

Culcheth Life

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Issue: 186
September 2018

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Editor
Gary Skentelbery

Production
Paul Walker

Advertising
James Balme

Freephone
0800 955 5247

Editorial
01925 623633

Email
info@culchethlife.com

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

Address
New Media Centre
Old Road Warrington
WA4 1AT

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Editor's Comment



WE have to say that we regard the attitude of HS2 officials who came to Culcheth to outline their proposals for the local area as nothing short of arrogance.

An estimated 400 people attended the "information day" – about four times the normal turn-out for this sort of event – and the overwhelming majority of them were opposed to what seems an outrageous proposal to close Wigshaw Lane permanently. It will make travel between Culcheth and Croft and Winwick more difficult – virtually impossible on foot – and will have an impact over a much wider area.

All for the want of one extra bridge!

It would be reasonable to assume that most of the 400 people who attended the information day are not only opposed to the closure of Wigshaw Lane, but also to the entire plan to run an HS2 link through the Culcheth area.

But if the line is to be built then at least it should be built in the least damaging way to the local community.

It is regarded as a costly white elephant by many and nothing is likely to change that view. Yet all the HS2 officials are able to say is, in effect: "If you don't like it, object to it."

The objections have been coming thick and fast ever since it was revealed that a spur line would cut Culcheth in half and little has changed.

This does not mean, of course,

that there is no point in objecting in the next stage of the upcoming consultation. The more objections received the better and theoretically this should mean there is more chance of the plan being dropped.

But the manner in which the proposals have been set out so far does not exactly inspire confidence that local voices will be listened to.

ON a much more positive note, may we draw attention to a much smaller planning development which has just been approved at Rixton-with-Glazebrook. A plan for a new bungalow in the Green Belt.

Understandably, it was opposed by the local parish council simply

because it involved Green Belt land. But borough planning chiefs decided it could go ahead - and not just because it would remove an unsightly tyre storage building from the landscape.

We do not know who came up with the idea, but the bungalow will have a wildlife garden - on its roof.

What an imaginative idea and what a good way to make a new property acceptable in the Green Belt.

Whoever it was, we wish he or she worked for HS2.

**Deadline for the October
issue of Culcheth Life
is September 11**



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Ladies Day raised £432 for cat charity



A "LADIES Day" at Winwick in aid of local charity Kitten Karers raised £432.

The event at Five Pines, in Myddleton Lane, was the fourth to be held in aid of the charity, which is dedicated to rescuing abandoned cats and kittens and finding new homes for them.

During the event there was a competition for the three best-

dressed ladies.

Winner was Laura Hawkins, from Glazebrook, runner-up was Eleanor Daintith, from Croft and third was Jill Wood, from Winwick.

The event was supported by a number of shopkeepers in Culcheth.

Date for your diary

CULCHETH and Glazebury Parish Council's Christmas Market will take place on Saturday, November 24 from 11am-5pm.

As in previous years there will be market stalls galore in and around the centre of Culcheth and the annual Christmas lights switch on, plus lots more.

Superfast broadband arrives

MP Helen Jones is to cut a ribbon at the BT cabinet in Stone Pit Lane, Croft, at 10.30am on Friday, September 7, to mark the coming of superfast fibre broadband to the Croft and Kenyon areas.

Members of Croft Parish Council and local borough councillors will also be present. The event has been organised by Connecting Cheshire.



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Green belt bungalow will have rooftop wildlife garden

PLANNING chiefs have given the go-ahead for a detached bungalow on land within the Green Belt at Rixton-with-Glazebrook.

The development can go ahead at Woodend Farm, Woodend Lane and will take the place of an existing tyre store.

Rixton-with-Glazebrook Parish Council opposed the scheme on the grounds it was in the Green Belt. But planners decided the scheme did not require the "special circumstances" normally required for development in the Green Belt.

Members of the borough's development management committee were told the existing steel-framed building was originally used for agricultural purposes but had been used for tyre storage since 2000.

The new building would be a single-storey, four bedroomed property with a garage, carport and garden. It would have a smaller footprint and be lower than the existing tyre store and would have a rooftop wildlife garden. It was also likely to attract less traffic.



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Culcheth Methodist Church Open Doors

On Mondays between 10am and 12.30pm and on Saturdays between 10am and 12pm, Culcheth Methodist Church opens its doors and welcomes people to come in, have a coffee or tea and a friendly chat.

On Saturday there is the added attraction of tea-cakes being on offer! Members of the public are invited to pop in and have a coffee and meet some of the friendly 'staff.'



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Dental Practice expands with three state of the art surgeries

CULCHETH based Talking Teeth, an established private dental practice has expanded into a new unique location on Warrington Road in Culcheth (formerly NatWest Bank).

Following the expansion they are now able to provide a higher quality service for both the local community and surrounding areas.

The practice has now been expanded into three state of the art surgeries.

The main emphasis is on preventative dentistry so consequently they have a hygienist / therapist at the practice.

However, when more extensive dentistry is required they can now offer a wide choice of treatments

including general dental care, tooth whitening, implants, endodontics, cosmetic dentistry, facial aesthetics, same day crowns with their new Cerec machine and minor oral surgery.

The practice offers a warm and friendly environment with highly trained and motivated staff.

They hope their regular and loyal patients will benefit from the new practice and welcome new patients to join them.



The incredible work of the 'Blood Bikers'

THE monthly meeting of Lowton WI enjoyed a talk about the "Blood Bikes" – a charity that provides support services to the NHS across the North West.

Volunteer bikers transport pathology samples, blood and even breast milk to hospitals in the region.

The bikers are volunteers who work mainly nights and weekends and are supported by control staff who as well as passing on jobs, ensure the bikers whereabouts

are known and that they are safe.

Members agreed that the charity was doing incredible work to help patients needing the services of the struggling NHS.

Lowton WI meet at Lowton Social Club on Newton Road on the first Thursday of the month at 7.15pm.

New members are always welcome and anyone who is interested and would like to visit should call Lin Hayes on 01942 207764 for details.



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Bents win top award

FOR the third year in succession, Glazebury's Bents Garden and Home has won the North West "Best Destination Garden Centre" award.

The accolade comes from the Garden Centre Association (GCA), which comprises 200 of the

country's leading garden centres. Family-owned Bents gained the title for its high standards in



Culcheth Community Primary School

OPEN DAYS

October 17th and November 13th:
2pm and 6pm

Saturday November 24th 10.30am

Culcheth Community Primary School is a warm, welcoming, vibrant school that provides a first class education and a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities for all children. Full, flexible wrap around care is provided by school from 7.30am until 6pm

Individual visits to school warmly welcomed – please call in or phone to make an appointment

01925 764312

Further information can be found on our website www.culchethprimary.co.uk

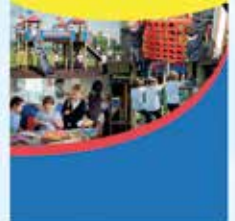
" 'A caring environment in which pupils flourish', parents are 'overwhelmingly supportive of the school' and are 'delighted with the quality of education that their children are receiving' "

Ofsted June 2017

Our School Values



- Respect
- Teamwork
- Honesty and trust
- Friendship and kindness
- Creativity and courage
- Happiness, fun and enjoyment



for third year running

customer service, plant quality and reliability.

Like all member centres, Bents received a spot visit by GCA auditors with no prior knowledge of



the exact date and recorded one of the top scores in the country, which not only saw them awarded Best Destination Garden Centre in the North West but also the regional titles for:

- * Best Customer Services
- * Environmental and Community Award
- * Innovation and Creativity Award
- * Catering Excellence and Best Restaurant
- * Best Garden Products Retailer
- * Best Indoor Lifestyle Retailer

Bents will now be re-audited to determine the national title of Best Destination Garden Centre in the UK - an accolade Bents currently holds and hopes to retain next year

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The Gardening Guide



“ Plant spring flowering bulbs outside now for a stunning display next spring. ”

Simon Bax,
Plant Area Specialist

- Make sure that pests such as slugs and snails and diseases such as mildew are dealt with as soon as they are seen
- Fruit trees can be planted now as they benefit from the warm soil and the cool air
- When the autumn rain arrives fertilise your lawn with a slow release autumn feed
- Reduce watering and feeding in preparation for the winter period when most plants go dormant and just need keeping moist

Bents Garden & Home, Warrington Road, Glazebury, Cheshire WA3 5NT. 01942 266300. Check online for seasonal opening times.

For the latest events and online shopping visit bents.co.uk



Newchurch Community Primary School

Invite you to New Intake Open Afternoon/Evening

Preparing to fly...



Newchurch will give every child a flying start by working in partnership with parents, staff and the community to develop and celebrate well-rounded citizens who will contribute in a positive way to society.

- Tuesday 2nd October 2018 at 1.30pm
 - Saturday 3rd November 2018 at 11am
 - Thursday 22nd November 2018 at 7pm
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Bents Garden & Home Opening Times

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Saturday 8.30am - 5.30pm Sunday 10.30am - 4.30pm

Bents Garden & Home, Warrington Road, Glazebury, Cheshire WA3 5NT. 01942 266300. Check online for seasonal opening times.

For the latest events and online shopping visit bents.co.uk





Open Evening

Thursday

4th October 2018



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Residents urged to help improve book stock at local libraries

AS part of a library modernisation programme, LiveWire is hosting a series of public engagement sessions to give residents an opportunity to suggest the type of book stock they would like to see in Warrington libraries.

Residents are invited to attend one of the four engagement sessions that will be held at various libraries across Warrington, which include: a morning session, an afternoon session and an evening session, along with a Saturday session.

Cheryl Siddall, LiveWire's People, Performance and Resources Director, said: "LiveWire is committed to continuing to provide a library service that meets local needs. We are keen to improve the book stock at the libraries in Warrington, so we are offering residents an opportunity to shape the type of books that we have on the shelves.

"This is a chance for local people to help LiveWire to improve the type of books that we have in our local libraries. Please come along to any of the engagement sessions to speak to one of LiveWire's community librarians, to let us know the kind of books that you like to read."

Warrington Borough Council's executive board member for leisure and community, Cllr Tony

Higgins, said: "We are committed to providing a sustainable future for all of our libraries. A major part of that is investing in a high-quality, diverse range of books that keep people coming back again and again.

"The investment is in place – now we need your views on the types of books you would like to see in your local library. Come along to one of our community events, have your say and help us ensure we have a first-class book stock for local people to enjoy."

Engagement event listings:

- Tuesday 4 September, 4pm – 7pm, in the library at Orford Jubilee Neighbourhood Hub
- Wednesday 5 September, 11am – 2pm, at Warrington Library
- Friday 7 September 10am – 1pm, at Westbrook Library
- Saturday 8 September, 9am – noon, in the library at Woolston Neighbourhood Hub

For more information, visit the News section of the LiveWire website – www.livewirewarrington.co.uk



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We also have limited places in other year groups within the school. Please enquire for availability

HS2 proposal will close Wigshaw Lane permanently

THE proposed new route of the HS2 railway line will make it almost impossible for people to travel between the villages of Croft and Culcheth on foot according to local campaigners.

The latest proposals from HS2 will close Wigshaw Lane at the junction with Glaziers Lane, between Croft and Culcheth.

The HS2 Golborne Link will cross Wigshaw Lane where no bridge over the line is proposed.

Local campaigner Frank Allen says the road from Croft will turn and follow a new Glaziers Lane along one side of the line to Warrington Road. The road from Culcheth will be redirected along the other side of the line and also join Warrington Road.

Getting from Culcheth to Croft will involve going up the new road, joining Warrington Road, crossing

the line on Warrington Road on a new bridge, and then coming back down Glaziers Lane to rejoin Wigshaw Lane.

This will make it much more difficult to travel between Culcheth and Croft by road, and practically impossible on foot. It will bring significant inconvenience and hardship to people in Croft who for example travel to Culcheth for shopping, medical facilities, schools, worship, and social events, an similarly people in Culcheth who travel to Croft and also to Winwick and North Warrington for similar reasons.

At the HS2 Information day

in Culcheth on July 2, HS2 staff estimated that over 400 people attended, four times the normal attendance at this sort of event, and the overwhelming majority were opposed to this proposal.

However, HS2 staff said that the up-coming consultation in September would be on these same proposals, ie without a bridge on Wigshaw Lane, and if local people still objected they should respond to the consultation saying so.

Parish councillors in Culcheth and Croft are strongly opposed to these proposals and have been making this known to HS2 for some time.

They are encouraging all local residents to respond to the consultation when it starts in September, and also to let their local Parish and Borough Councillors know their views, along with local MP Helen Jones.

They say the more people who make their views known, the better the chance of changing HS2's plans.

Keith Bland, Conservative Parish Councillor on Croft and Culcheth & Glazebury Parish Councils, said "You can be assured that we will continue to oppose this right to the bitter end."



The junction of Wigshaw Lane and Glaziers Lane. Wigshaw Lane will be permanently closed here by HS2.

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The day the tractors came to town

BENTS Garden & Home once again played host to **Glazebury village's 4th annual Tractoritis Festival**, a celebration of all things agricultural when over **40 tractors** went on display before parading through the village.

The vintage tractors and agricultural machinery from the local community, visiting from local farms in Croft, Glazebury, Culcheth and Lowton met up on Bents' car park, providing an opportunity for visitors to have a close up look at the vehicles.

This year's festival featured a number of David Brown tractors; built and produced just five miles

from Bents, the best of British. Fundraising raised money for All Saints Church in Glazebury and St Rocco's Hospice in Warrington, Bents' Charity of the Year, with stalls, face painting and a 'name the calf' competition all being held in aid of charity.

Visitors were able to find out more about the tractors, climb on board and have photos taken.



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Busy summer for the Scouts

IT'S been a busy summer for the 3rd Warrington 1st Culcheth Scout Group.

They attended Chamboree 2018 at Tabley – an international camp for Scouts and Guides from all over the world, attended by more than 5,000 young people.

There were plenty of activities for the youngsters – but the highlight of the event was the visit of adventurer Bear Grylls, who flew in by helicopter to take part in the Peace Service held on the Sunday morning.

The Culcheth scouts were able to use their Mess Tent provided by Newton and district Jubilee Rotary Club for the first time.

After returning home to Culcheth, the group were able to start work on their project for the year – resurfacing and lining the activity area at the back of the Scout Centre on Jackson Avenue.

This has been provided with the help of grants from Cheshire Community Foundation, the Community Initiative Fund, Warrington Charities Trust, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the William Openshaw Street Charitable Foundation and from the scout's own funds and volunteer time.

Active Scout Support and Trustee Daphne Eastburn said: "I would like to thank all leaders, helpers, parents, and the executive committee for their time committed with the Scout Group.

"We are always looking for leaders and helpers, especially with our Beaver Scouts, aged 6-8 years. Anyone interested should contact Christine on 077297 84121 or email gsl@1stculchethscouts.org.uk



Chamboree 2018 opening ceremony.



Resurfacing the activity area at the back of the Scout Centre on Jackson Avenue.



Mess Tent donated by Newton and District Jubilee Rotary Club.





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Birchwood college celebrate 'best ever' A Level results

Birchwood College students are celebrating their best ever A-level and BTEC results.

Headteacher, Moira Bryan, said "The results reflect the hard work from all of our students and the support given by teachers and parents. We are very proud of them all.

"Well done to all students at Birchwood College on obtaining their places at university and on advanced apprenticeship programmes."

Head of College, Chris Burrows, said: "It is pleasing to see that all of the students' hard work has paid off, and that they have fantastic

opportunities ahead of them. We wish them all success!

"Congratulations to our Music students who all achieved Double Distinction*, the highest grades possible, in their Level 3 BTEC Music Diploma course. Three of the students are going on to study at the Royal Northern College of Music in September which is an outstanding achievement. No wonder Birchwood has such a fantastic reputation for the Performing Arts!

"Well done to the Warrington

Wolves scholarship students who have been studying at Birchwood College for the last two years. They have all passed their Level 3 qualifications and have now completed their education programme at the College. We wish them lots of luck in the future!"

Meanwhile there were also "Fantastic results" for Birchwood College Acting students where results were 100% Distinction*, the top grade possible, in the Level 3 BTEC Acting course. Good luck to all of the students who are

continuing in this field.

Once again, Health & Social Care students at Birchwood College have performed at the highest level. All the BTEC Sub. Diploma and Diploma students have achieved on or above their target grades. Many of them are now going on to study nursing or social care courses at universities around the country.

Meanwhile 100% of A-level Geography, Maths and PE students at the college achieved the top grades of A*C.



NEWTON & DISTRICT JUBILEE ROTARY CLUB PRESENT

CULCHETH BEER FESTIVAL 2018

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An introduction to Chinese medicine

AN introduction to traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture was given by Carla Love, guest speaker at the monthly meeting of Croft WI.

After four years of intensive study, Carla passed the necessary exams and became a qualified acupuncturist and was able to open practices in Warrington and Leigh.

There are two perspectives to acupuncture - Eastern which dates back 3000 years and aims to balance the body and mind holistically - and Western using needles to stimulate the nervous system and cause an anti-inflammatory reaction scientifically.

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Carla explained how there are many forms of acupuncture; Korean, Japanese, Five Element, Dry Needling to name but a few and how they all use extremely fine needles to stimulate the many channels and meridians around the body which relate to various organs. This stimulation helps to relieve many health problems including arthritis, migraines, back and neck pain,

IBS, stress, infertility and many more and it can even be used as a beauty therapy to smooth and brighten the face.

Health problems can also be diagnosed by examining the tongue and the pulse points and members were asked to examine each other's tongues against a chart, which caused some hilarity! A volunteer was invited to try the needle stimulation and one brave soul gave it a try in order to relieve a headache caused by giving up caffeine, the outcome being that it wasn't really painful and the headache did seem a little better following the procedure. Members were presented with a 20 per cent off discount voucher and a vote of thanks was given by president Anne Lamming for an interesting and very informative evening.

The competition was won by Bettina Sharpe, 2nd Jill Hillam, 3rd Lesley Lloyd.

A volunteer "housekeeper" at Dunham Massey

GUEST speaker at the monthly meeting of Glazebrook WI was Barbara Foster, from Wilmslow, who delivered a talk entitled "Housekeeper at Dunham Massey (well perhaps!)."

Fellow WI member Barbara had a very successful career in teaching and education support but had to retire in 1992 and being an active person filled her time with various volunteering jobs until she found her ideal position in 1995 volunteering in the house at Dunham Massey.

This allowed her to indulge several of her passions, such as dressing up and educating school children on the life of a Victorian household.

Starting as a maid in the kitchen some of her duties were to demonstrate how to make butter, soap, and bread. The schoolchildren then repeated the processes, amazed at how life has changed and at the work involved in many of these tasks. From her

many amusing stories, Barbara obviously enjoyed these lessons as much as the children and she also enjoyed many more roles, even dressing up as her Ladyship, and in fact her enthusiasm was such, that when her husband retired she managed to persuade him to volunteer and he took on the role of butler, even appearing on a Blue Peter episode, acting as butler to a successful competition winner.

After nine years 'in service' Barbara became a National Trust accredited tour steward and now takes people around the house sharing its fascinating history, yet another role she thoroughly loves. Barbara's talk had many interesting facts regarding Dunham Massey and its history.

Various other events around the village and area were mentioned, including the village show in September, where flower, vegetables and produce can be entered and judged.

Plenty of chutney and cheer

"CHUTNEY and Cheer" was the topic for the monthly meeting of Newchurch WI and speaker Melanie Latham made sure there was plenty of both.

She set out her produce and cooking gear then told members about her one-woman company "Holly Cottage Preserves".

Her grandmother who lived in Holly Cottage, Sandbach taught Mel how to make jams and pickles and she took stalls at farmers' markets during her University holidays. After graduation she stayed with preserves instead of criminology and she has sold at markets and county shows ever since. She has even given demonstrations in prisons! While making beetroot chutney she gave useful advice about peeling onions (the roots are the problem), using cider vinegar and other handy tips. Her comic stories kept coming and her chutney was made, tested by three members. After tea was served by Dot Appleton and Joan Evans, Mel tasted eight kinds of preserves made by members. She chose Sue Kennerley as winner, followed by Aileen Paterson and Margaret Scott. Sylvia Brown gave the vote of thanks.

There was special news - a box supper on September 12 to celebrate the suffragettes and the planting of two trees in the Millennium Garden on behalf of the two WIs of Culcheth village. Bents were donating the trees and the Parish Council would provide the commemorative plaque.

Members went home laden with Mel Latham's jams and pickles after a highly enjoyable evening.

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CHRISTMAS IS ONCE AGAIN THE CATALYST FOR THE SEPTEMBER RUSH...

Well the general thought process is that spring is the best time to sell and to those who thought it... you're correct!

Due to Courtyard's research, the majority of sales activity occurs end of February to March and concluding in June/July. Many think that spring is the best time to sell and if they miss this time than they are doomed for the rest of the Year. However I can assure you that all is not lost, in fact September is also one of Courtyards busiest months confirmed by historical statistics.

Why September?

It won't come as a surprise if I told you that during the term time holidays many of us are busy getting ready for our summer breaks or we are arranging friends and parents to mind are children so our mindsets are not focused on buying a house. Furthermore during this time we seem to be forever dipping in our pockets for activities, toys and ice cream so our purse strings are a little tight. However once the children are back in school and we are free to think, then we begin to get moving before Christmas.

Courtyard had 68 recorded viewings in September 2017 and 39 offers as a result between September and October so if you're looking to move then NOW is the time to book your valuation ready for the September rush and let's get you in your new home for Christmas.



*Victoria
Head of Courtyard Homes*

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