Warrington.**

North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, State of Mind Sport, Offload Rugby League and Warrington Wolves joined forces to break the record and raise awareness of mental health by hosting the world's largest mental health awareness lesson.

The four organisations now officially hold the new world record, with a total of 857 people turning up to support the challenge. The previous world record was 688 people and was achieved in Chennai in India, earlier this year.

The mental health lesson was led by Dr Phil Cooper (MBE), a nurse consultant from North West Boroughs Healthcare, along with a variety of former and current rugby league players.

During the lesson, Dr Phil Cooper asked a series of thought-provoking questions relating to mental health, encouraging participants to lift up either a 'yes' or 'no' card with their response.

In between these sessions, ambassadors from State of Mind Sport shared their personal mental health experiences and practical tips on how to manage mental fitness, with the evening drawing to a close at 7pm.

Dr Cooper said: "What a fantastic night! The weather was brilliant, and the former players spoke from the heart about their

own mental health and overcoming their problems. Sharing real life experiences to raise awareness of mental health was really powerful and brought the lesson to life."

"I feel proud to work for North West Boroughs Healthcare and State of Mind Sport, and to have the opportunity to use rugby league to reach people, raise awareness of mental health and help save lives."

Karl Fitzpatrick, CEO at Warrington Wolves, said: "We are proud and honoured to have been part of such a ground-breaking achievement. To have broken a world record here at The Halliwell Jones Stadium means a lot to this club especially with it raising awareness of such an important cause. It was fantastic to see so many people from across the town gathering to show their support and take such an interest in learning more about mental fitness."

Emma Goldsmith from Rugby League Cares, who co-ordinates the Offload programme running from Warrington Wolves, Widnes Vikings and Salford Red Devils said: "It was great night and brilliant to break a world record while helping people learn more about mental health issues in a fun session, in a great location."





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# All set for Disability Awareness Day 2018

**Work is well underway for the 27th annual Disability Awareness Day which takes place at Walton Gardens, Warrington, on Sunday, July 15.**

Founder and event co-ordinator Dave Thompson, now Chief Executive of Warrington Disability Partnership, said: "In 1992, who would have thought that a disability information event organised by a very small, then unknown disability group, would grow in size and stature, and would influence the development of a now internationally-recognised Disability Awareness Day.

"This year sees the '27th Anniversary event', which has inspired people from all over the world and provided advice and support to 100,000's of disabled people, their families, friends and carers," added Dave, who helped co-found Warrington Disability Partnership after breaking his neck in a sporting injury.

More than 25,000 visitors are expected to attend this year's DAD, the world's largest not-for-profit, voluntary-led, pan-disability exhibition, which will once again be hosted at Walton Hall Gardens with the support of joint principal sponsors St George Healthcare Group and St Mark Universal Copts Care.

A huge tented village housing approximately 250 exhibitors – including equipment suppliers; transport; holidays; leisure and employment providers; and support groups and services – is set to attract visitors to travel from all over

the UK and beyond.

Inclusive Arts is just one of the highlights of the event – with a number of disabled artists including nationally recognised performers such as the Ella Performance Group and Carly Ryan. The Main Arena will offer visitors a range of family entertainment including guide dog display teams, falconry displays and a number of marching bands. Also on-site will be the fully accessible Sports Zone with have-a-go events including Scuba Diving in the temporary pool, climbing wall, shooting, archery, basketball and much more.

A free, accessible Park and Ride service is available from Wilderspool Park; plus a free bus service every 30 minutes starting at 9.30am from Warrington Bus Interchange; British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters; trained assistants; and a scooter / wheelchair loans service promises to ensure DAD is fully inclusive to all.

"The background story to DAD is a great example of just how far a 'can do' attitude can take you," says Event Founder and Co-ordinator, Dave Thompson MBE DL.

"What started out as a one-off event is now one the highlights of the international disabled community's calendar – inspiring similar events as far afield as India, Cameroon, Uganda, Gibraltar and Thailand. Our team is also working

closely with one of our sponsors St Mark Universal Copts Care teams based in the UK and working in Egypt and Sudan."

The big day on Sunday July 15 from 10am to 5pm – will be a fitting finale to a week comprising a variety of complementary events to savour, which are guaranteed to attract many more visitors to

events aimed at disabled children and young people, mental health, learning disability, carers and a cultural diversity evening.

For more details on DAD and 'DAD Week' and all the events listed, please contact Warrington Disability Partnership on 01925 240064 or visit [www.disabilityawarenessday.org.uk](http://www.disabilityawarenessday.org.uk)



## Disability Awareness Day

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# Planners frustrated by loss of historic building

**PLANNING bosses have expressed their frustration at having to decide whether one of Warrington's historic buildings should be demolished – when in fact the bulldozers had already done their work.**

The borough council's development management committee were left with no choice but to approve the demolition of the 19th century Sunday School next to Cairo Street Unitarian Chapel because it had already been demolished.

Chairman Cllr Tony McCarthy said all members of the committee were frustrated.

Another of Warrington's historic buildings had been lost – and there was nothing they could do about it.

The Sunday School building – which adjoined the former Cabinet

Works and Garnett's Tower, also already demolished – had deteriorated through years of neglect, vandalism and weather to the extent that it could not be saved.

After the meeting, Cllr McCarthy said: "We need a list of Warrington's historic buildings, whether in public or private ownership, together with their owners so that we can do something to prevent them reaching the state that they are a health and safety hazard and beyond economic repair.

"If not, we will lose more

buildings."

Historic England had indicated it could not support the loss of the Sunday School as it added to the significance of the adjoining chapel, which dates from 1745 and is the second oldest place of worship in Warrington.

But they did not object to the demolition because of the dilapidated condition of the building.

Planning officers said the loss of the building was "highly regrettable."

A structural report had indicated the building was in a dangerous condition.

The Sunday School was the subject of an archaeological evaluation in 2006 and a programme of historic building recording the following year. The reports are now held in the Cheshire Historic Environment Record.

Consent to demolish it was

granted in 2008, but the work was not undertaken at that time and since then the building has been broken into several times and more damage caused both internally and externally.

As a result, the architectural and historic interest of the building had been severely diminished.

The committee was told the demolition of the Sunday School and the other buildings already demolished, would enable regeneration of the area to take place.

While the exact nature of the redevelopment was not yet known, the Masterplan for the area made it clear that any future redevelopment would be sensitive and seek to enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and preserve the setting and significance of the Listed Cairo Street Chapel.



## Major improvements at Gatewarth get the go-ahead

PLANS for a new entrance for commercial vehicles at Warrington's Gatewarth recycling and household waste site have been approved.

The borough council's development management committee gave the scheme the go-ahead after hearing it would improve facilities for waste transfer and enable the council make a more commercial use of the site to generate revenue.

It will provide a new entrance, new carriageway and footway surfacing, a new office, fencing, gates, CCTV cameras and waste electrical and electronic equipment sheds.

The plans for entrance, off Barnard Street, are to reconfigure the site and make improvements for operational and safety reasons.

Councillors were told the site has been in operation for many years in one form or another with permission for the current site given in 1984-85.

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## New Operations Manager For CDX Security

CDX Security have appointed Rob Parker as Operations Manager, overseeing the company's provision of security services. Rob comes with many years' in management, and has extensive experience in the Security industry which he will bring to CDX.

Rob joins the team as a key member of the senior management team and will be responsible for managing a

part of the company's site portfolio, mobilising new contracts and implementing staff supervision strategies across the region.

With over 20 years' experience in leading people, Rob excels at building rapport, maintaining partnerships, and leading teams to add value to all areas of the business.

The appointment comes at an exciting time for CDX as the company looks to continue to build on the achievements and successes of 2018. CDX Security's Managing Director, John Roddy, is extremely happy with the new

appointment, "we are delighted to have Rob on board. This is a very exciting time for the business and we are building a team with extensive industry experience to meet our high ambitions."

"We have worked together in the past and I know Rob will bring the drive and determination to CDX Security that has served him well over his long career."

Before joining CDX Security, Rob Parker played professional Rugby League for Warrington Wolves, which has proven to be a big plus to customers around CDX Security's headquarters in Woolston.

The new Operations Manager wants to hit the ground running, "I can't wait to get stuck in and

give it my all. It's great to be working at CDX Security, I'm confident about the future and the expertise I can bring to the role."

Rob Parker's new role will see him work closely with the current Directors, as well as Management, to deliver CDX Security's unrivalled professional security services.

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# Celebrating the Warrington Business Awards 2018 champions

## Warrington's brightest and best companies, business leaders and innovators joined together for the biennial Warrington Business Awards.

The sold-out ceremony, held in a giant marquee at Lymm Rugby Club, celebrated the town's burgeoning business community with more than 450 people in attendance.

Pioneering businesses across Warrington battled it out for 12 awards on the night, which was sponsored by Redwood Bank and Warrington & Co and backed by a range of other supporters, including **Warrington Worldwide** owners Orbit News, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2018.

Warrington Disability Partnership Chief Executive and founder Dave Thompson DL MBE was honoured with a special Lifetime Achievement Award on the night.

Dunkys Day Nurseries in Great Sankey was named Business of

the Year and its owner Siobhan McCarroll was named Business Woman of the year. Gary Jenkins from PR, social media and marketing agency No Brainer was named Business Man of the Year.

"The Warrington Business Awards was a great way to champion the many amazing businesses we have here in Warrington, as well as the talent behind them" said Steve Park, Managing Director of sponsors Warrington & Co. "Successful businesses like these are helping to power our economy and our congratulations to everyone involved, particularly all those who took home a well-deserved trophy."

"The awards were an opportunity to celebrate everything that's great about Warrington", said Gary

Pictures: Tony Longmore - Oculus Studios

Skentelberry, owner of sponsors Orbit News. "A celebration of the innovation happening every day, of the partnerships that bind our business community together and of the strong and successful business community that are helping us strengthen our position as an economic powerhouse within the Northern Powerhouse.

"We were proud to invest in the event and show our support for local businesses, as we depend on the support of local businesses to deliver our multi-media offerings across the town in, free local community magazines and online via our website and various social media channels.

Surveying and consultancy business Pennington Choices walked away with the Employer of the Year trophy, Pets Pantry was named Retailer of the Year and Warrington

Wolves' pioneering Foundation scooped Community Initiative of the Year for its 'Offload' project.

Apprentice of the Year was Ryan Kenny of Stanley Engineering Fastening; Innovation of the Year went to 8KFlexWarm; the Green Award went to Golden Square; Hospitality Provider of the Year was awarded to Room Forty and iSupply Industrial was handed the New Business of the Year gong.

Working in partnership with Photographer Tony Longmore from Oculus Studios and film maker Matt Dempsey Productions, Warrington Worldwide provided exclusive coverage, broadcasting live from the event.

To see more pictures and video highlights visit [www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk](http://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk) and search "Warrington Business Awards."



Apprentice of The Year Ryan Kenny.



Green Award winners Golden Square.



Community Award winners Wolves Foundation.



Retailer of The Year Pets Pantry.



Hospitality winners Room 40.



Innovation of The Year 8K Flexwarm.

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# My Warrington remembers

*The phone box that keeps you posted*

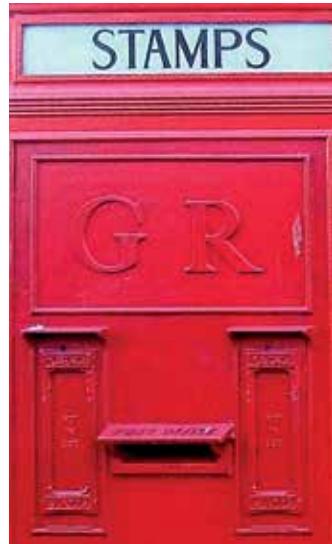
by Gordon Gandy

**This month we look at Warrington's smallest listed monument. At Bridge Foot you will see a red K4 telephone box.**

But in its time, it was more than that. It was a telephone box, post box and stamp dispenser – an automated mini-post office.

Made of cast iron, only 50 were originally produced by the Post Office Engineering Department between 1930 and 1935 from a design by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott.

It is based on the K2 kiosk and in April 1925 plans show a kiosk



footprint half as big again as the K2. It took another five years for these designs to be finally put into production.

However, they were not a success and production ceased. The stamps got wet in the rain, the stamp dispenser was noisy and, in many cases, too big to install in some areas.

They were given the nickname "Vermillion Giant" because of their colour and size. It measured 9ft 3in high by 3ft 4in x 4ft 4in.

Three sides of the kiosk are glazed with six rows of three rectangular

panes of glass and the door is made of teak, with a metal "cup" handle, and a weatherproofing drip cap. The back has a post box, with two stamp machines above, set below a panel with embossed 'GR' lettering. On the longer sides the signs read 'Post Office', above the door 'Telephone', and at rear 'Stamps'.

They remain a very rare sight. There are only four separate listings for the K4 kiosk with English Heritage, and are located in Bewdley (Worcestershire), Roos (East Yorkshire), Frodsham (Cheshire) and Warrington.

Ours was Grade II listed on 6 August 1986, the year it was moved from its original location on Mersey Street when the current Bridge Foot roundabout scheme was completed with the addition of the new bridge.



Gordon Gandy



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JUNE

23



### Warrington Artisan Market

The market will pitch up in the newly refurbished, old riding school in the spectacular setting of Walton Hall & Gardens. Expect over 40 of the region's best creators, makers and producers, alongside live music and children's activities throughout the day.



### Walking Day at Warrington Market

If you haven't visited us yet... why not experience our Traditional Values for Modern Lifestyles in our shiny new Temporary Market Hall. With plenty of entertainment for all the family we're sure you'll come back again and again.

JUNE

29



### Warrington Cheese Festival

We're bringing together some of the best Cheesy Street Food Traders from Pizza, to Mac and Cheese, plus some fantastic cheeses for sale from across the UK and around the globe. We'll also have a licensed bar, live music, family entertainment and not forgetting Cheese Tasting School - see our Facebook events page to book a space at the tasting.



### Lymm Artisan Market

Set in a beautiful canal side location at Henry Street car park, outside Lymm Youth Club, our new Artisan Market has something for everyone. Join us on the 3rd Sunday of each month for the very best the region has to offer!



### Customer Loyalty Scheme

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# Neighbourhood Weekender hailed huge success

**The inaugural Warrington Neighbourhood Weekender has been hailed a massive success by organisers, festival goers and bands.**

The event was so successful tickets have already gone on sale for next year's event on the Bank Holiday weekend, Saturday May 25 and Sunday May 26.

Meanwhile Victoria Park rocked as music lovers came from far and wide to enjoy their musical heroes and to experience a host of artists on the three stages and were blessed with decent weather despite a forecast of thunder storms.

Headliners Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds wowed the huge crowd with an awesome performance including a number of Oasis classics. Also, on the main stage supporting, were The Blossoms, The Coral, The Sherlocks, DMA's, Tom Grennan, Black Honey and The Northern Soul Orchestra.

It proved a fantastic opportunity

for fans to enjoy an incredible weekend of live music featuring some of the biggest bands and hottest new artists.

The concert promoters, SJM Concerts, working with the council and local authorities ensured that the two day event was safe, successful and enjoyable for everyone from concert goers to the local community and the police reported a very uneventful and routine evening.

Warrington put itself firmly on the music festival map based on its first years achievements and plans are already being made to make next year's Weekender even bigger and better.

More pictures from the event are available online at [www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk](http://www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk)

By Paul Jackson





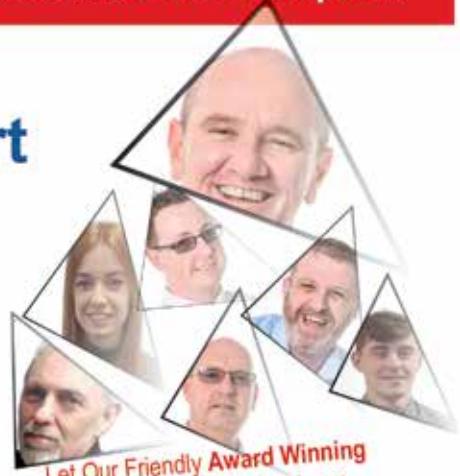
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# Orford Park Festival's last minute reprieve

**This year's Orford Park Festival was saved from cancellation at the eleventh hour by W. Chadwick's funfair**

After fearing that this year's community event would not go ahead, Chadwick's fair stepped in to organise the event with support from the Neighbourhoods team and the WBC Community initiative fund, which has provided some funding for the event.

Putting smiles on the faces of local children and adults alike on a wonderful summer's day were attractions including fairground rides, community stalls, Dr Diabolo great escape show, character sing along and much more.



Walter Chadwick and local councillor Mike Hannon.



## Council wins top award for cycle training

WARRINGTON Borough Council has won a prestigious award for its cycle training programme for children.

The council has been named "Local Authority of the Year" at the first Bikeability Awards launched by the Bikeability Trust.

Bikeability is the 21st century cycle training programme that replaced the former cycling proficiency test.

Main aim of the awards programme is to reward and promote the good work that the Bikeability industry and partners are doing. Nominees were assessed on how well they:

\*raised the profile of and generating support for Bikeability

\*established close partnership working with their appointed providers to help ensure the overall success of the Bikeability programme, and

\*developed creative and

innovative approaches to securing more training opportunities.

The nominations were assessed by a panel of independent, expert judges against a set of criteria for each award category.

Lesley Peterson, the council's school travel adviser collected the award on behalf of the transport planning team.

Since 2007 Warrington Borough Council has been working with its appointed providers, Bikeright! of Manchester to successfully deliver Bikeability cycle training to nine and 10-year-old pupils in their schools, funded by a government grant. This grant has recently been extended to cover more advanced training for teenagers and parents, and a programme of rides and safety lessons has been developed for this year.

Cllr Hans Mundry, the council's lead member for transport, said: "We are delighted for Warrington

and the local delivery team for earning this illustrious award. To win the category of Local Authority of the Year in the inaugural awards programme is a fantastic achievement.

"Cycling has a positive impact on the wellbeing of young people and learning to do so safely gives them a life-skill and confidence to

continue into later years."

Warrington's cycle map also greatly aids cycling in the town and more information on travelling sustainably can be found on the Travel Warrington web pages on [travelwarrington.co.uk](http://travelwarrington.co.uk)

Pictured with the award (below) is the council's school travel adviser Lesley Paterson



# Urban Building Projects celebrate two local building awards

WARRINGTON based Urban Building Projects is celebrating at the double after picking up two building awards from the Local Authority Building Control (LABC) for "Best Local Builder" and "Best Domestic Extension."

The largest business to business awards in the building control sector, the LABC regional building excellence awards recognise quality in all types of building project.

Urban Building Projects Managing Director Carl Palmer, who set up the business 14 years ago, received the "Best Local Builder" award while a property extension on Chester Road, Warrington, received the "Best Domestic Extension Award."

Carl said: "We are delighted Warrington Borough Council kindly put us forward for the awards. We have had a great working relationship with the council for many years and long may it

continue.

"I would like to thank our clients and the team at Urban for helping us achieve these prestigious awards."



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# 'Strictly' dance-mad water workers raise £50,000 for charity

A CHARITY dance contest has become the hottest ticket in town for staff at Warrington-based water company United Utilities – netting £50,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support's regional fund.

The competition, inspired by the BBC's hit "Strictly Come Dancing" series, partners workers with professional dancers for weeks of training before a glittering finale and is one of the most sought after events in the firm's calendar.

Since starting in 2010, the total raised for various charities has topped £300,000.

This year 10 couples performed before an assembled audience of 400 at Southport's Floral Hall.

In third place was response centre leader, Nicola Fletcher, from Fearnhead, Warrington, and her pro partner, Matt Tomaszewskiy, dancing the rumba.

Nicola, 28, overcame terrible nerves to perform.

She said: "I entered so my team could have a great night out and bring us together with the event and fundraising. Performing isn't really my thing so this was probably the biggest challenge for me to have the confidence to perform a dance in front of over 400 people. I don't think I've ever been so nervous than I was on the night, but it was an amazing experience, we all had

a fabulous time and raised a lot of money for such an amazing charity so was definitely worth it," she said.

The winner was Maria de Cabo Ramos from Liverpool and close behind was waterworks controller Liam Kiely, from Shaw, in Oldham.

The gala audience were also treated to a demonstration dance, combining a Viennese waltz and an English waltz, by Russ Houlden, United Utilities' chief financial officer, with his pro partner, Kimberly Taylor.

Event organiser Lynne Friery said the competition gets better every year.

"It's a fantastic event to be part of and everyone involved made it a night to remember, and to raise such an amazing amount for a great cause is brilliant. This year we increased the number of finalists because the auditions were of such a high standard," she said.

Money raised comes from the sponsorship gathered by the individual dancers, matched funding from United Utilities, donations and the sale of tickets for the gala finale.



Nicola with her professional dance partner and United Utilities chief operating officer Steve Fraser and below, Nicola and Matt in action.



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# Star Wars characters invade the museum

**Warrington Museum was taken over by Star Wars characters seeking to crush the rebellion and put smiles of the faces of local fans of the movie franchise.**

As part of the museum's plans to open one Sunday a month to coincide with the popular Makers Market in Queens Gardens, they invited members of the 99th Garrison to entertain sci-fi fans both young and old. The movie franchise bad guys delighted visitors as they posed for photographs and chatted with their fans.

The 99th Garrison are a Star Wars themed group which operates mainly in the Northern part of the United Kingdom, with outposts in the East Midlands, North Wales, North West and North Lincolnshire. The Garrison's primary aim is to raise funds and awareness for charities and worthy causes and to entertain with their superbly realistic costumes.

The free to enter event also included a craft workshop where children loved making their Death Star prints.

Commenting prior to the well supported and successful event Mike Roberts, visitor services officer at Warrington Museum & Art Gallery, said: "We've hosted the 99th Garrison at the museum before and they make such a big impact. Their costumes are incredibly authentic and you can't help but get caught up in the Star Wars Universe when you pose for



a photo with a couple of Storm Troopers! This event is an absolute must for Star Wars fans – and a great day out that everyone can get involved in."

Warrington Museum and Art Gallery already have plans for the next makers market Sunday opening.



## Dogs help to de-stress Boteler students



YEAR 11 students and staff at Sir Thomas Boteler CofE High School have been de-stressing ahead of the exam period – by petting dogs.

Following some research into how it can help people de-stress and successful events for the Class of 2016 and 2017, Mr Paul McAleese decided to repeat it for the Class of 2018.

Many educational establishments have been arranging for students to pet puppies and some even creating 'Puppy rooms' before their finals in Universities such as Bristol, Sheffield and Loughborough. This has also been taking place in other countries such as the USA.

Mr McAleese said: "My reading prompted me to contact Cheshire Dogs' home and they proved that I wasn't barking mad, as they had just been to Manchester University to help final year students de-stress before their Physics and Astronomy exam.

"As a result of the research and the use of this strategy by some Russell Group Universities, they visited us

again on the morning of GCSE English Language. The pictures show some of our students relaxing with the dogs before such an important exam.

"Cheshire Dogs' Home do not use current dogs in their kennels for these events, and instead use ex-resident dogs that do a lot of events for them as they are very used to being stroked.

"Our students have been working really hard and many attended Easter school in addition to the innumerable after-school revision sessions.

"We have even had students voluntarily attend Sunday revision to prepare for Maths, English and RE so every little bit helps!

"This well-being event helped relax many students and staff before this exam.

"Many staff and students contributed to a hamper of dog food and treats as a gesture of thanks.

"Any donations are more than welcome to the dogs' home or in the collection box in school."



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By David Watkinson

## Latest advisory fuel rates

If you have a company car and either:

- pay for the petrol yourself to avoid the fuel benefit-in-kind charge and reclaim the cost of fuel used in connection with your employment; or
- be provided with fuel by the employer but, again to avoid the fuel benefit-in-kind charge, reimburse the employer for fuel used for private purposes.

Then HMRC has published the latest advisory fuel rates (AFR) which can be used to calculate the cost of the necessary claim or reimbursement. The rates cannot be used for any other purpose.



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

These rates apply from 1 June 2018 and have slightly increased on the previous quarter rates, for petrol cars with engine of 1400cc or more and diesel cars with an engine size less than 1600cc. The previous rates can be used for up to one month from the date the new rates apply.

If these rates are used, it is not necessary for the employer to apply for a dispensation to cover the payments made to the employee, or for the amount to be entered on the P11d or employees self-assessment return, and HMRC will accept there is no taxable profit and no Class 1A national Insurance to pay.

The advisory fuel rates applying from 1 June 2018 are as follows:

Engine size	Petrol - amount per mile (Mar 18 rate in brackets)	LPG - amount per mile
1400cc or less	11p (11p)	7p (7p)
1401cc to 2000cc	14p (14p)	9p (8p)
Over 2000cc	22p (22p)	14p (13p)
Engine size	Diesel - amount per mile	
1600cc or less	10p (9p)	
1601cc to 2000cc	11p (11p)	
Over 2000cc	13p (13p)	

Hybrid cars are treated as either petrol or diesel cars for this purpose.

The fuel benefit-in-kind charge is a punitive tax charge, assuming private mileage in the region of 50,000 miles per annum, and the above is a relatively easy way to avoid it.

*WatkinsonBlack have considerable experience in all areas of taxation and business services, including the provision of a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. If you want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting on any business 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 players h rising

## TWO Warrington Wolves players honoured some of the stars of the future at Priestley College's annual Sports Awards.

Toby King and Jack Johnson presented the awards, which recognised the achievements of Priestley students on pitches, courts and in pools including at international level.

"It was great to spend time at Priestley and meet some of the college's dedicated sportsmen and women," said Toby.

"Not only is there a lot of talent, but they are also young people committed to achieving their academic goals as well, which is so important for people going into sport."

Among those to receive honours

on the day were Harry Wilkinson and Annabel Rodgers who were named Priestley's Sports Personalities of the Year.

Harry, who attended Helsby High School, and former Hope Academy pupil Annabel were shortlisted by tutors then voted for by their peers.

Among Harry's achievements in rugby over the past year was a first England cap while Annabel impressed on the football pitch.

"I have played well this year and have always tried my best, but most of all I have enjoyed it," said Annabel, who studies BTEC Sport

## Wolves capture Clark from Sydney Rabbitohs



WARRINGTON Wolves have swooped to sign Sydney Rabbitohs forward Jason Clark on a two-year deal for the start of next season.

Clark, 28, who was signing on the dotted line for Warrington as they were beating Wigan in the Challenge Cup, has been a one-club man of the NRL side since his first-grade debut in the Red and Green in August 2009. He celebrated his 150th club appearance back in April this year.

He was part of the NRL premiership winning team of 2014 when the Rabbitohs defeated Canterbury Bulldogs at the ANZ Stadium in the Grand Final. He also represented City Origin on one occasion in 2013.

Warrington head coach Steve Price said: "Having coached against Jason for a number of years he typifies what we are building here at our club. He's a grand final winner and understands what a winning culture is. He is selfless; everything is about the team on and off the field. He understands hard work and it's players like Jason who help to make a team a success. He's the type of player who players love playing with and Sam Burgess recently classed him as one of his greatest ever team mates. There's a lot to his game as

he has ball-playing ability and an offload in there too. We feel he can bring us something different and he's a first-class guy to go with it.

"We are very pleased to have signed Jason to our club from next season and he's going to be a great acquisition."

Clark added: "I'm glad to have my contract organised with Warrington and I'm looking forward to the next chapter in my career over in England. The past 11 seasons have been a young boy's dream come true. All I've done is wear the red and green, and following discussions with Steve Price, Simon Moran and Karl Fitzpatrick, I'll be able to extend my career in the primrose and blue of Warrington."

"Warrington is a similar club to Souths. They have a long and rich history which is something that attracted me to the club. Everyone I've spoken to says Warrington is a great club. They are very well organised, well coached and have a great playing squad. I've been watching them play over the past few months and they are playing an enjoyable style of football. They beat Wigan in the Challenge Cup as I was agreeing to join the club and success like that is a massive positive for me."

# honour Priestley's stars

and A-Level English Literature and Language.

Priestley's Team of the Year was its rugby players who were crowned North West champions, but competition was fierce.

In a year of unparalleled success for the college, its basketball, volleyball, ladies' football and swimming teams were all regional champions.

It was also a good year for the college's footballers, several of whom have received offers to study at American universities after they went on a US tour in February.

During the ceremony, awards

were handed out to students competing in sports as varied as judo, athletics and netball.

There was also recognition for academic achievements including Mick Mitchell in Sport and Exercise Science as well as Beth Cox in BTEC Sport.

Nigel Howells, Head of Sport at Priestley, said: "The awards are the result of years of dedication by students to their sport and not just their achievements over the past 12 months.

"It is a proud moment for us, their families, but mostly for the students themselves."



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