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Issue No. 234 March 2019 FREE EVERY MONTH



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Page 22



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Editor's Comment



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CREDIT where credit is due - congratulations to Warrington Borough Council's recently elected new leader Cllr Russ Bowden on his new initiative to engage with the local community through his forthcoming leader's forums.

With the borough council facing further cutbacks and job losses these are testing times, so all credit to Cllr. Bowden for his endeavours to engage with the public.

I hope the public make use of this great opportunity to engage with the borough council.

It is easy to sit back and criticise but not so easy to come up with solutions.

So if you have any good ideas on how the council can be more efficient make sure you turn up at one of the forums and pass on your ideas in a constructive way.

Having known Russ for a number of years, while I may not always agree with his views, I am always

afforded the decency of a response and he certainly has earned my respect for taking on one of the most difficult roles in the local community.

Because one thing is for certain, you certainly can't please all of the people all of the time!

Meanwhile our new #LoveWarrington show continues to go from strength to strength gaining many positive comments across the community.

When complete strangers walk up to you in the street and shake you by the hand congratulating you

on showing the town in a positive light it certainly is rewarding and most certainly beats all the negative comments you often see on social media.

Thank you to everyone who has gone to the trouble of posting positive comments about the show and we look forward to continuing to highlight all the positives Warrington has got to offer, while not ignoring the negatives but trying to deal with them in a positive way.

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BELVOIR!

Property is personal

Council leader taking to the road to connect with local people

WARRINGTON Borough Council's new leader, Cllr Russ Bowden is hitting the road and heading out across Warrington with new 'Leader's Forums'.

The forums will be a chance for residents to ask the council leader, outside of formal Council meetings, about local community issues and priorities.

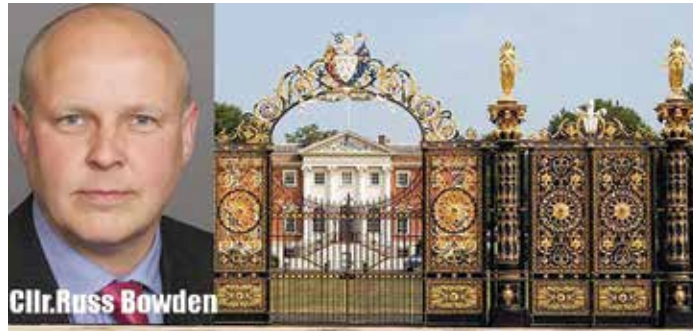
Cllr Bowden said: "I want to visit wards across the borough to find out about the issues that matter most to communities."

Challenging

"Warrington has a big year ahead, with a very challenging budget position, and it's important that I don't lose sight of those local issues which have the greatest community impact."

"I welcome scrutiny and challenge, and the forums will be a chance for me to respond to questions and discuss key issues in an informal, open setting. I know that asking questions in formal Council meetings can be a little daunting, so I want to create an environment where everyone can raise questions or concerns and know they will be listened to."

"I look forward to getting out to the wards across the borough, bringing 'the Council' to the communities it serves."



The forums will take place once a month, in different wards across the borough, during the evening and will be chaired by the Council's chief executive, Professor Steven

Broomhead. Future forums, followed by forums in other wards throughout the year, are as follows:
 • Tuesday 12 March, 6.30pm-

8pm – Culcheth Community Campus, Warrington Road, WA3 5HH

• Tuesday 16 April, 6.30pm-8pm – Lymm Youth and Community Centre, Bridgewater Street, WA13 0AB

• Tuesday 14 May, 6.30pm-8pm – Oakwood Neighbourhood Hub, Whitehroat Walk, Birchwood, WA3 6PQ

Registration to attend the forum or to ask a question is not required. Please note, there is limited capacity at each venue, so the forums will be held on a first-come-first-serve basis.

For more information, visit www.warrington.gov.uk/leadersforum

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Students raise £12,505 for charity in five months

UNIVERSITY students from Warrington and Chester have raised a staggering £12,505 for charity since the academic term began in October.

The money has gone to 29 charities across Warrington and Chester.

The University of Chester's cheerleading squad held a charity fundraiser every month, wearing a particular colour to training sessions to represent a specific charity.

Charities to benefit were Breast Cancer Now, MEAction and the Samaritans. The squad also took part in the "Sleep Out for the Homeless" to raise £1,181.

Netball players, including the Warrington Mixed Netball squad (pictured below), raised money for Papyrus; Mind; British Heart Foundation; Chester Aid to the Homeless; Dementia UK and Breast

Cancer Awareness.

They have many more events coming up throughout this term, including a sponsored run for Manchester Children's Hospital and the annual Take Me Out event, which is in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust.

The Alzheimer's Society also benefitted from their efforts.

The Orchestral Society raised money for Children in Need as did the Drama Society and there was support also for music therapy charity Nordoff Robbins, who have been supported by the university for the past five years.

Student activity manager Sarah Latham said: "We actively encourage all our sports and societies to raise and give across the community. It's fantastic to see another strong term and we hope to match our record this year."



Hotel Spa team building links with colleges



The relaxing spa room

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.

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."



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Another good year for Warrington!

by Steve Park – Director of Growth & MD of Warrington & Co

LATER this month we'll be announcing the findings of The Warrington Annual Property Review. Without giving too much away it has been another good year for Warrington – watch out for this column next time!

Needless to say our Property Review findings echo a raft of recent independent stats that show the Warrington economy continuing to shine regionally and nationally.

In the latest figures released by think tank, Centre for Cities, Warrington (often referred to as a city for economic analysis purposes) has the fastest year on year growth in business stock per 10,000 population showing an 26.5%

increase. The findings also placed the borough 4th highest nationally in terms of the ratio between privately funded jobs and public, this means the economy is less reliant on public sector jobs than other areas of the UK. This position marks an increase of four places on the previous year.

As for 'Residents with high level qualifications', Warrington was ranked 13th highest in the UK and 11th highest in England. This marks another increase, Warrington was 15th highest in 2018.

These figures follow on from the recent release of findings produced by the Office for National Statistics which showed the Cheshire &

Warrington economy as having grown faster than anywhere else in England with Warrington announced as the most productive town in the North.

Cheshire and Warrington now boasts a £30.9bn economy, with every person in Cheshire and Warrington producing goods and services worth an average of £33,384 per year. This is almost 40 per cent higher than the North West average and more than 21 per cent higher than the UK average.

Another indicator of the strength of the local economy came from findings produced by company credit checking specialists, Creditsafe which scored business economies on a number of factors including key financials, how prompt a business was in paying suppliers and adverse information. Warrington topped the table having the highest average business credit score in the UK. Warrington scored 79, Aberdeen was second with a score of 78 and London scored 75.7. No other town or city in the North West was listed in the top 10.

See full story below...



Town's businesses are the most trusted in the UK

WARRINGTON has the most trusted businesses in the UK, according to new figures released by a company credit checking specialist.

The statistics, part of a UK business performance report for 2019, showed that Warrington had the highest average credit score (79) when compared to the rest of the country.

This figure, based on a scale of 1 to 100, is the most commonly used metric by businesses and lenders alike to check a company's chance of becoming insolvent before offering their services to them. The score is based on a number of factors including key financials, how prompt a business is in paying suppliers, adverse information, plus lots more.

Warrington itself has seen major business growth in recent years, particularly in the science and tech sectors.

Its Sci-Tech Daresbury campus in particular has been crucial to the growth of these sectors in the region and is home to more than 100 high-growth companies and is recognised as one of the fastest growing science parks in Europe.

On a regional basis, businesses in Greater London were given the

highest average credit score of 75.7, followed by Scotland (75.4) and the East of England (75.4). However, when focusing on towns and cities specifically, Warrington came first across the nation for business credit scores, ahead of Aberdeen (78) and Kirkwall (78).

No other town or city in the North West figured in the top 10.

Chris Robertson, chief executive officer, UK and Ireland, at Creditsafe, said: "While there is plenty of talk around London being the business centre of the United Kingdom, it's clear that other cities have plenty to offer to the national economy. With Brexit negotiations still ongoing, businesses want to ensure their investments are sound and Warrington's businesses are leading the way in trustworthiness in a time of economic uncertainty.

"The regions' exceptionally positive credit scores must be celebrated, as they demonstrate that investment in the UK should encompass more than just the capital."

The full results of Creditsafe's UK Business Performance Report can be found here: www.creditsafe.com/gb/en/more/hub/newsroom/uk-business-performance-report.html



The partnership for driving growth



Steve Park
MD of Warrington & Co.

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Thu 7 Mar Ben Fogle - Tales from the
Wilderness

Tue 12 Mar The Wailers

Fri 15 Mar Quadrophenia The Album Live

Sat 16 Mar The Coral

Tue 19 Mar Dolly and the
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Fri 22 Mar Jasper Carrott's

Stand Up and Rock

Fri 29 Mar Gabrielle

Sun 31 Mar Elmer the Patchwork Elephant

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Sat 23 Feb There Was an Old Lady Who
Swallowed a Fly

Sat 2 Mar Comedy Store
SOLD OUT



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 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 Easter.

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

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 April 28.

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





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20	£130.00	£160.00

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(*does not apply to 20 person tickets)

See website for **OPENING DATES and TIMES** and terms and conditions

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 The
Garden
Spa

Four students win Oxbridge places

FOUR young women from Warrington have secured places at two of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the country.

Kayleigh Allen, Georgia Brown, Yi Chen Hock and Sophie Johnson – who all studied A-Levels at Priestley College – have received offers from either Oxford or Cambridge.

For Kayleigh the hope is that reading Geography at Cambridge will be her passport to seeing the natural world.

"I want to go on to make nature documentaries, which is a competitive area to get into," said the former Great Sankey High pupil.

"I've always wanted to see the world and I hope by making documentaries I can inspire others the way I have been inspired."

Roughly one in five applicants receive an Oxbridge offer. This year, all of Priestley's applicants were successful.

Georgia, who was a pupil at Cardinal Newman, studied A-Level History, French and English Literature at Priestley. Now she is going to read History and French



at Oxford – a course that accepted only 20 people this year.

"I'm excited about going into more depth with each subject and exploring different areas of History as well as being around people who have the same interests as me," she said.

Cambridge is the destination for

former Bridgewater High School pupil Yi Chen who 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.

The former Bridgewater High pupil 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 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 the students reflects our determination to inspire them and make them realise their outstanding potential."

Business is booming at The Dress Studio

MORE than a decade after opening the doors of The Dress Studio at Culcheth, Warrington, business is booming for local entrepreneur Holly Pirrie.

Passion

The former Miss Warrington and Miss England finalist, turned her passion for pageants into a booming business, providing prom and evening dresses to suit all tastes and budgets from a former warehouse on Glaziers Lane, Culcheth.

Since launching her business it has now grown in size and a former warehouse has been transformed into a showroom displaying hundreds of prom and evening wear dresses along with a magnificent changing room area, where customers who are old enough can enjoy a glass of bubbles while trying on their dresses.

Holly, who has featured in *warrington-worldwide* while representing her town and country in pageants in the past, has also

marketed her business within the publication, achieving "fabulous results".

Meanwhile for more information

on The Dress Studio visit www.dress-studio.co.uk and don't forget to use the exclusive 20 per cent off voucher on the opposite page.



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The Warehouse Studios, Glaziers Lane, Culcheth, WA3 4AQ

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| www.dress-studio.co.uk

| @thedressstudio



Six of the best raise money for young hospital patients

A GROUP of six pupils from Moore Primary School took on the challenge of swimming one mile to raise money for Warrington and Halton Hospitals' Charity.

The idea originally came from Millie Steele, aged nine, who was inspired to do something for charity after taking part in a McMillan fundraiser at school.

School friends Charly Fuller, Izzy Putterill and Neasa and Rowan Hughes, as well as cousin, Ben McLoughlin, all also aged nine, wanted to support Millie and the children at the hospital and so they joined her, in her fundraising efforts.

The group managed to complete the challenge at DW Sports in town, in just under one hour.



Advertiser's announcement

Colour me happy at JD Kitchens

'COLOUR me happy there's a sofa in here for two'. The surprised and delighted exclamation from the classic 90's film *Pretty Woman*, starring Julia Roberts and Richard Gere.

The scene, a lift in a posh hotel. The subject: a sofa in a lift.

Fast forward almost 30 years and she probably wouldn't bat an eyelid. Luxury and plush are at every turn.

The demand for quality over cheap and disposable is prevalent: reusable coffee cups and a campaign to say no to plastic straws are just some examples.

Couple this with the incredible speed of technological advances and knowledge, and, if you're in the retail you're ahead of the game.

Dave Charlton Director of JD Kitchens in Padgate, Warrington explains: "Only a few years ago we needed to explain the benefits

of boiling water taps (safety, speed and eco-friendliness), and now people are simply walking in and asking for a brand name like Quooker.

"Similarly, we were previously at pains to explain the eco credentials of our kitchens, and why we selected them over other quality brands. These days our customers know more than us, they care about the environment and are looking for something long lasting and robust, but dripping in sophistication.

"As an engineer by trade I wanted to ensure that what we offered not only looked sleek and stylish, used cutting edge technology but had eco credentials to boot. When we came across the Next125 range I knew we'd found the kitchen brand for us."

It is designed and made using recycled materials and sustainable products. The range is constantly evolving, finding alternative

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Warrington Disability Partnership Annual Report 2018



Giving Disabled People
Hope & Opportunity



Introduction

Chairman and Chief Executive's Report

What an incredibly busy year, against the odds we launched two new services, the Smart Flat Assistive Technology Centre, located on our Beaufort Street site, and an Information, Advice, Guidance and Sales Centre located in Warrington Hospital. We also launched several new partnerships; the most exciting, with Leigh based Expanse Learning.

We are enormously grateful for the continuing dedication of our team that includes our volunteers, staff, trustees and non-executive directors at Warrington Disability Partnership and our social enterprise the Disability Trading Company. We know from feedback we receive from customers and partners that our work helps to enhance the lives of tens of thousands of disabled people; locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Giving hope and opportunity to disabled people remain at the heart of our work; our most successful community engagement programme so far provided connectivity, insight and momentum that guided our approach to enriching the lives of those we support.

Although we continue to endure a tough financial climate, we are extremely pleased to report that our positive financial performance remains steady and in line with our business plan. This is testament to the hard work of our team, who have worked with us during further change and reductions of non-pay costs. We also increased income from our retail operations as we extended our offer with interest free credit, 3 months free insurance, and an extended range of products, helped when we secured national Motability accreditation.

Huge thanks to our corporate and individual donors, including the Holroyd Foundation, St George Healthcare Group, St Mark Universal Copts Care, Expanse Learning, NRS Healthcare, Protive Security, BAS (NW), Pennington, Today Team, Royal Mail, Birchwood and Warrington Lions Clubs, and Chester University (Warrington Campus). Some went to extraordinary lengths to raise funds for our Legacy Appeal, which continues to support jobs for young disabled people.

With the support of our partners at St Mark Universal Copts Care, the Phoenix Project continues to deliver equipment to projects in Egypt, Thailand and Syrian refugees in Greece. Thanks to all of our sponsors led by St George Healthcare Group and St Mark Universal Copts Care without whom we could not have ran our 27th annual Disability Awareness Day, which influenced events around the world including India, Uganda and Cameroon. Did you know that over £1million has been raised by local charities that have attended DAD events?

One area worthy of a special mention is our increased media presence, two industry-leading magazines Thiis and AMP carried a number of articles on our services. Our hashtag #DAD2018 trended number two regionally, only beaten by the World Cup Final.

We had success in a number of local, regional and national awards including Warrington Business Awards, North West Charity Awards, AMP Awards and BHTA Awards, and we have been shortlisted for a Cheshire High Sheriff's Enterprise Award 2019.

The Charity Governance Code has been a key element of work with our Board of Trustees this year. We were pleased to have received reaccreditation for our Information, Advice and Guidance services by being awarded the Matrix Quality Standard for a further 3 years.

Looking ahead, we have initiated discussions that could result in WDP leading the development of a National Disability Museum here in Warrington. We have already received solid interest from several national organisations. Our ambition is to see building work start in 2021, the year of our 30th anniversary.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone involved in 'Team WDP/DTC', our partners, our funders, supporters, service users and customers. We look forward to increasing our positive impact on the lives of disabled people throughout the year ahead.

Thank you.

John Gartside OBE DL JP
Dave Thompson MBE DL
Chairman, Co-founder and Chief Executive



Warrington Disability Partnership
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company

Who we are and what we do

Warrington Disability Partnership (WDP) is an internationally acclaimed user led charity. With over 27 years' experience of developing and delivering mobility and independent living services, our aim is to support disabled people and people living with long term health conditions. We are proud of our wide-ranging services, currently 27 in total, which include:

Promoting Independent Living

Visit our Centre for Independent Living (CIL) - located on Beaufort Street, the Disabled Living Centre at the Lifehouse on Brunswick Dock, Liverpool our Mobility and Independent Living Solutions Store in Golden Square, Warrington to see all the latest equipment from baths, showers and kitchens to beds, wheelchairs and stair lifts, plus so much more as well as a short term hire service for various equipment including wheelchairs and scooters.

Our Shopmobility Scheme in Legh Street Car Park, Warrington offers both scooters and wheelchairs for use within the Town Centre. They are available for hire to both members and day visitors, Monday to Saturday (9am to 5pm).

A six-month membership costs just £10.

Our popular Disability Helpline (01925 240064) offers advice and support around local support groups and services, access, transport and much more. The OWCH Pain Management and Beyond the Scars support groups help and support local disabled people in relation to the self-management of Chronic Pain.

Our Independent Living Team specifically provides a support service for Warrington residents who use the Direct Payments scheme from Warrington Borough Council, assisting with all aspects of employing a Personal Assistant (including assistance and advice in relation to recruitment, DBS checks, pension schemes and contracts, with support from our in-house payroll team).

The Disability Trading Company Limited

WDP's trading arm – Disability Trading Company (DTC) offers high-quality independent living products at competitive prices. Running as a Social Enterprise, all profits are donated to WDP to support many of our unfunded services. For details of the services offered through the trading arm, please see page 5.

Employment Support

Our award-winning Employment Team is proud to specialise in supporting local disabled people with a health condition (including mental health); ESA claimants and those in receipt of incapacity-related benefits. The team support individuals throughout all stages of the employment process; job searching, CVs, application forms or preparing for interviews through one-to-one support and weekly drop-in sessions. We support people who are in work, as well as employers by giving information about reasonable adjustments in the workplace.

Learning and Development

Visit the Marjorie Griffiths Learning Centre (MGLC) on Beaufort Street and take advantage of a whole host of courses, which are designed to not only educate, but also inspire. These include 'Computers for the Terrified', OCR qualifications, pre-employment IT, flower arranging and creative writing.

Additional training including 'Disability Confident and



'Disability and Sex Matters' training are regularly available for health and social care providers, voluntary organisations and individuals.

Accessible Holidays & Days Out

Our fully accessible holiday homes in Pensarn and Rhyl, North Wales and our adapted, wheelchair-accessible narrow boat 'The Wizard', are available for hire at competitive rates – leaving you to enjoy a bargain break or day out on the water!

Opportunities to Socialise

We run a variety of Luncheon Clubs for individuals who are looking for friendship, activities, fun and - of course - lunch! Our over 55's clubs meet every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 2pm (come as often as you like). As well as enjoying lunches together all year round, attendees also enjoy playing bingo; games; quizzes; chair-based exercises, and guest speakers. Our Monday Club caters for the under 55's with a wide variety of activities including social activities, arts and crafts, bingo and photography. There is a small charge of £5 for the sessions and individuals are required to attend using their own transport.

Our Galleries Community Café offers a wide range of hot and cold meals, snacks and drinks in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The Café is open to members of the public, visitors to the Centre and Support Groups. The CIL and MGLC's well-equipped meeting and training rooms are also available for hire, with catering facilities available.

For further information on any of these services, including how you can be involved as a WDP Volunteer, please contact the team on 01925 240064.

New initiatives for 2018

- Our Scoota Safe Campaign promotes road safety to mobility scooter users and prevent accidents and injury whilst using equipment.
- The international Phoenix project, launched in 2017 has already seen over 1300 pieces of mobility equipment (otherwise destined for landfill) sent to people in need in Egypt, Thailand, Syria and refugees in Greece.
- Our new Mobility and Independent Living Service in Warrington Hospital, offers information, advice and guidance on a wide range of disability issues, as well as daily living aids to assist with independent living.
- The Smart Flat, based at Beaufort Street showcases the latest gadgets in adaptive technology.

Our Team

Affectionately known as 'Team WDP', our team of almost 50 staff and over 200 volunteers work tirelessly to enhance the lives of disabled people, their families, friends and carers by promoting and enabling independent living.

Our volunteers remain at the heart of everything that we do and continue to make a difference to peoples' lives, reduce isolation and promote hope and opportunity to those in need. With over 90% of the team having direct experience of living with a disability, real life experiences are used to help and support others.

Over 80% of staff members began their WDP journey as a volunteer. For many of the team this is a huge testament to their commitment and dedication to learn and develop their skills to gain employment, some through apprenticeship opportunities. In addition, WDP staff members lead by example and are committed to giving additional voluntary hours on a regular basis.

During 2018, five WDP volunteers (Graham, Debbie, Sean, Lee and Julie) gained employment within our services. Through their voluntary roles, they gained additional skills and confidence to enable them to make this transition. An additional two WDP supporters (Essta and Julie) also secured employment.

Two of our apprentices, Laura and Ellie both completed their apprenticeship programmes in Social Media and Communications and Accounting respectively, and continue to develop their skills as full-time staff members within our teams. The whole team are very proud of their achievements.



Family and Friends test results showed that over 98% of our clients would recommend our services to their families and friends

'WDP Team Members, Janis and Dave Williams were officially invited to attend the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle'



'Graham and Debbie, two of our volunteers who were successful in gaining employment during 2018'

"I love volunteering it makes me proud to achieve things I may not had the opportunity to before"
WDP Volunteer, December 2018

Our team supports over 400 Direct Payment Clients to employ over 500 Personal Assistants within Warrington

"WDP is important to the disabled users of services, and their families, in part due to the user-led nature of the organisation and its' ability to draw on peer support"
University of Leeds, Centre for Disability Research



Warrington Disability Partnership

Disability Trading Company – owned and operated by WDP

The Disability Trading Company (DTC) is WDP's social enterprise / trading arm. Launched in 2010, DTC was built on two decades of WDP's experience. Together we have developed a national reputation for our unique user led philosophy and willingness to work in partnership. Offering a wide range of high-quality mobility and independent living products at competitive prices. From basic daily living products to bespoke seating, stair-lifts and access ramps, mobility scooters, powered and manual wheelchairs, rise and recline chairs, adjustable beds, ramps, bath seats and much more.

Backed up by an extensive range of support services, and for visitors to our Warrington Centre for Independent Living they will find a purpose built workshop and service centre, a mobility test and training track and our Galleries Café.

Our retail services are located at the Centre for Independent Living (CIL), the Lifehouse at Brunswick Dock, Liverpool, our Mobility and Independent Living Stores in the Golden Square and another at Warrington Hospital. We offer a wide range of pre-owned products from our Shopmobility Scheme also located in the Golden Square. A range of assistive technology solutions is available on sale at our Smart Flat located adjacent to the CIL.

Thanks to our partners "St Mark Universal Copts Care", our Phoenix Project continued to refurbish and ship wheelchairs and other mobility aids to charities in Egypt, Thailand and Syria.

During 2018, we were proud to have secured a Motability dealership, which allows people to use their enhanced mobility component of DLA or PIP to lease a power-chair or mobility scooter. We added interest free finance and three months free

insurance offers, and we extended our product range with several new dealerships including Quantum Power-chairs. We strengthened our relationship with the British Health Trades Association, underlining our belief in their "Buy with Confidence" scheme that is accredited to Trading Standards. During the past year we were honoured to have been shortlisted in a number of local and national awards including the Warrington Business Awards and AMP Magazine Awards.

What makes DTC unique?

- Our service was founded on the philosophy of Information, Advice and Guidance, not just sales.
- We do not have any private shareholders, 100% of profits go to support the work of Warrington Disability Partnership.
- None of our staff receives incentive bonuses.
- We only supply products that we believe to be right for our customer's needs, not simply those that we will earn us most money.
- We do not sell products to customers if we feel that they cannot operate it safely.
- We never artificially inflate prices just so that we can discount them. We always charge a fair and realistic price.
- Hundreds of volunteer hours contribute to reducing our overheads, which result in savings that are passed on to our customers.
- We use the life experience of our staff, volunteers and customers to develop the services and ensure we offer the right products.



Mobility & Independent Living

The Disability Trading Company offer high quality, mobility & independent daily living aids, backed up by an extensive range of support services including information, advice and guidance.

WHAT WE OFFER:

● Equipment Sales	● Fully Trained Staff
● Equipment Servicing & Repairs	● Free assessments on site or at home
● Continence Products	● Low prices and part exchange considered
● Daily Living Aids	● 3 months free insurance
● Battery Testing	● Interest free credit



Don't just buy a product... buy the right product

WARRINGTON SHOWROOM Tel: 01925 240 064 email: showroom@disabilitypartnership.org.uk	GOLDEN SQUARE SHOWROOM Tel: 01925 416 624 email: mils@disabilitypartnership.org.uk	LIVERPOOL SHOWROOM Tel: 0151 709 0121 email: liverpoolmils@disabilitypartnership.org.uk
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for more information visit w: disabilitytradingcompany.co.uk



2018 highlights

The year in pictures



DTC Receives Motability Accreditation



Sarah Matthews begins her challenge 52 marathons in 52 weeks for WDP



WDP Monday Club celebrates their 1st birthday with a trip on the Wizard Narrow Boat



Our WDP Christmas Grotto opened by Eva Macdonald, The Mayor of Warrington (Councillor Karen Mundry) and Faisal Rashid MP



MKM Building Supplies took on various challenges to support WDP, including the 10k Rough Runner (left) and a 160 mile cycle challenge from Hull to Warrington (right)



WDP chosen as Sainsbury's Chapelford 'Charity of the Year' 2018, raising over £3000



Successful Charity Dinner raising over £7,000. The Park Royal also hosted their 25th Anniversary dinner raising funds for a number of charities including WDP



Team WDP 'Highly Commended' at the Northwest Charity Awards 2018



Chief Executive and Founder, Dave Thompson receives a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2018 Warrington Business Awards



Hayley Carrick celebrates 18 years of volunteering with WDP



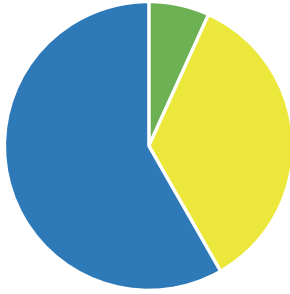
Team WDP Volunteers completed the 'Making Volunteering Count' course



WDP has supported over 64 students with placement opportunities during the past 12 months

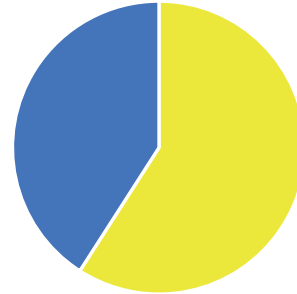
WDP Financial Position 2017-18

Income £1,588,533



Charitable activities (£555k)
Trading to raise funds (£925k)

Expendure £1,505,804



Charitable activities (£889k)
Income generation and governance (£616k)

The above information has been taken from the audited consolidated accounts for the financial period 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018, as reported by the Charities Commission.

The figures relate to the consolidated accounts for Warrington Disability Partnership and its Subsidiary Company (The Disability Trading Company). The cost of raising funds includes the purchase of stock for resale.

WDP Board of Trustees



JOHN GARTSIDE OBE JP DL
Chair

Special Interests:
Health, community, justice and Warrington



PAT KITTO
Vice-Chair

Special Interests:
Social inclusion and equality & diversity, with particular focus on education.



DAVE WILLIAMS
Secretary

Special Interests:
Fundraising, Disability Trading Company and Mobility Workshop and Service Centre



EILEEN MACDONALD
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Special Interests:
Support worker, Pain Management Network



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Special Interests:
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Special Interests:
Disability Awareness, Inclusion and Equality



GARY SKENTELBERY

Special Interests:
Media and Communications

WDP Honorary President

PAM THOMPSON

WDP Honorary Vice Presidents

TERRY WADSWORTH

KAREN BEATON

DTC Board of Directors



DAVID JONES
DTC Chair



MARK SEABORN
DTC Non-executive director



BILL BRADLEY
DTC Non-executive director



JAMIE BOYD
DTC Non-executive director

Disability Awareness Day 2018

DAD 27 - Sunday, 15th July, 2018

Over 23,000 people attended this year's annual Disability Awareness Day (DAD27) recognised internationally as the largest annual voluntary-led pan disability Independent Living Exhibition in the world. The event, held at Walton Gardens attracted over 250 exhibitors showcasing a wide range of equipment, mobility products, transport solutions, employment support, education, health and social care, leisure activities, plus over 100 support groups. The aim of the event, as always, was to promote all aspects of independent living through the promotion of what disabled people "can do".

DAD27 engaged a wide range of the community, with a further 2,000 people involved in activities starting the week prior to the big day. These included:

- Positive Action Disability Awareness Event attended by students from local schools and colleges.
- Frogstastic Party for people who have a Learning Disability.
- Northwest Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Annual Involvement Event
- Health & Well-Being for Mental Health Service Users event.
- Ella's Summertime Special.
- Warrington Together Health and Wellbeing Summit
- Party in the Park for disabled children and young disabled people
- Evening of Cultural Diversity
- DAD Mega Quiz Night

Many of this year's exhibitors were housed in a huge tented village of marquees, supported by a 'have-a-go' sports zone including scuba diving in the on-site pool, a Centre Arena and a huge Performing Arts Marquee. Crowds were entertained with fantastic line-ups of talent including some of the UK's leading disabled artists, Display Teams, Birds of Prey and the Katumba Samba Band.

Once again, DAD27 continued the international theme: the MESSAGE Institute based in Jaipur India ran their 10th



Annual Disability Awareness Day, 'Closing the Gap', based in Cameroon held their own versions of DAD and the Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation in Uganda held a four-day Expo. DAD Egypt - St Mark's Universal Copt Care, DAD Thailand - 1 Step 2 Step and DAD London - London Borough of Redbridge, also held awareness raising events.

On behalf of the DAD Management Team, we would like to thank everyone who supported this year's event; sponsors, supporters, DAD Stewards, exhibitors and visitors. In particular, our joint principal sponsors St Georges' Healthcare Group and St Marks Universal Copts Care.

#DAD2018 trended in 2nd place locally, only second to the World Cup Final

Disability Awareness Day 2019 (DAD28) will be held on Sunday 14th July

DAD 2018 SPONSORED BY



New and extended partnerships in 2018

Working to the philosophy of “Together Everyone Achieves More”, we teamed up with several new partners and extended our work with several other to develop a number of new life changing services.

Warrington Hospital – Information, Advice, Guidance and Sales

In Partnership with Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, we opened a unit located within the Fracture Clinic at the rear of the hospital. Open Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm, trained staff are on hand to provide information, advice and guidance on disability matters, and sale of mobility and independent living products. We are currently developing a range of hire products based on the short-term needs of patients discharged from the hospital.

We could not have launched this new service without the help of the hospitals senior managers and the financial support of ten local businesses including; Cheshire Telecom, BAS (NW), Dunky’s Day Nursery, Foden Estates, Mech Tech Automotive, Central Self Drive, The Print Company, Toni & Guy, Hoppy Trust and Health Service Money Claims.



Smart Flat – Assistive Technology



In Partnership with Warrington Borough Council and with financial support from the Better Care Fund, we opened the Smart Flat, which showcases a wide range of the latest Assistive Technology that can help to improve or maintain independent living.

The Smart Flat has a display bedroom, living room and kitchen. It features products including voice and switch operated openers/closers for doors, windows, blinds and curtains, the Amazon Echo Show communication and information device, movement sensors, talking glasses, mugs, cups and 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.

Located in the Marjorie Griffiths Learning Centre, in the grounds of our Centre for Independent Living, it is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 2pm, appointments are necessary.

Expanse Learning – Education and Employment Support for Young Disabled People

Building on the success of our award-winning Employment Team we initially planned to develop an academy style service aimed at offering education and employment support to young disabled people. After a number of discussions with the senior management team at Leigh based Expanse Learning, we decided that they had the skills and experience that would fast track and further enhance the service we planned.

Expanse’s new service, which is located in the Marjorie Griffiths Learning Centre, in the grounds of our Centre for Independent Living, is already taking referrals from Warrington Borough Council. It offers education and employment support to disabled young people aged 16 to 25 as part of their Supported Internships Programme.

The new service builds on joint work that started at last year’s Disability Awareness Day, which saw Expanse joining us as a corporate sponsor. We are currently discussing other opportunities to develop new services.



Working in Partnership

A Big Thank You

Warrington Disability Partnership would like to thank everyone that has supported, donated and worked alongside us during the past 12 months - including:

- Warrington Borough Council
- St Mark Universal Copts Care
- St George Healthcare Group
- Golden Gates Housing Trust / Torus
- Liverpool City Council
- BBC Children in Need
- The Holroyd Foundation
- North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
- Livewire Warrington
- Expanse Learning
- University of Chester - Warrington Campus
- Gladstone Brookes
- Culture Warrington
- BAS (NW) Ltd
- NRS Healthcare
- United Utilities
- NHS Warrington Clinical Commissioning Group
- BT
- Warrington & Vale Royal College
- Active Cheshire
- Warrington & Halton Hospital NHS

- Foundation Trust
- Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Trust
- Barclays Bank PLC
- Catalyst Choices
- Warrington's Own Buses
- University of Chester - Warrington Campus
- People Plus
- Voisey & Co
- Asda Cockhedge
- Chapelford Farm
- Golden Square Shopping Centre
- Pete Pinnington Presents
- Ikea Warrington
- Sainsbury's Chapelford
- Warrington Retail Market
- The Northern Dive Show
- Lions Clubs International
- Warrington Worldwide
- Today Team
- Dunky's Day Nursery
- Mech Tech Automotive
- Foden Estates Ltd
- Cheshire Telecom
- The Hoppy Trust
- Central Self Drive
- Money Management Team Ltd
- The Print Company
- Tony & Guy, Stockton Heath
- MKM Building Supplies
- Merseycare NHS Trust
- Protive



Supporters of Warrington Hospital – Information, Advice, Guidance and Sales unit.

- Cheshire Scuba Academy
- Thorn Marine
- Barn Owl Inn
- Warrington Guardian
- Warrington Sea Cadets
- TS Obdurate
- Skillzone Ltd
- Leonard Cheshire
- F11 Photography
- Warrington Wolves Foundation
- Fairview Windows
- Mayor of Warrington
- Penketh Parish Council
- Bernard Groom
- Stockton Heath Parish Council
- Hatton Parish Council
- Robert Somerset
- Gentlemen's Book Society
- Walton Parish Council
- Miss S Shaw
- High Sheriff of Cheshire
- Lymm Scottish Dance Club
- June Worrall
- Asda Westbrook
- Boteler Grammer School Old Boys
- Walton Hall & Gardens
- Radio Warrington
- Radio General - Hospital Radio
- Warrington Rotary Club
- Essential Guide South Warrington News
- Community Initiative Fund
- Job Centre Plus
- Bailey Thomas Charitable Trust
- Staticelec
- Steeper Group
- Beaver 88
- Park Royal Hotel
- Sharples Group
- Relay Technical Transport

WDP Patrons:

- Prof Steven Broomhead
- Dr Naser Fouad DL
- Mrs Hala Fouad
- Kathy Cowell OBE DL
- Liz Smith
- Lord Doug Hoyle
- Cllr Mike Hannon
- Pete Pinnington
- Peter Ives
- Ryan Atkins

In total over £1 million has been raised by charities and community groups during the past 27 DAD events

'Internal and external partnerships are very effective. The recognition of capability and results of partners, and the positioning of the organisation among third sector organisations is strong' Matrix Accreditation Reassessment, 2018

Our teams have engaged with over 220,000 people, during the last 12 months, making us one of the most actively engaged charities in Warrington

"F11 Photography are looking forward to continuing support for the hard working team at WDP again for 2019. Having worked closely with the team at various events in recent years, we have witnessed their continuous determination towards enabling disabled people to lead more independent lives. We are thrilled to work in partnership with such a caring and supportive charity"

Tony Longmore – F11 Phtography

Help us to help others

Join Team WDP



Make a donation

Take on a new challenge



Attend our events



Organise your own event



Leave a Legacy



Join our sponsored events
(swim, scuba, walks)



Events Calendar 2019

February

WDP Quiz Night - Friday, February 1st
St Oswald's Social Club

March

Sponsored Swim

St Patrick's Day Event - Friday, March 15th
St Joseph's Social Club

April

WDP Quiz Night - Friday, April 5th
St Oswald's Social Club

Easter Bingo - Thursday, April 11th

Easter Bunny Walk / Run - Saturday, April 20th

June

Scoota Safe Event

WDP Quiz Night - June 7th
St Oswald's Social Club

July

Frogtastic in the Park - Tuesday, July 9th

Ella Summertime Special - Wednesday, July 10th

DAD Mega Quiz - Friday, July 12th
Walton Gardens

Disability Awareness Day - Sunday, July 14th
Walton Gardens

August

WDP Quiz Night - August 2nd
St Oswald's Social Club

September

Scoota Safe Event

October

Scuba Challenge

WDP Quiz Night - Friday, October 4th
St Oswald's Social Club

WDP Charity Dinner - Friday, October 11th
Park Royal Hotel

December

WDP Quiz Night - Friday, December 6th
St Oswald's Social Club

Santa Grotto and Christmas Raffle

For further details, or to sign up for any of these
events, please contact the
WDP Fundraising Team on

01925 240064



Supporting Independence Throughout Life and Work



@disabilitypartnership



@WDPcomms

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 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 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.







2 for 1 TEA / COFFEE
 on production of this advert
 Monday to Friday - valid until March 29

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01925 446266

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
 from 9am - 5pm (call for seasonal opening hours)





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Vegan friendly Afternoon Tea for all the family at The Park Royal

by Hannah Skentelbery



IT'S time to spoil all the wonderful Mothers out there this March with Warrington's Park Royal Hotel indulgent 2 for 1 Afternoon Tea offer.

Available throughout March, the varied menu ensures that everyone is catered for and it's not just Mum that leaves with a big smile on her face.

Bringing my Mum, Grandmother and Daughter along for the Afternoon tea saw four generations enjoy a lovely experience.

Being Vegan, it was great to see that they had a dedicated menu with a selection of three sandwiches, which included: avocado, bean sprout and radish on brown bread, tomato black pepper and olive on brown bread and spiced humous with sweet potato on brown bread.

Also included was a delicious Vegan fruit scone with a red berry preserve, a fresh fruit skewer, pistachio & raspberry meringue and a dark chocolate & strawberry mousse.

Bringing my 2-year-old daughter with me, I was interested to see how she would find the experience, as she has never been to an Afternoon Tea, and at times she can be a fussy eater.

It was great to see her enjoying the selection of items off the Children's Afternoon Tea menu, whilst also being occupied with crayons and a colouring sheet to keep her entertained.

The various sandwiches and cakes went down a treat, especially the chocolate scone!

My Grandmother commented on how lovely the atmosphere was whilst we were having the Afternoon Tea, and how friendly and welcoming the staff were throughout our time at the Park Royal Hotel. She thoroughly enjoyed the selection of sandwiches and cakes on the Afternoon Tea menu.

I will definitely be taking my mum back for Mother's Day (March 31), as she commented on how fantastic it was that they also have a Vegetarian Menu. She



particularly enjoyed the selection of mixed Macaroons and the lemon and poppy seed cake with lemon curd cream.

I would definitely recommend The Park Royal this Mother's Day to enjoy variety of tea, sandwiches, cakes and scones, served with the iconic clotted cream and jam.

The hotel's vegan and vegetarian menu allows all to relax and enjoy the variety on offer and it's helpful to know that there are also gluten free options available.

The little ones are also covered too, with their new children's Afternoon Tea menu, which caters for even the fussiest of eaters.

The Park Royal Hotel want to make March the month for Mothers! To take advantage of this perfect Mother's Day offer, call the Hotel now on 01925 73 07 06 and quote 'Mum19' or book online via their website www.theparkroyal.co.uk/dining

HAPPY
Mother's Day

This offer is available throughout March

2 FOR 1
AFTERNOON TEA
ONLY
£19.95

THE PARK ROYAL
WARRINGTON, CHESHIRE

To take advantage of this perfect **Mother's Day** offer call us now on 01925 73 07 06 and quote 'mum19' or book online via our website www.theparkroyal.co.uk/dining



Railway stations scoop awards



WARRINGTON Bank Quay and Padgate railway stations have both scooped awards in the 16th Cheshire Best Kept Stations competition.

Bank Quay won the TravelWatch NorthWest Award for large stations and Padgate station won the Halton and Warrington Award.

Alsager railway station was named Cheshire's Best Kept Station of the year

The awards were presented before 160 guests at The Grange Theatre, Hartford, Northwich by Professor Garfield Southall, Dean of Science and Engineering at the University of Chester and chairman of North Cheshire Community Rail Partnership.

Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire, David Briggs, gave special thanks to those stations that had commemorated the First World War as many soldiers left for the war from their local railway station and never returned.

Professor Southall said "It has been a great pleasure for me to present these awards and it has been an eye-opener to see how much volunteering there is on our railway stations in Cheshire.

"My thanks go to all those Friends Groups and rail staff that make our stations lovely gateways to our cities, towns and villages across the county."

The judges commented that Bank Quay station was a very busy station, well cared for and clean and tidy in all areas. There is up to date information and an efficient booking office.

Friendly staff, who are helpful and knowledgeable, are available all over the station.

There is a notice board showing involvement with various local charity movements and a book sale for charity.

Padgate Station was a simple station improved by some very good flower displays, especially the two large planters on the Manchester platform.

The original station building had been improved by the addition of artwork over the boarded-up windows."

Bob McLaughlin, from the Friends of Padgate Station, said: "As volunteers it always makes all your efforts very worthwhile when you are supported and recognised by a prestigious body as Cheshire Best Kept Stations.

"The award for Padgate Station has reinforced our enthusiasm to move forward with many more projects for our lovely station."




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HOT NEW GRILL COOL NEW PUB

Village Hotel Warrington Pub and Grill Opens 11th March



VillageHotels.com

VILLAGE HOTEL WARRINGTON
Centre Park,
Warrington WA1 1QA
01925 377540

VILLAGE HOTEL CLUB

Warrington Market rated the Best Small Indoor Market in Britain



STAFF and stallholders at Warrington Market are celebrating after it was rated the "Best Small Indoor Market" in the Britain at an awards ceremony held in Birmingham recently.

The market was declared Best Small Indoor Market in the National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA) competition which celebrates the best markets in the country.

Currently housed in a temporary market building Warrington Market is set to move to a permanent home next year as an integral part of the multi-million pound Time Square development.

The NABMA Judges stated, 'They have taken a journey from an old market to a new market without sacrificing quality, infrastructure or atmosphere'.

They also recognised 'a combination of innovation, partnership and investment between the Local Authority, the market management team, the market traders and shoppers'.

Market Manager Andy Ward said: "Receiving recognition for all

the hard work we have put into the temporary market over the last 17 months is a fantastic achievement for us bearing in mind we are in a cul de sac surrounded by a building site. Roll on the permanent market when we can show Warrington and the surrounding area what we can really do for the town centre."

"The new market will have 60 to 75 stalls depending on configuration. It will have a mezzanine again but this time served by escalators and with space to hold sizable specialist and niche markets.

"The food court will double in size from what it is now to 13 outlets serving over 300 indoor covers and in Summer a further 100 outdoor covers. The new food court also has the ability to trade to different hours than the rest of the market as we can partition it off to allow trade into the evening and catch the cinema footfall traffic.

"We are aiming to curate only the best traders from the region who will provide excellent customer service and sell niche products and services that are not available on the high street or in your local supermarket," he added.

The Time Square development will open early in 2020 and will comprise the new market hall, several restaurants, a 13 screen Cineworld multiplex cinema, new Council Offices and new Public Square.

The 1600 space multi-storey car park that is a component of the project opened in 2017.

Free Parking is available for up to three hours at the new Time Square car park for people who validate their tickets at the market.

Advertiser's announcement

Lymm's alternative approach to fertility issues

For some women, it can be one of those frustrating ironies in life. Spending years and years trying not to conceive (and maybe having a scare or two in the process) - then when you eventually do want a baby, it simply doesn't seem to be happening.

Fertility problems can often come as something of a shock and can quickly take over your life. Experts generally tell women to give it at least six to twelve months before considering it an issue, however, once you have decided that you do want to take steps to improve your chances of pregnancy it can be difficult to know what to do and where to turn.

There are several medical routes that can be explored with the help

of your doctor. However, alternative therapies can also have a valuable place in helping women who want to get pregnant.

At Lymm Osteopathic Practice they have a multidisciplinary approach to helping their patients achieve optimum health and overcome whichever health issues they feel to be important to them. The practice has several practitioners, who can all offer advice and assistance with various aspects of fertility, depending on a woman's individual health concerns.

For example, an Osteopath can identify if a woman has a misaligned pelvis, which can have an impact on reproductive health - then take steps to try and correct it. A variety of osteopathic techniques can also be used to improve function of the musculoskeletal, circulatory,

nervous and hormonal systems

Another complementary therapy often used to increase a woman's chance of conceiving is Acupuncture. It is said that this centuries-old discipline can help improve blood flow to the reproductive organs and balance hormone levels. Caroline Wardropper at Lymm Osteopathic Practice has spent 3 years studying traditional acupuncture at the Northern College of Acupuncture, and is a member of the British Acupuncture Council, with a specialist interest in fertility support.

Nutritional therapies are another way forward and can be extremely effective. At the practice, Rosie Tadman is a Nutritional Therapist who studied at the prestigious College of Natural Medicine, in London. Rosie uses modern science and traditional wisdom to get women in hormonal flow and support couples who want to conceive, ensuring they are as healthy as possible. She also helps women who have a hormonal condition (PCOS, endometriosis, amenorrhoea) as well as women who are actively trying to get pregnant through assisted routes. She supports underlying causes, rather than just suppressing symptoms.

For more information, an appointment or assessment you can call Lymm Osteopathic Practice on 01925 752264. Or, take a look at the website on www.lymmosteopathicpractice.co.uk. All Osteopaths and other 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.

Pauline's bag of poems

WHEN she's not writing articles for St Michael's Church Magazine at Burtonwood, Pauline Atherton loves writing poems.

Now, at 84, she has published more than 40 of them in a book entitled "A Mixed Bag of Pauline's Poems."

She believes the longer we live, the more observant and reflective we become - and in her case, the more humorous. This is certainly reflected in her poems, most of which are laced with laughter and a keen wit.

Her recollections in verse of "The Forties" will bring back memories to all of her generation while her story of "Mrs Molloy" and her mixed up nursery rhymes will amuse all ages.

Formerly of Collins Green, but now at home in Burtonwood, Pauline, displays a talent for writing that should have been made public before. But she has passed it on, for as a bonus the book offers two poems by her daughter Kay and grandson Duane who live in South Carolina but have clearly taken her sense of fun across the Atlantic with them.

The book costs £5.95 and is published by Arthur H. Stockwell Ltd.

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The Wire Market

An exciting new artisan market coming to Warrington Town Centre on the last Saturday of the month, starting April 27th.

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*when you have your ticket validated inside the market

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No Brainer agency continues expansion with new hires

WARRINGTON based PR, social media and content marketing agency No Brainer has started the new year with key staff appointments to bolster its account team.

The award-winning agency has strengthened its account management teams for 2019 with two new hires.

Having welcomed new clients at the end of 2018, including Optionis, a market-leading professional services provider and FMI, a specialist brand engagement agency, No Brainer is reinforcing its position as an emerging force in North West PR.

Adding to its existing account management team, the agency has hired 30-year-old Jonathan Touhey. After spending five years with a national construction company and four years at a leading UK telecoms firm, his appointment adds a wealth of B2B experience to the Cheshire-based agency.

Anna Williams, 21, has also joined No Brainer as an account executive, having previously spent two years at Shoetique, an online shoe retailer and time with Character World, a European bedding and textile supplier.

The new hires take the headcount at No Brainer to nine employees and follows another strong year of growth for the agency since it was founded in 2015.



No Brainer Director and co-founder, Gary Jenkins, said: "We're incredibly proud of the calibre of talent we have across the business and our latest recruits will certainly bolster the account teams, gearing us up for further growth

and development.

"2018 was an amazing year for No Brainer, with an office move, a host of new clients and new team members joining us. Now, this year is already shaping up well with a fantastic team in place;

some entertaining campaigns planned for our existing clients and exciting ideas for progression in the pipeline."

For more information about No Brainer and its teams, visit www.nobrainieragency.co.uk.



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Retired teacher's business board game goes global

RETIRED Great Sankey High School teacher Andy Page is going global with a new business board game he has created.

Wind back forty years when Andy was the first Head of Business Studies recruited by, what was then, a new secondary school in Warrington, Gt Sankey High School.

His former students of the 1980s might recall his enthusiasm for what was then called "learning by doing" with the involvement of local business, competitions, role-play and other active learning exercises being regular features of his teaching. That enthusiasm has never waned.

Keen to put into practice the economics and business studies he had taught since the 1970s, Andy jointly set up in 2011 a social enterprise, The Very Enterprising Community Interest Company*, as a "retirement project" whose mission is to excite and inspire young people about the world of business.

Following appropriate market research and extensive trials involving more than 500 pupils from more than 30 schools along the M62 corridor, 'Business on the Move' was published in 2014, a fun and educational board game based on UK trade and supply chains with China.

Through the generosity of business sponsors such as DHL, John Lewis and Marks & Spencer (whose branding featured as an active part of the game), some two thirds of the production run went free-of-charge into UK schools. What is more demand grew to the point where, not only is the game now in some 90 universities, more than 40% of sales are exported across five continents.

Consequently the summer of 2018 saw the launch of a new Global Edition of Business on the Move, particularly relevant to the modern globalised world with a focus very much on West-East and East-West trade and transactions in \$s rather than £s.

A total of 42 sponsors currently support the new edition including the three companies named above alongside businesses such as CHEP/ Brambles, CLT International, Clipper Group, DP World, the Freight Transport Association, Heathrow Cargo, HFW, Jungheinrich, Kuehne + Nagel, Michigan State University, Nestle, Novus Trust, Think Logistics, TT Club, Worldwide Chain Stores and XPO Logistics.

The new Global Edition may have wider international appeal in today's competitive and globalised world but the core concept remains the same: players run multimodal



businesses delivering freight as quickly, profitably and responsibly as they can. Players must make the same decisions businesses make every day. How do I deliver? Will I make a profit? How should I grow? How can I cut my carbon footprint?

The new Global Edition of Business on the Move also retains the original's versatility to meet the needs of widely differing learners, from pupils in primary school to post-graduates in international supply chain management as well as seasoned professionals looking to convey the 'big picture' of logistics to trainees new to the sector.

Andy remarks: "This is a huge and important sector with 40,000 companies and more than 10 million employees across the globe and yet supply chains are under the radar, even invisible, to most young people, despite their relevance to our everyday lives and the diverse career opportunities they offer. Our game seeks to address this anomaly through an educational board game that captures the big picture of logistics across the world in a fun and flexible way."

For more information, either email info@businessonthemove.org or visit www.businessonthemove.org



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320 hens saved from abattoir

ANIMAL rescue group Warrington Animal Welfare (WAW) and Phoenix Hen Rescue UK were involved in an operation to rescue thousands of ex-cage hens who, at 18 months old, were considered no longer useful and were destined for the abattoir. A total of 320 were found homes in Warrington.

WAW trustee Julie Pickett said: "It was a five hour round trip to collect these lovely ladies, but it was worth it. They have spent their whole lives living in sheds, having never had the chance to be outside and enjoy the sunshine or the feel of fresh ground under their feet."

Financially yours

By David Watkinson

Making Tax Digital

If you are in business then the next hurdle that you may be facing is Making Tax Digital ("MTD"). In this article I will look at the basics of MTD.

I say "may" because two conditions both need to be met before you are affected, at least initially. The two conditions are:

- You are registered for VAT; and
- Your taxable turnover is above the VAT threshold, currently £85,000pa.

If both of the above conditions are met then you will need to comply with the MTD regulations for your first VAT period commencing on or after 1st April 2019.

As at present, if your taxable turnover is close to the VAT threshold then you will need to monitor your turnover closely. If in any period of 12 complete calendar months or less your taxable turnover exceeds the VAT threshold then, unless you are already registered for VAT, you will need to register for VAT within the following month to take effect from the 1st day of the month thereafter. You will then become subject to the MTD regulations.

Once you are required to comply with the MTD regulations then you will always be subject to them even if your turnover reduces to below the VAT threshold, unless you deregister from VAT.

If you are required to comply with MTD then you will need to keep and preserve your records in a digital form. This is not difficult, and it is estimated that around half of all businesses already do so.

Firstly, if you keep your records using a proprietary accounting package such as Kashflow then, provided that it is recognised by HMRC and the majority are, then you will already be maintaining your records in a compliant manner.

If you are using a spreadsheet to record receipts and payments then this will be sufficient to comply with MTD. You will need to have access to bridging software as the HMRC Online tax service will no longer be available, but most accountants can provide this access.

Do not be fooled by the frequent television adverts by the two largest software suppliers who are trying to persuade you that their product is essential to comply with MTD. It is not!

If you are keeping your records on paper then you will need to change to digital record keeping. Again, your accountant can assist you. However, please remember that both conditions at the top of this article need to be met before MTD applies. If you are below the VAT registration limit then MTD does not apply, even if you are VAT registered voluntarily.

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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David Watkinson and Margaret Black



Wolves flying high as Lineham touches down for 100th Super League try

Pictures by Eddie Whitham

WARRINGTON Wolves got off to a flying start in the new Betfred Super League with back to back home wins over Leeds Rhinos and Hull KR.

After opening the season with a 26-6 victory over Leeds Rhinos they backed it up with a 28-14 win over Hull KR as winger Tommy Lineham touched down in spectacular style for his 100th career super league try.

Now in his third season at the club Lineham had no idea his next try would be his 100th.

Our photographer Eddie Whitham, who has been snapping the Wolves since 1958 was in the right place at the right time to capture these stunning action pictures of "the flying pig" as Lineham is affectionately known, going in at the corner.

With seven new signings in the squad Warrington are tipped as hot favourites for silverware this season after missing out in the Challenge Cup at Wembley and Grand Final at Old Trafford last season.



Wolves restore old Wilderspool scoreboard



WARRINGTON Wolves turned back the clock with the unveiling of a restored version of the old Wilderspool scoreboard at Victoria Park as legends of the club took a trip down memory lane.

Past players turned out in force to mark the occasion alongside current squad member Bennie Westwood, the "last man standing" from the Wilderspool era, who was involved in the final Super League game at the old stadium against his home town club Wakefield Trinity Wildcats.

Westwood played for 18 months at Wilderspool and admits he wondered what he had done when he first set sights on the stadium after signing from Wakefield!

Now a veteran of the game and the longest serving player at the club, Westwood has no regrets and is hopeful Warrington can at long last win the Grand Final before he finally hangs up his boots!

Westwood was joined by many former players including Warrington born and bred Paul Cullen, who was Coach on that final day at Wilderspool.

"I couldn't sleep for a week before it," he said. "It was a game we just couldn't lose. But it wasn't about winning a game of rugby league - it was about leaving Wilderspool with dignity."

Other past players who attended included Welsh Wizards John Bevan and Mike Nicholas, Mark Forster, Ken Kelly and Jackie Edwards, father of Wigan legend Shaun.

Also in attendance was club chairman Stuart Middleton, who recounted watching the team from the Wilderspool terraces as a young boy, to becoming a club sponsor investing £5,000 in the club, including sponsorship of the scoreboard.

"It's certainly cost me a lot more since then," he said, since investing around £1.5m to help the club become the success it is today.

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