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Issue No. 227 August 2018 FREE EVERY MONTH

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Editor's Comment



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IT is an absolute honour to be part of the team bidding to make Warrington a host town for the 2021 Rugby League Cup.

As a host town in 2013 we welcomed the Western Samoa team, who captured the hearts of the public and were involved in a not to be forgotten spine tingling match with New Zealand at the Halliwell Jones Stadium.

Last time being a host town provided a major boost to the local economy with Western Samoa staying in the Village Hotel and the USA team staying at the Park Royal Hotel, plus all the added benefits of rugby fans visiting the town to watch games.

It provided an estimated £3m

boost to the local economy and the aim is to double that in 2021.

I attended the launch of the bid at the Halliwell Jones Stadium recently and the buzz it created, particularly with the business community was fantastic.

While 2021 may seem a long time off it will be here in the blink of the eye - so I would urge everyone to get behind the bid as it will be fantastic if Warrington is once again a host town.



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Vote for your ultimate run hero!

Warrington Worldwide publishers Orbit News has teamed up with the Village Hotel and the English Half Marathon (EHM) to find the ultimate local running hero.

To mark the 10th running of the famous half marathon in September, the winner will be crowned as the first ever EHM Run Hero and will win two nights at the Village over EHM weekend AND free entry to future EHM's for life.

And he or she will also feature on a special front page of **Warrington Worldwide**

Voting is now open after the judges narrowed the list of entrants down to a top five – each of whom have overcome huge mental and physical challenges to enter the race.

Orbit News Managing Director – and the editor of Warrington Worldwide – Gary Skentelbery, said: "We know we have some truly remarkable people in Warrington and so we knew it was going to be hugely difficult to narrow the list of entrants down to just one winner."

"But I don't think we expected to receive as many incredible entries as we got from people running the

half marathon for such personal and inspiring reasons.

"Fortunately it's not down to us to pick a winner – that's why we need the help of the people of Warrington. The final five are all truly deserving of the honour of Run Hero and we can't wait to see who comes out on top with the public."

The final five have tackled a range of challenges ahead of the race, which takes place on Sunday, September 16, in Warrington.

So without further ado, it's our pleasure to introduce them:

Claire Daniels started running while off work with anxiety. She started off doing the couch to 5k programme and says running has helped her cope with her anxiety. She also helps run an online support group called 'Run Mummy Run' and encourages other women to run. She wants to show people that you can achieve anything if you believe.

Grace Dronsfield started running

at the age of 58. She suffers from treatment resistant depression, ME and osteoarthritis and she has undergone three knee replacement operations. Despite her health issues she has run five 10k races, two 8ks and a half marathon. She wants to prove that you're never too old to run.

Robyn Harrison was diagnosed with ocular motor apraxia – a condition that affects her eyes - when she was just six months old. Now 17 she's since suffered from a series of undiagnosed conditions and been told that she probably wouldn't ever walk. Undeterred, Robyn has now run the Warrington mile and a 10k raising almost £4,000 for the charity 'Stick n Step.'

Nicola Lingley-Heath was a regular runner but in 2017 suffered the trauma of a detached retina. She underwent surgery but was left with a damaged trigeminal nerve and a lifelong chronic facial pain condition, trigeminal neuropathy. Her condition means training outside is near impossible as wind, cold weather or sunshine can bring

on pain attacks.

Ste Hughes injured his spine while in the forces, leaving him with permanent damage and needing a wheelchair. The injury caused issues with his brain and he's undergone four operations. Despite the challenges he faces every day, Ste refuses to give in. In April alone he did two marathons, a 50-mile race and a 100-mile challenge.

You can find more information on the final five, as well as cast your vote at www.motivrunning.com/uk-english-halfmarathon/ehm-run-hero-2018/



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Software developer is Apprentice of the Year

WHEN Ryan Kenny enrolled on an apprenticeship at Warrington & Vale Royal College, he had no idea just how much his life was about to change.

Now, the 18 year old has the world at his feet and an exciting career ahead of him with Stanley Black & Decker, after being named BTEC Apprentice of the Year.

Ryan was one of 24 winners recognised at the 2018 BTEC Awards at a glitzy ceremony in London.

An expert panel of 52 judges considered each nominee for the eighth annual awards, with Ryan's hard work and dedication earning him the title of BTEC Apprentice of the Year (16-18).

Ryan received the prestigious award in recognition of his hard work and dedication during his apprenticeship with Stanley Black & Decker, provided through the Winwick Road college.

It is the latest in a series of accolades for the talented teen, having already been named 'Apprentice of the Year' at the Warrington Business Awards, as well as at Warrington & Vale Royal College's own annual FE Awards Ceremony.

Ryan said: "When I found out I had been named BTEC Apprentice of the Year, I was blown away. I just see myself doing what I love, truly living my dream and to find out that I had been recognised, it's been phenomenal."

Ryan's incredible success comes less than three years after first walking through Stanley's

doors as part of a high school work placement. He soon wowed his employers, with Stanley's Manufacturing Continuous Improvement Manager, Russell Lodge, seeing the potential in him.

After high school, Ryan attended an open evening at Warrington & Vale Royal College, enrolling on a level 3 IT Software, Web & Telecoms apprenticeship with Stanley.

He went on to create a cutting edge digital solution to meet the needs of Stanley's business. Ryan's training and succession software – Centurion – tracks staff development, alerting management ahead of time when they need to put plans in place to replace staff.

Ryan, who is based at Stanley's Woolston site, is now travelling the world implementing the software as part of the European Business Services Team, having been promoted to Business Systems Analyst. He has already visited Miami, where he demonstrated the system to Stanley Black & Decker's senior management, as well as receiving \$10,000 in Stanley shares in recognition of his hard work.

He said: "Choosing to do a BTEC apprenticeship through Warrington & Vale Royal College has been massive in getting me to where I am today. An apprenticeship gives you the opportunity to get experience in the workplace whilst also gaining

the theoretical knowledge in the classroom, which you can then go and apply in your workplace.

"People have told me that I need to slow down a little bit, that I'll burn out, but I just want to keep going. In 10 years' time, I'd like to be pushing the boundaries of digital excellence.

Ryan was nominated for the BTEC Apprentice of the Year by his college assessor, Lisa Spencer, who described Ryan as one of the greatest students she has ever had.

To find out more about the opportunities available at Warrington and Vale Royal College, through both apprenticeship and full-time study, visit wvr.ac.uk



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Warrington BID project set to go live

August 1st sees Warrington's Business Improvement (BID) go live.

The BID team is gearing up to begin formal operations in the town centre which will deliver new and exciting plans and initiatives over a five year period resulting in £1.8million added value.

Warrington now joins over 200 other city and town centres across the UK who have chosen to implement successful BIDs since 2005. Local very successful examples of BID's that are making an active, visible impact include those in Liverpool, Manchester and Chester.

The Business Improvement District in Warrington town centre represents a major change in how the town centre is managed enabling and empowering businesses to take control.

More than 400 businesses had the opportunity to approve or reject the five-year £1.8million private sector led investment for Warrington town centre, with a 68% majority of those who voted approving the BID back in March.

Setting up a BID empowers businesses to undertake activities, projects and services that will make a town centre more economically vibrant, increase footfall and

support the creation of a safer, cleaner and greener town centre.

The first signs of activity began last month when the Warrington in Bloom project commenced as a launch project for the BID.

The Warrington in Bloom Project was funded through funds raised from Tesco's Bags of Help Community Grant Scheme which was announced earlier this year. The grant was secured by Warrington Borough Council and the Warrington Business Improvement District. Run in partnership with environmental charity Groundwork the project was funded by sales of the 5p carrier bags

Children from Day Nursery Kids Planet along with Cubs from Orford and Padgate packs, young people from the Princes Trust supported by volunteers from Warrington based DATS Holdings have been hard at work filling planters, tubs and baskets in Queens Gardens, at Market Gate, on Horsemarket Street and Buttermarket Street.

It is hoped that the Warrington in Bloom project will enhance and improve the area and add to the vibrancy and visual appeal of the town centre. Bird feeders will also be installed in the area at a future date to attract wildlife.



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Football's Coming Home – to Great Sankey Hub



By Paul Jackson

OVER 700 young footballers took part in a tournament at the official opening of a new 3G pitch at Great Sankey Hub, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Whittle Hall Junior Football Club.

Founded 20 years ago at the old Sankey Forum, the club had a single team and has now grown to be home to 14 teams and a development group involving over 500 children.

Treasurer Steve Pennington said: "The new 3g pitch is phenomenal, and helps prevent the dreadful backlogs in fixtures when the weather prevents any play on grass. Everyone is a little jealous of the new facilities. I would like to thank LiveWire for a great working relationship."

The official opening ceremony was attended by representatives of the Premier League and The FA Facilities Fund, whose investment of £302,184 made the development possible.

Their grant enabled the organisation to install a state-of-the-art new all-weather playing surface, as well as new boundary fencing and floodlights at the Great Sankey site. This has replaced a sand-based pitch, which was no longer fit for purpose due to its age.

The new 3G pitch, which can be

used all-year round in any weather, will benefit pupils at neighbouring Great Sankey High School as well as a number of local football clubs including: Whittle Hall JFC, Crosfields JFC and Matthiola JFC. With a particular focus on introducing more girls to football, Liverpool County FA expects to see an increase in Under-18 female participation.

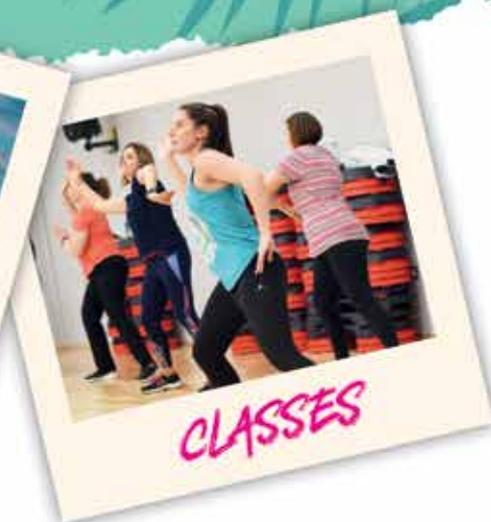
Opening the new pitch LiveWire Warrington Managing Director Emma Hutchinson said: "I am delighted to welcome people to the opening of the 3g pitch, made possible by the support of Liverpool County FA represented by Paul Dawson. The development is part of a wider multi million pound transformation of the old Great Sankey Leisure centre into a Neighbourhood Hub, a co-location of leisure, library and lifestyle services along with NHS provision."

"Phase 2 will open later this year and provide fully refurbished swimming pools, changing village, sports hall and luxury spa."



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Actor inspired to visit Peace Centre to meet Colin Parry

ACTOR Daniel Mays was so moved by playing the part of peace campaigner Colin Parry in a new BBC2 drama "Mother's Day," he brought his family to visit the Peace Centre in Warrington.

Daniel, who was accompanied by his partner Lou and their two children, decided to make the visit ahead of the screening that will tell the story of the 1993 Warrington bombing and the reaction that came to follow.

Mother's Day, a factual drama for BBC Two about the events, aftermath and public response to the Warrington bombing of March 1993, also includes in the cast Anna Maxwell Martin, Vicky McClure and David Wilmot.

Filming took place over six weeks in Belfast and the drama is now complete and expected to be aired in the autumn. It is written by Nick Leather and focuses on two ordinary women living on either side of the Irish Sea, brought together in the wake of the tragedy.

Anna Maxwell Martin plays Wendy Parry, the mother of 12-year-old Tim Parry, who lost his life in the attack which left two boys dead and many others injured. Vicky McClure plays Susan McHugh, the Dublin mother of two so outraged by the loss of young life that she organised one of the

largest peace rallies in Irish history, leading thousands through the streets in protest at the continued violence of the Troubles.

The cast did not meet the people they played during planning or filming, but Daniel made the trip to Warrington as he felt very moved by the performance he had to give and wanted to meet Colin Parry in person.

Daniel toured the Centre and found out about the work of the Peace Foundation. After the visit, he said: "This was an inspirational afternoon visiting the Peace Centre and meeting Colin Parry and Wendy Parry for the first time.

"There is no finer example of the power of the human spirit. Their continued strength and fight against terrorism and those affected by it left me humbled and in complete awe."

Colin Parry said: "It was great to welcome Daniel Mays, Lou and their children to the Peace Centre.

"Daniel has the unenviable role of playing me in the BBC 2 film 'Mother's Day' to be screened in the Autumn.

"He is a smashing guy and a privilege to meet him and tell him more about our Foundation."

Mother's Day (1 x 90' minutes episode) is produced by BBC Studios for BBC Two, and directed by Fergus O'Brien and produced by

Scott Bassett. It was commissioned by Piers Wenger, Controller of BBC Drama, and Patrick Holland, Controller of BBC Two. Executive Producers are Tommy Bulfin for the BBC and Aysa Rafaele for BBC Studios.



Callands Family Fun Day hailed a success

THE second annual Callands Family Fun Day has been hailed as a massive success by organisers.

Callands Family Fun day was organised and hosted by "Friends of Callands School" to create a fun event for the local Callands Community and surrounding areas.

In previous years the event had gone down the standard school fete route but in 2017 it was decided to make it more of a community event and reach out to those beyond the school gates and so the Callands Family Fun day was born.

The event proved to be more of a success than the organisers ever could have imagined and the feedback from local communities was really positive, so it was decided to do it all again this year.

Locally based Friends Lane riding school set up a pony party where children were able to groom Wizzy the pony. Stockley Farm set up a mini petting zoo with adorable baby animals which the children loved. The donkey rides proved as popular as they have always been, and it began to resemble a farm rather than a school playing field.

There were large inflatables, Cromwell Academy's beat the goalie, glitter tattoos, raffles, tombola's plus a host of other stalls

Entertainment was provided by local dance groups, Northern Starr and Harlies Morris Dancers who

performed brilliantly despite the soaring temperatures.

Speaking on behalf of the organising committee Zoe Bracewell Allen commented "Once again the fun day proved to be a great success, despite the heat we

were overwhelmed by the turnout. Friends of Callands School is a charity committed to raising money for Callands Community Primary school and our aim over the next two years is to assist in raising funds for a Multi-Use Games Arena."



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Poppy cascade to commemorate World War 1 heroine

A POPPY cascade is to be made to commemorate the death May Westwell – who is believed to be the only Warrington woman to die on active service during World War One.



Miss Westwell was formerly a teacher at Evelyn Street Primary School – and the poppy cascade is being organised by St Barnabas Primary School, in Colin Street.

It is due to be completed for the May Westwell Memorial Service to be held at St Barnabas Church on October 10 at 10am.

May Westwell was the only daughter of the late Mr. W. W. Westwell and of Mrs Westwell, of Lovely-lane Warrington.

Before she joined the forces, she was a teacher at Evelyn Street Primary school and was part of the congregation of St.Barnabas Church in Lovely Lane Warrington.

She joined the Queen Mary's Auxiliary Corps to support the War effort in April 1918.

After spending some time in

Belfast in an administrative post, she was transferred to the headquarters of the Irish Command in Dublin. She died tragically aged 30 on October 10, 1918 when the HMS Lenister, the ship she was travelling on, was struck by a torpedo in the Irish sea.

Miss Westwell had decided to use her short leave to travel back to Warrington to surprise her family and friends. They were all totally unaware of her being a passenger until they received the tragic news.

The courage, bravery and valour of Miss Westwell during this terrifying event was noted by a surviving passenger.

A letter to her family at the time stated: "There was a Canadian Major who was amongst the rescued, and the first remark he made was that of all the things that impressed him most at the time, was the behaviour of the Q.M.A.A.C. on board. Their courage was

magnificent. Your daughter was the one referred to as she was the only woman officer travelling and there were few women in uniform on the boat."

Karen Longden, a teacher at St Barnabas School, said: "We are aiming to create a poppy cascade to commemorate her life using plastic bottles at the front of St. Barnabas Church on Lovely lane. We want to promote how Miss Westwell is a positive role model to children, especially girls, within our community and by using bottles, link the project to current issue of single use plastic around the globe "We would like to involve as many people, community groups and schools as possible.

"Our School website, www.stbarnabasce.co.uk and twitter account @StBarnabasCeSch, both contain information about you can make a poppy for the cascade."

Dementia champion awarded Churchill Medallion

AWARD-winning dementia design champion, and deputy chief executive of Warrington based care village operator Belong Tracy Paine, has been honoured with the prestigious Churchill Medallion at an award ceremony in London.

Tracy received the award from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust to mark completion of a travelling fellowship, during which she researched models of care overseas, with a view to bringing back best practices to the UK care sector.

For her fellowship, Tracy travelled to Australia and the USA for five weeks, where she had the opportunity to investigate the design environments of some of the world's leading dementia care providers, to see if any of the practices in those countries could be introduced successfully into the Belong operation: already recognised as one of the leading organisations of its kind in the UK.

During the research trip, Tracy had the opportunity to examine a number of the original households in Australia that inspired Belong's UK model of care and was also invited to be a guest panellist at the International Dementia Conference in Sydney. The award caps a busy two year period, during which Belong has opened new villages in England, with several more in the pipeline.

Commented Tracy: "It's a tremendous honour to receive the Churchill Medallion, particularly at a time when our organisation is receiving praise for work in the field of dementia care. Belong is a leading provider in top-class dementia care in England, and it is crucial for us to keep evaluating and innovating the services and nature of care and support that we provide.

"I set out with the intention of seeing how some of the world's leading providers approach the built environment and I was

delighted to find that we are already pioneering some of the best practice here in the UK.

The Fellowships were set up in 1965 in memory of Sir Winston Churchill. Since then, over 5,400 Fellowships have been awarded.

Past medallion recipient and distinguished photojournalist, Nick Danziger presented this year's awards.

The Churchill Medallion itself is a unique piece, designed by world-famous glass artist, Professor Brian

Clarke, himself a Churchill Fellow. It features a digital image of Winston Churchill in striking blue cloisonné enamel on a solid silver disc, with the Fellows' name engraved on the reverse.





CDX Security
7 Melford Court
Hardwick Grange
Warrington
WA1 4RZ

01925 737 504

CDX Security roll out new Mental Health Programme

Abbi Roddy has been appointed as the company's Mental Health First Aider in the aim of curbing the rise in mental health problems – where one in four people in the UK will experience mental health issues. Abbi Roddy has undergone special training to spot the signs of mental health issues in the workplace and will provide specialist and confidential support to the employees of CDX Security, this is in combination with other concerted efforts as part of the company's new mental health and wellbeing programme.

Abbi, as the company's Mental Health First Aider, has duties to: respond to crises, provide access to specialist help and support, engage with



employees in distress and deal with people who have gone through traumatic experiences.

This announcement comes as CDX implement a whole host of employee support initiatives, from whistleblowing to public empowerment with terrorist attacks. The Mental Health First Aid scheme is the most recent of the new projects and the wellbeing strategy is the first step in embedding a positive,

long term cultural change across the organisation.

Nicholas Bottomley, Head of HR for CDX Security, said, "There is a taboo around mental health particularly in the workplace, so having that person there for our employees to talk to is vital in knocking down the barriers of communication and having a better work environment. The training has empowered Abbi and made her more observant to the signs and causations of mental health, and as a company we can now provide steps to not only help those with mental health but try and stop it from escalating."

Abbi Roddy, Mental Health First Aider, is enthusiastic about the new strategy she said, "We

are delivering a service which will deal with early intervention, prevention and total care methods. Helping people manage their emotional health and wellbeing through targeted support is something that I feel genuinely passionate about, and I want to do all I can to support positive mental health."

To talk to Abbi Roddy about Mental Health First Aid or CDX Security's Wellbeing strategy phone 01925 737 511.



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Award winning iSupply driving new business forward

WARRINGTON based iSupply Industrial is celebrating after winning new start-up business of the year at the prestigious Warrington Business Awards in Lymm.

Part of the iSupply Group established in December 2016, the company is a specialist in workforce solutions for the logistics sector, achieving a turnover £1.5m in year one, with a forecasted turnover of £3m in year two and a group Turnover of around £6m.

With offices in Warrington, Liverpool, Rugby and Kettering the company provides employment for 12 full-time employees and over 350 temporary workers per day.

Working with some of the UK's largest blue chip employers such as DHL, Travis Perkins, B&M and Bunzl Group, more expansion is planned in 2018, with a bigger office in Warrington to home more full time staff.

The company is proud to support the local community with sponsorship deals for Bruche Athletic, Pro-Sports Academy as well as fund-raising for St Rocco's Hospice with a variety of events.

They are also exploring pathways to work for young adults through a partnership with Pro-Sports Education.

The company is run by directors Andy Hibbert, Steve Lewis and Marcin Pisarski.

Andy explained: "We set the business up after the management team had spent over 40 years in the recruitment sector between us. We felt it was time we did things our own way and make the journey you take when dealing with a recruitment business an enjoyable one."

"We have a wealth of expertise

in developing solutions to meet the needs of our clients and pride ourselves as innovative leaders within the recruitment sector. Over the last 4 years we have refined our service offering and as an owner managed business we are able to react quickly to changes in the market place meaning our clients and candidates alike always benefit from an up to the minute, tailored solution.

"Our six operating divisions employ specialists in each area to ensure we are providing the highest quality of service specific to each sector. This has given us the ability to build great relationships with some of the UK's leading brands. Our focus is always on the highest level of customer service and as such the ownership team stay visible at all times, close to the action, where its most important!



Picture: Tony Longmore - Oculus Studios.

Paying gets easier for bus passengers

PAYING on the go has never been easier for bus travellers, after Warrington's municipal bus company launched a new app and smartcard payment scheme – with cheaper fares, too.

The relaunch of the company's "Touch & Go!" flexible payment scheme means that customers can buy online, on the app or visit the travel shop in the interchange to top up their weekly, monthly or annual tickets.

The new Touch & Go! app is compatible with any Android or Apple devices and means the holder can pay for tickets online at their convenience.

Smartcards can also be topped up on any bus.

As an added bonus to customers,

an app-exclusive discounted Day Saver Ticket is also available for £4.95, to encourage customers to give the app a go. The weekly Touch & Go ticket is also reduced, now £2 cheaper at £23 for unlimited travel across the network.

Ben Wakerley, managing director at Warrington's Own Buses, said: "When I first joined the company almost a year ago, one of the main elements of feedback I heard from customers was that they wanted a simpler way to pay for their Touch & Go! tickets."

"I'm really pleased that we're making it easier for our customers with the new smartcard and app. For people who are on the go, whether it's for work or leisure, it seems only right you can pay for

your travel on the go too.

"It's also great news that we've been able to reduce ticket prices again, combining convenience with great value."

Customers who use the app will also receive automatic emails when their tickets are about to expire, and a deposit for ticket payment is no longer required. If passengers opt to purchase an annual ticket, which offers the best value, they

won't have to pay all in one go but via monthly direct debit.

As part of the scheme, the price of Touch & Go tickets has been reduced. The deposit requirement has also been removed, and the eligibility age for cheaper fares has been raised from 19 to 21.

For more information, or to request a new Touch & Go smartcard, visit warringtonsbuses.co.uk or follow @WarringtonBuses.



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Funding success for Express Arts Youth Summer Programme

YOUNG people in Warrington will be able to enjoy a variety of free creative workshops during the summer holidays, thanks to funding from the Big Lottery Fund of over £6,000 to Express Arts.

In partnership with LiveWire the Day of Discoveries summer programme will take place in all 12 of Warrington's libraries, offering drama, crafts, stop motion animation, photography and film-making to ages 6-14.

Hollie Wimpenny, Co-Artistic Director said 'We are delighted to be awarded this grant by the Big

Lottery Fund, encouraging more young people to engage within the arts. The workshops aim to support their development, such as teamwork, communication and leadership skills. The funding also means that everything is free, which is great as the summer holidays can be an expensive time for families'. The workshops will also provide

young people with an opportunity to gain an Arts Award qualification and get a certificate. Arts Award is managed by Trinity College London in association with Arts Council England and builds confidence, helps young people to enjoy cultural activities, and prepares them for

further education or employment. There are limited places on the workshops and booking is essential, you can book and find out all the dates, times and details at www.dayofdiscoveries.co.uk or email info@expressarts.co.uk



A 'must' for local history buffs



THAT indefatigable chronicler of Warrington's history Janice Hayes has produced another of her excellent publications.

"Warrington History Tour" is a handy, pocket sized collection of photographs which should be a "must" for all who know and love the town.

Ms Hayes introduces the collection with a prediction that many will not welcome – that the historic town is poised on the brink of becoming a 21st century city. Not too many people outside the confines of the Town Hall seem to relish the thought of the borough becoming a city.

But whether it does or not, there is no doubt it has changed dramatically since its designation as a New Town in 1968 – and little doubt that it is doing to change much more.

The photographs, taken by a legion of photographers over the

years, show the changes in an informative way, matching old black-and-white archive material with modern, colour shots of the same locations.

You have to be pretty long in the tooth to remember "Boots Corner" at Market Gate – and even if you can it is doubtful if your memory stretches back to the time depicted in the book.

A 1910 picture of Bridge Street with the then new tram lines makes one wonder if we would be better off today if they had never been ripped up.

While much of Warrington's past has been lost, this book shows that much remains, recognisable if not identical to how it used to be.

"Warrington History Tour" is published by Amberley Publishing at £7.99 – good value for local history buffs.

Janice Hayes is Culture Warrington's heritage manager.



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Playdays @ Warrington Market

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Warrington Artisan Market

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Shopper Loyalty Scheme

Get more bang for your buck this Autumn as we launch our very own Warrington Market Loyalty Scheme. Watch out for our promo team in and around the town and on social media for giveaways and competitions.



1st Birthday Celebration

Warrington's new temporary market celebrates its First birthday on September 1st. Watch out for special promotions and pop along to help us celebrate



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My Warrington Remembers Dallam shed

By Gordon Gandy

This month Gordon Gandy looks at the history of Dallam Shed.

Warrington Dallam shed was built by the London North Western Railway (LNWR) and was located alongside the West Coast Main Line and the Cheshire Lines Committee line off Dallam Lane.

The first railway line in Warrington was a branch line off the Liverpool and Manchester Railway (that being the first passenger railway in the world) from Newton Junction (now Newton le Willows) to Dallam Lane on 31 July 1831.

Dallam Shed opened in 1888 and was a sub-shed of Warrington Arpley. It was on the site of an earlier shed which was open from 1831 to 1836.

Dallam Shed was equipped with a 42 ft turntable and a manual coaling shed with a water tank on

top. Office accommodation and stores were located to the rear of the shed. The LNWR gave the shed number 23 as its identity. After the grouping of 1923 the shed came under the control of the London Midland and Scottish (LMS) Railway and became 8B.

My Warrington reader Paul Robinson, who supplied the black and white images of the building, tells us his grandfather started as a cleaner at Dallam with the LNWR aged 14 in 1917. The shed employed a 'knocker-upper'. He was a lad that rode around the town in the early hours on his bike with a long pole. He had to go to homes of the staff on 'early turns' and tap on the bedroom window with the pole to wake up the driver

and fireman.

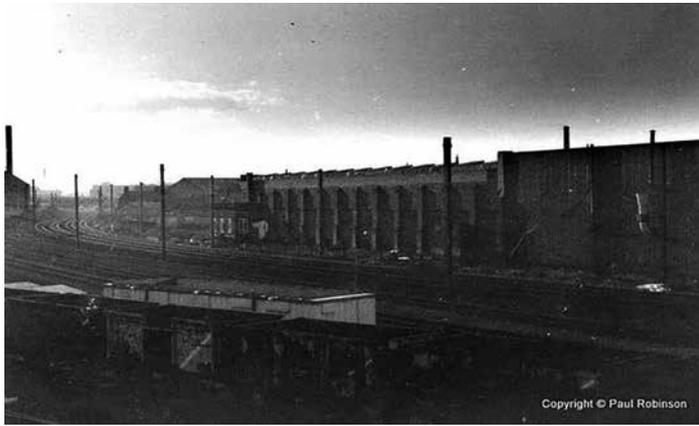
With the end of main line steam the writing was on the wall for Dallam Shed 8B and it closed to steam on 2nd October 1967 before complete closure on 11th August 1968.

The building is still in place, having been used by Locker Air Maze and later by Clarcor UK, but is currently unused.

To share your memories of Dallam Shed, email Gordon on warringtongordian@gmail.com and visit www.mywarrington.me.uk for more images.



Gordon Gandy



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Padgate and Woolston Walking Day

Pictures: Jim Hunter

HUNDREDS of people took to the streets of Padgate and Woolston for the annual walk of witness involving local churches and schools.

They were greeted by glorious sunshine as pupils and teachers from local schools were joined by representatives from churches and brass bands for the annual walk down Padgate Lane and back again.

Walkers included local twins

Ruben & Elena Evans-Guillen who are running 100km in 2018 to raise money for Warrington & Halton Hospital WHHCharity to build an Outdoor Play Area for the Children's Ward.

The youngsters from St Peter's Primary School recently won a Community Champions schools award and also met with Princess Anne when she visited Warrington Hospital earlier in the year.



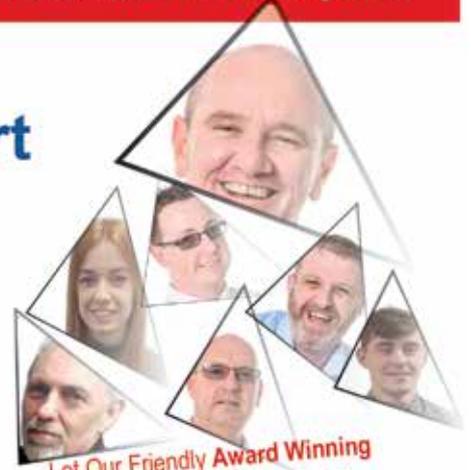
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Warrington's first FamFest reveals fabulous music line-up



THE first Warrington FamFest includes a brilliant line-up of music to entertain festival goers descending on the family-friendly event taking place on August 11-12.

The festival – coming to Orford Jubilee Park is a fantastic new addition to the regions cultural calendar.

Warrington's own music star Mo Jamil, winner of The Voice in 2017, will make a special guest appearance on Saturday August 11.

The former hotel worker joined the sixth series of the TV competition after being invited to audition by producers who spotted him singing at an open mic night.

He was mentored by American singer and actress Jennifer Hudson, and was crowned winner after a hotly-contested live final where he went head-to-head with Welsh duo into The Ark for the prestigious title and a recording contract.

Mo Jamil will appear as part of a packed programme on the main stage throughout the festival weekend, with entertainment from some of the World's Best tribute acts paying homage to stars like Little Mix, Michael Jackson and Ariana Grande.

Saturday, August 11 sees live performances celebrating the music of Bruno Mars, Madonna, Britney Spears, Justin Timberlake, Will Smith, Michael Jackson and Ariana Grande.

And the music continues throughout the day on Sunday, August 12 with all the hits from Little Mix (Little Mix – winners of the 2017 National Tribute Music Awards) Katy Perry, Jesse J, Coldplay, Kaiser Chiefs, Lionel Ritchie, Taylor Swift, Jess Glynne, George Michael and Take That.

FamFest Warrington is the brainchild of Wire FM founder Pete Pinnington, and promises a weekend of amazing activities and events for all the family.

The festival runs from 11am to 10pm on both Saturday and Sunday, and along with the busy music line-up there will also be live shows and performances by Beauty & The Beast, The Minions, Mister Maker and Basil Brush.

Visitors to FamFest Warrington will also be able to meet a vast range of characters throughout the two-day family festival including Darth Vader and Stormtroopers, Balthazar Bratz and The Minions, Beauty & The Beast, Ironman, Hulk, Mr T (A-Team), Princesses and many more!

Ticket entry will give visitors access to Sports Zone, Kids Zone and Circus Skills activities, the Basil Brush Show, a Kids Craft Zone with Disney's Art Attack presenter Lloyd Warbey, Character Zone and a Princesses Pamper Pavilion as well as the main stage tribute artists and shows. Mister Maker & his live shows are also there but only on the Saturday.

There will also be food and drink, including a full licensed bar, and a VIP marquee.

Founder Pete Pinnington said: "I can't wait to bring the first FamFest to Warrington, it's getting close now and I'm really proud of the music line-up we have for festivalgoers over both days.

"Mo Jamil is a great home-grown talent, and there will also be a chance to hear some iconic pop hits performed by some of the very best tribute acts around, appealing to every generation. It's going to be a wonderful, family-friendly occasion."

FamFest Warrington is a ticketed event. Along with regular ticket prices, there are also upgrade options to VIP, family VIP or weekend tickets.



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Sunshine ensures fabulous Warrington Walking Day

Sunglasses and sun screen were the order of the day for the annual Warrington Walking Day which was hailed a huge success by Mayor Cllr Karen Mundry.

Children and adults from most of the town's churches, Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies were taking part in the Walk, together with a number of marching bands. As usual the parade was led by the contingent from Warrington Parish Church.

The Mayor took the salute from a raised dais outside the Town Hall's famous Golden Gates and after several thousand walkers passed she joined the end of the walk with her consort son Jason and attendants.

She said: "It has been an absolutely fantastic Walking Day. It was lovely to see so many families, children and people of different faiths and cultures coming together for this wonderful occasion.

"I felt very emotional, waving to everyone as they walked by. It brought lots of memories flooding back of when I was a child, taking

part in the procession. "I'd like to thank everyone who played their part in making the event such a success, including all of the emergency services and the people who worked behind the scenes to ensure the event ran smoothly – especially on such a hot day."

Walking Day has been traditionally held in Warrington for more than 100 years, as a celebration of faith and community and once again, people of all ages, including faith groups, schoolchildren, musicians, scouts and brownies took part in the event.

Always one of the most vibrant and exciting days in Warrington's calendar, Walking Day was established as a step towards the erasure of historical differences between the various churches and their ecumenical aims.

Pictures: Paul Jackson



Women of Warrington Sparkle for St. Rocco's Starlight Ladies Walk

By Paul Jackson

WARRINGTON women sparkled, bedecked in sequins and day-glow costumes, to light up the town and raise thousands of pounds for St. Rocco's Hospice.

The women of Warrington to sparkle to support those with terminal and life-limiting illnesses in their community at their 2018 Starlight Ladies Walk.

More than 800 of them lit up the night sky on a beautiful evening with sparkles, stars, fairy lights and flashing crowns, to name but a few, on their purple Starlight 2018 t-shirts.

DJ Andy Vance got the ladies into the swing of things and the Rock Choir, Warrington, gave inspiring performances both before the walk and to encourage the ladies once on the route. AT Dance, also getting onto the sparkly theme, were on hand to entertain the ladies at the Orford Jubilee Hub and at Victoria Park with their dance routines.

'Wish Upon a Sparkle' gave the finishing touches to many ladies outfits with their glittery face paint and it turned out that this was also a great hit with many of the male marshalls and volunteers.

The ladies had all turned out for the 13th walk to raise much needed funds to allow St. Rocco's to continue to care for patients and families at the most difficult time of their lives.

Before the walk a team of nurses and healthcare assistants from St.

Rocco's were invited up on stage by the Chair of Trustees, Roger Preece. They were accompanied by the Mayor of Warrington, Cllr Karen Mundry and her consort Jason, as well as Wolves star Ben Westwood and Head Coach Steve Price.

The ladies then heard a moving speech by Sarah Dillon from Woolston, who has marshalled at the event for eight years, as she shared her family's experience of St. Rocco's who cared for her mum through her illness and in her final days. The headteacher described St. Rocco's as 'our hospice, Warrington's hospice, a ray of hope in the darkest moments'.

She told the assembled crowd: "Each of your shining lights represents a family that has been touched and wrapped up in that hug, the warm blanket that is St Rocco's Hospice."

Following the emotional speech there was a rousing warm up from Livewire's Sharon Bannister, assisted by Ben Westwood and Steve Price, and then it was time for the countdown to midnight. The ladies were off, led out by the St. Rocco's staff team, a long line of light, sparkling its way around the

streets of Warrington, overseen and encouraged by a small army of volunteers keeping them safe on the route.

Rachel Ingham, Fundraising Manager at St. Rocco's said: "It's always a very emotional sight watching so many ladies walking for Warrington but this year they looked even more spectacular and the atmosphere was fantastic. The Starlight Ladies Walk is by far our biggest fundraising event and the money raised each year by the ladies

is vital to allowing us to continue to look after those in our community who need us. We'd like to thank everyone who has supported the event in any way on behalf our patients and their families."

The next fun-filled event for St. Rocco's is the Colour Bubble Fun Run which takes place at 11.30am on Bank Holiday Monday, August 27 at Walton Hall and Gardens. For more information and to sign up, please go to www.stroccos.org.uk/events/colour-bubble-fun-run/.



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Bikers escort for prom girl Courtney

MORE than 30 warm hearted bikers donned their leathers and mounted up to escort Courtney Carter to her Prom Night.

When 16 year old Courtney decided that bullies would not stop her attending the school prom her Mum Rachel asked her partner, John "Scruff" Southern, if he and a couple of friends would ride his bike in front of the car as escort to the Statham Lodge Hotel at Lymm for an unusual entrance.

After posting his request on a bikers' Facebook page the response was immediate and overwhelming and John lined up with more than 30 bikers at the Coach and Horses pub, Warrington to lead a very noisy cavalcade through the town in sweltering temperatures.

Courtney, who was diagnosed with an autistic spectrum disorder at the age of four had a difficult school life, which was exacerbated once she went to high school. She became a target for bullies who wouldn't accept her differences and she was verbally abused which

made her feel "worthless".

The bullying continued for five years and caused the High School pupil to suffer from extreme stress and anxiety. Courtney began to self harm and was prone to suicidal thoughts.

From Year Seven she was adamant that she would not go to the prom evening but a month before the big night she decided that she was not going to let the bullies rob her of the chance to party and wear a beautiful gown.

She joined a gym and began to lose weight and felt better about herself and when she arrived at the ball, like a modern day Cinderella, every person there was amazed by the roaring entrance, with all the leather clad bikers revving their powerful engines and sounding their horns.

Courtney had a fantastic evening and danced all night.



Landmark day for borough's "cultural quarter"

A MAJOR step in the transformation of Warrington's cultural quarter has been completed.

Work has finished on the £664,000 public realm improvements to Springfield Street, sections of Palmyra Square and areas within Queen's Gardens.

The project, which aims to support an emerging bar and restaurant scene, has included the creation of areas appropriate for outside dining. The entire public realm has also been upgraded to a much higher standard, complementing that which was already in place within Queens Gardens.

It has created an attractive, pedestrian-friendly space, with a continental, pavement café feel.

Included in Warrington's Town Centre Masterplan, the upgrade forms part of the borough council's longer-term plans to link the area to Bridge Street, and the Time Square development, via the revamped Cabinet Works site.

Council leader Cllr Terry O'Neill; deputy leader Cllr Russ Bowden; lead member for culture, Cllr Dan Price, and lead member for highways and public realm, Cllr Hans Mundry, visited the site to celebrate the completion of the project. They were joined by ward councillor Steve Wright.

Cllr Price said: "Our town centre is rapidly changing, and it's vital that Palmyra Square, our cultural heart, continues to transform with it. I'm delighted this work has now been completed. It's another major step forward in ensuring the area remains a first-class destination for local people and visitors and a focal point for culture, leisure and events in Warrington."

Cllr Mundry added: "These works will reinforce Palmyra Square as the dynamic, vibrant, cultural heart of Warrington. The re-engineering of the streets and spaces in the area have made the square more attractive, as well as supporting the establishment of street cafes. It's a fantastic project, and an important part of the ongoing regeneration of our town centre."



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Financially yours

By David Watkinson

Draft Finance Bill, already!

What a perverse world we live in. In my younger days we used to wait with baited breath in March to find out how much tax we would be paying from the following month.

Then 10 years ago they started announcing changes in tax rates at least one budget earlier, which sort of took half the fun of it all away. Now we are only half way through July as I write this, and we already have the draft Finance Bill that will result from next November's budget. Not sure why they bother to switch the boilers on at the Commons, but I suppose the predictable heckling makes interesting news!



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

The draft bill contains 33 pieces of quite significant changes. Clearly, we cannot go into details in an article of this length, so keep an eye out for our usual newsletter that we send by e-mail each year after the budget which will go into more detail. If you don't currently receive this and wish to do so please register via our website. However, listed below are a couple of the changes that will probably affect most people.

There are changes being made to the **Rent A Room** scheme. This was introduced several years ago to encourage people to let out spare rooms in their main home. The changes are designed to counter the apparent growth in abuse of the scheme, and requires that the recipient of the income should share occupancy of the residence for at least part of the year that the relief is claimed for.

If you dispose of a property there is a reduction in the time allowed to declare and pay the **Stamp Duty Land Tax** before penalties are imposed. On the question of penalties, the government has confirmed that penalties will be imposed on tax remaining unpaid under the **Making Tax Digital** regime more than 15 days after the due date of payment.

The government is proposing to extend **VAT grouping** to unincorporated bodies, eg individuals. Essentially, this means that if one of these bodies owns or is owned by another body in such a way that if they were companies they would be within a group relationship, then they can be included in that group for VAT purposes. This exempts from VAT transfers between those bodies that would normally be chargeable. As the VAT paid is (almost) invariably reclaimed then the cost or benefit to the exchequer of this measure is (almost) zero, indicating the stupidity of VAT which would be inconsequential except for the complexities of the tax resulting in many businesses making unintentional errors and thus incurring penalties, the size of which are soon to be increased in size and frequency (see previous paragraph).

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LiveWire help achieve highest quit smoking success rates on record



NEW data shows quit smoking success rates in Warrington are at their highest since health and leisure provider LiveWire was established six years ago.

Quit rates are up 32% in 2017/18 compared to the previous year, and significantly higher than the average since 2013.

LiveWire's stop smoking service provides free specialist stop smoking support and advice to encourage people in the Warrington area to quit. The service helped 1,158 people to quit smoking in one year (2017/18).

LiveWire has been helping people in Warrington to quit or reduce smoking for over six years and have a very high success rate with around 74% of people they helped in 2017/18 achieving their goals.

Smoking remains the largest cause of preventable death in England.

Neil Morley, Lifestyles Manager, said: "Far too many people are still dying as a result of smoking but there has never been a better time to quit. The culture has changed, strong legislation is in place and effective support is available."

LiveWire offers a range of tools and support to help Warrington residents stop smoking, including walk-in clinics, digital services such as online support, and one to one appointments with an advisor.

Neil added: "If you live in Warrington and want to quit, the free service is available to you. Maybe you've tried to stop smoking before and it didn't work, or there are other

challenges that are making it difficult for you to stop. We offer free support, at a number of community venues across Warrington, to help you succeed in stopping smoking."

Three months ago the life of a long-term smoker in Warrington was changed when he was finally able to quit smoking for good with the help of LiveWire's stop smoking service.

The 72-year old gentleman, who had smoked for 60 years, wanted desperately to quit smoking, but thought it would be impossible to quit.

The Latchford resident said: "I'm delighted that LiveWire's stop smoking team has helped me to quit smoking. I didn't think it was possible to quit smoking after 60 years."

"I'm already seeing the benefits of quitting smoking so I'm now determined to stay smoke-free."

LiveWire is not only the biggest stop smoking provider in Warrington, it has also provided lifestyles, leisure and library services in Warrington since May 2012. All profits from its growing ventures are reinvested in services, staff and the local community.

Visit the Lifestyle section of the LiveWire website for more information about LiveWire's stop smoking service – www.livewirewarrington.co.uk

Death of former editor

FORMER well-known newspaper editor Derek Hunt has died at the age of 74.

A journalist through and through, and knowing he had not long to live, he wrote his own obituary – although he remained positive and cheerful to the end.

Derek Hunt lived in Warrington all his life. He was born in Winwick Road before moving to Peacock Avenue after marrying Jean in 1965 and later moving to Great Sankey. Derek and Jean have one son, Paul, and one grandson, Ethan.

Derek's first job was as a trainee reporter on the Cadishead and Irlam Guardian, but he later moved to the Lancashire Evening Post at Wigan where he later became news editor and then assistant editor.

He later edited newspapers in Cadishead and Irlam, Newton, Runcorn and Northwich before becoming press and public relations officer for Vale Royal Council, where he remained until he retired in 2002.

He was also a prominent Freemason in Warrington and throughout the Masonic Province of West Lancashire and edited the province's magazines and website.

Warrington launches bid to bring RL World Cup back

WARRINGTON'S bid to bring the Rugby League World Cup back to the borough in 2021 was launched at the Halliwell Jones Stadium.

Towns and cities across the country have been invited to stake their claim for a slice of the action.

With men's, women's and wheelchair events, the 16th Rugby League World Cup will be one of the most inclusive and diverse events ever held in England. Leading figures from Warrington's business, culture, sporting and voluntary sectors have put together a compelling bid to host up to three men's games and one of the competing nations' squads, plus the final of the Women's Rugby League World Cup.

Warrington's bid partnership group believe the benefits to the borough would be significant.

Group chairman Paul Taylor, managing director of Taylor Business Park said: "Colleagues from across the borough's public, private and third sectors have developed what we believe to be a convincing case to bring the Rugby League World Cup back to Warrington.

"As well as the obvious economic benefits, hosting RLWC2021 will offer a lasting legacy in terms of bringing communities together, growing participation in rugby league and sport in general, and improving health and wellbeing.

"It's also an opportunity to showcase Warrington to a national and international audience – and the timing is perfect as the Time Square regeneration scheme will be completed by the time the tournament kicks off."

The 2013 tournament set new records for economic impact and media reach, and organisers predict records will be smashed again in 2021 with more live spectators, domestic tourists and longer overseas visitors.

Warrington Wolves chief executive Karl Fitzpatrick said: "We all remember 2013, the infectious enthusiasm of the Samoan squad we hosted in Warrington and their epic encounter with New Zealand here at the Halliwell Jones Stadium.

"Now we're looking forward to creating more sporting memories in 2021 and playing our part in delivering a tournament that celebrates the heritage of the sport, and increases the visibility, participation and interest in Rugby League on a global scale."

The tournament will be held in October and November 2021. Warrington's bid will be submitted at the end of this month and the successful hosts will be announced early next year.

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