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# Editor's Comment



**NEWS of the highway improvements being made on the opposite page is indeed welcome - but will it resolve Warrington's chronic traffic problems which seem to have been worse than ever recently?**

Hardly a day passes without traffic jams or gridlock following an accident or breakdown on one of the motorway networks surrounding Warrington.

It isn't helped either by the Highways Agency actively encouraging motorists and lorries to divert through Warrington, without any communication with the local authority first.

It has been said many times, but Warrington's highways infrastructure is beyond breaking point and I fear the works proposed will only be a sticking plaster.

Hundreds of motorists are still coming through Warrington rather than paying a toll on the new Halton bridge.

How on earth some of the logistics companies who are bidding to build huge distribution centres on our Green Belt land in the south believe our highways can cope with even more HGVs on the road - I have no idea.

What is even more worrying is our highways experts raise no opposition!

But thankfully members of the planning committee ignored officer advice and voted with some common sense when they recently refused the proposed Stobart

development at Appleton Thorn.

With still no sight of the Local Plan, any major development on our Green Belt land is indeed premature.

I usually like to try and be positive - but I can't find much positive to say about the number of times we all get stuck in traffic jams. Not only is it annoying it is adding to our pollution problems.

On a more positive note I would like to wish all our readers and advertisers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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# Work starts on multi-million £ highways scheme

WORK has started on the first stage of the multi million £ Centre Park Link project – which will eventually see a new bridge over the Mersey at Warrington.

Enabling work, in advance of the main scheme, is expected to take between six and eight weeks to complete.

It will be focused around the decommissioning of the ex-Furness Rigby car sales plot on Chester

Road. This will involve demolition of the building, removal of the old filling station, land improvements and general vegetation clearance. There will be minimal disruption while these works take place, according to the borough council.

Cllr Hans Mundry (pictured), the council's lead member for highways and transportation, said: "We are making good progress with this significant project and

it's great news that these enabling works are now getting under way.

"They will pave the way to the start of the main Centre Park Link scheme, which will bring huge benefits, easing traffic and helping to maximise Warrington's economic potential."

It is currently anticipated that the main Centre Park Link construction works will commence in mid-2019, concluding in late 2020. The main project will see the building of a new bridge across the River Mersey to connect Chester Road to the town centre, via an upgraded Sluthers Lane.

It will also see new traffic signal junction arrangements on Chester Road and Wilson Patten Street, together with traffic calming proposals for the Gainsborough Road area.

The start of construction on the main scheme remains subject to the successful acquisition of

all land and property needed to build it. The council has enacted its Highway Compulsory Purchase Order powers to bring this to a conclusion, a process which is now progressing through to completion.

For the latest information about the project visit [www.warrington.gov.uk/centreparklink](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/centreparklink), or contact the project team by email at [cpl@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:cpl@warrington.gov.uk)



## Council buys Eddie Stobart HQ for £26m

WARRINGTON Borough Council has bought Eddie Stobart's distribution HQ at Stretton for £26.1m, a 4.35% net initial yield.

The distribution HQ totalling 164,048 sq ft, has been purchased from Ropemaker Properties and adjoins the M56 at the established Stretton Green Distribution Park, Warrington.

Ropemaker originally bought the building in 2013 for £16m by way of a sale and leaseback from Eddie Stobart until July 2033 with fixed annual increases equivalent to 1.5% pa.

The 17.59 acre site incorporates a distribution warehouse, vehicle maintenance unit, head office and expansion land.

The Council's executive Board approved the proposal for financial investment purposes to support the medium term financial plan and reasons of economic growth.

The property acquisition is an

invest to save scheme, generating a commercial return to the Council.

Purchasing the property will yield a rental income of over £1m a year.

Last year the council purchased Birchwood Park for an estimated £200m which has returned a yield of around £5m in year one.

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# Schools unite for touching Remembrance service

by Paul Jackson

LOCAL Primary schools Oakwood Avenue and Christ Church Padgate united for a touching service of Remembrance for their fallen old boys.

Pupils from the two schools walked to the Padgate Cenotaph, led by Armed Service veterans dressed in World War One uniform, to deliver a poignant service of remembrance commemorating all former pupils who fell in both World Wars.

This year being the one hundredth since the end of World War 1, schools have been encouraged to make their Remembrance events very personal as they trace the stories of their lost soldiers.

With the support of Livewire and Culture Warrington, many schools have been finding out about their special ex pupils who sadly paid the ultimate price. Oakwood Avenue and Christ Church CE schools have researched two of their fallen and held a very special service in their honour.

Harry Kenwright from Oakwood Avenue was in the Irish Guards and died in April 1945 in Germany when his Sherman tank was hit.

John Ratcliffe attended Christ Church school and fought with the South Lancs and finally the King's Shropshire Light Infantry. He was killed in France in October 1918.

Both men lost their lives with only a month left of their conflicts.

Opening words were provided by Gary Cunningham, Head teacher of Oakwood Avenue and Ian Williams the Head of Christ Church CE.

Children from both schools then

told the story of Harry Kenwright and John Ratcliffe and laid a wreath, made in the school, by the names of their former pupils on the cenotaph.

Both schools joined together in a beautiful and touching rendition of Peace, Perfect Peace led by Fran Sixsmith of Medley Music for Schools.

LiveWire board member Chris Bent has worked tirelessly with the schools researching the history of former pupils and he was presented with a wreath by Christ Church History Club to take to John's grave in France. Chris Bent in turn presented a poppy cross returned from Harry's grave to Liliana from Oakwood Avenue.

In a very moving and profound presentation, individual pupils came to the front of the gathered crowd and read out the name, battalion and date of demise of each former student from the two Primary Schools who were lost in both conflicts. The children then took their place on the Cenotaph giving a very moving visual representation of how many young lives were sadly cut short.

There followed a perfectly respected minutes silence and a recitation of "In Flanders Field".

Representing the Armed Forces Community Hub, who had dressed in WW1 regalia for the service, Arnie Arnold read "For the Fallen".

The service was brought to a close with a final song of remembrance from Fran Sixsmith and the combined school children.

A video of the service can be viewed on the [warrington-worldwide.co.uk](http://warrington-worldwide.co.uk) website.



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# Supporting recruitment and creating employment

by Steve Park

IT'S been another varied, interesting and rewarding month here at Warrington & Co.

Aside from the development and regeneration aspects of our work, for which we are perhaps best known, the team actively assists growth projects across the borough. We also work to promote Warrington as a business and investment destination, facilitate business growth and, through the Warrington Business Exchange, interconnect businesses.

Our Employment Development Team is highly active and works hard to deliver a package of employment support projects in order to ensure that local people are able to access the jobs being created and also help employers fill the jobs they bring.

For instance, we negotiate with employers, including through the Local Planning Conditions and support them throughout the recruitment process

in order to create job opportunities. We also seek out and work with local businesses offering them a range of measures which can include a free recruitment service, access to staff training opportunities and we encourage and steer them to think local in terms of their staff, suppliers and partners.

There are numerous active projects in which the Employment Development Team is involved including #Lifegoals which supports young people aged 15-24 who are not currently in Education, Employment or Training, Belinspired which aims to work with young people aged 15-24 who are facing obstacles to getting a job and also facilitating engagement opportunities between schools and employers, in order to enhance the careers support that young people receive whilst in education. Also we act as delivery partner for the

employer engagement element of New Leaf, an initiative with Golden Gates Housing Trust, designed to upskill local people, make them work ready and more attractive to employers.

Another example of the work that the Employment Development Team do is the Linking the Locks project. This was a result of a successful joint bid for funding for a project by Warrington and Halton Borough Council covering the Sankey Bridges area of Warrington, running towards Fiddler's Ferry and ending at Spike Island in Widnes, along the route of the Sankey Canal.

£357,000 of the total grant of £654,000 was for a replacement bridge. The remainder of the grant provided resource for business engagement and marketing support, with the aim of increasing employment opportunities, apprenticeships and volunteer projects, whilst allowing eligible businesses to access a grant to support new apprentice wage costs. Amongst other successful outputs the project has, to date, placed well over 100 people into apprenticeships all of whom have now been given permanent employment.

If you are an employer looking for recruitment help, or have an interest in accessing one of these schemes give Jo Jackson a call 01925 442635

## Law firm appoints new head of clinical negligence

WARRINGTON-based law firm FDR Law has appointed a new head of clinical negligence.

Stephanie Fallon has joined the firm's Civil Litigation team, based at the firm's offices on Palmira Square.

Stephanie qualified as a solicitor in 2000 and has moved to FDR Law from Forster Dean Solicitors, where she built a fine reputation in the area of clinical negligence. She is passionate about this area of law and places a strong emphasis on thorough and meticulous medical research in order to achieve a high success rate for her clients.

She said: "I am excited to join such a progressive firm as the lead in clinical negligence, and look forward to helping clients in this complex and emotive area of law."

Stephen Lawson, head of Civil Litigation at FDR Law said: "I am delighted that Stephanie has joined us. She has all the necessary skills knowledge and expertise to provide a first class service to our clients. I feel like a top football manager who has just signed a star player. Stephanie is quality. Give her a call and find out."

Stephanie can be contacted at FDR Law on 01925 230000 or email [stephanie.fallon@fdrlaw.co.uk](mailto:stephanie.fallon@fdrlaw.co.uk)



## Professional services provider's new appointment

WARRINGTON-based professional services provider Optionis has appointed First Freelance founder Mark Beal-Preston as chief commercial officer.

His new role will bring over 10 years' experience of the contractor market, including his previous position on the board of the FCSA. He is responsible for all sales, marketing and commercial partnerships across the group, with the aim to drive high growth initiatives for all brands.

Mr Beal-Preston's previous role was managing director and founder of First Freelance, the London-based contractor accountancy firm, which was acquired by Optionis in February following on from the group's merger with the Arkarius Group in 2017.

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Steve Park  
MD of Warrington & Co.

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Sat 17 Nov Father Christmas Needs a Wee  
Mon 19 Nov Jake Bugg **SOLD OUT**  
Tue 20 Nov Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox  
4-6 Dec Sarah Millican - Control Enthusiast  
Fri 7 Dec Kate Rusby at Christmas  
Sun 9 Dec The Nutcracker - Vienna Festival Ballet  
Sat 15 Dec For Those About to Rock - Live/Wire AC/DC vs Whitesnake Uk  
Thu 20 Dec The Snowman  
Fri 21 Dec The Sweet - Blockbuster Christmas Show

**Pyramid** Box Office: 01925 442345  
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Fri 16 Nov To Be Me  
Fri 23 Nov Simon Yates - My Mountain Life  
Sat 1 Dec Comedy Store  
Sat 8 Dec Peter Price  
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## The Very Hungry Caterpillar celebrates 50 years



THE timeless tale of the Very Hungry Caterpillar will be celebrating its 50 anniversary year by delighting audiences at the Parr Hall.

The story, written by author and illustrator Eric Carle, has charmed generations of readers since it was first published in 1969, selling more than 43 million copies worldwide.

Eric's well-known books captivated readers with his iconic colourful hand-painted tissue paper illustrations and distinctively simple stories.

As a result, generations of children were introduced to a bigger, brighter world, and to their first experience of reading itself.

Now the classic has made its way off the page and onto the stage.

Created by Jonathan Rockefeller, the critically-acclaimed production of The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show features a menagerie of 75 lovable puppets in a faithful adaptation of four of Eric Carle's stories – Brown Bear, Brown Bear, 10 Little Rubber Ducks, The Very Lonely Firefly and of course, the star of the show, The Very Hungry Caterpillar.

Tickets for the show, on Sunday July 21, are on sale now; call Box Office on 01925 442345 or visit [parrhall.culturewarrington.org](http://parrhall.culturewarrington.org)

## Macintyre celebrate 30 years in Warrington



AWARD winning national charity Macintyre, which provides learning, support and care for children, young people and adults with learning disabilities is celebrating 30 years in Warrington.

Area manager Andrea Parr said: "Thanks to everyone who helped us to celebrate. A special mention to Marge who 30 years ago, had the passion, determination and vision to succeed in introducing Macintyre to Warrington.

"We are extremely fortunate to support some amazing and talented people in Warrington as well as having so many inspirational staff who go the extra mile."

Since arriving in town, Macintyre has grown considerably. It has continued to provide the support to local people with learning disabilities through Registered Care and Supported Living accommodation but also through various projects including the Shared Lives scheme, Warrington Memory Café and the New Routes project based in Victoria Park.



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# Diwali festival celebrated in Warrington

by Paul Jackson

DIWALI, the traditional Hindu festival of lights, organised by the Indian British Group of Warrington was celebrated at Winwick Leisure centre.

A fantastic evening of celebration took place in front of special guests the Mayor of Warrington, Cllr Karen Mundry, MP Faisal Rashid and Cllrs. Maureen McLaughlin and Hans Mundry, as an ensemble of children began the festivities by retelling the Hindu epic of Ramayana, where the good Rama defeated demon king Ravana's army of evil.

Following the vibrant opening act came a host of various dance acts including an impressive depiction of the life of Mahatma Gandhi.

The Mayor of Warrington was called upon to present certificates to the many proud volunteers who had made the event such a success.

The guests were then treated to a wonderful meal and the evening was brought to a close with a traditional firework display and dancing.

Diwali is celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and Newar Buddhists and is a festival of lights, which is celebrated every Autumn in the northern hemisphere (spring in southern hemisphere). One of the most popular festivals of Hinduism, Diwali symbolises the spiritual

"victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance."

During the celebration, temples, homes, shops and office buildings are brightly illuminated. The preparations, and rituals, for the

festival typically last five days, with the climax occurring on the third day coinciding with the darkest night of the Hindu lunisolar month Kartika. In the Gregorian calendar, the festival generally falls between mid-October and mid-November.



## Two for one kitchens at JD Kitchens!

When you move into a new house you don't always get the perfect kitchen, but if it is half way decent you are certainly happier to live with it for a while.

However, the owners of one new home in Warrington got a lot more than they bargained for when they decided to update their kitchen.

The kitchen in their new home was in great condition, but it just wasn't to their taste. They looked at the cupboards and found there wasn't anything wrong with them, so contacted JD Kitchens to see if a simple revamp would be possible.

After a visit to their showroom they decided that they would prefer to completely redesign and modernise with a designated cooking area, pull out larder and appliances that better suit the way

they live and cook.

But they felt that the old kitchen was just too good to be taken away.

So the team at JD Kitchens repurposed it as a fabulous utility room, giving them two kitchens for the price of one! Not bad for a 14 year old kitchen.

British designer Mackintosh are behind this gorgeous chamfered shaker door in limestone. Topped with a 30mm quartz worktop, it provides a robust cooking and baking surface that will look great for many years to come.

The appliances are by quality German manufacturer NEFF and include a slide&hide oven, compact oven with microwave and warming drawer, as well as flex induction hob, extractor and fridge freezer.



## DON'T MISS OUT ON YOUR PLACE

Attendance at our recent open events has been the greatest we have seen for a number of years. Therefore it is essential that prospective students submit their application early to reserve their place in September 2019

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WARRINGTON



## MP hosts coffee morning for women affected by pension changes

WARRINGTON South MP Faisal Rashid recently hosted the first of several coffee mornings due to be held for local 1950s-born women who have been hit hard by Government changes to the state pension age.

More than 100 women attended the event at Bold Street Methodist Church with other events planned in the near future.

The Conservative-led Government brought in changes in 2011 which speeded up the increase in the State Pension Age for women born in the 1950s. Many of the women who are affected received limited notification of the increase and some women received no notification at all.

Faisal says the decision to accelerate the rise in the women's state pension age has had a devastating impact on many women who were born in the 1950s, some of whom are now facing financial hardship as a result.

He has pledged to work alongside his colleagues in Westminster to keep up the pressure on the Government on this issue.

Further coffee meetings are

LOCAL charity Warrington Disability Partnership (WDP) has launched their latest new service "The Smart Flat" at their Centre for Independent Living.

The new facility which provides demonstrations on all the latest technology to help disabled people lead independent lives, has been developed in partnership with Warrington Borough Council and with financial support from the Better Care Fund.

The service will provide information, advice and guidance on the latest Assistive Technology that can help to improve or maintain independent living.

Over 35 guests were present at the official opening event, with representatives from health, social care, housing, local businesses, Councillors and members of WDP's Board of Trustees and staff.

"Technology is changing at a rapid pace and what we're trying to do at the Smart Flat is show what it can do to help disabled people in their everyday life," said WDP CEO and founder Dave Thompson MBE DL.

The Smart Flat has a display bedroom, living room and kitchen. They feature products such as voice and switch operated openers/closers for doors, windows, blinds and curtains, the Amazon Echo Show, movement sensors, talking glasses, mugs, cups and

## Charity launch 'The Smart Flat'



microwave, Joy for all Cat, facial recognition security cameras, talking clocks, medication dispensers and reminders, along with many more innovative products to help those with physical and sensory disabilities and dementia.

Theresa Dawson, Head of Care Management and Occupational Therapy at Warrington Borough Council said, "The use of technology is becoming more mainstream, people are using it in everyday life. Much of the

equipment available in high street stores can help people carry on living independently".

Warrington Borough Council Chief Executive Steven Broomhead performed the official opening.

The new service is located in the Marjorie Griffiths Learning Centre, part of the Warrington Disability Partnership's Centre for Independent Living and is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 2pm, appointments are necessary, please call 01925 240064.



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# Early Christmas present for Warrington charities

ONE of Warrington's leading IT firms are celebrating their growth and commercial success by delivering on their social responsibility promises.

Swan Network Solutions are inviting Warrington based charities to apply to be their supported charity for 2019, providing the selected organisation with a significant amount of valuable support and help.

Commercial Director Andrew Horrocks stated, "This is unique opportunity for the right charity as we are not simply offering financial donations, but FREE IT Support

for 12 months, a FREE technology usage review plus ongoing general business advice, mentoring and active participation in fund-raising".

For over 15 years Swan Solutions have been providing IT support and advice to businesses in Warrington and the region and now they want to give something back to their community.

Andrew added, "The selected charity will benefit from a generous financial donation every time a new client signs a support agreement with us during 2019. That could be worth significant money, however by far the most significant benefit is my

commitment for us to provide them with quality business support and mentoring from our experienced professionals... helping them to improve their operating structure and streamlining the business elements of running a charity".

Swan are eager to hear from all charities regardless of size. The only qualifying criteria is that you are Warrington based and have a registered charity number.

The company also has the support of their staff who will be part of the decision-making process. This was a great decision as their staff now feel actively involved with many

showing great interest in helping the selected charity to coordinate awareness events and even participate in fundraising activities.

All applications will be reviewed in December and the winning charity will be notified of the offer in January 2019.

To apply simply go to the Community page of the Swan Solutions website and complete the online form.

The address is [www.swan-solutions.com/community](http://www.swan-solutions.com/community).

## Swan Solutions expand sales and marketing team

SWAN Solutions is pleased to announce the recent appointment of Martin Hibbert to the Sales and Marketing Team.

Martin will be responsible for streamlining internal processes and will focus on customer relationship management which will contribute to the overall growth strategy for Swan; helping the business to achieve further success within the North West.

Martin has extensive experience in Sales, Marketing and Office Management with over 10 years spent in management positions within the business-to-business

sector of Warrington companies.

Commenting on the new appointment, Director, Andrew Horrocks said, "Martin brings a wealth of office management experience and valuable knowledge. I am confident that he will strengthen customer and supplier relationships; providing a positive impact on the business".

Martin added, "I have joined a progressive company at a very exciting time and I am looking forward to meeting Swan Solutions' current and future customers and working with a great team here."



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# Runners given fascinating insight to work of Peace Foundation



MEMBERS of **warrington-worldwide's** team who took part in this year's English Half Marathon were given a fascinating insight into the work of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace.

Colin and Wendy Parry outlined the work of the peace foundation as they thanked the team for raising over £5.5k for the charity.

The team took part in the Knight Corporate Finance-sponsored challenge, part of the English Half Marathon events as **warrington-worldwide's** publishers Orbit News celebrated 50 years in business during the 25th anniversary of the Warrington bombing.

**warrington-worldwide** Editor Gary Skentelbery, who only took up running earlier this year after shedding three stone in a personal fitness drive, was joined by his wife Janet, Michele Butterworth (from Shellys), Roz Healey (from Aspire Computers), Gary Jenkins (from No Brainer), Paul Moore (from PME Projects), Henry Seddon (from Henry's Lap Tops), Former Wire FM presenter Dominic Walker and friends Colin Shilito and Beverley Stockton.

Gary, who is the longest serving Patron at the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace said: "This is a charity so close to my heart and the hearts of so many people across our town."

Gary and the team at Orbit News were the first media agency on the ground following the bombing in 1993.

"I remember the day vividly. It was a scene I will never forget. But the response from across the world – and the response from Colin, Wendy and their family in particular – was an inspiration for us all. And that continues today."

"Having followed their personal story every step of the way over the past 25 years, now was the time to step out on my own challenge and was delighted to have a team with me to help us raise much needed funds for the work of the Foundation, which still has such an incredibly positive impact on so many people's lives today."

From the tragedy long term friendships have formed, with Gary and Colin competing on the tennis courts with a group of friends most Sunday evenings for the past 20 plus years!

## When music collides with theatre

A WARRINGTON playwright is stepping on to a different kind of stage after swapping theatre for music.

Luke Gilfedder, from Padgate, established Finn Youth Productions in 2012 and showcased his plays at the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester and even the West End.

However things soon went in a radical new direction when songs written for a future Finn Youth play seemed worthy of recording and releasing in their own right.

The group have now set their targets on the music industry after forming the band One-Way Song.

They will see their debut record "Passionate Leave" released on November 27 by record label

Hilltown Records, an encouraging achievement for young musicians in today's competitive industry.

One Way Song have also taken the unique step of filming a music video that stretches from the first track of the record to the last, and many locations in Warrington are present in the video, including the Woolston Eyes, the iconic Pink Eye building and even the bowling greens at St. Elfin's Park!



WINTER 2018



Tim Parry • Johnathan Ball  
**PEACE FOUNDATION**

# PeaceTALKS



**Mother's Day Drama Documentary**

*Pages 2-3*



# By Nick Taylor – CEO of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Peace Foundation

Before you read this blog, you need to decide whether you want to read an explicit statement made by a six-year-old boy. Because, as you will see, words can hurt, and they do.

A few weeks ago, a colleague from the Peace Foundation was delivering one of our programmes. During the programme she spent time talking with young children, key stage one, starting out on their education, how people are always different from each other. She showed some material that demonstrated this, where people had built physical walls to divide different communities. And, she asked the children what they would do if they met somebody who is different to them – that is someone who could be considered as the other.

The answer a six-year-old boy gave was – and here you need to decide whether to read on or not and whether you can deal with the next statement – “I would blow their hand off with a grenade.”

Just pause for a moment. Just reflect. This was a six-year-old, not in some inner-city school as stereotypes may dictate, but in a leafy suburb in a well-to-do area.

The lesson moved on to look at why and how such of a view was being formed and this may not surprise you. Our world of modern technology, including gaming and social media, and access to the World Wide Web, has brought unprecedented information to many people, including young children. When questioned further, we found another major surprise. That is the number of children who are watching television programmes that we would normally class as being after the watershed.

The fact that six-year-olds are watching programs like BBC's Bodyguard, one of the biggest TV experiences of the year, and experiencing prolonged and explicit violence, including terrorism, aspects of violent extremism and simulated sex involving fictional senior politicians, is something we all need to pause and think about. With so much information available, the sheer number of words and, often words that cause harm, which are reaching children is phenomenal.

The ability of young children to absorb such information and words, then process them all, and apply critical thinking to deal with such material, is being sorely tested. The impact on their knowledge and wisdom is not fully quantified, but for some could it be the start of a path that may lead to radicalisation and even violent extremism. I refer you to the solution our six-year-old gave. Playful naivety or something that could lead to

something far more sinister?

We, at the Peace Foundation, believe that words matter, and over the past few weeks, we have been working with survivors of terror and violent conflict to understand the impact that words used by the media and those in public life, have on them, and the impact the words are having on those that may use violence to harm others. It is a frightening and daunting picture. And we must act.

Eight survivors of terrorism have worked with the Peace Foundation to produce a series of films, which hear from people who have been affected by terrorist attacks ranging from the Manchester 2017 attack to the Bataclan attack in Paris.

In these short films, we hear about their direct and indirect experiences with the media and their desire to promote a strong message that **#WordsMatter**.

**#WordsMatter** consists of eight survivors of incidents including London 7/7, Bataclan Paris, Manchester and London Westminster Bridge, talking about their experiences of the media, press and public figures speaking and reporting after events, and calling upon them to show responsibility in the way they report and commentate about terrorism.

**#WordsMatter** is a campaign promoted by the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Peace

Foundation – a charity and non-governmental organisation working in the prevention of violent extremism in schools and colleges, and the resolution of violent conflict through the development of peace building in communities. The Foundation operates the National Survivors Assistance Network, providing health & wellbeing, social and welfare support to all those affected by terrorism in Great Britain and in promoting reconciliation on our islands post conflict in Northern Ireland – ‘the troubles.’

Watch the **#WordsMatter** films at: [www.foundation4peace.org](http://www.foundation4peace.org)



**Nick Taylor, CEO Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Peace Foundation**

## Mother's Day

When the BBC invited Wendy and I to be part of their programme to re-enact the Warrington bombing, we had to think hard about not just the memories it would stir within us and our other 2 children, but also the powerful visual images that would be at the heart of the film. After several very intense conversations with the Producer and Scriptwriter, we and our children, agreed to support the drama documentary.

We were given full access to the first and second scripts written by Nick Leather, a local man from Newton-le-Willows. He told us how he had been

going into Warrington on the fateful day and how much he had wanted to write the script. His sincerity and sensitivity were key to our agreeing to be involved.

Wendy and I were informed of the actors who were to play us, and we were slightly surprised that neither, in our opinion, resembled us closely. However, as we were to note after seeing the film, both Danny Mays and Anna Maxwell Martin played their parts with great skill and sensitivity which made it a powerful film. Equally, Vicky





# Colin Parry - Chairman of the Peace Foundation

I am immensely proud to be the Chairman and Co-founder, along with my wife, of this Foundation which carries my son's name.

But I am also a bereaved parent and, as a bereaved parent, I can tell you that every day, without fail, I think about the son I lost. And then there are those particularly notable days in the annual calendar when my mind focuses even more than ever on my son, and in my case, these days are - the day my son was born, the day he passed away and Christmas Day.

So, there are normal days and there are notable days, but there are notable years too, and 2018 is one of those years, because it is the 25th anniversary year of the bomb attack which took the lives of my son Tim and Johnathan Ball.

Wendy and I set up the Foundation in 1995, not only to do something positive for young people in GB and Ireland, but also to try as best we could, to keep Tim's name (and Johnathan's name) alive.

Though we never thought about it in these terms, this journey was to prove to be our therapy and it gave some real meaning to those young lives so cruelly cut short.

Every year since year one in 1995, we have worked hard to ensure the Foundation would survive and grow

in the year following, but we have worked especially hard in those key anniversary years...the 5th, the 10th, the 20th and now this year, the 25th, to promote the Foundation, and raise awareness of the unique work we do, and raise the funds to ensure we can carry on doing the unique work we do.

So, why do we do what we do? Well, this is easily answered. It is because when Warrington was bombed, and Wendy and I were bereaved, there was no one and no organisation there to offer us the help and support that we needed. Naturally, family and friends did what they could, but they were neither equipped nor experienced enough to provide the long-term support that victims of crimes such as terror attacks, so desperately need.

Despite the Foundation's importance to so many people, we are well aware that many more people outside the scope and reach of our work, do not know, or even need to know in detail, what we do, but those victims who have trodden the same path as we did, tell us that what we do is unique and uniquely important to them in becoming survivors as well as victims.

To say that the Foundation has been held in the highest regard by successive UK governments since the mid 1990's, would not be to overestimate our impact or importance to Government departments, such as the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice.



The range of learning programmes we have developed for young people from the age of 5/6 up to secondary school age, is extensive. These programmes help young people understand what conflict is, what causes it and they provide help and advice on how to deal with conflict. Important life skills to help make their lives and relationships better and stronger!

So, Year 25 is approaching its end, but we cannot lower our sights, targets or ambitions merely because a key anniversary year will have passed. We will forever keep Tim and Johnathan alive in the most meaningful way and mark their lives as having had significant impact and value to so many other people outside their own immediate families. I hope that those who have supported the Foundation will continue to see us as a worthy cause.

McClure and David Wilmot, who played Susan & Arthur McHugh, completed their parts with the same impact as Danny and Anna.

We asked the BBC to agree to us having a private showing of the film in the Peace Centre before the broadcast date and were delighted when Anna, Danny and the 3 children who played the parts of Tim, Dominic and Abigail also attended with their parents. An audience of around 130 watched in utter

silence throughout, apart from gasps when watching the bombing scene...a scene that was so hard for Wendy, Abbi, Dominic and me to watch.

On reflection, we were right to agree to the film going ahead, because it reminded so many people of the day (and told the story for those too young to remember). It also served to prove that sometimes something good and worthy can come from a personal tragedy.



**The Foundation would like to thank Anna, Danny, Vicky and David who have all accepted our invitation to become Patrons of the Foundation...much to our delight!**



# International Day of Peace 2018

Every year the Peace Foundation celebrates the United Nations' International Day of Peace and this year was no exception, when a major Conference covering themes around conflict, was organised to celebrate

## Quote from guests attending the event:

*"Thank you so very much for organising the International Peace Conference it was excellent. .... without doubt the Peace Foundation has made a significant contribution to supporting the journey for many victims, long may you all have the strength and support to continue. Sincere and heartfelt thanks"*

*"Thank you so much to everyone who organised the Conference. I just want to get involved now in advocating for peace and living the "VISITOR" ethos that Colin Parry spoke about. I have a feeling I will be visiting the centre again and again in the future. So glad I came! It gave me hope for the future"*

*"The Peace Centre is a special place which seems to be able to help people and broker conversations that no-one else can start. Colin, Wendy and all the staff should be very proud. The day went in a flash."*

the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Universal Declaration states that everyone has a right to life, liberty and security... the elements which are the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

Our keynote speaker was Lew Lukens, Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in London. Lew spoke about Recovery, Resilience and Readiness.

## LEW LUKENS - Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in London

As Deputy Chief of Mission, Lew serves as Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Mission to the United Kingdom.

From 2014-2016 he was the Department of State's Diplomat in Residence for the Northwest; based at UC Berkeley, he was responsible for recruitment and outreach for the Department of State in Montana, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and northern California.

Lew was Ambassador to Senegal and Guinea-Bissau from 2011-2014, running one of the U.S.'s largest embassies in Africa.

The Conference also covered issues such as:

- The Right to Peace
- How we can better support those affected by terrorism
- Breaking the cycle of violence
- How we care for those affected by bereavement through acts of terror
- Being prepared - responding to terror attacks
- The pathway for terrorism support



## Survivors Assistance Network (SAN)

Since March 2017, the Peace Foundation's 'Survivors Assistance Network' (SAN) has provided practical and emotional support for UK victims of terrorism including the terror attacks in London, Manchester, Paris and Tunisia. During this time, the SAN team have supported over 840 individuals and families to cope and, as far as possible, to recover.

The Manchester Arena attack on 22nd May 2017 was a life changing moment for many people, as well as their loved ones. Many who are affected by terrorism, and all the unique complexities that comes with it, take great comfort in talking with others who have shared the same experience and have a greater understanding of what they are going through. The Peace Foundation has organised several events to make this possible.

Out of the Manchester Arena attack came the Manchester Survivors Choir. Many of the people affected by the incident had a shared love of music and singing and this gave several people the idea and motivation to create a group where people could come together and sing as a way of expressing their emotions. The Choir performed at the first anniversary memorial service, on the main stage at Parklife and has also released a single in the UK charts. The group continues to grow in numbers and regularly use the Peace Centre as a safe place for their rehearsals...the young people enjoy their time together and there is always plenty of cake too!

*If you have been affected in any way by an act of terrorism anywhere in the world, we are here to help you. If you need support contact SAN@foundation4peace, by phone on 01925 581 240 or visit our website [www.foundation4peace.org/support](http://www.foundation4peace.org/support)*





# Communities for Peace Programme

The Peace Foundation has been running a newly designed accredited course for young people in Oldham and Burnley over the last few months. The young people from Hathershaw and Clarksfield prepared for an event in which they wrote and delivered their own speeches to a large audience at a Community Dialogue Conference at the Honeywell Centre.

The young people welcomed their guests, led challenging dialogue around prejudice and conflict within the area and delivered inspirational speeches throughout. Police, Council and Neighbourhood team employees were in attendance. This was a very successful training process which has had a big impact on the young people who took part.

The Peace Foundation is replicating this process in Burnley in November and December for both adults and the young people. The training of over 80 participants in conflict transformation, leading community dialogue and public speaking will culminate in a large community dialogue event on December 4th at the Vanguard Community Centre in Burnley.



**Christine Cox**  
Programme Lead



**LOTTERY FUNDED**



*"The course was very motivating, and energising and I got a lot of support to build up my confidence."*



**Comments from the young people who have taken part in this programme:**

*"I now realise that people can have very different opinions about very important topics and that this is okay."*



*"What I found most valuable about this training is how I can make a difference to my community"*



**Christine and her team bringing the community together in Harehills, West Yorkshire**

This poem is written by one of our Burnley youth participants about an issue with speeding and hit and run drivers where our young writer lives in Burnley. Libby feels that this issue is the most common source of conflict in her area and seeks to lobby for change to make her area safer for all.

**Ocean of Reds by Libby Webster (14 years old)**

*The streets grow flowers  
For the road stained red  
It was another driver drunk  
That leads a child to his death bed*

*I visit that place  
Once or twice a month  
And even though the flowers wither  
I never forget what was done*

*Two years later and  
More names are known  
On TV's and in papers  
For being hit with a fatal blow*

*We all move on eventually  
Forgetting common faces  
But I'll never forget  
Those haunting places*

*And though the flowers may be wilting  
In their ocean of different reds  
The seeds are firmly planted  
Rooted inside our heads*



# Cleaning the Bridge

When young people come to The Peace Centre we try (weather and time permitting), to take them to the Bridge Street memorial. This always proves to be significant and moving. March 1993 comes that much closer, no longer told about but witnessed, touched and heard. I have over the years heard comments like "it's a bit like where I live", or "I can't believe something like that happened here". People walking past going about their daily business, the chatter and bustle prove that Warrington was and is an ordinary town. A town though where something extraordinary happened, something brutal and painful, but this pain need not shape everything. Instead something useful, hopeful and permanent can emerge from unpredicted and undeserved horror.

The sculpture and the river of life are pleasing, calming, and sobering. Sometimes the most boisterous of groups find themselves silenced when standing close to where the bombs went off. The bronze sculpture, the faces and the flow and trickle of water offers strong, sturdy and unspoken hope. One time with a group from Swindon, a woman came over and proudly announced that her son had made one of the hand imprints, "he's a bit bigger now though, probably wouldn't fit". Life goes on and people grow, and all the better when we do not meet violence with the same, when we make spaces for people to be together, and to feel peace.

One route to town takes us over the white concrete Bridge near the Centre. It is often useful to point out the expansion joints; the flexible parts of a bridge that prevent cracking and destruction during changes of temperature. Flexibility is essential in times of adversity, and in conflict, options are better than rigid dogma. The white smooth surfaces of the bridge have also, unfortunately served as a canvas for some with less flexible mindsets.

Earlier in the year we took a Group from Cedar Mount Academy across the bridge and saw that a range of hate statements had been scrawled and sprayed on the paintwork. Ugly, unpleasant rhetoric all punctuated with hastily drawn swastikas. The daubing's were rushed and amateur, but no less worrisome or offensive. The impact was visible and audible, here in plain view was the contradiction of all we had been cultivating at The Peace Centre. This group was, I think it is fair to say, normally the very opposite of quiet, but disbelief simply stunned them. How could this be? There was anger, and distress, but this was not expressed in the form of retaliation, instead puzzlement; "Why hasn't it been cleaned off?"

And then "maybe we could clean it". The seed was planted, and a decision made, and after a chat with Steve the maintenance man, we were equipped with some emery paper and determination.

The next day over half of the group spent time scrubbing and rubbing away the signs and words of division. I will remember this operation for ever. A sunny, late spring day, newly green leaves casting gentle moving shadows over the group as they took away the ink and paint. To begin with the chat centred around the graffiti, What? Why? How? and Who? but something shifted, without coercion or organisation new topics bubbled in to the warm air; favourite teachers; the centre; sport; music; and school holidays. Hate would not dictate the interactions on the bridge that day. The group had seen something they were not happy with, and rather

than reacting with righteous zeal and confrontation, they had acted with calm and collective reason. We didn't remove all the signs or verbal bile, but those that remained are now very faded. Some hands and arms were aching as we left the bridge, but a joyful laughter came with us.

The cliché of disinterested and inactive youth disproved. Phones did emerge but only to capture the endeavour, the energy was all elbow grease and responsibility. These young people will not only remember the Peace Centre, food, fun films and activities, they will recall the difference they made. Important ripples were started, simple actions will resonate, the young people themselves would take away a sense of pride and action, passers-by will not see signs of hate and perhaps those that drew them will now know that bridges bring people together.



*Written by Jon Nicholas - Senior Programme Lead Facillitator*



# Tiny Steps for Peace

The Peace Foundation has developed a new and exciting primary schools programme called 'Tiny Steps for Peace', which is aimed at Key Stage 1 students. The programme was designed as a result of the great success of Small Steps for Peace, and the need to create work that will enable us to engage with key stage 1 students (5/6 year olds).

Tiny Steps for Peace is based around an interactive story-telling and activity mat. The programme tells the story of two aliens who have been sent on a mission from their home planet, tasked with exploring how they can resolve an ongoing conflict in their community and create peace. Unfortunately, they crash-land on Earth and bump their head! They can't remember their names, but they do have a message for the people of Earth - The aliens need to get to the Peace Centre in Warrington to learn about Peace and then return home to share their knowledge. Students are then taken on an adventure - they must help our new friends navigate their way to the Peace Centre, meeting some fun challenges on the way!

Tiny Steps for Peace enhances the socio-emotional, cognitive, and behavioural skills of the students, contributing significantly to a school's national curriculum learning outcomes for SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural) education.

Learning is developed through different experiential and participatory group activities, including role-play or theatre type activities, multi-media, and storytelling activities. We encourage learning in this way because it allows us to tune in with every child's unique needs and skills. The curriculum is designed to encourage students to be active and engaged as well as giving them the opportunity to learn through investigation and play and join in focussed discussions.

## OBJECTIVES:

- Enhance the emotional intelligence of young people
- Enhance the emotional, social and relational skills of young people
- Embed basic conflict resolution skills
- Develop group problem-solving skills through game-play

The Aliens have travelled to four schools in Warrington and four schools in Liverpool to date, and we have had incredible feedback so far. At each school the managed to get the Aliens through the Peace Centre gates, allowing them to return safely to their home planet.



**Ciara Kinsella**  
**Tiny Steps for Peace Project Lead**

Quotes from teachers:

*"Year 1 took part in Tiny Steps for Peace led by Ciara (Project lead) on Monday 23rd July. Ciara really understood the needs of each individual taking part and managed to tailor the game to suit all participants and their individual level of understanding."*

*"As a teacher I was particularly impressed that she was able to interact with each child and was able to make sure each one of them felt involved at all stages."*

*"Throughout the day it was great to see the children being so enthusiastic towards this topic and they all showed progression of understanding as the day went on. It was great to see the children coming back in from their breaks to say that they had been talking about it on the playground and were trying to come up with solutions to resolve the issues that they had found."*

*"Overall the board game was a really good way of getting the children to start to communicate and understand their emotions and I do believe they will follow the simple steps that Ciara explained throughout the day."*

*Classroom teacher school in Warrington*

*"The sessions were pitched just right. The practical nature of the workshops which were delivered expertly and enthusiastically engaged all learners. The children understood the very serious outcome of terrorist actions and what bombs can do to families and communities. Thank you so much for giving the children the opportunity to learn about Peace in an age appropriate yet important way to live."*

*Head Teacher School Liverpool*

## Sponsors of Tiny Steps for Peace:





## RBS Gourmet 9-Course Dinner



The team at RBS swapped formal business wear for aprons and organised a gourmet dinner at the Peace Centre. As they always do things in style, guests were welcomed with a champagne & canape reception before making their way into dinner to enjoy a 9-course tasting menu which was designed and prepared by Head Chef for the evening Jonathan McKenna and served by members of his team at RBS. Entertainment was provided by Courtney Evans who is the daughter of one of the organisers, Phil Evans.

The menu included several amazing courses such as Amuse Bouche, confit duck and langoustine ravioli, a fish course of Quenelle of crab with seared cucumber, cucumber consommé and dill oil, before moving on to the even more impressive main and sweet courses.

Jonathan and Phil, both Relationship



*Courtney Evans*

Director for RBS, have supported the Foundation significantly for many years. They have played an integral part in corporate fundraising for the charity and raised the funding to design and pilot our 'THINK' programme as well as raising over £14,000 for the Foundations work with people affected by acts of terrorism. Those affected by Manchester, London, Tunisia and Paris will all benefit from their hard work.



*Phil Evans*



*Magicians in Black with guests*



*Chef Jonathan McKenna and his team at RBS who helped to serve the meal*

## Bringing back the Tim Parry Scholarship

George and Pam Wilkinson walked 180 miles in 15 days round the Pembrokeshire Coastal Path from Cardigan to Amroth, to raise £3000 towards a Leadership Development Project.

The Peace Foundation was chosen as their Charity of the Year when George became the President of Warrington Rotary Club for 2018/19. Along with his fellow Rotary members here in Warrington and two Rotary Clubs in Ireland, they have pledged to raise £45,000 to deliver our newly designed project, The Tim Parry Leadership Development Project.

The Tim Parry Scholarship was the first programme that the Foundation ran in 1996. Bringing young people together from Warrington, the south and the north of Ireland. A conflict resolution programme which helped young people to resolve conflict in a non-violent, non-confrontational way.

The name of this newly created programme has slightly changed and will deal with issues of today. The programme will give young people the skills to understand the factors that contribute to conflict, to manage

conflict in a peaceful way, and respect the opinions of others within and across their communities.

Wendy Parry said: "The Tim Parry Scholarship was our very first programme and the outcomes and friendships made were amazing. With the help of social media, it will be easier for the young people to keep in touch, so I hope this project again will be a great success and the young people who take part, will become lifelong friends."





# Fundraising Events Summer/Autumn 2018

*Thank you to everyone who raised funds for the Foundation*

## Warrington 10k Team raise £5.5k

Thank you to everyone who took part in Warrington's annual 10k run on behalf of the Foundation. Many had run for the first time and had to train extremely hard to make sure they were fit for the day. They also worked as a team gathering sponsorship and raised an amazing amount of money.

Patron Gary Skentelbery said: "A big thank you to everyone who supported the Warrington-Worldwide team. Many of us were novice runners and for me it was my first ever 10K – even in training I had never run more than 6-7k!

It was a fantastic occasion and a big thank you to event organiser Rob Griffiths and his team for all their support and encouragement which helped us raise over £5.5k for a great charity doing amazing work!"



## Bolton School Fundraiser

Pupils at Bolton School raised £1000 by taking part in a 13-mile walk. Ann Snagg, Programme Manager, collected a cheque on behalf of the Foundation.



## Brookfield Nursery

Nursery children dressed down for the International Day of Peace on the 21st September. The young children spoke about how they could be kind to one another and enjoyed making hats with Doves.

Headteacher Mrs Karen Morris said: "We always try to support the work of the Peace Centre and help our children gain a greater understanding of the meaning of peace."



## Charity Golf Day 2018

22 teams took part in this year's Charity Golf Tournament and, despite the gale force winds, it was a resounding success.

Wendy Parry said: "I would like to thank everyone who took part in this year's event, those who donated prizes, and those who helped make the day go so well. We raised £6400 after costs.

I would also like to thank Bill and Jennifer Hart who have played a big part in these events for the past 3 years and give their time freely. Everyone who works at Warrington Golf Club always make this day special".



1st Prize  
Roofing Consultants Group



2nd Prize  
Ian Deakin & Team



3rd Prize  
Creative Hut



Bill & Jennifer Hart



Thank you to those affected by the Manchester Arena bombing who have raised funds on behalf of the Foundation to thank our charity for supporting them through this terrible time.

**If you would like our help, please contact SAN on 01925 581240.**



# Thank You...You did it!



Tim Parry · Johnathan Ball  
**PEACE FOUNDATION**



**At the beginning of 2018, we launched our 'Unique Achievement' Campaign and asked you to help us raise £150,000 during our 25th Anniversary year and guess what, you did it!**

Those of you who took part in challenge events for the first time, those who organised events, took part in organised events, made a one-off donation or signed up to regular amounts, those who took the Foundation as your Charity of the Year and those who sponsored our programmes, thank you. Your help will ensure we continue delivering our important and much needed programmes to victims of terrorism, young people and communities in conflict and those who rely on our support.

Wendy Parry said: "Without the extraordinary generosity of our funders, individuals and corporate partners, the Foundation would not be able to fund or deliver our programmes. Thanks to those who have supported us over many years, those who have supported us throughout our 25th anniversary year, and those who believe that funding the Foundation is helping vulnerable young people and victims, through no fault of their own, to look forward to a better future. This Newsletter will go out before the end of 2018, but up to mid-October, you have help to raise £176,000. I would like to thank everyone so much for their support and hope you will continue to see the Foundation as a worthy cause".

**Dr Geoffrey Thompson | Magicians in Black | Brian Bennett | Ian Cox | Mike Hannon  
Megan Rostom | Jonny Ford | Cath Hill | Amanda Ward | Cast of Oklahoma | Hanley Trust  
The Mirror Newspaper | Bob Sheridan | Zoe Holiday | Mr & Mrs Barcock | Vicki Latham &  
her colleagues at L'Oréal | Fiona Tuner | Roberts Bakery  
Warrington & Vale Royal College | Adrian Yapp | Wonderwall Cup 2018  
Tom Jones | Emma Thompson DBE | All of our monthly supporters**





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# COLOURS FOR PEACE

## WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH 2019



Tim Parry • Johnathan Ball  
**PEACE FOUNDATION**

**SIGN UP**  
Email: [events@foundation4peace.org](mailto:events@foundation4peace.org)

### *Colours for Peace Day*

Our 'Colours for Peace' day bring schools, companies and individuals together to celebrate the meaning of PEACE. To remember UK based victims who have been killed, injured or traumatised by terrorism attacks. Manchester, London, Paris and Tunisia are but a few which have changed the lives of many.

On Wednesday 20th March 2019, we would like everyone to join us in a 'Dress Down' day. Wear the colours of the Peace Foundation's blue, green or white, or all three, and help victims of terrorism and their families to look forward to a brighter future. Your donation, big or small, will help our National Survivors Assistance Network team, who have supported over 900 families affected by these attacks, to gain a new 'normal' way of coping with their everyday lives.

Send an email to [events@foundation4peace.org](mailto:events@foundation4peace.org) and pledge your support for Colours for Peace 2019



Stockton Heath  
Primary





# CONFERENCE AND ROOM HIRE

The Peace Centre is an award-winning venue provider and strives to make room hire as easy and as smooth as possible. Your time is important, so our aim is to make your visit relaxing and productive from the moment you arrive. We have formal and informal rooms all with natural light.

## Room Hire pricing

Meeting rooms are £15.00 per hour plus vat and include:

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- Refreshments and food are charged separately i.e.
- Unlimited refreshments are £3.00pp and a working lunch (menu A) is £4.50pp both plus VAT

## Conference Room Pricing

Packages start from just £15.00 plus VAT per delegate and include;

- Hire of Conference room (96 Cabaret Style or 120 Theatre Style)
- One Syndicate room free of charge
- Tea, coffee and biscuits on arrival, AM and PM breaks
- Working Lunch (Menu A)
- Audio Visual Equipment, Projector/Screen
- Free Wi-Fi Connection
- Flip charts
- Sticky Walls
- Lectern with microphone, handheld and lapel
- Free Car parking for up to 80 cars

Not included in Packages:

- Large PA equipment, extra Speakers & Screen with Drapes £175.00
- Stages - Large £75.00 Small £50.00
- Extra Flipcharts, paper & pens £5.00 each
- Extra Syndicate rooms £15.00 per hour

## The Peace Centre Residential Accommodation

We can accommodate up to 38 guests across 9 bedrooms, with a maximum of 5 beds per room in a mix of single and bunk-style beds. Each room is uniquely decorated, giving them that personal touch, and they are maintained to a very high standard to ensure maximum comfort and cleanliness.

Prices start from £22.50 for Bed and continental breakfast to £30 Full Board.

All prices are per person per night plus vat, subject to minimum numbers and based on full occupancy of each room.

**To make an enquiry - Call the events team on 01925 581234 / 01925 581238 or email [events@foundation4peace.org](mailto:events@foundation4peace.org)**

**For more information about our residential accommodation, please visit our website at: [www.foundation4peace.org](http://www.foundation4peace.org) and click onto Peace Centre / residential.**

The Peace Centre is unique and a fascinating alternative to a hotel. All the proceeds earned from hiring our venue are used to keep the Centre running and to continue the work of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Peace Foundation.

**Please note: From 1st January 2019, we have had to take the decision to increase our prices by 50p per person to ensure we cover costs. Any bookings made prior to this date will be charged at the 2018 price.**







## Society auctions off books for good causes

MEMBERS of Warrington Gentlemen's Book Society celebrated their 177th anniversary during their annual "book auction" dinner at Statham Lodge Hotel, Lymm.

Formed in 1841 and meeting once a year to auction current books helping raise funds for local charities, it is believed to be the oldest society in Warrington.

Senior member, retired dentist Roger Bingham hosted proceedings, while **warrington-worldwide** Editor Gary Skentelbery auctioned off the books, helping raise funds for local charities and good causes.

Club records revealed that the society met in Statham Lodge 101 years ago, when it was a country house.

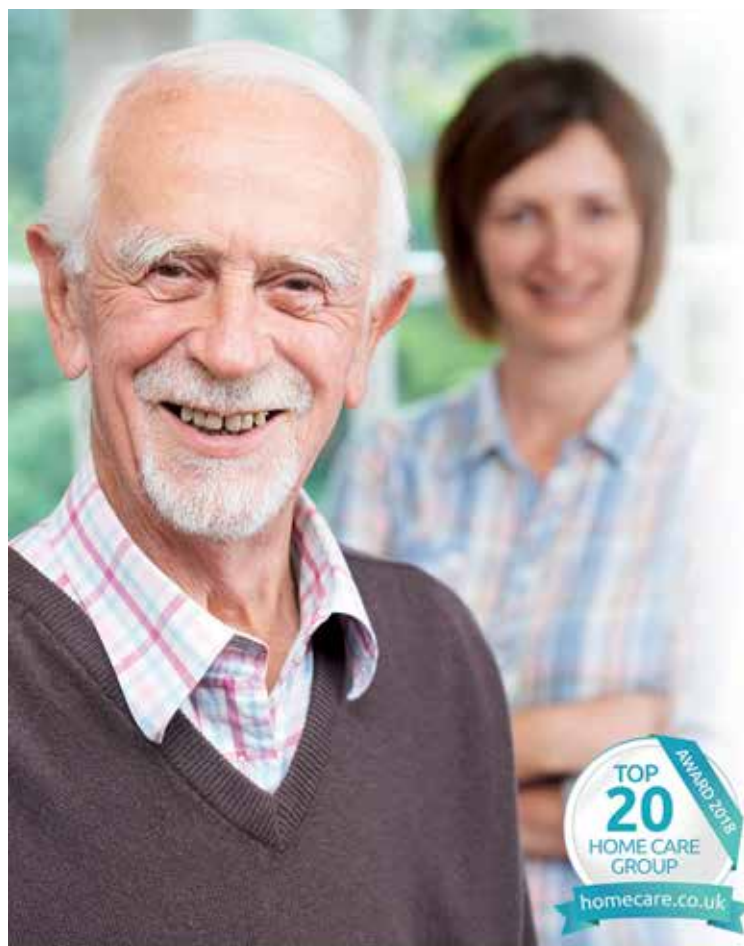
It has met at various other locations over the years, including the Warrington Club in Bold Street, but in more recent times has settled at Statham Lodge.

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# No Brainer relocates after doubling staff count

STRONG client growth has seen Warrington marketing agency No Brainer expand and relocate to a stunning new 1,630 sqft office space in Wilderspool Business Park.

The award-winning PR, social media and content marketing agency has almost doubled its team in a single year, outgrowing its previous office space just 14 months after moving in.

Following a recent recruitment drive, which has seen another three people added to the team during the year, No Brainer has relocated to the new office space – more than triple the size of its former offices in Victoria Park, Warrington.

The agency's eight-strong team is now housed in the Quayside building on Wilderspool Business Park near Stockton Heath, previously the Greenall's Brewery site, following a year of unprecedented growth.

No Brainer Director, Gary Jenkins, said: "We've had an incredibly strong year as an agency, doubling our team and expanding into some incredible new offices in Warrington. This is all part of our ambition to become Cheshire's number one PR, social media and content marketing agency."

"So far, we've grown our client base primarily through referrals and recommendations and that is a fantastic testament to the team we have, who all make our business what we are."

"We've got ambitious growth plans for the company and after a series of new client wins, this was a natural next step for us. It's a real investment in the future of the business, creating what we feel is a fantastic work environment for our

growing team. We also hope it will help us attract some of the region's top PR, social media and content marketing talent in the future."

For more information on No Brainer, visit [www.nobrainagency.co.uk](http://www.nobrainagency.co.uk).



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# FESTIVE Fun! at Warrington Market

**Every Fri 30 Nov - 21 Dec 8:30am - 7:00pm**

**Town Centre Christmas Market (30 Nov)**

**Alive after 5: late night shopping, live music & family entertainment throughout the day.**

**Festive decorations workshops 4.30pm - 7pm (fee applicable)**

**Sat 1 Dec 8:30am - 7:00pm**

**Town Centre Christmas Market (1 Dec)**

**Santa's grotto inside the market in aid of Warrington Disability Partnership 10:30am - 4pm**

**Festive decorations workshops 11am - 3pm (fee applicable)**

**Every Sun 2 - 23 Dec 11:00am - 4:00pm**

**Town Centre Christmas Market (2 Dec)**

**Festive decorations workshops 11am - 2pm (fee applicable)**

**Sat 8 Dec 8:30am - 5:00pm**

**Christmas Geeky Market**

**Festive Slime Party 11am - 3pm**

**Santa's grotto inside the market in aid of Warrington Disability Partnership 10:30am - 4pm**

**Sat 15 Dec 8:30am - 5:00pm**

**The Big Winter Lego Build - all day**

**Festive decorations workshops 11am - 3pm**

**Santa's grotto inside the market in aid of Warrington Disability Partnership 10:30am - 4pm**

**Every day 17 - 22 Dec 8:30am - 5:00pm**

**Santa's grotto inside the market in aid of Warrington Disability Partnership 10:30am - 4pm**

**Sat 22 Dec 8:30am - 5:00pm**

**The spirit of Christmas live music, choirs**

**Festive decorations workshop**

**Christmas Eve**

**8:30am - 4:00pm**

**Christmas Day**

**Closed**

**Boxing Day**

**Closed**

**Thur 27 Dec**

**8:30am - 5:00pm**

**Fri 28 Dec**

**8:30am - 5:00pm**

**Sat 29 Dec**

**8:30am - 5:00pm**

**Sun 30 Dec**

**Closed**

**New Years Eve**

**8:30am - 4:00pm**

**New Years Day**

**Closed**

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# Local plan delayed again – and council blame the government

WARRINGTON Borough Council is blaming the Government for further delays in the publication of its draft Local Plan.

The plan – which will set out the council's long term proposals for the future development of the borough – will not now be published until March next year at the earliest.

Originally the plan should have been published early in the autumn, then it was put back until the end of the year because of the number of representations made by the public.

national planning rules in order to understand what this means for Warrington. The council has therefore decided that it has no option but to delay the publication of its draft Local Plan.

It is now anticipated the plan will be published in March next year, prior to a further round of public consultation.

The two councillors said: "The Government has moved the goal posts yet again and is making the process of producing the Local Plan more difficult both for us and other

councils to produce their plans.

"It is causing uncertainty for local people. We have made real progress in producing our plan, but this uncertainty around the housing figures is delaying our final decisions and it is compromising our ability to get on with the important job of setting out the strategic future for our borough.

"This is just not good enough and we urge the Government to move to provide clarity on this as a matter of urgency."



## Local Plan

In a joint statement, council leader Terry O'Neill (pictured) and lead member for planning Cllr Judith Guthrie say the council is continuing to work on the delivery of the draft Local Plan, which will set out the proposed approach to meeting the borough's future need for homes, jobs and supporting infrastructure.

But they say the Government has recently proposed further changes to the formula that will establish the minimum number of homes that Warrington will need to plan for. The Government is consulting on these changes until Friday December 7.

It is important that the council has clarity over the changes to the

## Council leader set to stand down

WARRINGTON Borough Council Leader Cllr. Terry O'Neill has announced he is standing down.

Cllr O'Neill made the announcement at a Labour group meeting recently.

In a prepared statement he announced: "Succession planning in political leadership is never easy, which is why I have taken some time to carefully consider current and future issues before making this statement to you all.

"I have been your Leader since we took control in 2011 and previously played a major role in political leadership terms since 2006. Since 2011, despite the inflicted Tory austerity we have had great success. We have led an economic renaissance for the town including the redevelopment of our Town Centre, we have kept local Council Tax rates one of the lowest in the North West, we have rejuvenated many local parks and community centres including the hugely impressive Walton Hall estate.

"I believe, despite government policy, we are delivering on our 4 pledges that were made in our 2016 manifesto. Of course there is more to do – in particular to focus on protecting our vulnerable citizens and resisting locally damaging Tory policies which may lead to more inequality.

"As Tony Blair and Gordon Brown realised, however successful the leadership and its achievements no-one should go on forever – and I have decided to retire as Leader at the December Full Council meeting. This will allow a new Leader to continue to deliver on our great work but also allow us to adequately prepare for a new manifesto for the all-out elections in 2020.

"I will of course continue to give the Party and the Council my full support."

His successor will be nominated from a short list in November, to take control in December.

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THE LYMM  
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# Children lift a light for St. Rocco's Hospice

**YOUNGSTERS from all over Warrington gathered at Orford Jubilee Hub to put their best foot forward raising funds to support patients being cared for by St. Rocco's Hospice.**

It was a magical evening of lights and excitement as the children, all holding brightly coloured lanterns, made their way along one mile course accompanied by the Manchester Samba Band and lots of grownups who had come to encourage the children along the way.

Disney princesses, Bat girl and of course Rocco, the hospice mascot, were also there to cheer the children on and pose for photos before the walk.

It wasn't only the children and the samba band who were bedecked in lights. Over a hundred volunteers turned out to welcome the children, distribute the lanterns, marshal the route and hand out medals and goody bags at the end. This year many of them had gone the extra mile, by wearing fairy lights themselves.

"This is always a lovely event," said Rachel Ingham, Fundraising Manager for St. Rocco's, "These

are our youngest supporters and it is great to see them wanting to help us look after our patients and families. They always bring lots of grownups with them and we think they enjoy it just as much as the children!

"We're extremely grateful to all the volunteers, organisations, businesses and individuals who helped us to make this year's Lantern Walk a success. Without the sponsorship raised at these kinds of events, we simply wouldn't be able to continue with our care."

If you missed the Lantern Walk, then there is another opportunity to shine a light for those we love through St. Rocco's Light Up a Life appeal which invites members of the public to dedicate a light on the St. Rocco's Christmas tree in return for a donation towards patient care. Find out more at <http://www.stroccos.org.uk/events/light-up-a-life/> or call the Fundraising team on 01925 575780.



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# Win a Christmas hamper at the Heritage Café at Walton

THE Heritage Café at Walton Gardens has some new festive delights on offer throughout the festive period - and the chance of winning a luxurious Christmas hamper.

The café, located in the Heritage Yard has recently been taken on by Lewis's and is rapidly becoming a favourite destination to drop in for either a quick cuppa, sit-down brunch/lunch or cake fest in the afternoon.

Indeed, as the Winter draws in, the café is becoming a welcome retreat for families, cyclists, park visitors and dog walkers alike.

Throughout December special festive delights will be introduced to compliment the current menu.

Café proprietor, Stef Manfredi is very keen to have created food and drink choices to meet all dietary requirements and is excited to be able to extend the menu for the Christmas period.

Gingerbread and Chocolate and Orange Flowerpot Muffins alongside current favourites including the luxurious Parsnip, Honey and Orange layer cake and Gluten Free Chocolate Brownies.

Café Manager Karolina has taken care of the festive coffee choices and is delighted to offer Winter Spice, Egg Nog and Choc Mint Lattes alongside infusion Christmas teas and the appearance

of a 'guest' Christmas blend coffee, which she is keeping a secret for now!

What isn't a secret is the fact that Walton Hall Gardens and the Heritage Café staff are working hard to ensure that there is much to look forward to throughout December at the park.

With the Heritage Yard and Old Riding School hosting the increasingly popular Artisan Market on Saturday 15th and 16th December and Winter Wonderland taking place across two weekends on Saturday and Sunday 8/9th and 15/16th December there will be much fun to be had and lots of delicious food and drink to enjoy.

The Heritage Café will open itself out onto the courtyard and Stef explained "We aim to provide some traditional, but tasty, locally sourced 'Winter Warmers' outside



for both weekends to compliment the food options available inside the café. There's a lot of planning to do but we can't wait to decorate our Christmas tree and embrace the festive period."

The Heritage Café at Walton is also offering Facebook followers the chance to win a luxurious Christmas hamper.

See the advert below for information.

## The Sweet Blockbuster tour comes to town

ICONIC 70s glam rock band The Sweet are set to celebrate 50 years of their music with a "Blockbuster Christmas party at Warrington's Parr Hall.

A National Treasure, British at the core and a Rock Music

Phenomena the band, which still includes original member Andy Scott has taken every continent by storm for more than four decades.

With the hits Blockbuster, Ball Room Blitz, Fox On The Run & Love Is Like Oxygen The Sweet became one of the biggest bands of the '70s, and were the quintessential glam rockers who brought androgynous looks and crunching guitar pop to the masses.

Andy's determination to maintain high standards with the band's musical legacy and touring is legendary.

The band today has an illustrious

pedigree recreating "live" the high energy and soaring vocals associated with the Sweet sound that is the band's trademark.

The Sweet - Blockbuster Christmas / December 2018 show arrives at Warrington Parr Hall on Friday, December 21, doors 7.30pm. Tickets are £23 in advance.

Tickets for the above shows are available from the following:

Box Office No - 08444 780 898

Website - <https://www.thegigcartel.com/Artists-profiles/The-Sweet.htm>





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# Going the Extra Mile Scuba Challenge raises over £2,000

**THE annual 'Going The Extra Mile Scuba Challenge' has been deemed a great success after managing to raise over £2,000 towards funds for Warrington Disability Partnership.**

The challenge was founded seven years ago to help raise funds for WDP and provide opportunities for disabled people to try the sport of Scuba Diving.

Dave Thompson MBE DL, joint founder and Chief Executive, is a full-time wheelchair user after sustaining a spinal cord injury whilst playing American Football in 1989. He has tetraplegia, with limited use in his left arm and none in his right arm and both legs. Dave started scuba diving in 2009, he is PADI Advanced Open Water accredited, with 200 dives.

Dave was joined by over 30 able bodied and disabled divers including his dive buddy, Dave Williams, Dave Kelsall who is living with stage 4 cancer of the oesophagus, John Munslow who has had spinal surgery, Mark Purslow who has Becker's Muscular Dystrophy and also a full-time wheelchair user and two families, led by Dave Sloan and Dave Thompson who both had three generations taking part. The youngest being 8 years old Heather-May Sloan, who



completed the mile, 64 lengths and Dave Thompson's 9-year-old granddaughter, Chloe, who completed 22 lengths. All the scuba divers involved said the two youngsters were inspirational.

Dave Thompson CEO of WDP said: "The event was only made possible because of the team at Livewire for providing the pool, facilities and their staff, Derek Howden and his team at Cheshire Scuba Academy for providing the kit, instructors, underwater and poolside support, plus admin and counters from Birchwood and Warrington Lions and WDP staff

and volunteers."

"A huge thank you to all of the scuba divers, qualified and those taking part in the try dives, everyone behind the scenes and everyone who has made a donation."

It's not too late to make a donation online via Just Giving [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wdpsscuba2018](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wdpsscuba2018) or call in to any of WDP's services to make a donation.

WDP have already started planning next year's annual Scuba Challenge, "The Three Deeps

Challenge" which will involve diving in three countries in one day. An early morning 18 metre dive in Loch Long in Scotland, a mid-day 18m dive in Capernwray in England and an early evening 18m dive in Vivian Quarry in North Wales.

If you are interested in supporting next year's challenge, as a diver, an assistant or sponsor, please contact Dave Thompson via [davethompson@disabilitypartnership.org.uk](mailto:davethompson@disabilitypartnership.org.uk) or telephone 01925 240064.

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# 100 years on Warrington remembers

**MANY hundreds of Warrington people gathered at the Town Hall, lined the streets and then massed at the Cenotaph to remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice and to commemorate the centenary of Armistice Day after World War 1.**

On a day which began with rain but turned into a beautiful, clear Autumn Sunday the people of Warrington commemorated the sacrifice and suffering of war and to pray for the peace of the World.

Beginning at the Town Hall, as is traditional, a parade including veterans, serving Armed Forces, cadets, Scouts, Guides and St. Johns Ambulance personnel, were led by the Warrington Pipe Band.

At one minute before 11 o'clock Lt. Col. Les Taylor-Duffy read from Laurence Binyon's stirring poem "For the Fallen".

To a hushed crowd the Last Post was sounded as the standards were dipped and was followed by a perfectly observed two minutes of silence.

Lt. Col Les Taylor-Duffy then said the Kohima Epitaph which was followed by the hymn "O valiant hearts".

Norman Banner DL, MBE, laid the first wreath on the War Memorial alongside the Mayor of Warrington, Cllr. Karen Mundry, followed by other dignitaries, including the two local Members of Parliament.

Scripture readings and prayers were offered by Fr. Christopher Cunningham, The Revd Canon Paul Wilson, The Warrington Council of Faiths, and Warrington Free Churches and the Cadets.

To the moving strains of the Salvation Army band "I vow to thee my Country" was sung followed by

the National Anthem.

The Revd. Canon Paul Wilson brought proceedings to a close with a Blessing.

The parade then returned through the applauding crowds gathered from Bridge Foot to the Town Hall.

**Warrington Worldwide** was on hand to video the march and service which has enabled many expats, workers and those unable to get to the Cenotaph to share the day.

By Paul Jackson



Paul Johnson and Graham Young, himself a veteran of the Grenadier Guards.



## Going to great pains to find the right osteopathic treatment for you

WHEN it comes to pain, it's not always easy to find the right treatment – or the right practitioner to help you deal with it.

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Pain and musculoskeletal conditions often benefit from Osteopathy. This usually employs physical techniques such as manipulation, stretching and massage to help the body's own healing mechanism - resulting in the relief of pain and an increase

in mobility and function.

Darren Hayward (pictured) has been an Osteopath at the practice for over 20 years. Qualifying in 1994, he has had a great deal of experience dealing with all types of condition. Whilst many of his patients come to him with lower back and neck pain, he enjoys all aspects of general osteopathic practice. One of his areas of special interest is the management of M.E./Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, a much misunderstood and debilitating condition.

He is also interested in the treatment of sports injuries and exercise related pain. A keen sportsman himself, he participates

in running and judo, which have given him an understanding of the demands that certain activities can have on the body.

For more information, an appointment with, or simply advice from Darren Hayward, or any other practitioner, you can call Lymm Osteopathic Practice on 01925 752264. Or, alternatively, take a look at the website on [www.lymmosteopathicpractice.co.uk](http://www.lymmosteopathicpractice.co.uk). All practitioners have completed a high standard of professional training and are appropriately registered. They are always happy to help find the health solution that's perfect for you and your requirements.



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# Exhibition shows life through the eyes of a young carer

WIRED Adult & Young Carers held an exhibition at the Gateway entitled "Through the Eyes of a Young carer."

The free event was sponsored by Newton & District Jubilee Rotary Club and also supported by Warrington Rotary Club.

Special guests included the Mayor of Warrington Cllr Karen Mundry.

Pictures Andrew Gilbert



## Outsourced Utilities celebrate opening of new head office

A FANTASTIC evening celebrated the opening of Outsourced Utilities newly refurbished and enlarged head office.

The event was attended by a number of key individuals from the local area, which made for an enjoyable evening of food, drink and informal networking.

Also in attendance was the Sheriff of Chester, Cllr Stuart Parker, who shared some fantastic words about Outsourced Utilities achievements this year and exciting growth plans for 2019.

Outsourced Utilities, who cover the Warrington area, offer and end to end energy procurement and management service for a multitude of business types. Over the last 4 years they have cemented their

place in the local market by offering a professional and trustworthy service to their client base.

The newly refurbished office facility in Chester will act as the foundations to execute Outsourced Utilities exciting plans for the coming year, which include creating more jobs, developing a successful affiliate scheme and investing in new software to add extra value to new and existing customers.

Why not get in touch with the Outsourced Utilities team for a free utility review of your current business energy spend?

[info@outsourcedutilities.co.uk](mailto:info@outsourcedutilities.co.uk) / 01244 886 365.





## £financially yours

By David Watkinson

### The Budget

#### Well what a fortnight of contrasts.

I left the UK nearly a fortnight ago to sail (well, not exactly sail but cruise on a coastal ferry) up the Norwegian coast round to the Russian border and back again. Since then we have had the American Mid-Term elections, when Trump managed to lose control of the House of Representatives but still win a "massive" victory (fake news?), the Brexit talks have continued but I have managed to avoid any news (fake or otherwise) about



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

those, I have been to the Arctic Circle, seen the Northern Lights three times and am writing this whilst sailing (well actually cruising) towards Bergen to catch my flight home.

#### And we have had a budget!

So what happened in the budget? Well not too much actually that will affect small businesses and individuals.

Firstly, there was speculation that VAT thresholds would be reduced substantially. Well, that didn't happen, but they are not going up either. They are being frozen at the current level.

Secondly, the increase in the income tax personal allowance to £12,500 and the increase in the 40% threshold to £50,000 which was originally going to happen in April 2020 has been brought forward by one year to next April (2019). The upper earnings threshold for National Insurance, however, has been substantially increased to bring it into line with the 40% income tax threshold. The self-employed stamp (Class 2), originally due to be abolished, will continue. This may actually be good news if your self-employed earnings are very low and you have no other NIC liabilities.

Thirdly, many people have taken advantage of R & D credits to reduce their tax liabilities. Whilst these are continuing, they will be subject to a new cap.

Fourthly, the exemption from Capital Gains Tax on selling your own home is being attacked in two ways. Firstly, the final period of ownership is exempt even if you have moved out subject to a time limit. Originally 36 months, this was reduced to 18 months in 2014, and is now to be reduced further to 9 months. Secondly, lettings relief is being severely curtailed and will only apply to periods when the owner "shares" occupation with a tenant.

There are a number of other changes that will affect larger businesses and wealthier individuals. I am pleased, however, with one measure that has not changed. Having suffered two weeks of Norwegian prices for alcohol, basically £10 for a pint of beer and £50 (yes £50) for a bottle of supermarket wine, I am pleased to see that duties on beers, wines and spirits remain unchanged. I am looking forward with great anticipation to my first glass of wine when I get home.

*WatkinsonBlack have considerable experience in all areas of taxation and business services, including the provision of a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. If you want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting on any business matter then please contact us. Please note that these ideas are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always obtain professional advice before taking any action.*

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## Warrington Wolves unveil their 2019 home and away playing kits



SUPPORTERS were treated to an exclusive video reveal of Warrington Wolves' new kits via a projection onto the Treasury Building.

Produced by new kit partners O'Neills, the club's distinctive home shirt dons the traditional primrose and blue colours.

With a throwback to the club's heritage, the home shirt takes inspiration from the year 2000 and commemorates the 20th anniversary of that particular kit design – primarily blue with two distinctive lower primrose stripes and a thinner white stripe across the chest.

The Wire will wear blue shorts, with blue, primrose and white striped socks.

The 2019 away shirt is a mélange of dark grey with an olive green trim around the neck and down the sides.

The club will wear grey shorts with a green trim and grey socks to accompany this shirt.

Main club sponsors One Energy remain proudly displayed across the chest for the second consecutive season.

Long-standing partners Total Steelwork and Fabrication Ltd, Muse Developments, Warrington Fabrications, University of Chester and Boutique Hotel Group once again proudly feature across the kit, while the club welcomes on board new partners Wirehouse and Resulting IT.

Replica kits are available to order by going online now with orders scheduled to be available for collection as of Friday 23 November, when they will also be hitting the shelves of the Official Club Store.





## 16-year-old turns in a stand-out performance

WARRINGTON Athletics Club had five athletes competing in the Cheshire 10k at Arley, with a stand out performance from their youngest competitor, 16-year old Jordan Jones.

Jordan, a Lymm Sixth Form student who lives in Grappenhall, was competing over 10km for the first time. He finished his debut 10km in 33.03 mins which ranks Jordan 8th in the 10km UK rankings for his age group.

Nick Jones, Jordan's father, finished in 20th place overall and won bronze in V40 category with 33.01 mins.

Graham Green, a Cheshire Firefighter who lives in Grappenhall, won the V50 category and was 38th place overall with 34.33 mins.

Paul Bagan, also from Grappenhall, finished 5th in the V40 category and 44th place overall with 35.03 mins.

And Mervyn Ward, from Cinnamon Brow, finished 2nd in the V60 category and 180th overall with 41.42 mins.

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