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life

Issue 212 November 2018

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Workshops labelled 'farce'!

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Aretha Franklin: The 'Queen of Soul' who died without making a will



Don Wernham,
Financial Planner

On 16 August, Aretha Franklin passed away, aged 76, in hospice care after battling pancreatic cancer. She didn't leave a will. This leaves her four sons and other family members to work out her total assets and divide them amongst themselves.

After the mourning process, the practical concerns around a death take hold. When someone dies without a will, these are much more complicated to resolve. And when the person concerned is a celebrity, these complications have an unfortunate tendency to play out on the public stage.

When Prince died, aged 57, with a \$300 million estate and no will, nearly 700 people claimed to be his half siblings. In response, a judge ordered for a DNA sample to be taken from the late singer to assess the legitimacy of these claims.

Franklin's case is yet to draw the same kind of sensational attention from would-be relatives. She left behind four sons: Clarence Franklin, Edward Franklin, Kecal Franklin and Ted White Jr, and Sabrina Owens, her niece, has assumed the role of executor.

Her estate is estimated to be worth around \$80 million. However, Franklin was notoriously private about her finances and sometimes asked to be paid in cash. She reportedly demanded cash before playing live and then kept the money in a handbag that she kept near her onstage or in the hands of

her security team.

At Franklin's funeral, her friend Ron Moten gave her sons some advice about dealing with the aftermath of her death.

He said: "Remember your family and friends that have been with you for years, because you are about to meet a lot of people who will now want to be your new best friend. You will also meet some people that will have the best investments in the world for you. My advice? Go slow, be careful and be smart."

In her lifetime, Franklin won eighteen Grammy awards and sold tens of millions of records. She was one of the most talented singers of all time, releasing records from a range of genres, from gospel to pop, jazz to R&B; Franklin did it all.

Highlights from her sparkling career include performing at Obama's 2009 inauguration and filling in for an ill Luciano Pavarotti at the 1998 Grammys with less than twenty minutes' notice. She delivered a riveting rendition of 'Nessun dorma' for him.

To make sure you don't leave your loved ones in a difficult situation when you die, make a will at the soonest opportunity if you haven't already. If you don't make a will, the law will decide who gets what when you die.

Disclaimer: None of the above article constitutes advice.

The Base
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Editor
Gary Skentelbery

Production
Paul Walker

Account Executives
James Balme

Advertising
Freephone
0800 955 5247

Editorial
01925 623632

Email
info@warrington-
worldwide.co.uk

Websites
www.culchethlife.com
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Address
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Editor's comment

THE onslaught on our Green Belt in South Warrington continues apace, with plans for two huge distribution centres proposed at Appleton Thorn and Grappenhall.

One involves plans by Eddie Stobart to build on green belt fields opposite their existing HQ, which by coincidence has recently been purchased by Warrington Borough Council for £26.1m.

The other involves an even bigger logistics and manufacturing development by Langtree on green belt land surrounding Bradley Hall Farm, which is currently a working dairy farm.

By coincidence Warrington Borough Council and Langtree work together in partnership with Wire Regeneration - the aim of which is to regenerate the Southern Gateway of Warrington town centre.

Clearly these close relationships cause concerns with members of the public as it begs the question of how can these developments be considered impartially, when you are landlord of one and working in partnership with the other?

All this before we even know what is going to be revealed in the long awaited, amended, Preferred

Development Option?

The speed of these major developments is causing huge concerns for residents living in the south of the borough - and if they ever get the green light, will have huge implications on local highways.

It is all well and good promising to make highway improvements but all this will do is move the problem further down the road.

Warrington's highways and the surrounding motorway network are already over capacity and with thousands of new homes already on the horizon, these are indeed worrying times.

I would urge everyone to take a deep breath, while we still can, before we lose our Green Belt for ever and ensure whatever future development takes place, is something which can be accommodated without serious health implications for our future generations.

After all we have been told we have 12 years to save the planet from global warming - and one thing which will make the air we breathe even more polluted would be bumper to bumper HGVs on our roads and surrounding motorway network.



**Deadline
for the
December
issue of
Village Life
is
November 13**

District Nurses receive generous donation in memory of a local mum

DISTRICT Nurses have received a special thank you for the end of life care they provided to a Warrington mum who lost her battle with breast cancer aged just 46.

Friends of Nadine Davies visited Grappenhall Clinic to present the district nursing service, which is provided by Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, with a cheque for £3,400.

Nadine (pictured below inset) was a much-loved wife, mum and friend who lost a two year battle with breast cancer in December 2016 aged just 46.

Sue Walker, a friend of Nadine said: "Nadine was a glamorous lady with a warm heart and a beautiful smile who always had time for others.

"District Nurses made a huge difference to Nadine and her family. As a mum of two teenage children, it was important to Nadine to stay at home during the final few months of her life. This was only possible because of the care and support provided by local district nurses. As a result, it was important to us that we raised money for the district nursing service as well as Cancer Research and The Christie Hospital."

The donation was made following a 'Come Fly with Me'

charity ball which was held at The Park Royal Hotel last November and attended by over 200 people. The theme of the event was in tribute to Nadine's 20 year career as a member of cabin crew.

Hayley Grimes, District Nurse Co-ordinator for Warrington South added: "As district nurses, it is an incredible privilege to care for patients in their own homes at the end of their lives. Nadine is very fondly remembered by the team and we are pleased that we were able to provide some comfort to her and her family during very difficult circumstances. We are extremely grateful for the donation and we are committed to putting it to good use such as on specialist equipment and training."

Find out more about Warrington's District Nursing Service at www.bridgewater.nhs.uk/warrington/districtnursingservice/.

Pictures show District Nurses receiving the donation from friends of Nadine Davies - Sue Walker and Bernie Quigley (pictured holding the cheque) and Nadine pictured at The Warrington Half Marathon in 2014.



Exciting plans for future of Stockton Heath Library

RESIDENTS are being invited to find out more about exciting plans for Stockton Heath Library – which not so long ago was threatened with closure along with other libraries across the borough.

A series of public engagement events have begun, giving residents the opportunity to view the plans to build a sustainable future for the library, widen its usage and extend its role in the community.

The plans, which have been developed by the South Warrington Libraries Working Group; and SWISH (Friends of the South Warrington Library in Stockton Heath), include:

- Upgrading the building for provision of rental areas to ensure income streams
- Widening the scope of community engagement with library provision and activities
- Adapting the library to better accommodate the range of local needs/disabilities such as dementia or sensory disability

- Increasing the building flexibility to extend the potential range of activities, such as literary events or cultural presentations.

Appleton ward councillor, and chairman of SWISH Cllr Sharon Harris, said: "I am absolutely thrilled that the South Warrington Library (in Stockton Heath) Working Group, together with the SWISH Friend's Group have some very positive news to share about the future of our Library.

"A business plan has been developed to ensure that the library extends its community role whilst developing community based income streams, to help ensure that library services will be sustained and developed for all into the foreseeable future. This has culminated in some exciting plans being drawn up and we hope the work will be completed before summer 2019.

"Please come along to one of the events, view the plans for the changes, and discuss them with a SWISH Working Group member or a member of the SWISH Friends' Group."



The sessions are as follows:

- Fri 26th Oct: 5pm-6.30pm
- Mon 29th Oct: 2.30pm-4pm
- Thurs 1st Nov: 10.30am-12 noon
- Sat 3rd Nov: 11am-12.30pm

Warrington Borough Council's executive board member for leisure and community, Cllr Tony Higgins, said: "We have made a commitment to build a sustainable future for our libraries, and we are now delivering on that commitment. I'm delighted

that the investment promises we have made are now coming to fruition – not only at Stockton Heath, but at libraries across the borough.

"The Stockton Heath Library plans are great example of what we can achieve, by working with communities and partners. I'd urge all local people to attend one of the engagement events, to find out more about the exciting plans and to ask any questions they may have about the future of the library."

Model railway enthusiasts are in for a treat

MODEL railway enthusiasts are in for a treat on Sunday, November 18 when four layouts go on show at Grappenhall Community Centre.

Thelwall and Grappenhall Model Railway Club are staging an open day when members of the public will be welcome between noon and 4pm.

There will be four layouts – analogue 00 gauge, N gauge, 009 plus a digital 00 gauge layout.

Admission will be £1 for adults and 50p for children and there will also be a tombola stall.

The club is looking for new members – beginners or experts – to help operate and develop the layouts at Grappenhall Community Centre.

They meet on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7pm-9pm and on Saturday afternoons from 2pm-4pm.

Visitors are welcome to take their own locos and trains to try them out on the club layouts.

Further information is available from John (01925 601294) or Peter (01925 574257).



Double award delight for designers at JD Kitchens

TWO designers from Warrington based kitchen company JD Kitchens have scooped industry recognition for their kitchen designs at the prestigious KBSA awards ceremony.

Cassandra Wilkinson – Leonard and Jason Johnson, who has been with Warrington based JD Kitchens for just under a year, both received commendations from the panel for their creative use of space and the attention to detail applied in their real-life home designs.

Jason said: "Sometimes a customer comes in they know exactly what they're looking for, which is great, but I really enjoy helping to see beyond what already exists and create a new idea that makes the most of their space.

"Ultimately, I am here to deliver their dream kitchen within their budget, and the commendation from KBSA is a nice acknowledgement that I am getting it right."

Dave Charlton MD at JD Kitchens is proud of the achievements of his team, and believes that the future is bright for both designers.

"Both Cass and Jason are not only really talented designers, they really look after their customers, throughout the build and installation to get the job done professionally and with little fuss. I am incredibly proud that they have both been recognised by the industry, they both deserve it."

Advertiser's announcement

Amsterdam

My husband and I had a wonderful short break in Amsterdam, I thought it would be nice to share with you.

Our flight was super quick, under one hour, and we transferred from Schipol Airport by train to Centraal Station.

I was inspired by TV's Travel Man, Richard Ayoade and we stayed at the same hotel, Sir Adam, a quirky four star, which offers a free ferry ride from outside the Railway Station. First thing you will spot as you approach the hotel is the giant AMSTERDAM sign, where you will be

welcomed with a glass of fizz. We loved the relaxed vibe, being outside the City offered. It has a 'swing' on the rooftop and Sky Lounge Bar, with fabulous views of the water.

Amongst other things, the Sir Adam serves gorgeous food, in or outdoors, bedrooms have a record player, with a plethora of records to choose from.

I can recommend our three organised trips:

A fun Canal tour, a great way to see

the City.

Anne Frank's Museum, with it's history and corner glass cafe, to watch the boats go by and a Bike ride, taking in Vondelpark, along with other sights, whilst exercising in the fresh air.

We tried Feebo, which I'd liken to a Cafe with Vending machines, serving fresh tasty fast food but also enjoyed elsewhere pancakes, bitter balls and Stroopwafels!

There's a hive of eclectic shops, including the floating flower market, where you can take home bulbs.

Amsterdam is famous for its iconic Windmills and smoking is legal in their 'Cafes' and walking through the Red Light District is an eye opener, but not for everyone!

I hope I've inspired you and if so,

**We are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm and Saturdays 9am to 5pm
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Workshops labelled a 'farce' as developers seek feedback on Green Belt logistics plan

CONCERNED residents and councillors packed into a special workshop set up to get public feedback on controversial plans to develop a major logistics site on green belt farm land at Grappenhall.

Two workshops took place at Grappenhall Community Centre organised by Langtree concerning the proposed "Six 56 Warrington" development at Junction 20 of the M6 and Junction 9 of the M56, which aims to deliver nearly 5,000 logistics and manufacturing jobs if given the go-ahead.

But many of those attending the workshops described them as a "farce" as they were tasked with answering pre-set questions, mainly relating to a presumption that the plan was going to happen. Many felt it was a "done deal" and the workshops were just a "PR exercise."

All those attending who spoke out, voiced opposition saying it was an inappropriate development on Green Belt land which includes residential properties, a dairy farm and an ancient monument moated site.

As well as the loss of Green Belt and traffic issues on the already congested road and motorway networks, fears were also expressed about air pollution and loss of wildlife.

There were also questions over evidence of demand for the development, the quality and need for jobs and the sustainability of the development.

Local Cllr Ryan Bate said he was "very concerned at the timing of the consultation, just two months ahead of the borough council's draft local plan."

One resident claimed the proposed warehouse would be around 40 metres high, just 5 metres shorter than the Statue of Liberty. "The scale of this development will be enormous and if it was given the go ahead it would be the biggest eyesore in North of England!" he said.

Meanwhile Warrington South MP Faisal Rashid is backing residents'



opposition to the proposals.

Faisal said: "I am concerned to hear about these proposals given the fact that they are in the existing defined Green Belt. I am further concerned about these proposals given the fact that consultation process on the next stage of drawing up the new Local Plan for Warrington does not commence until 2019.

"My position on development in the Green Belt remains the same as was outlined in my response to the Council's Preferred Development Option consultation last year. I firmly believe that the Green Belt should be protected from development wherever

possible. And, I have real concerns about proposals which seek to earmark significant areas of the Green Belt for large scale development.

"I am concerned about proposals to alter the designation of areas of Green Belt land in our town. I also have concerns about the loss of green open spaces that are real community assets, much-loved by local residents.

"The Green Belt is intended to stop urban sprawl and to stop encroachment of the countryside.

"Should this land be released from the Green Belt, I am concerned that this could set a worrying precedent for the future of other areas of our

protected green space, potentially opening the floodgates for further changes to our Green Belt policy.

"Local green spaces serve as a green lung for our town. I appreciate that the Council is committed to future proofing as much of the Green Belt as possible, but by giving way on the release of this Green Belt, this would surely only make the protection of these sites more uncertain in future."

Local residents have also voiced their opposition to the proposal.

One resident Mike Shaw, who currently lives on land opposite Bradley Farm said: "This is a beautiful part of Warrington's Green Belt - it is also a successful dairy farm currently producing 30,000 litres of milk a week which will be lost to the local community.

"There is also lots of wildlife including birds of prey, bats and hares. The whole area is full of wildlife."

Another resident, Mark Kelly, also questioned the mandate behind the proposal and raised issues of "conflict of interest" with members and officers of the borough council, sitting alongside directors of Langtree on the Wire regeneration.

"Warrington already has major problems with the traffic being a nightmare. With lots more lorry movements it is just going to make things worse and cause more pollution."

The companies behind the proposals Langtree and First Panattoni, say it will provide a wide range of job opportunities for local people, "from entry-level operatives to supply chain managers and skilled technicians."

Anyone who would like to be kept up to date on consultation should email info@six56warrington.co.uk





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New team and new menu at the Hatton Arms

THE historic Hatton Arms pub is under new management, with new chefs and a new seasonal menu.

Ian Howard has taken over as general manager of the pub/restaurant after spending 16 years as general manager of a 2aa rosette pub/restaurant/function/conferencing/hotel.

Previous roles have included a focus on good quality locally sourced produce, always working at a pub with CAMRA accreditation and cask marque. He is also WSET (wines and spirits association) educated and a current member of The Champagne Academy. He has also written food pairing guides for local 'small' publications offering seasonal food and wine pairing advice.

Head chef Scott Lomax joins the team after spending time working at the Church Green in Lymm. A successful gastro pub serving AA

rosette style pub food.

SousChef – Dan, Previously worked at The Angel Inn at Hetton, a multi award winning gastro pub in Yorkshire.

Both chefs have a fantastic culinary background and huge experience. Both attended The Local culinary college together and are looking forward to giving back to the community.

The Hatton's aim is to only use fresh produce that is prepared on site. Everything is made by their chefs and in their kitchen. The intention is to create a 'proper food pub' for the area and a proud Cheshire Country inn.

Specialities include the "world famous" Hatton Pies – believed by many to be the best pies in the area. This is a stand alone part of the menu (Hatton Pies) and as well as offering a fantastic selection, they also have a pie of the day. The pies are created on site by professional chefs using only the finest ingredients (they have to be tried to be understood).

The pub itself, once owned by Lord Daresbury, is set in the beautiful hamlet of Hatton in a grade II listed building with a newly refurbished restaurant, skilfully planned to fit in with the original pub feel. The Hatton Arms also has three newly refurbished bedrooms all with en-suite shower facilities. This offers the perfect 'getaway break'

During October/November the rooms are on a Dinner Bed and Breakfast offer of £100 (Sun-Thurs evenings) £120 (Fri-sat evenings).

For all the latest offers, themed nights and Christmas booking details visit www.hattonarms.co.uk



Competition:

Win Dinner, Bed & Breakfast for 2

Meanwhile to be in with a chance of winning Dinner Bed & Breakfast at the Hatton Arms, or one of the other great prizes below simply answer the question below.

What was the name of the famous former owner of the Hatton Arms?

Email your answer to IanHowardmanager@hattonarms.co.uk and title the email "Hatton Competition"

Closing Date Monday November 12.

- 1st Prize:** Dinner Bed and Breakfast for 2 at The Hatton Arms.
- 2nd prize:** Table for 2 at "pie night" on a Thursday evening (2 fantastic "world famous" Hatton Pies and a drink each).
- 3rd prize:** A bottle of wine when ordered with a meal for 2 in the restaurant. Everyone who enters will also receive a £5 voucher to use with any dining bill over £40 to be used Mon-Thurs (excluding December 23-31st).

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Appeal launched to enhance historic St Wilfrid's Church

St Wilfrid's Church Grappenhall is launching a big appeal and is looking for support to enhance the beautiful Grade 1 Listed building in the historic village centre.

Proposals for the near 900 year-old building include the addition of an annex to improve access to the medieval church and add the necessary modern day comforts, including:

- Accessible toilet facilities
- Light refreshment servery
- Easy access (step-free) route into the church building and the new annex
- Flexible meeting space for young and old alike

The valuable new space created by the annex will create a place for the community to build lasting friendships, starting with a cuppa and chat, plus an area to store and display information about Grappenhall's heritage and St Wilfrid's record of almost 900 years of service to the people of Grappenhall.

The new low rise annex will sit snugly at the back of the church, so it will not be seen from Church Lane, but will be perfectly placed to serve all the growing numbers of people who visit St Wilfrid's, without compromising the existing building. It will also use the existing north doorway so the church interior is unaffected.



Choir member Marjorie Cassin said: "As we are attracting more and more young families, a safe soundproof area would be good, so children can participate in Children's Worship with their parents close at hand.

This could be a flexible area,

meeting various needs at different times, utilising sound reduction partitioning to enable areas to be closed or opened up to suit the pattern of activity."

St Wilfrid's is now open to visitors from 9am to 4pm every day of the week. If you have not yet discovered this fascinating building in the heart of the Grappenhall Conservation area - please do drop in.

Families can enjoy the "Knitted Mouse Trail" and don't forget to look out for the original "Cheshire Cat" when you examine the Tower.

All donations to the building project will be very welcome. For more details, including how you can ensure the taxman adds 25% to your gift, see www.stwilfridchurch.org.uk/fundraising/

Christmas parties at the Park Royal Hotel

WITH the festive season creeping closer every day, there's no better time to book your Christmas and New Year celebrations at The Park Royal, Stretton.

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away to all your favourite hits from the hotel's resident DJ, surrounded by the magic of The Park Royal.

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Navigating troubled waters?

“Living in South Manchester, I enjoy the village feel and love having the independent bars and shops nearby. The tram links to the city centre give a great sense of connection.”

Mark Heptinstall
Head of Family Team



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New owner takes great pride in Heritage Café

THE Heritage Café at Walton Hall & Gardens has undergone a major transformation with a new owner, longer opening hours and a brand new menu, catering for all tastes.

The facility is now operated by Lewis's who have a longstanding attachment and love for Walton Gardens spanning over 60 years and extended their catering provision from July this year into the running and transformation of the Heritage Café.

This affection for the park and the community it serves is reflected in the pride Stefano Manfredi (Café Owner) clearly has after winning the tender to run the café, which is now open seven days a week from 9.00am until 4-7pm depending on the park's seasonal opening hours.

Stef said: "We feel really privileged to serve the local and wider community in the café at Walton Gardens."

Undertaking the running of the Heritage Café has the feel of a natural progression for Stef, who said: "I can remember being a young child and accompanying my Aunty Melia and also my Mum on the ice cream trailer by the play area, riding the long slide and being allowed to play pitch and put in the Summer.

"The Autumn days of golds and browns at the park are simply gorgeous and I can remember scrabbling round trying to find chestnuts. Undertaking the running of the café has been daunting to say the least and there will be much to learn. We believe the park deserves an excellent café and we have been really heartened by the positive feedback we have received so far. Our aim has been to improve the quality of the food and drinks provision by introducing high quality barista style coffees, specialist toasted sandwiches and luxury cake and tray bakes. I think we have achieved our initial goal, but we must keep on improving."

A great deal of thought has been

put into the menu, reflecting both changing tastes and demands with an array of gluten free, dairy free, vegan and vegetarian options.

Lewis's have been conscious to aim to provide something for everyone and their pizza slice and fish finger muffins are perfect for both adults and young children alike. They not only provide traditional fayre such as the very filling and tasty Brunch Ciabatta (bacon, sausage, cheese and scrambled egg) using locally sourced ingredients from farms in Lancashire and Cheshire, but have also been keen to provide delicious vegetarian and vegan options.

Stef added: "As a team we spent some time testing various combinations and we are really pleased with the results". The Vegan Black Bun and Vegetarian Red Bun have certainly become favourites!!

"The cakes and tray bakes are quite simply stunning and range from the Parsnip, Honey and Orange luxury layer cake to caramel digestive slices and chocolate brownie bakes. One of our dairy and gluten intolerant customers left a review saying that she had travelled the World and had just come back from New York and had never tasted a Lemon Cake as delicious as ours!"

The café's very friendly staff aim to provide excellent customer service and welcome all visitors to the park. This includes dog walkers and their dogs. In the future Lewis's want to develop activities that will support all local organisations including schools, clubs and businesses.

Café Manager Karolina explains "Walton Gardens is about people and the experiences they have there. We want to be a positive part of that experience!"

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Life-saving defibrillator installed

A LIFE-saving public access defibrillator has been installed at software company DriveWorks, in Laskey Lane, Thelwall.

For the last 12 months, the company has been fundraising to raise the £2,000 needed to buy the defibrillator and now it has been installed.

Nearby are 17 other offices, horse stables, a National Garden Scheme garden, housing, a school and public footpaths, so the machine is well sited.

Research shows that if a heart attack victim is given CPR they have a three per cent chance of making a full recovery, but if a defibrillator is used in the vital first few minutes, patients have a 60-70 per cent chance of making a full recovery.

It was these statistics that inspired DriveWorks to set themselves the challenge of raising the money for the defibrillator.

Spooky World returns!

Spooky World Scary-at-Night has returned, bringing horror thrills again just down the signed track mid-way along Stretton Road, Warrington.

An intense horror event for adults and brave older kids; there are live scare actors wandering throughout the grounds.

Due to popular demand last year they are also putting on a total of three Spooky-at-Night events for kids aged 10 to 14 years (advisory); one of them being on the night of the fireworks display at the site on November 3.

People and coach loads travel from far and wide to visit this attraction that is on the doorstep for Warrington and Cheshire residents.

Also offering a massive free car and coach park and an onsite fast food grill why not pay a visit yourself? You can purchase tickets online in advance from <https://buytickets.at/spookyworlduk/tr/ort>

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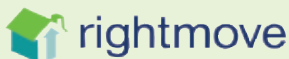
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Money Column

By Margaret Black

Will YOU pay tax on your house?

One of the most valuable tax reliefs available to an individual is the Principal Private Residence Relief (PPR) which exempts from Capital Gains Tax any increase in value in an individual's home.

This was introduced at the same time as Capital Gains Tax in 1965 and so has been around for over 50 years. It is surprising, therefore, that the Tax Tribunals not only had to make a ruling in a case about PPR but that the Upper Tribunal (tax parlance for "Appeal Court") disagreed with, and reversed, a decision of the First Tier Tribunal (tax parlance for well, the other lot). Not only that, but in the way things operate today this decision could affect a lot of people.

The case concerned someone who bought a property "off-plan", in this case an apartment in an old station hotel that was being converted. He entered into a contract to buy the property in 2006 and moved into it in 2010 when the construction work was completed. Before 2010 he had no right to occupy the apartment, and this right was only acquired when construction was completed. He then lived in the property for about 2 years before selling it on. He claimed PPR for the entire gain.

Initially, the Tribunals agreed with him when the tax office disputed his claim, but this decision was reversed by the Upper Tribunal who agreed with the tax office that the claim should be restricted to the period of occupation only.

The argument was about the meaning of "Period of Ownership". Initially, the Tribunal agreed with the taxpayer that the Period of Ownership began when the taxpayer acquired the right to live in the apartment. Therefore, he had lived in the apartment throughout the Period of Ownership and was entitled to full PPR on the sales proceeds. However, the tax office appealed to the Upper Tribunal.

On appeal, the Upper Tribunal decided that this interpretation was incorrect and reversed the decision. They stated that the price of the apartment had been fixed when the contract was signed in 2006, and as the contract was unconditional this was also the date of acquisition for Capital Gains Tax. Therefore, PPR could not be claimed before the taxpayer moved into the property.

There are, of course, some circumstances when PPR is available for periods of absence from the property, for instance the last 18 months of ownership. Unfortunately, there is not an equivalent period at the start of the period of ownership. All other circumstances require there to be a period of occupation both before and after the period of ownership.

This ruling will affect anybody who purchases a property off-plan, or when they do not move in immediately for any other reason, if their purchase is on an unconditional contract.

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David Watkinson and Margaret Black

New action group launched Rethinking South Warrington's Future

A NEW action group, Rethinking South Warrington's Future (RSWF) has been launched, bringing together residents groups and South Warrington parish councils to help shape the Local Plan.

The aim of the group is to support local resident groups and the parish councils across the South of Warrington, to ensure that Local Planning & Development deliver the best outcome for residents and their communities.

RSWF is a newly formed, not-for-profit organisation created to help all residents of South Warrington get a fair planning and development outcome from the wider Borough Council Plan.

The next draft of the Local Plan or PDO (Preferred Development Option) is expected to be published in December, so it is essential that Parish Councils and residents are prepared to submit a robust and evidenced response to shape the final draft. This extends to protection of green-space, infrastructure provision, minimising environmental impact and ensuring the scale and location of any development is warranted.

The group is run by qualified resident volunteers and relies solely on donations from local residents and businesses. These donations will be used to fund external planning consultants to advise and guide RSWF, Parish Councils and ultimately, residents, on the consultation responses.

Phil Marshall, spokesperson for the



Rethinking South Warrington's Future

RSWF Group commented "The Parish Councils across South Warrington have come together and are coordinating their efforts to support residents with a joined-up response to the next draft of the Local Plan. However, this does require specialist support from consultants."

"We are fundraising to cover these costs and ensure that the submission, in response to the consultation, is comprehensive, thoroughly evidenced and has the desired effect in shaping the final approved Plan."

The Group will also be running activity during the consultation to ensure that residents are well informed and relevant information is widely available.

If residents have any questions, would like to volunteer or donate to the fund, more information can be found at rethinkingsouthwarrington.org or by emailing mail@rethinkingsouthwarrington.org.

Regular updates will also be circulated on social media: Twitter: @rethinkingSWF and Facebook @rethinkingsouthwarrington

Plan for house with underground car park for 50 vehicles

A BOLD plan to build a house with underground parking for up to 50 vehicles is being put forward for the former Stretton airfield site.

Planners NJL Consulting are assembling the scheme for the owners of the airfield.

They say the proposal will be submitted "in the autumn".

Permission, granted more than four years ago, already exists for a two-storey office development with subterranean parking for 118 vehicles and the new proposal replaces this one.

In both cases, the car storage facility is solely for private use and would not be used for any commercial purposes.

The consultants say if the new proposal receives planning permission, the two-storey offices would not be built and would be replaced by an architect designed, individual house.

The underground car park would be for the storage of a private collection of specialist cars.

Firework spectacular

BROOMFIELDS Junior School, Bridge Lane, Appleton will be hosting a Fireworks Spectacular on Saturday November 3.

As well as a commercial aerial fireworks spectacular, there will be fairground rides, a beer tent, hot food, games, sweets and much more. The event runs from 6pm to 9pm and the gates will close at 7.25pm for the start of the fireworks at 7.30pm.

Advance tickets are available from school until Friday November 2 and cost £3 per person or you can pay on the gate at £5 per person.



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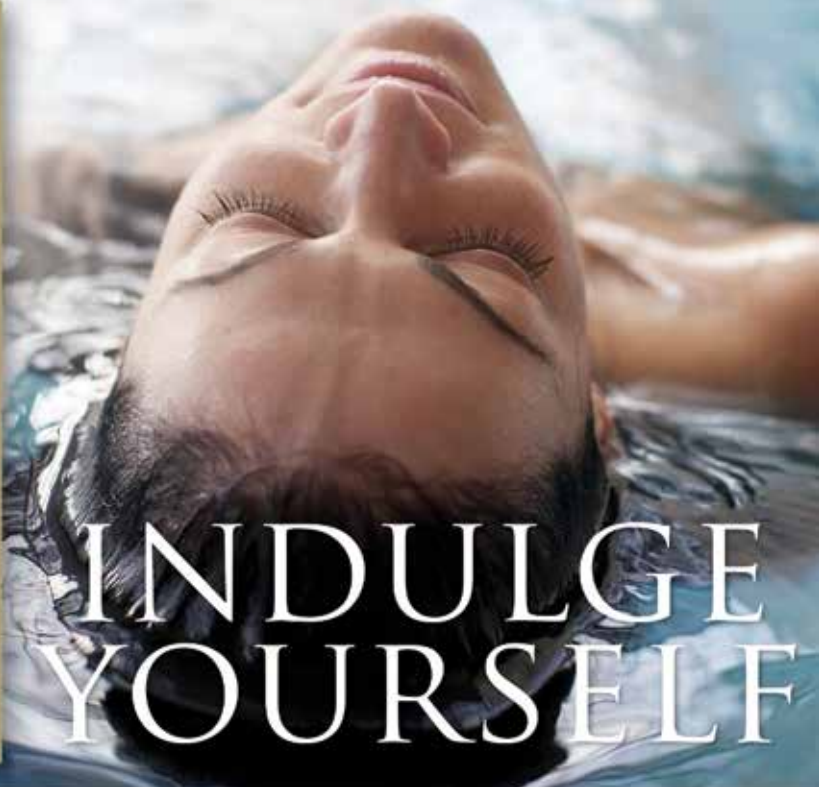
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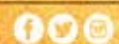
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Grappers avoid relegation – but only just



IT took them until the last match of the season, but Grappenhall finally avoided their relegation nightmare in emphatic style.

They went to Marple and hammered them by 138 runs, with Peter Barnes hitting 110 not out – his second century of the season – and Sam Guest taking an incredible 8-50 in 17 overs.

Grappers kept their supporters on tenterhooks until the very end of their season in the Vivio Cheshire County League premier division. It was a not unfamiliar situation as they had only avoided relegation at the last gasp in 2017 and in recent seasons they have acquired something of a reputation of being a “yo-yo” club – too good for the first division but not really good enough for the premier division.

This year they had adopted a different approach, bringing in a top coach rather than signing an overseas player.

They got off to a bad start, losing their first three matches and looked likely relegation candidates for most of the season, partly because of most of their senior batsmen being out of form at the same time.

Now they face the task of strengthening their squad sufficiently to cement their premier division position more firmly.

A hopeful sign for the future is that the club’s youngsters won the league’s Under-18s Cup competition.

Down the road at Lyons Lane, ambitious Appleton missed out on promotion from division three of the UKFast Cheshire League by just one point, despite finishing their season with a win away at Cholmondley.

Starting the game six points behind second placed Langley, Appleton needed Langley to slip up at home if they were to go up. Unfortunately before tea, the news came through that Langley had bowled out their opponents for just 41 – rendering Appleton’s result immaterial.

However, the Appleton women’s team were runners up in the Cheshire Women’s League with Emma Barlow winning the batting and fielding awards and Eloise Jackson winning the wicket keeping award.

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What's on in the villages

November 13
STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath, 7.30pm

November 18
GRAPPENHALL & THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL
Council Offices, Bellhouse Lane. 7.30pm
LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S
Red Priest – "The World's most extraordinary Baroque Quartet" – with a whirlwind tour of the music of Handel, including an audacious quite drawn from his most celebrated work, The Messiah.
St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

November 20
APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 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 LEGH 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
MARLFIELD 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- November 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

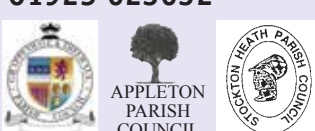
Every second Thursday
STRETTON WI
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 2.30pm.
GRAPPENHALL PROBUS CLUB
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, 10AM.
Details: 01925 264427.

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

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Thelwall Parish Hall

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Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.
9.45-11.30am. Details: 01925 268153.

To list your event call Village Life on
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Tennis club fails in new bid for floodlit courts



STOCKTON Heath Tennis Club has failed in a new bid to win planning consent for floodlit courts – 24 years after it first sought permission for the upgrade.

The club in Delphfields Road, Appleton, has seven full size courts – five of which are all-weather artificial grass.

But Warrington's development management committee turned down their application for the floodlights after hearing of opposition from Appleton Parish Council and nearby residents.

Nearly 50 neighbours had signed a protest petition and 21 sent individual letters of objection so councillors overturned an officers' recommendation and refused permissions.

The officers had argued that the lighting scheme had been scaled down since the last unsuccessful application, earlier this year, and as a result would be well below the level that could cause concern.

However, the objectors – including the parish council – argued that the lighting and noise would still have an impact on nearby homes.

They pointed out that the club has the use of nearby floodlit courts at Bridgewater High School which they have used for many years.

Local athletes to represent England

THREE local athletes have been selected to represent England in the British and Irish Masters International cross country at Singleton Park, Swanson, on November 17.

Nick Jones, of Grappenhall, has been selected for the over 40 team, Steve Watmough, of Lymm, for the over 55 team and David Gill, Grappenhall, as a travelling reserve for the over 60 team.

All three are members of Warrington Athletic Club.



Former parish councillor awarded Freedom of the Parish

A FORMER Stockton Heath parish councillor who served the village in the role for 31 years has been awarded the Freedom of the Parish.

Wendy Emsley stepped down recently due to ill health and was presented with the award at a special meeting of the council by the

chairman, Cllr Helen Dutton.

She was also presented with a bouquet of flowers and a framed photograph.

Earlier, when she first announced her retirement as a councillor, the council had presented her with a painting, appropriately painted by Cllr Dutton.

Mrs Emsley served as a councillor continuously from the time she was first elected, on May 7, 1987.

She thanked the council for the honour and said: "We give with whatever is within us, without thinking about what we will receive. We just hope that Stockton Heath will be a better and happier place for us having been here. Stockton Heath Parish Council has been like my second home."

Traditionally, the honour gives Mrs Emsley the right to graze sheep or cattle in the parish, trade within the "city walls" and march troops through the parish with drums beating and colours flying.

But today these rights are symbolic and recipients are not awarded any specific powers.

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