VILLAGE

Your Community Magazine

Issue 216 March 2019

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Editor's comment

Green Belt omission!

EDDIE Stobart has at long last announced a public exhibition over proposals for a new National Distribution Centre on Green Belt land north of Barleycastle Lane, Appleton Thorn - unfortunately it came too late for us to publicise, in this magazine, ahead of the event!

The logistics giant gave 11days notice of the event which we publicised online. They also wrote to local borough councillors but not local parish councillors.

While welcoming the exhibition, it is difficult to comment as it had not happened at time of writing.

But in their press release a spokesperson for the company said "Several observations" had been made about the previous application.

They have taken account of these and spent considerable time looking again at the scheme and are now confident that the application will fully detail the advantages to Warrington and the significant very special circumstances to support the development.

They say the proposal represents a commitment from Eddie Stobart to grow its base in Warrington, creating over 700 jobs in the local economy and generating a £6m investment to improve local roads and transport.

Eddie Stobart is also writing to over

800 local homes and businesses to ensure everyone who might be affected has the chance to meet the project team, see the plans, find out more and have their say.

The one thing any of their publicity fails to mention is that the development is on Green Belt land!

I have challenged them on the omission of the words "Green Belt" from their publicity material and at time of writing had still not had a reply. Surely this is the most important element of the planning application?

Meanwhile while I fully understand Eddie Stobart has made a significant contribution to the local business community and created jobs I still can't see how such a huge development, on Green Belt land, can benefit the local community further

community further.

May be the exhibition will make me see things differently.

But as the previous application was rejected as being premature, prior to publication of the PDO Local Plan, I don't see how that can have changed.

Also I fail to see how the local highway network can cope with an estimated 600 HGV movements a day.

The argument about creating more local jobs is also somewhat bewildering when Warrington's unemployment figures are below the national average and local



recruitment companies are struggling to find enough drivers to satisfy curent demand.

Finally and most importantly I can't see how this application has "significant very special circumstances" to justify loss of Green Belt land.

May be I will see things diffderently after the exhibition - but if it is anything like the public consultation by Langree last year on an nearby area of land, I very much doubt it.

Deadline for the April issue of Village Life is March 19

Spring has sprung early!



SPRING has sprung early this year especially at Walton Gardens where daffodils started to flower at the end of December due to the mild weather affecting much of the country.

Normally flowering in February temperatures reached double figures during the day time through much of December and although there were some cold snaps in January, February produced a near heatwave.

According to the Royal Horticultural Society daffodils "have long been considered one of the heralds of spring. Planted in the autumn, they spend several months developing roots before the flowers burst forth in spring."

Meanwhile the animals in the Childrens Zoo, are also enjoying the mild weather, especially the red squirrels, who have been performing well for the cameras on a regular basis!

Appleton residents win £300,000 on People's Postcode Lottery

residents from Warrington had great reason to celebrate after winning £30,000 each thanks to their postcode.

The winning postcode, WA4 3AJ, on Bridge Lane was announced as Sunday's Street Prize winner and residents received a knock on the door with the winning envelopes.

Pharmacist Hayley was joined by her mum Lilian when she received the knock on her door from the People's Postcode Lottery team. The pair became emotional when they discovered how much Hayley had

Hayley said, "As a mum of three and with one son at university, I can't explain the difference that this will make. It will change my life and make it so much easier. It's honestly just out of this world!'

Hayley plans to put her windfall to good use by going on the trip of a lifetime with her family. She continued, "I have family in Australia that I have never even met before and my mum hasn't seen for years. It's always been my dream to be able to go over and take my mum with me, but we never really thought it would be possible until now."

Hayley's next-door neighbours Pauline and Collette were also playing neighbours

and won on the day.

Retired Collette was overjoyed when she received her cheque, as she was not expecting to see £30,000 in the envelope. She said, "Oh gosh, this is the biggest surprise of my life and the most wonderful thing that's happened to me in a long time. Thank you so much! It's also been lovely to win with my neighbours, we're all quite friendly and look out for

one another so it's nice to share this

experience with them."

Sally hopes to use her winnings to set up her own business as a make-up artist. She said, "I was meant to be on a course today but I'm so glad I decided to stay in to collect the prize! It's amazing and so much more than I was expecting. I thought it might be £3,000 and I'd be able to go on a lovely family holiday, but to get this kind of money is going to make such a difference. I'm going to be able to do so much with it.

Also taken aback when she saw what was written on the cheque was mum of two Jennifer. She said, "This doesn't seem real, it's incredible and

I can't believe I've won this much money. My kids would love to go to Legoland, so I think we'll be heading on a trip there.

Suzanne, who works as a Teaching Assistant at a local school, was another lucky winner and said, "Oh my goodness, I never expected this. The zeroes just kept coming - it's a very nice surprise.

Anne collected the fabulous prize on behalf of her husband Tony. She was stunned when she saw the figure written on the cheque and said, "Are you joking? I can't believe it - not one, not two but thirty thousand pounds!" Anne also explained that the money was going to have a huge

impact and allow Tony, who is selfemployed, to reduce his working hours so he can spend more time with the family.
People's Postcode Lottery Presenter

Judie McCourt was in Appleton to

Judie said, "Neighbours winning together is what People's Postcode Lottery is all about, so I am absolutely thrilled that we've been able to spread some happiness to our players in Appleton. I'm sure they'll all have the most fabulous time spending their

winnings."

With 32% of the ticket price going to charities, players have so far raised £393 Million for good causes.



Hotel Spa team building links with colleges

THE team at the recently refurbished spa facilities at The Park Royal Hotel in Stretton, are building links with colleges after being a finalist in Best Uk Health Club Spa 2018, awarded by The Good Spa Guide.

Hotel General Manager Annie Brown said: "We are really excited about the relationships the Spa team are building with the local colleges. Over the last three months the team have visited Warrington Collegiate, Riverside and Trafford colleges.

"The interaction and enthusiasm from the students has been amazing. It is so exciting to see the passion for the industry.

The Park Royal Spa opened the doors to invite the colleges in for trade days after being a finalist in the

Best UK Club Spa 2018.

Annie added: "We are delighted to have met with and interviewed many who are interested in joining the team once qualified later this year, and to be facilitating work experience partnerships currently.

"The Spa, having recently under gone a full pool side refurbishment, including a new steam room facility, provides a fantastic day Spa experience, with our team at the heart of all we do."



Alternative travel

It does not get any more alternative than North Korea. Is it ethical to travel to North Korea? Is it safe? Will I get a visa? There are countless questions about what it is like to travel to North Korea and we work with a fantastic Tour Operator who can assist with all of these questions and many more.

They have more than 30 years at the forefront of North Korean travel and strive to push the boundaries of tourism. Their Travel Specialists have visited the country more than 30 times, always returning with more enthusiasm. Since starting travel to the DPRK over 30 years ago; tourism has provided employment to hundreds of people and helped channel money into muchneeded infrastructure. Safety is key and though some governments intermittently advise against travel to DPRK, it is deemed a safe country as visitors are essentially guests of the state and are treated as such.

The Tour Operator can assist with obtaining visas and the cost of this is normally included in the tour price. Most Asia travel policies cover your visit to the country, but you would need to check with your Insurance provider.

The tours available for 2019 have been timed to coincide with various special events or national holidays in North Korea. The celebrations vary as the atmosphere may just be slightly more relaxed, or there may be mass dancing in the city squares and large military parades. It is quite common for special orchestra, opera or circus performances to take place

and it is normally possible to attend such events with the tickets paid for locally.

As it is a developing country; you will not find any international five-star accommodation. Hotels are typically of a Soviet-style three star equivalent, and in rural areas conditions can be basic. However, recently some decent hotels have started to open up across the country. In Pyongyang accommodation has come a long way, and while standards may not be comparable to the rest of Asia or Europe, the hotels typically offer a range of facilities from bowling alleys to swimming pools and karaoke rooms, as well as bars, restaurants and shops.

The tours include all guiding,



■ Stockton Heath Hays Travel Team.

meals, transport, transfers and accommodation within the country. Ultimately the choice is yours, but it is very much believed that tourism helps to broaden the minds of both Koreans and visitors alike. Call in to find out more.

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

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THE PARK ROYAL

Urgent "call to arms" for volunteers to help organise ancient Bawming the Thorn event

AN urgent "call to arms" has been issued to help recruit volunteers to organise the annual Bawming The Thorn event at Appleton Thorn.

Unfortunately, last year, after many years of dedication and planning many of the organising committee have

Susan Plass, a Trustee of the Village Hall Committee has now issued a call to arms for volunteers to help with this year's event on Saturday, June 15. Appleton Thorn village is the only village in England

where the 'Bawming of the Thorn' ceremony takes place on the third Saturday of June each year.

The original thorn tree was believed to be an offshoot of the Glastonbury thorn, which grew from the staff of Joseph of Arimathea.

Adam de Dutton, a knight of the Crusades and local landowner, brought it to Appleton. Although the tree was later replaced the tradition of Bawming the Thorn lives

Bawming means decoration and the tree is decorated with bows and ribbons. The children from the final year at Appleton Thorn primary school enact a ceremony and dance around the tree to the Bawming song.

Traditionally there is a procession which starts from

the Village Hall led by a band followed by the children and parents proceeding down Pepper Street, Chapel Lane and Arley Road back to the Church, where the enactment takes place.

For many years this enactment has been followed by a village fete held on the field by the Village Hall organised by the local villagers, the church and school staff and

Susan said: "Unfortunately, last year, after many years of dedication and planning the committee of Chairperson, Treasurer, Volunteer Organiser, Secretary and Commercial stalls organiser stood down.

'This committee have been responsible for making the Bawming fete possible raising much needed funds for village projects. They must be thanked for all their hard work, well done!!

"Now it is time for others to stand forward as sadly, unless we can persuade volunteers to fill these roles during March, then the event as we have known it will not happen this year.

"The parade and the dancing around the tree will still ahead and we will have a summer BBQ at the Village

"I now make a 'CALL TO ARMS' for volunteers to fill the above roles. Please support our Bawming Day."

Any one interested in helping out should contact Susan

by email at susanruth.williams@tiscali.co.uk



Have your say on the future of the library

STOCKTON Heath and Appleton parish councils are urging residents to make their views known on the borough council's draft proposals for the future of Stockton Heath Library - and the library service generally.

A six-week consultation has been launched to give everyone a chance to have their say on the borough's draft library strategy.

But time is running out. The consultation period ends on March 8 and the borough's Libraries Partnership Board – which drew up the draft strategy – aims to study the feedback on March 20. The final version of the strategy – "Transforming Warrington's Public Libraries" – will be published in

the summer.

It will aim to ensure all the borough's libraries remain sustainable and relevant for the future by meeting the needs of all sections of the community. It underpins the borough council's £1 million investment in a programme of repairs, maintenance and refurbishment of all 12 libraries, along with a major investment in book stock.

At the heart of the strategy is for the libraries to "make a meaningful, visible and measurable difference to the lives of people in Warrington, as a place of enjoyment, reflection, calm, inclusion,

safety, insight, inspiration, creativity and learning."
A range of measures are proposed to achieve

this, including embracing technology; supporting health and wellbeing; providing welcoming and inclusive social spaces; and becoming a focal point for learning, creativity, culture and imagination. Stockton Heath Parish Council is to move its

offices into Stockton Heath Library to help make the building sustainable. It is also hoped other parts of the building can be adapted for use

businesses – possibly including a café.

Cllr Peter Walker – a member of both Stockton
Heath and Appleton parish councils and the borough
council – said: "We want people to respond to this
consultation and let the Libraries Partnership Board know what they think of the draft proposals and, perhaps more importantly, what they would like to see in our libraries in the future.

"Stockton Heath Library draws people from all over South Warrington and is one of the busiest in the borough. We want to see it become even busier."

The borough council's lead member for leisure and community, Cllr Tony Higgins, said: "Warrington people have told us how highly they value public library services. That's why we are investing so heavily in their future. But refurbishing buildings and improving book stock are only part of the

story. We also need to make sure our libraries are sustainable into the future, by listening to what people want, and designing a service that truly

"We know that to sustain our libraries, with limited resources, we need to think differently and creatively, as the needs of our communities change. That means that there are many challenges ahead, as well as opportunities to explore.

Our draft strategy sets out how we aim to provide sustainable libraries service to meet the needs and choices of our communities for many years to come. I would urge everyone who values their library service to get involved in the consultation, have your say, and help us get it right."

You can get involved in the consultation in the

- following ways:

 By completing the online survey, at www. warrington.gov.uk/consultations
- By requesting a paper copy (also available in other formats), on 01925 443921
- By sending an email to warringtonpartnership@ warrington.gov.uk
- By writing to Warrington Borough Council,
 Strategic Partnerships and Commissioning Team, Warrington & Co. The Base, Dallam Lane, Warrington WA2 7NG



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Two win places at Cambridge

TWO former Bridgewater High School pupils have secured places at one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the country Cambridge.

Yi Chen Hock and Sophie Johnson both went on to study A Levels at Priestley College – and were among the one-in-five applicants nationwide to receive an Oxbridge offer.

This year, Priestley achieved a 100 per cent success rate.

Chen will be studying

Engineering.
She finished her A-Level programme of Music, Electronics, Maths, Chinese, Further Maths, the Extended Project and Physics in 2018, but has taken a year out to work in industry.

"I think the year out has given me time to prepare for university and make sure I am certain about the path I want to take," she said.

Sophie and her family were reduced to tears when news of her offer to study Human, Social and Political

Sciences at Cambridge came through. She said: "There's a chance I might want to go into politics, but I am not set on that yet and the course I am



Yi Chen Hock

doing will give me a lot of options."
All the Priestley applicants have taken part in initiatives such as the Graduate, HE + and the Pembroke North Oxford programme, which are designed to raise aspirations



and prepare them for the university application process.

Senior tutor Mark Salmon said: "All of these are designed to ensure our students make a competitive application to some of the most

prestigious universities in the world, "This commitment to students reflects our determination to inspire them and make them realise

their outstanding potential."

More the merrier at Apple Jack's Adventure Farm!

APPLE Jack's Adventure Farm at Stretton, Warrington, is opening its gates for the 2019 season on Saturday 30 March 2019 with special 20 per cent discounts for online bookings for visits on / or before April 28.

The weather-protected covered play areas and the eating area were extended during the 2018 season, and more soft-play bouncy play areas were introduced.

Kids can have fun in other covered play areas including Jack's Fun House and The Haunted House.

A professional magic show is put on at noon every open day, and includes audience participation. There will be special Easter type activities put on at

Extra staff are being brought in to ensure that visitors always have a great

Check the website for full details and dates and opening times as they only open the gates during weekends and school holidays; and use ORBIT2019 at the online booking page to get your 20% DISCOUNT for visits made on or before

Tickets will be on sale online from March 6. The discount is not available on the Group 20 ticket.











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Money Column

Making Tax Digital

In a few weeks, some of you will face one of the biggest changes to the UK tax regime since the introduction of self-assessment more than 20 years ago with the introduction of Making Tax Digital ("MTD"). In our sister magazine, Warrington Worldwide, we looked in more detail at who would be affected and from when and from when.

To summarise, the businesses affected are those that are VAT registered AND which have a taxable turnover in excess of the VAT threshold, currently £85,000. Affected businesses will need to start



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

reporting under the MTD regime for their first VAT period STARTING after 1st April 2019. From that time, affected businesses will need to keep their VAT records and submit their VAT Returns digitally. If you do not meet these requirements then you can stop reading at this point.

HMRC have specified in detail exactly what records must be maintained in a digital format. These details are:

- The business name and contact details

- The business name and contact details
 Their VAT number and any VAT scheme used
 Any adjustments that they have made
 The VAT on supplies both made and received
 The time that those supplies were made
 The Net Value of those supplies excluding VAT
 The Rate of VAT applicable to those supplies
 (Retail Scheme Users Only) The Daily Gross Takings
 (Gold Accounting Scheme Users Only) Value of sales made under the scheme, and the total output tax on purchases made under the scheme.

- These requirements can basically be met in two ways:

 You can maintain your records in one of the several commercially available accounting packages available. If you already use a package then you should ensure that it is MTD compatible. The Kashflow package that we as a firm advocate to many of our clients is MTD compatible. OR

 For the time being, you can maintain your records in a spreadsheet program such as Excel and then use "bridging software" to submit the required information to HMRC. That bridging software is included in many of the commercially available accounting packages or can be made available by many accountancy firms. We will be able to provide this service to our clients.

Therefore, for many businesses meeting their MTD requirements will be fairly straight forward. They will need to log onto their business tax account at HMRC and register for Making Tax Digital. You should note that once this is done then you will be required to meet the MTD obligations immediately. If, however, you are maintaining your VAT records manually on paper then you will need to consider how you wish to fulfil your MTD obligations.

We have considerable experience in all areas of taxation and businesss services, including providing a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. Contact 01925 413210







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Tel: 01925 413210

or email: info@warrington accountants.co.uk www.watkinsonblack.co.uk



Left to right, Kim Russell, nursery pre school leader holding her youngest child Isla, Sarah Foster, nursery manager, Christine Lowe, NRS Ambassador, Hannah Forster, deputy manager. Front: Aurora (Kim's daughter who has JIA) and Daisy Walsh.

Pre-school raises £825 for charity

A FUN-filled day organised by a nursery pre-school raised £825 for the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society – the only patient-led charity in the UK specialising in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA).

Friends and families attended the fair at Kids Planet, Stretton which featured stalls, crafts, children's games and raffles.

The National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society (NRAS) provide information and support for people with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA), their families, friends and carers, as well as health professionals with an interest in RA.

They work to support those living with incurable auto-immune diseases via their educational resources, informative website, community events as well as campaigning for improved and equitable access to services and treatments.

Clare Jacklin, deputy CEO at NRAS, said: "The parents, staff and children of Kids Planet Day Nursery should be incredibly proud of this amazing achievement in raising such a 'stellar' amount.

"Every single penny is gratefully received and the funds will truly go towards making a difference to the 400,000 adults with RA and 12,000 children with JIA in the UK. On behalf of all those we help I'd like to say a massive 'out of this world' thank you to all at Kids Planet!"

Nursery pre-school leader Kim Russell who was keen to support the charity because her daughter was diagnosed with Juvenile Idiopathic arthritis at 17 months old said: "I'm ecstatic with the amount of money raised for this charity which is very close to my heart".

Planners move to protect historic building from lead thieves



PLANNING chiefs have given the go-ahead for the replacement of lead on the roof of Warrington's historic Walton Hall - to help safeguard the building from lead thieves.

Members of the borough council's development management committee agreed to the changes – which would normally be frowned upon because the hall is a Grade 2 Listed building – after hearing that lead thieves had repeatedly struck in recent times.

CCTV cameras have been approved in the past, but because of the size of the Walton Estate and the hall itself it is difficult to provide adequate cover.

Lead has been stolen from the roof on several occasions leading to damage

Now the lead flashing and sheeting will be replaced by a substitute material which has no second hand value and as such is of no interest to thieves.

Searching for a dog friendly destination?

IF you are looking for a dog friendly destination on your days out in the Warrington area well look no further than the Heritage Cafe at Walton Gardens where they welcome all dogs of all shapes and sizes.

The cafe is situated within the heritage yard at Walton Hall and Gardens, just a short walk from both Stockton Heath and Walton. With large lawns and wooded areas the park is the ideal destination for dogs and dog lovers alike.
For people travelling from further

For people travelling from further away there is a car park and lots of local walking routes to follow.

At the Heritage Cafe they have plenty of outdoor seating with an outdoor tap and dog bowl for doggy drinks but your canine friends are also welcome inside as long as they are on their best as long as they are on their best behaviour!

They are now stocking a new range of Frozzy's lickable frozen yoghurt that has been specifically made for dogs. It is lactose free and is full of essential vitamins, minerals and fibre which makes it a healthy but exciting treat for your furry friend. You can also find free dog treats at the till to keep your pooch entertained with







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Jools Holland set to headline spectacular outdoor music event

RHYTHM and blues legend Jools Holland is set to headline special outdoor event at Walton Hall & Gardens this summer.

Walton Hall and Gardens has teamed up with arts charity Culture Warrington to present a fantastic outdoor music event featuring the one and only Jools Holland and His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra.

With special guests Pauline Black and Arthur "Gaps" Hendrickson from The Selecter, together with guest vocalists Ruby Turner and Louise Marshall, Saturday July 20 promises a fantastic evening of live music at Warrington's premier park.

Warrington Borough Council's executive board member for leisure and community, Cllr Tony Higgins, and former mayor and Cllr Peter Carey are delighted to announce the event.

Cllr Higgins said: "This is going to be an amazing event this summer and one which will really celebrate Walton as a destination, not only for borough residents but for people all over the North West.

"It's another example of how we're succeeding at putting Walton and Warrington on the map.

"That's not all for Walton either as this is just the start of the summer's events.

"We'll be bringing back the very popular Walton Film Festival again in the autumn and of course we'll be welcoming back the Walton Country Fair this September.

"Together with the amazing conservatory restoration works which

have already been undertaken, and those which will be completed later this year, we feel that the visit of Jools Holland to the jewel in Warrington's crown in July is a very fitting way to celebrate all of these successes."

The council has been working in close partnership with Culture Warrington, the charity which runs Pyramid & Parr Hall and Warrington Museum & Art Gallery, to present the event.

Chris Persoglio, Culture Warrington's venue and events manager, is excited to be involved.

to be involved.

He said: "It's always great to welcome top artists to the town and we've loved promoting Jools Holland's shows at Parr Hall in the past.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for an even wider audience to experience Jools Holland and His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra."

2019 is proving to be a momentous year for Walton Estate, which relaunched the hall as a business destination on January 24 2019 alongside new catering partner Carringtons of Liverpool.

The ongoing restoration works to the much-loved conservatories and shippon yard are due to be completed later this year.

Tickets for Jools Holland and His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra are now on sale at £50 per person via Warrington Borough Council's website www. warrington.gov.uk/JoolsHolland or culturewarrington.org or call Pyramid & Parr Hall Box office on 01925





War memorial to be refurbished

STOCKTON HEATH'S War Memorial is to be cleaned, refurbished and protected from future deterioration at a cost of almost £10.000.

Work will start at the junction of London Road and Ellesmere Road in the week beginning Monday, March 4 and will take about two weeks.

The Parish Council has agreement for a grant of up to £3,200 from the War Memorial Trust and will itself commit a further £3,200 to fund the cleaning of the memorial and its surrounding paving, using superheated steam - a method endorsed by the War Memorial Trust.

This will remove algae growth and discoloration from air pollutants.

All masonry joints on the memorial and surrounding paving will be cleaned out and repointed.

Protect

In addition to these works, a further £3,470 will be paid by the Parish Council for a sill to be introduced to the World War II dedication stone, mounted behind the memorial on the brick wall, to protect this stonework from further deterioration due to rainfall.

Clerk to the council Lara Jacob said: "During the works, the area will be protected behind a barrier and screen. There should be no disruption to traffic, but pedestrians should be aware and take care when walking along London Road and Ellesmere Road."

Lloyd and Smith, a specialist restoration and conservation company based in Oldham, will be undertaking the works, which were recommended by Lloyd Evans Pritchard, a Manchesterbased chartered architect practice, when they surveyed the condition of the memorial in September 2016.

What's on

in the villages

March 12
STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
Sandy Lane Centre, Stockton Heath, 7.30pm
March 19
APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, 7.30pm
March 21
GRAPPENHALL & THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL
Council Offices, Bellhouse Lane. 7.30pm March 23 LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S
The Apollo Saxophone Quartet
St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall. 7.30pm
Every day except Monday
GRAPPENHALL HEYS WALLED GARDEN
Witherwin Avenue, Grappenhall Heys, WA4 3DS.
Café open Friday 9am-4pm, Saturday and Sunday,
10am-5pm. Garden open Tues/Wed/Thurs 1pm-4pm.
Bank Holidays: Garden open but cafe closed.
Every Monday
COUNTRY DANCING CLUB
St Thomas' Primary School, Parkgate Road,
Stockton Heath.
8-10pm. Details: 01925 262356 BRIDGE CLUB BRIDGE CLUB
Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm. Details
01925 262534
LADIES' FRIENDSHIP CLUB
The Quays Community Centre,
Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.
Bym. Details: 01925 264099
HIGH LEGH BRIDGE CLUB
BRIDGE CLUB
BRIDGE CLUB
BRIDGE CLUB

HIGH LEGH BRIDGE CLUB
Village Hall, 7-10pm. Rubber, Duplicate and Chicago
played. Details: Audrey Greaves 0161 904 0120
Every second Monday
PARK (APPLETON) WI
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 7.30pm
PHILOSOPHY IN PUBS DISCUSSION GROUP
Red Lion pub, Stockton Heath 7-9pm
Contact Bill Cooke comcooke@gmail.com
Second and fourth Monday
WARRINGTON ART GROUP
Bellhouse Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane,
Grappenhall.
7-9pm.
Every third Monday

Orappendat.
7-9pm.
Every third Monday
NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY
Cheshire District meeting
Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club, Chester Road,
Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club, Chester Road,
Grappenhall.
Sam. Details: 01925 265773.
Every fourth Monday
MARL'FIELD
Grappenhall. Community Library, Albert Road,
Grappenhall. 7.30pm
Every Tuesday
COFFEE MORNING
St Cross Church, Appleton Thorn.
All welcome. 10am-12 noon
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
Quays Community Centre,

PHOLIOKAPHIL SUCLETY
Quays Community Centre,
Thelwall New Road, Thelwall. 7.30pm.
Contact: 01925 757582.
COFFEE MORNING
Appleton Independent Methodist Church
Appleton Parish Hall, 10am-12 noon
Every second Tuesday
STOCKTON HEATH LIONS CLUB
London Bridde Inn Rom

SIUCKIUN HEAHT LUNS LLUB London Bridge Inn, 8pm Contact: Grahamclisse58@outlook.com. Tel 01925 262669 BOOK CLUB Bizzie Beans Coffee House, Bridge Lane, Appleton 11am-12 noon Every Wednesday APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB Andir. February at Hall Drive. Annoleton, 7, 30-10nm

APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB
April- February at Hall Drive, Appleton. 7.30-10pm.
Details: 01925 262356
THELWALL MORRIS MEN
Thelwall Parish Hall, Bell Lane,
8.15pm. Details: 01925 767151
Every first Wednesday
WALTON WI
ST. Labo's Church Community Hall, 7.30-7

St John's Church Community Hall. 7.30pm Details: 01925 604384

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

Details: 01925 268540
Every third Wednesday
HIGHER WALTON WI, Sandy Lane Community Centre,
Stockton Heath, 7.30pm, Details 01925 602486.
Every fourth Wednesday
ALZHEIMERS SOCIETA
Support Group, Brampton Lodge Day Centre, Bridge
Lane, Appleton. 6.30-8.30pm
Every Thursday
THE SILVER QUAYS Senior Citizen's Club
The Quays Community Centre.

THE SILVER QUAYS SENIOR CITIZEN'S CLUD
The Quays Community Centre,
Thelwall New Road, Thelwall.
Details: 10325 753474.
BRIDGE CLUB
BRIDGE CLUB
Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm. Details
01925 262534

01925 262534
Every second Thursday
STRETTON WI
Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road. 2.30pm.
GRAPPENHALL PROBUS CLUB
Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, 10am.
Details: 01925 264427.
Every third Thursday
APPLETON AFTERNOON FLOWER CLUB
APPLETON AFTERNOON FLOWER CLUB
APPLETON AFTERNOON FLOWER CLUB
CRAPPENHALL WI
GRAPPENHALL WI
GRAPPENHALL WI
GRAPPENHALL WI
MA THELWALL U3A
Members' meetings 10am (not August or February)
Thelwall Parish Hall
Every Friday

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

To list your event call Village Life on 01925 623632







Pub re-opens after major refurbishment



THE Stretton Fox has reopened its doors after a major refurbishment which has given the pub a new look.

The pub located just off J10 of the M56 at Stretton, oozes rural charm and rustic character with the picturesque surroundings providing the perfect backdrop for savouring its new menu.

Visitors can enjoy the throughout the year, whether they're relaxing in front of their roaring fires in winter or making the most of the long summer nights in a new outdoor dining area.

Landlord Michael Newton said:

"We wanted the new look to provide guests with a cosy pub where they can enjoy dinner, have a few drinks after their busy day or simply relax with their four-legged friends and read the Sunday paper.

"The Stretton Fox is in a fantastic location in the countryside and we have an amazing support network around us, so we hope that all of our guests, both regulars and first-timers love the transformation."

Originally a private residence called Sparke Hall, the Stretton Fox has an architectural style which suggests it was built in the early 1900s and sits among picturesque gardens.

Aussie pace ace to join Grappers this

> sourced a young Australian fast bowler to help them cement their position in the Cheshire County League premier division this

GRAPPENHALL Cricket Club have

summer

Olly Knight, 24, is currently playing in the Sydney Premier League against some top class professional crickets, including former Australian skipper Steve Smith and fellow Test batsman David Warner – both currently banned from the first class game following a ball-tampering scandal.

Knight is a promising fast medium bowler and also a prolific mid-order batsman.

Grappers will also welcome back one of their former junior players, 6ft 6 inches fast bowler Ian Barnes who has been playing the Greater Manchester Cricket League for the last four years.

The two quick bowlers could well give Grappers a welcome edge in the premier division.

Unfortunately, two 1st XI players are leaving to join Newton, who play in the Liverpool Competition.

The pair have both moved to live in the Newton area, which prompted their decision to switch

Their departure will make room in the 1st XI for some of the club's promising youngsters.

Grappenhall has decided not to bring in an outside coach for the senior players this year as last season's experiment did not work well for the club.

But an external coach will be brought in for the junior players.





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