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Issue 210 September 2018 FREE

# life

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Page 6

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## Interest rate rise: What does this mean?

The Bank of England has raised interest rates from 0.5% to 0.75%, only the second rise in a decade. Currently, interest rates stand at their highest since 2009 and reflect what the Bank of England perceive as a general pick-up in the economy.

The Bank said that a rise in household spending has strengthened the British economy. Economic growth for the year is predicted to be 1.4% this year and the unemployment rate is expected to fall further below 4.2%, where it currently stands.

### How does the rise affect you?

If you are on a variable rate 'tracker' mortgage, your repayments will increase. For example, if you have a £100,000 mortgage, this will add £12 to your monthly repayments.

It's important to highlight that if you are on a fixed rate mortgage, your payments will stay the same until your base rate comes up for renewal. The Bank of England's announcement does not mean that your rates immediately rise.

For prospective borrowers, the interest rate rise signals a change in the Bank of England's tone. Further rate rises are a definite possibility. However, the Bank's governor took a rather cautious tone which indicates that there are unlikely to be any more rises until 2019.

For the time being, base rates on mortgages are unlikely to rise above 3%. That said, the demand for rate

fixes will be higher than usual this year.

Unfortunately for those of you going on holiday, after the announcement the pound fell by 0.9% against the dollar. This is due to the extreme political uncertainty surrounding the sterling with Brexit taking an unchartable track.

Reactions from U.K. businesses have been a mixed bag. The Institute of Directors, which represents about 30,000 members in the U.K., has said, 'the Bank has jumped the gun', whilst the British Chamber of Commerce similarly described the decision as 'ill-judged' at an uncertain time.

This negative perspective wasn't unanimous among all lobbying groups. The Confederation of British Industry, the country's biggest business lobby, welcomed the rise saying the case for higher rates had been building.

A small rise of 0.25% is likely to have a minimal impact on your finances. However, larger hikes down the line could have a substantial effect on the British financial landscape.

If you would like further information on how the rate rise might impact for financial circumstances please call our office for a free financial health check.

Disclaimer: None of the above article constitutes advice.

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# Editor's comment

**A WEEK is a long time in politics - a month is almost a lifetime!**

No sooner had we gone to press with last month's edition than the bombshell news broke about proposals to place sex offenders at Thorn Cross Open Prison, right outside a primary school.

Thankfully common sense prevailed in little more than a week as the local community rallied on all fronts with a united condemnation of the proposal.

Like many others I immediately contacted the open prison and the prison service and the Justice Minister to voice my opposition - and I think it is fair to say the issue took up a good proportion of my time for the next seven days, as a local parish councillor and in my capacity in the media.

Although a u-turn was quickly achieved thanks to the huge public outcry, more still needs to be done.

While the prison service has confirmed there will be no plans to place sex offenders at HMP Thorn Cross open prison "for the foreseeable future" and that there will never be any changes in the current make up of the prison population at Thorn Cross "without prior engagement with local stakeholders," it still leaves some doubt for the long term future.

While these assurances have been made in a letter to Appleton Parish Council who had responded swiftly to oppose the proposal, in a united

front with local MP Faisal Rashid, Police and Crime Commissioner David Keane, Council Chief Executive Steven Broomhead and other parish and borough councillors, Parish Council Chair Sharon Harris says the assurances are "not perfect" and do not address the council's request to "never" place sex offenders at Thorn Cross.

She along with others, are continuing dialogue with the prison authority seeking further assurances.

The overwhelming outcome showed what can be achieved when a community rallies on a united front.

Congratulations to all involved - I suspect there will be quite a few more ongoing battles in the coming months and years as the ever increasing pressure grows on our green belt!

**THERE are some hidden jewels in Warrington's crown - none more so than the Walton Cycle Museum up at Walton Hall & Gardens.**

Due to the ongoing works renovating the old greenhouses the Cycle Museum has now been moved up into the old laundry next to the main hall - well off the beaten track.

Run by enthusiast Paul Adams, he funds the museum himself which is free to visit for members of the public and provides a fascinating insight into the history of bicycles.

Open most weekends it is well



worth a visit and may be Warrington Borough Council should do a little more to promote this great visitor attraction - and certainly look at providing a Peppercorn rent.

I would also suggest a review of the £4 parking charges to visit the Hall & Gardens which are a little steep to say the least if you are just popping in for an hour or two.

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

## Three local charities benefit from Stockton Heath Festival

THREE local charities were delighted to receive the proceeds from activities organised by Stockton Heath Festival 2018.

The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace received a cheque for £1,940 from the proceeds of the auction and raffle at the Comedy Night hosted by the Slug & Lettuce, Stockton Heath.

The River Reeves Foundation received a cheque for £415.26 raised at the raffle on the final evening

in the Festival Marquee during the performance of David Live, a David Bowie tribute act.

Walton Lea Project volunteers were presented with the Festival Cake provided annually by Waterfields Bakery, Stockton Heath.

Festival Director, David Craggs says: "The generosity of people who attended the Festival, local businesses and traders make these donations to local charities such a success. It is

always rewarding to the volunteers who run the Festival to see that all their hard work benefits other worthy causes in the local community."

*Left to right: Ben & Sharon Dunne, River Reeves Foundation - Helen Curwen Comedy Night organiser - David Craggs, Festival Director - Emily Clough, Manager, Slug & Lettuce - Kate Deakin, Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Peace Foundation.*





# Grey skies fail to dampen spirits

DESPITE grey over cast skies the rain held off for the annual Stretton Walking Day.

The day started with a service in St Matthew's Church to crown this year's Rose Queen Milly Coxon. Her attendants were Lily Roberts, Jessica Morrison, Sophie Brogan, Jessica Whitlow and Charlotte Roscoe.

Retiring queen was Lois Hayes Harrop.

Following the crowning there was the annual walk which was lead by Warrington Pipe Band, the Rose Queen & retinue and children, parents and staff of St Matthew's primary school as well as members of the local community.

Mayor of Warrington Cllr Karen Mundry and her consort son Jason, joined the walk and officially opened the annual summer fair, which had lots on offer- Hook a duck, Coconut shy, Beat the Goalie, Books, Toys & Craft stalls, Tombolas, Welly Lobbing, Fairground rides and much more.



## Fresh new design for JD Kitchens

WITH 17 years experience in luxury kitchen, office and bedroom design the team at JD Kitchens thought it was about time they turned their creative approach to their own company.

They approached local marketing company Forty Communications and design agency Future to work their magic on the rebrand, which has had locals popping their heads around their door in Padgate to say that they love it!

The new logo, which adorns their vans, shop and website fits beautifully with engineer owner Dave Charlton's favourite kitchen range, Next125.

Dave explained: "Next 125 is the next step in luxury. German engineered designs are finished to the highest specification with the attention to detail promising quality and perfection. With real wood

veneers, high gloss lacquers and glass fronts the quality of the materials is outstanding, and we wanted this to be reflected in our new look".

And it's not just the exterior of the shop that has had a refit, they've taken it inside too, with several new kitchen displays and new technology from Neff, Quooker and Nikla Tesla that customers can try for themselves.

"We want to surprise and delight our customers and give them more than what they expect. The space saving innovations and creativity of the Next125 range, coupled with the beautiful contemporary finish are a perfect match for us".

JD Kitchens offer a free home measure consultation service with no obligation and no hard sell. They are open Monday-Saturday and can-do evening appointments on request. Call today 01925 636997.





# Valletta's Cultural Revival

It is impossible not to fall in love with Malta's mix of historical appeal and modern experiences during a short break. Malta's capital city is European Capital of Culture for 2018 and is coming alive with colourful and exuberant celebrations. Visitors travelling from the British Isles can stroll the city's streets and take part in these celebrations over a long weekend.

The city's modern attractions are thriving this year, but it is important to remember this small city is a showcase of baroque architecture and is officially recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Built by the Knights of Saint John of Jerusalem on a peninsula that is only 1000 metres long and 600 metres wide; it is one of the most concentrated historic areas in the world.

Average flying time from UK is three hours to Malta International Airport and average transfer time of 25 minutes. Temperatures are on average a comfortable 24 degrees. The past and present merge together

and can be experienced across the city. It's chic hotels, for, example can often be found behind ancient walls. Casa Ellul was the first boutique hotel in Malta, its property dating back to Victorian era. If you are looking for an authentic Maltese experience, Prince D'Orange is a baroque 17th Century Palazzo, centrally located yet in a quiet location offering fantastic views of the historical Grand Harbour. It is not a hotel but offers serviced apartments with concierge service.

Dining in Malta offers excellent choices, for example, The Harbour Club embraces Valletta's former years, with many of its Mediterranean

recipes taking inspiration from the Grand Harbour's rich history.

A visit to Valetta is necessary to fully understand the scene of Malta's modern mixed with historic charm. Even the city gate follows architectural form of the original entrance to the capital.

Here are of some of the Autumnal attractions to look out for and perhaps plan your trip with us!

**5 - 28 October 2018**

Rims: Final Exhibition will offer workshops, a short movie screening, a film festival and a final exhibition of the literary festival's collaborations.

**6 October 2018**

Notte Bianca is Malta's biggest annual arts and cultural festival. Open-air theatrics and concerts transform streets and piazzas.

**We are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm and Saturdays 9am to 5pm**  
If you cannot make these times we are happy to arrange an appointment at your convenience.

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**13 - 14 October 2018**

The Malta Classical Grand Prix sees vintage automobiles take to the track for a tense race.

Please pick up the phone, tell us what you want from your travels, then sit back and give your computer finger a rest. It deserves a holiday too, you know.



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# Silver success at first attempt

LOCAL family run landscaping business Eden Landscapes is celebrating winning a silver medal following their debut at the RHS Flower Show at Tatton Park.

Eden Landscapes teamed up with local RHS Gold Medallist and Fomer BBC Gardener of the Year Sue Beesley, of Bluebell Cottage Gardens, to create a inspirational new Show Garden, 'Don't Chop Me Down!'

The silver medal winning garden demonstrated a less traditional approach to cottage gardening, encouraging different plant choices and designs, based not simply on summer display but with winter interest in mind.

Tom Morgan, of Eden Landscapes, said: "We were delighted to be partnering with Sue for this, our first ever RHS show. We know that the quality of our stone work would really set off the planting and showcase our skills at this prestigious RHS Show".

"As a business Eden has gone from strength to strength and we are delighted to work to with local businesses to offer our customers a great service".

## About the garden

Most gardeners reach for the secateurs at the end of summer and cut down their borders to leave the garden 'tidy' for winter. But lots of perennials look wonderful in winter, with beautiful shapes and structures.

Plants such as Echinacea, Echinops, Phlomis, Rudbeckia, Sedum and grasses including Calamagrostis look superb through winter and are great for birds and hibernating wildlife. This space uses plants that are stunning in both summer and winter. The paved area leads to planted borders at each side of a path so that the frosted flower-heads can be enjoyed close up in winter. At the end, an ornamental gate leads to another part of the garden.

If you would like your garden designed and constructed by an RHS award silver medalist give Eden a call on 01925 263125 or visit their website [www.eden-landscapes.co.uk](http://www.eden-landscapes.co.uk)



## Three Peaks parents raised £10,500 for school

A TEAM of parents from Stockton Heath Primary School have completed the national Three Peaks Challenge and raised more than £10,500 for improvements to the school playground.

The group climbed Ben Nevis, in Scotland, Scafell Pike in Yorkshire and Snowdon in Wales within 24 hours.

To do so they had to travel 462 miles by mini-bus, walk 24 miles and climb 10,052

Every member of the party completed the challenge within 24 hours – the first taking 23 hours 20 minutes and the last in 23 hours 57 minutes.

Training for the event started back in February and included climbing Snowdon twice in one day.

The team comprised Paul Jackson, Phil Gilbert, Sally Warbrick, Lee Ferraday, Nick Cumberland, Dan King, Phil Griffiths, Sam Turner, Darren Wood, Rachel Hadfield and Sinead Gorman.



## Cheshire Roasts expands with new Pizza Restaurant and delivery

CHESHIRE Roasts have expanded with a new pizza restaurant and delivery service at Grappenhall.

Established more than three years ago and specialising in hog roasts and outdoor catering owner Konrad Sedziak and his girlfriend Malgorzata Mrozek have now brought a little piece of Italy to the heart of Grappenhall with their latest venture.

Situated just at the back of the Big Blue Fish & Chip shop, Konrad has a "secret recipe" for his light pizza bases and also caters for vegans, with vegan cheese.

The restaurant is licensed and is open seven days a week and also offers a pizza home delivery service.

For more details check out their advert on page 17.







# Navigating troubled waters?

“Having lived in the North West for the majority of my life, I am very proud to now raise my young family in Trafford. It has so much to offer, excellent schools, fabulous restaurants and beautiful places to visit. I couldn't think of anywhere better to live with my family.”

**Patricia Robinson**  
Family Solicitor



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# “Walk the Walk” - to save the green acres

**RESIDENTS of South Warrington are being urged to put their walking shoes on – to help save hundreds of acres of “green” land.**

Campaign group Sustainable South Warrington is planning a high profile demonstration with two aims – to alert residents to the threat and to let the borough council know the strength of feeling among local people.

The demonstration will take the form of a short, circular walk, taking in part of the green land the council is considering building on. It will take place on Sunday, September 9, starting at 2pm from the Grappenhall Heys Walled Garden.

Sustainable South Warrington was set up last year to oppose development plans for Grappenhall Heys, Appleton Cross and Pewterspear Green.

Spokesperson Cllr Judith Wheeler said: “Sadly the planning applications were passed but not until after a great fight.

“But then the bombshell hit – 24,000 new houses in Warrington with a concentration of 9,000 in South Warrington, proposed as part of the Preferred Development Option of the council’s new Local Development Plan.

“The council consultation brought in thousands of angry objections from South Warrington residents horrified at the proposed loss of green space, increased traffic and pressure on local services.

“The next stage of the Local Development Plan is just a few months away so we want residents to be ready to engage with whatever Warrington Borough Council proposes.

“We’ve had the talk – let’s do the walk!”

The walk will enable people to see for themselves the green spaces that will disappear if the borough council’s proposals under the Local Development Plan go ahead.

Cllr Wheeler added: “Sustainable South Warrington is back – but then we never went away.

“We are inviting everyone who cares about the area to join us on the walk which will take in many of the areas that Warrington Borough Council is planning to put under concrete – so please turn up to show your support.

For further details contact Gerry Palmer (07882 011034) or Judith Wheeler (01925 265784)



## A chance to contribute to university research project

A FORMER Bridgewater High School pupil is looking for people willing to take part in a research project at Cambridge University.

Harry Gibbins is now a second-year history undergraduate at Cambridge and is looking for people prepared to be interviewed for a final year undergraduate history dissertation.

He believes the opportunity may be of interest to people who would like to contribute to a professional historical research project being conducted by the university with which he is collaborating.

Harry said: “The dissertation is focused on the experience of secondary school amalgamation in North West England, 1965-90, and I’d be really interested in hearing from staff and pupils who worked and studied at secondary schools in the region at the point when two or more schools merged together.

“The dissertation is being supervised by Dr Chris Jeppesen, a research associate and historian of modern Britain currently working on the Secondary Education and Social Change in the United Kingdom since 1945 (SESC) research project at the University of Cambridge.

“Research material from the dissertation will be passed on to SESC after the dissertation has been completed if participants consent for this to be done.”

People who are interested in being interviewed should visit [sehc.hist.cam.ac.uk](http://sehc.hist.cam.ac.uk) for more information about SESC, and people interested in being interviewed for the project or who have any questions should email Harry at [hg416@cam.ac.uk](mailto:hg416@cam.ac.uk)

After leaving Bridgewater High, Harry moved on to Appleton College before being accepted for Cambridge.

He was, briefly, a Green Party local election candidate at Stockton Heath in 2016 and was a newsreader for Radio Warrington between 2013 and last year.





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# It's "strictly" ballroom for dancer Daniel



**WHEN Daniel Evans decided he wanted to take up dancing it had to be "strictly" ballroom.**

He went to his Mum, Nicola, and asked if he could have dancing lessons.

"What kind of dance – hip hop, street dance?" she asked.

"No – I want to ballroom dance," he replied.

That was some two years ago and Daniel, now 12, from Stockton Heath, a pupil at Lymm High School, and his partner, 11-year-old Orlagh Daly, from Frodsham, are set to take part in a number of competitions across the North West, the next being on September 2 in Stoke-on-Trent.

They both have a passion for ballroom and Latin, but they also do ballet, tap and modern dance.

They train at Stuart's Dance School at Warrington Sports Club twice a week and are also training in Liverpool with dance teacher Paul Taylor – father of UK and British champion Kyle Taylor.

The problem they now face is the cost of special clothing, travel, training etc., so they are looking for sponsors to help them on their journey.

But they are also doing a sponsored car wash at Warrington Sports Club

Anyone who wants to sponsor the young couple can call Nicola on 07855 156737.



## Council objects to housing plan

STOCKTON Heath Parish Council has objected to plans to build two new houses in Grappenhall Road, Stockton Heath.

The application by Stockton's Homes, also includes works to negate overlooking issues.

But the parish council says the scheme represents an over-development of the site.

They say the proposed homes would be situated on a brow and bend on a busy road. The parking configuration for vehicles would result in reduced

visibility for drivers leaving the properties.

Parking provision is inadequate in relation to the size of the proposed houses, particularly in respect of visitors, as there is no on-road parking available outside.

## Visit the giant maize maze

THE giant Maize Maze at Apple Jacks Adventure Farm, Stretton, is staying open until September 16, providing fun for all the family.

As well as the giant maize maze there's lots of fun for the whole family especially with a 2-for-1 for one ticket promotion in Village Life (see page 11).

Challenge your friends and family to a game of Crazy Golf, take on the challenge of 'The Eliminator', face the speeds of 'The Racing Zip-Wires', or double-up as mum's and tots on the 'Quad Karts'.

Then take the challenge of finding your way through the giant maize maze, picking up clues on your journey to help you find a way out.

But don't worry if you can't find your way out there will be someone on hand to guide you out from the watch tower.

Please note the attraction does NOT include a petting farm. Kid's 3 and under go free.

General admission is £12.50 and 2-1 tickets are only available by booking in advance online [www.tickettailor.com/events/applejacksfarm/r/orbit2018](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/applejacksfarm/r/orbit2018)





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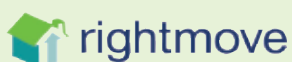
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# New campaign to tackle urgent skills shortage in landscape profession

**AWARD-winning garden designer, landscape architect and the newly appointed President of The Landscape Institute, Adam White, from Appleton Thorn, has launched a new campaign showcasing the different career choices and opportunities in the landscape profession, as it faces an urgent skills shortage.**

The landscape profession makes a huge impact on lives and communities and has grown by nearly 16% since 2010, contributing nearly £1 billion to the UK economy.

However, The Landscape Institute's new report – *The Future State of Landscape* – highlights the urgent need to appeal to people more widely about the opportunities available for working in the landscape profession. The report showed that 41% of landscape architecture practices stated recruitment was a key challenge as there are not enough people in the profession with the right qualifications.

Adam White, who grew up locally, is a director at Davies White Ltd, who are a double RHS Gold Medal, double BBC People's Choice award and RHS Best in Show award winning Chartered Landscape Architects practice. Established in 2008 with fellow landscape architect Andrée Davies their practice specialises in community engagement and the design of children's nature play spaces.

On launching #chooselandscape he said: 'Good landscape plays such an important role in all of our lives. It is where people, place and nature connect. It makes us feel good, improving our well-being through better planned greener cities and open spaces. But the nature neurons in our brains are flatlining as we become less and less connected to nature and there are some pretty big challenges ahead as our cities continue to grow and the environment comes under more pressure.'

'That is why I am really pleased to be involved in launching this important campaign #chooselandscape, at the start of my two-year tenure as LI President. It is vital we tackle the growing skills gap and inspire and encourage more young people to choose a career in landscape by working together across this exciting profession and I shall be championing the cause throughout my two years as LI President.'

The campaign makes clear the range of opportunities in landscape for all kinds of people – from someone who loves creative design to a science enthusiast, and from those that are passionate about tackling climate change or just love using the latest digital technology – all of these passions and skills are needed in the profession.

That is why as part of the campaign, we have created a special new website to showcase the different opportunities all in one place. From matching hobbies and interests with potential careers, to information broken down by job roles, young people

will be able to see at a glance the sorts of skills, background and motivations will help them. They will also be able to find out the qualifications needed for each role, the salary you might expect and what you could be doing on a day-to-day basis.'

Poppy Smith, #chooselandscape campaign manager at the Landscape Institute said: 'The Landscape Institute will be driving forward this campaign over the next couple of years to make sure we join the dots between education providers, employers, professional bodies, and other organisations involved in landscape, so that everyone understands the exciting opportunities and skills needed for a career in the landscape profession.'

'It is really important that we future-proof the skills needed by the profession to make sure we meet the needs of employers, clients and society. That is why the LI will also be running a wider programme of activities including briefing career advisors; getting its members involved as Ambassadors for the campaign out and about in their local communities; working on ensuring educational courses are fitting the needs of the profession and continuing to explore new routes into it, such as via apprenticeships.'

For further information about #chooselandscape and how to get involved visit [www.chooselandscape.org](http://www.chooselandscape.org) where you can:

- See an inspiring short film about landscapes and hear from young people who have chosen landscape as a career
- Find out more about the different career options and courses that can help you get a job in landscape
- Read blogs from people actually working in different roles and learn about their life in landscapes, with



'day in the life' profiles showcasing exactly what is involved

- See examples of how great landscapes make a difference to our world
- Sign up to the #chooselandscape newsletter

People can also get involved on social media with dedicated #chooselandscape Twitter, Facebook and Instagram feeds for regular updates and examples from those already working in different areas within the landscape profession.







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# Money Column

By Margaret Black

## Are you a landlord?

**If you are a landlord and do not notify HMRC of your chargeable income, and they find out through their own sources you may be issued with an 'information notice' in respect of rental properties. You will need to answer specific queries raised in the notice.**

To avoid fixed penalties for non compliance, you need to file a tax return with enough detail to satisfy the requests in the information notice. Please note, legislation allows HMRC to call on you to produce information and/or documents which are "reasonably required for the purpose of checking your tax position".



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

The notice is valid as long as the information was reasonably required "at the time that the notice was issued", filing a tax return might count as complying with the notice, but only if the return is complete and correct, and clearly includes information being sought by the notice. Information not reasonably required can be subject to appeal

Statutory records are what you are required to keep according to tax legislation. Note: Items cease to be statutory records "when the period for which they are required to be preserved... has expired." In the case of someone carrying on a trade, profession or business and includes the letting of property, the expiry date is the latest of:

- the date when any enquiry into that year's tax return is concluded;
- the date when HMRC no longer has the power to open an enquiry into that year's tax return; and
- The fifth anniversary of 31 January next following the tax year.

Until that expiry date, you are unable challenge a requirement for information or documents included in an information notice insofar as it concerns statutory records. After the expiry date, HMRC would need to demonstrate that it was reasonably required. It has also been advised that an item which was a statutory record on the day the notice was issued may no longer be one by the time the appeal comes to be heard. This means that, if there have been long delays, what had initially been an unchallengeable request for a statutory record can become fully challengeable on reasonableness grounds.

An 'Old document' is one that originates more than six years before the date of the notice. Old documents can only be included in a notice on the sign-off of an "authorised officer" – a provision to deter HMRC from routinely asking for old records without good need. Any officer can issue a notice requiring you to draw up schedules covering periods covering more than the previous six years. The exclusion also only applies to documents which were entirely finalised more than six years previously: Finally, even if an information notice called for an old document without the requisite signature of an authorised officer, that doesn't mean the whole notice can be challenged – merely the invalid item.

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# Jordan picks up a gold in athletics championships



GRAPPENHALL'S Jordan Jones picked up a gold medal in the Northern Athletics in the Northern Athletics Under 17 championships at Liverpool.

He was a member of an eight strong Warrington Athletic Club team to take part in the Under 17, Under 15 and Under 13 championships at Wavertree.

His gold was in the U17 1500m Steeplechase race when, leading from

gun to tape, he recorded a time of four minutes 44.04 seconds.

Under 15 Ashley Nemits, from Appleton, stepped up into the U17 age group to run in the 200m, and after finishing third in her heat in 25.93 seconds.

She set a new personal best time of 25.35 seconds to take bronze in the final, just missing the club record of 25.30 seconds set by K Sykes in 1974.

## Retired firefighter wins gold

RETIRED Firefighter David Gill, aged 60, took part in the Firefighters Five Mile road race, which incorporated the Fire Service Five Mile championships, in Bradford. David, who lives in Grappenhall, completed the race in 33 minutes, to take Gold in the V60 age group and taking Bronze in the Fire Service championships when he finished third overall in the competition.







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## What's on in the villages

**September 11**  
STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL  
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath, 7.30pm

**September 13**  
LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S  
The Budapest Café Orchestra playing folk and gypsy music from the Balkans and Russia.  
St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

**September 18**  
APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 7.30pm

**September 20**  
GRAPPENHALL & THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL  
Council Offices, Bellhouse Lane. 7.30pm

**Every Saturday & Sunday**  
GRAPPENHALL HEYS WALLED GARDEN  
Witherwin Avenue, Grappenhall Heys, WA4 3DS.  
Café open from 10am-5pm serving teas, coffee, home-made cakes and savouries.

**Every Monday**  
COUNTRY DANCING CLUB  
St Thomas' Primary School, Parkgate Road, Stockton Heath.  
8-10pm. Details: 01925 262356

**BRIDGE CLUB**  
Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm. Details: 01925 262534

**LADIES' FRIENDSHIP CLUB**  
The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.  
8pm. Details: 01925 264099  
**HIGH LEIGH BRIDGE CLUB**  
Village Hall, 7-10pm. Rubber, Duplicate and Chicago played. Details: Audrey Greaves 0161 904 0120

**Every second Monday**  
PARK (APPLETON) WI  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm  
**PHILOSOPHY IN PUBS DISCUSSION GROUP**  
Red Lion pub, Stockton Heath 7-9pm  
Contact Bill Cooke cwncooke@gmail.com

**Second and fourth Monday**  
WARRINGTON ART GROUP  
Bellhouse Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, Grappenhall.  
7-9pm.

**Every third Monday**  
NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY  
Cheshire District meeting  
Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club, Chester Road, Grappenhall.  
8pm. Details: 01925 265773.

**Every fourth Monday**  
MARKFIELD WI  
Grappenhall Community Library, Albert Road, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

**Every Tuesday**  
COFFEE MORNING  
St Cross Church, Appleton Thorn. All welcome. 10am-12 noon

**PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**  
Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall. 7.30pm.  
Contact: 01925 757582.

**COFFEE MORNING**  
Appleton Independent Methodist Church  
Appleton Parish Hall, 10am-12 noon

**Every second Tuesday**  
STOCKTON HEATH LIONS CLUB  
London Bridge Inn, 8pm  
Contact: Grahamclisse58@outlook.com. Tel 01925 262669

**BOOK CLUB**  
Bizzie Beans Coffee House, Bridge Lane, Appleton  
11am-12 noon

**Every Wednesday**  
APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB  
April- September at Hall Drive, Appleton. 7.30-10pm.  
Details: 01925 262356

**Every first Wednesday**  
WALTON WI  
St John's Church Community Hall. 7.30pm  
Details: 01925 604384

**STOCKTON HEATH PROBUS CLUB**  
Warrington Sports Club, Walton Lea Road, Higher Walton.  
Details: 01925 268540

**Every third Wednesday**  
HIGHER WALTON WI, Sandy Lane Community Centre, Stockton Heath. 7.30pm. Details 01925 602486.

**Every fourth Wednesday**  
ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY  
Support Group, Brampton Lodge Day Centre, Bridge Lane, Appleton. 6.30-8.30pm

**Every Thursday**  
THE SILVER QUAYS Senior Citizen's Club  
The Quays Community Centre, Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.  
Details: 01925 753474.

**BRIDGE CLUB**  
Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm. Details: 01925 262534

**Every second Thursday**  
STRETTON WI  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 2.30pm.  
GRAPPENHALL PROBUS CLUB  
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, 10AM.  
Details: 01925 264427.

**Every third Thursday**  
APPLETON AFTERNOON FLOWER CLUB  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road 2pm  
Details: 01925 740419

**GRAPPENHALL WI**  
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane 2.15pm  
**LYMM & THELWALL U3A**  
Members' meetings 10am (not August or December)  
Thelwall Parish Hall

**Every Friday**  
APPLETOTS' TODDLER GROUP  
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.  
9.45-11.30am. Details: 01925 268153.

To list your event call Village Life on  
**01925 623632**



# Nick is the British Masters 10k road race champion



GRAPPENHALL runner Nick Jones, aged 44, became the 2018 British Masters 10k Road Race champion when he won the Trentham 10k road race, on an extremely hilly course in Stoke-on-Trent.

On a blistering hot day and an undulating course, he went into the lead at the half way point before pulling away to win the race in 34 minutes 10 seconds – more than 30 seconds clear of the second placed athlete.

It was the third British Masters title this year for the Grappenhall runner, who is also the 5k Road Champion and the 10,000m Track Champion.

The Warrington Athletic Club member was joined by four other club members who were also competing in the British Masters 10k Road Race championships.

Colin Bishop, who lives in Helsby, was next in from the Warrington club, finishing in 16th place in 38 minutes 03 seconds, taking the British Masters silver medal in the over 55 age group competition, just one place and six seconds behind the gold medalist.

Grappenhall based David Gill, was next to finish in 56th place in 41

minutes 31 seconds, finishing in 5th place in the over 60 age group of the British Masters competition.

Next in was Helsby resident Dave Norman in 76th place overall with a time of 42 minutes 53 seconds, to place 5th in the British Masters over 55 age group competition.

Mervyn Ward, from Cinnamon Brow, finished just three places behind Dave Norman in 79th place in 43 minutes 25 seconds to place 8th in the British Masters over 60 age group competition.

And it was British Masters team gold for Warrington Athletic Club with Colin Bishop, Dave Gill and Dave Norman winning the British Masters V55 Team competition, with Dave Gill dropping down to the over 55 category to help the team to win the gold medals.

*Pictured below are (left to right): Nick Jones, Dave Norman, Colin Bishop, Dave Gill and Mervyn Ward.*



## Olympic skating judge to speak at U3A

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FORMER skater and Olympic skating judge Liz Littler will speak on “My Life in Figure Skating” at a meeting of the Lymm and Thelwall University of the Third Age on Thursday, September 20.

The meeting will be at Thelwall Parish Hall, Bell Lane, Thelwall, starting at 10am.

Non-members will be welcome for a free “taster visit” to discover what other activities U3A offers locally.

Liz Littler, who now lives in Thelwall, but was a pupil at Lymm High School, started skating as a young girl at Altrincham and competed in national championships.

She hung up her skates in 1976 to concentrate on judging and was awarded the MBE in 2013 for services to skating.

Lymm and Thelwall U3A has about 150 members but is looking for more, particularly interest group leaders and those willing to help on the committee.

More details are available at [www.u3asites.org.uk/lymm-thelwall/welcome](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/lymm-thelwall/welcome)



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