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Editor's Comment

HAVING seen some of the fantastic work being carried out by the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace it gave me no pleasure reporting that this unique charity, set up in the wake of the Warrington Bombing, is facing the prospect of a 95 per cent cut in government funding.

While many organisations and businesses have had to go through some belt tightening due to "austerity" a 95 per cent cut could prove fatal to this unique charity which now helps victims of terror as well as promoting peace and anti-hate messages to young people.

Founded by Colin and Wendy Parry, the Peace Foundation, based at the unique Peace Centre, now faces an uncertain future.

The Home Office appear to have fudged the issue somewhat by claiming the cuts are not so severe, highlighting some funding channels – but this is money that has already been allocated – it does nothing to help secure the future of this charity

**Deadline
for the
August issue
is July 9**

which reaches out way beyond Warrington, helping with victims throughout the country and across the world.

I would urge all those in positions of influence to make your voices heard and send a clear message to the Government that prevention is better than cure – and the peace centre has been working hard educating young people not to take the path of division and terrorism.

The world will be a darker place if we lose this living memorial to the two boys who had their young



lives taken away from them by an extreme act of terror on the streets of Warrington on March 20, 1993.

On that dark day, Warrington responded with dignity and led the way showing there is a better way to deal with acts of terror through peace and reconciliation.

I urge the Home Office to think twice about implementing these funding cuts and help find a way to keep the lights shining at this beacon of hope in our great town.

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Missing masterpiece unveiled

FIVE hundred years on from the death of Leonardo Da Vinci, Warrington artist Lee Trantum unveiled his own version of a missing masterpiece which sold for \$400m just two years ago.

Lee, who works as a process operator at Crosfields as his "day job," recently completed his version of Da Vinci's "Salvator Mundi" after starting work on it last October.

Now aged 46, Lee has always had a natural ability to draw and through the years he has studied all mediums pencil, watercolour, acrylics and oils.

In the early 90s he completed 2 BTEC courses at North Cheshire College achieving Distinctions, but made the decision not to progress to university.

Lee said: "Throughout the years I've always held down full time jobs but continued to pursue my passion

for art.

"My artistic hero has always been Leonardo Da Vinci and my goal was to produce a renaissance piece.

"In 2017 the painting "Salvator Mundi," attributed as the lost Da Vinci, sold for a record fee, \$400m at Christie's New York.

"The buyer is a mystery, but is rumoured to be a Saudi Prince. This would be the only Da Vinci in private hands," said Lee who does his artwork in his Warrington apartment.

Lee added: "Reports claim it was bought to be the "Mona Lisa" of the new Louvre Abu Dhabi, but the painting has not been seen since the auction. Rumour has it the painting may be damaged or there could be issues with the paintings authenticity.

"When I researched the painting I discovered that it had been heavily over painted in its past. The restoration took six years.

"When the painting was stripped back to the original paint of the early 16th century the painting, although heavily damaged, looked beautiful. In particular, the blessing hand and the face.

"The restoration work on the original, in my opinion, has taken all the quality away from the face.

"My painting is not a copy but a version, I wanted to try and capture some of the quality, pre restoration.

Lee now hopes his work can go on display and turn his hobby into a career one day.



Neighbourhood Weekender to return next year

AFTER a second hugely successful festival, Neighbourhood Weekender at Victoria Park, Warrington will return next year May 23-24 for another bank holiday weekend full of music, arts, food and fun. Early bird ticket prices are £85 plus booking fee or VIP £165 plus booking fee.

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Peace Centre charity faces uncertain future

THE charity set up at Warrington's pioneering peace centre following a terrorist bomb attack on the town is facing an uncertain future following a possible 95 per cent cut in funding from the Home Office.

On top of the Home Office cuts the charity has also been told funding from the Ministry of Justice is also being phased out.

The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace, set up after the death of 12-year-old Tim Parry and three-year-old Johnathan Ball when the IRA bombed Warrington in 1993, now helps support victims of terror, helps young people deal with violent situations and prevent the spread of violent extremism.

Peace Campaigner Colin Parry chairman of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace, said: "Back in 1993, there was no help for us as victims, so we set out on a journey to establish a charity that would help other victims and also help prevent the spread of violent extremism in our country. Twenty six years on, the Foundation has become the 'first provider' in providing the support that terror victims need."

"At the Foundation's Peace Centre in Warrington, we have teams who support victims of terrorism, and help young people from 5 to 17 yrs old to deal with violent situations, and prevent the spread of violent extremism in our communities.

"The risk of terrorism and violent extremism is greater now than ever.

Since 2017, we have received a further 900 referrals for support without one penny increase in any grant, yet we have still managed to support vulnerable families, young people and individuals with donations from supporters or victims themselves who want to give something back. This could only happen in the UK!

These work streams have been funded for several years by the Ministry of Justice and the Home Office respectively...until this year when, without warning, the Home Office decided to cut our funding by 95%, and the MoJ announced it would be phasing out our funding.

"So the Foundation's two major funding streams will end and our work with young people and victims will face an uncertain future, without any assured funding. This means we must find new funding sources.

"We spend what we are given on what it was given for. We help victims to become survivors, like my wife and I and we help young people of every race and faith, understand and accept the need for friendship, not conflict. Now all of this is at risk for sums of money that, by government standards, are minuscule.

"Terrorism can impact anyone at any time, whether shopping as Tim and Johnathan were, or on a business trip, enjoying a well earned holiday, or simply being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Our work is important, so if you

want to help the Peace Foundation personally, or by introducing us to potential supporters/funders, please let us know."

The charity's Chief Executive Nick Taylor added: "We will be seeking urgent meetings with the Home Secretary so he understands the serious consequences of this decision to reduce funding."

News of the funding cuts came in a letter from the Home Office following a meeting in January.

The letter stated: "Local Authorities and wider stakeholders had provided the Home Office with clear feedback that direct award grants were at odds with the localisation of Prevent delivery, which relies on grassroots knowledge of communities and partnership: between Local Authorities and the organisations they partner with. Further, evidence provided by Local Authority partners demonstrated that the number of CSOs and charities with the experience and ability to deliver

projects addressing a variety of CT threats and has grown significantly in recent years. The commercial proviso underpinning direct grants — that some organisations inhibited a unique position or offered a particularly specialist function — was therefore no longer met.

"Following the initial stages of evaluation and moderation of the bids submitted by Local Authorities, I can now advise that Peace Foundation's provisional funding level for 19/20 has been reduced by around 95%. This is not a final confirmation of the Peace Foundation's funding level but we have taken the decision to inform you of the provisional reduction as soon as possible to enable you to plan other activities and/or seek alternative funding in the coming financial year."

For more information on how to support the work of the peace centre visit <https://www.peace-foundation.org.uk/support/> or call 01925 581234



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Giving back to Warrington

WITH the launch of the app under a month away, Warrington Buyers Club have been working harder than ever to ensure everything is perfect for the special date of July 12th.

Many business partners have been signed up, finishing touches have been made to the app, and they're even organising an amazing launch party, which will feature live music, lots of dancing, and will be open to all WBC sign-ups!

More importantly than all of the above though, they've been finalising their charitable partners, so they can start giving back to some of the very best local causes in the area.

It gives us great pleasure to announce the first two charitable partners, St. Rocco's Hospice and Music and Memory - a voice for dementia in Warrington.

Everyone in Warrington seems to have a link to St. Rocco's, as it's an organisation that has influenced so many Warringtonians in a positive way. The staff at the hospice are motivated to make a difference - to give care and support to both patients and their families, when they need it most.

Rachel Ingham of St. Rocco's Hospice was only too happy to share her thanks on behalf of the

hospice.

"The kind support of the Warrington Buyers Club will help St. Rocco's to care for hospice patients and their families throughout Warrington. Your generosity is very much appreciated! Thank you so much for your support."

Warrington's Music and Memory is a voluntary group who bring together and support people with dementia and alzheimers, and their families through music and singing.

"Music and Memory are delighted that Warrington Buyers Club have chosen to support us as one of their chosen community groups. This will mean that the people of Warrington affected by

dementia will continue to benefit from this much needed group which helps reduce the social isolation dementia can bring. We really appreciate your consideration", said Lali Kelly of Music and Memory.

Speaking on behalf of the Buyer Club, David McMullen stresses the value of not just 'gaining together' through the app, but also 'giving together' as a business community.

"We have an overwhelming connection with both of these charities. Both went above-and-beyond in caring for my own mother when she was in her time of need, and they both continue to support my family."



"We believe in everything these causes do, understand what the need in order to operate successfully and we will give our all to ensure they get the funding required to continue to support our town."

"Clearly these causes are both incredibly close to our hearts. Now we want them to become just as important to all of you!", said McMullen.

So how does Warrington Buyers Club help to support these causes?

Every single business that signs up for the movement pays a £19.99 annual joining fee. This entire amount is then donated to one of the chosen charities. Yes, you read that right - the full sign-up fee is donated to a first-class cause in our local area!

Through this process they hope to develop a whole community, where charities and businesses can work hand in hand to make a real difference to this wonderful town which we live in!

Keep an eye on all social platforms, the website (<https://warringtonbuyersclub.com/>) and of course, next month's issue of Warrington Worldwide, to learn even more about the other charities Warrington Buyers Club will be working with!

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Cultural events help boost town's economy

WHILST Richard Ashcroft woosed the crowds at the recent Neighbourhood Weekender Music Festival, which is firmly established nationally as a "must attend" festival, the positive impact that such events have on the local economy is something that is encouraging to see. An example of this was witnessing Black Grape headline in Golden Square with the event now officially the largest free music festival in the North, again providing valuable increased footfall in the retail heart of the town centre; in fact shops in Golden Square reported increased footfall of between 6% and 10% over that weekend.

Warrington has a wide range of cultural events and many of these have a positive impact on the local economy, being particularly valuable to many of the small and medium-size companies across the Borough.

Enhance

I mentioned the Business Improvement District last month and they are working hard with Culture Warrington and the Council to capture and enhance the success

by Steve Park

of town centre cultural events and maximise the commercial opportunities for local businesses.

Warrington is renowned for having a successful economy, one that is both local and international. Global consultancy firm Ernst & Young released their annual Foreign Direct Investment report this month, which captures details of overseas owned companies either setting up or expanding across the world.

Number one destination

The UK remains the number 1 destination for inward investment, although Brexit uncertainty has been seen to limit some of the numbers.

In the North West, Warrington was just behind Manchester and Liverpool for total foreign direct investment, highlighting that the Warrington brand, location, and strength of economy is recognised and respected beyond our shores. Warrington & Co are currently working with a manufacturer who is considering relocating here

and if successful, we will provide valuable assistance in helping them locate the right property, source the necessary funding and assist with staff recruitment.

The Business Exchange, now already in its second year, continues to go from strength to strength with more and more networking events that are attracting an ever increasing amount of interest in attendance.

If you are a leader from a business of any size and any sector and would like to hear more about the Business Exchange, please go to www.wbex.co.uk or email Jackie Emson at jackie.emson@warringtonandco.com

Talking of events that boost the local economy, work is underway in preparation for the Rugby League World Cup that is coming to Warrington in 2021. This event will bring tens of thousands of people to Warrington and is a fantastic opportunity for businesses across the Borough to become involved. I will be providing details on how to do this in a few months' time.

The partnership for driving growth



Steve Park
MD of Warrington & Co.

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Hive of activity once again!

May was a hive of activity once again within the real5 Network, especially for April's new members, who all closed deals in their first month, the most significant of which saw Simon Riley from Ricoh save the iSupply Group over £2500 per year!

There were some excellent collaboration between Ian Cox, Golden Square and the Warrington Buyers Club, helping the team to launch the Digital App throughout the shopping centre.

A successful first meeting for real5 Chester took place and the plans are well underway for the launch of Knutsford in June.

Member of the month went to Becs Bate for her outstanding contributions and pro activity throughout the month.



Member of month Becs Bate with Wolves' heroes Ben Westwood and Paul Wood

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Advertiser's announcement

Who pays inheritance tax?

Heather Lally, Associate Solicitor, Estate and Trust Practitioner and Associate member of Solicitors for the Elderly at FDR Law looks at the question, who pays inheritance tax?

Most people are aware that if you leave substantial assets to your beneficiaries on your death, that there may be inheritance tax to pay. However, with recent changes regarding owning a residence on your death and who it is left to, the inheritance tax position may not be clear to all.

The basics – Individuals with assets valued at less than £325,000, generally there is no inheritance tax to pay.

If you leave all your assets to your Spouse / Civil Partner, generally there is no inheritance tax to pay.

If you have survived your Spouse / Civil Partner and they left all of

their assets to you and had not gifted assets / set up trusts which used up their entire inheritance tax (Nil Rate Band) allowance, a claim can be made to use their allowance also, so up to £650,000 can be claimed.

Now, if your assets comprise your residence and that residence is left to your direct descendants (including adopted, fostered and step-children), providing the property is valued at the Residence Nil Rate Band (currently £125,000 for tax year 2018/2019) or above, this additional allowance can be claimed against inheritance tax.

If your residence was passed

to you by your late Spouse / Civil Partner, a claim of up to £250,000 can currently be made (using both persons' allowances). The Residence Nil Rate Band allowance is due to increase to £175,000 by 6 April 2020. At that time, up to £350,000 additional allowances can potentially be claimed by the estate of the surviving Spouse / Civil Partner, if the property is valued at that amount or more at that time.

Inheritance tax is normally charged at 40% over the Nil Rate Band and Residence Nil Rate Band allowances. Further reductions can be claimed for legacies and gifts to charity, if certain business assets or agricultural assets are held at death, along with gifts made from 3 years up to 7 years prior to death. However, estates valued at over £2 million, lose £1 of the Residence Nil Rate Band allowance for every £2 over £2 million.

Inheritance tax can be complex and each person's circumstances are different. If you are unsure as to whether your estate will pay inheritance tax, take advice and let us clarify matters for you and assist in inheritance tax planning options.

For more information on Inheritance tax, Estates, Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney or Court of Protection matters, contact Heather Lally on 01928 739300 or email Heather.Lally@fdrlaw.co.uk



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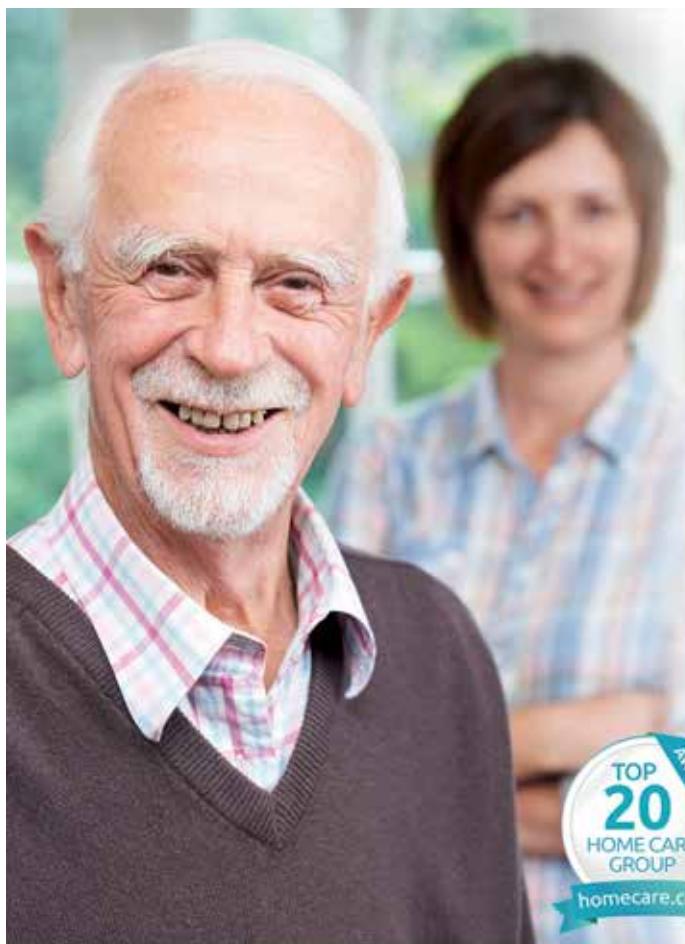
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Universities keen to accept Priestley students

UNIVERSITIES have lowered their grade requirements for students who have successfully completed the Extended Project at Priestley College.

Grace Duffy, who achieved an A* with her dissertation on the bleaching of the coral reefs, had her original offer from Birmingham reduced from an A to a B in each A-Level on the strength of her project.

"It is great news for me because Birmingham was my first choice to study a Masters in Geology with a year abroad," said the former Penketh High pupil.

"I wanted to do my best in the EPQ anyway, but it definitely gave me more motivation knowing it could influence my offer."

The Extended Project allows students to choose their own topics and titles, which have been as varied as 'Are humans really made of stardust?' to 'What makes the perfect pop song?'

Most students complete a dissertation of at least 6,000 words. Students can opt to complete an investigation, experiment, field study, performance or an artefact plus 2,000 words instead.

Many universities reduce offers for successful EPQ candidates because it demonstrates a number of key skills including the ability to learn independently.

Almost half of the students

who take the course alongside their other A-Levels and BTECs at Priestley secure A* or A, two thirds achieve a grade B or above.

Former Sir Thomas Boteler student Daniel James also completed his EPQ early and received a reduced university offer.

At Priestley he is studying Classical Civilisation, History, English Language and Literature and has now accepted an offer to study Ancient History at the University of Manchester.

However, it was the University of Liverpool that lowered its grade requirements after he achieved an A in his EPQ, which was about how Julius Caesar became so powerful he could claim to be a dictator for life.

"EPQ has helped me to develop numerous skills like the ability to collate and critically analyse a selection of useful sources and giving an effective and efficient presentation," he said.

"Delivering my presentation also greatly increased my confidence when presenting to, or speaking in front of, a group."

For aspiring chemical engineer Ben Hilton, the Extended Project was a chance to write about a vast area of research in his chosen field.

He investigated whether hydrogen fuel cells are the best option to power transport. The A* grade he achieved meant that



one of his grade requirements for studying Chemical Engineering at university was reduced from an A to B.

"I thought an EPQ would be

helpful, as it would give me an academic topic to talk about at length in an interview," said the former St Gregory's Catholic High School pupil.

Work starts on £90,000 revamp for play area



Deputy leader of the borough council Cathy Mitchell and local councillors Sarah Hall and Tom Jennings at the play area

WORK has started on a £90,000 revamp for the play area in Warrington's Whitecross Park.

The project will transform the look and feel of the play area, and make it fully inclusive for children of all abilities.

Improvements will include the replacement of existing play equipment – aimed at children aged 2-8 – with brand new equipment.

The investment will also see the play area given a 'Sankey Canal' theme – complete with paintings of water, canal boats, swans, fish and ducks – chosen following consultation with the local community. The far corner of the play area – which currently slopes down – will also be levelled.

Work is scheduled to be completed on 28 June. Grant funding of £50,000 was awarded by FCC Environment through WREN's FCC Community Action Fund for the scheme, with the council providing the remainder of the funding for the project.

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Mother of young soldier killed in Afghanistan organises parade to support veterans

THE mother of a young Warrington soldier killed in Afghanistan is organising a special parade in the town, urging people to show their support for troops and veterans she feels have been let down by the Government.

Lisa Billing, whose son 20-year-old Daniel Wade was killed in action in Afghanistan in 2012, is organising the parade "Warrington Behind Our Veterans", to take place on July 27 from the town hall.

Daniel, a former Sir Thomas Boteler CE High School pupil, was one of six British soldiers killed by a massive Taliban bomb in Afghanistan in March 2012.

Private Wade and the five other soldiers had been on a security patrol in a Warrior armoured fighting vehicle when it was caught in an explosion in the Kandahar province.

Lisa said: "This is for all the soldiers that have been let down by the government, my son being one of them.

"What is happening to the Northern Ireland veterans is very much the same.

"They have been let down and abandoned by their employer.

"They served queen and country

and and yet this is how they are repaid in their later years."

Lisa has launched a Facebook page urging others to join the special parade.

She posted on the page her reason for organising the parade, saying her son and veterans of conflicts, including Northern Ireland, had been let down by the government.

"You all signed your oath of allegiance for Queen, crown and country and look what they did, dumped our veterans, homeless, PTSD, but most of all they are prosecuting our soldiers our protectors who were sent to war when they never got a choice where to go. They were sent and then they went and did a job they were made to do.

"You (Daniel) along with 455 soldiers never came back. It's time our government woke up and realised YOU CANNOT SEND MEN TO WAR then prosecute them. A 76-old man who should be enjoying his retirement, is instead crowd funding to help pay his legal fees.

"So I ask you Warrington to please parade with me and Martin Doherty on July 27 for just one and



half hours out of your day and then after the parade you can enjoy a few pints with out veterans.

"They are the 4th emergency service in our country. To me they are the first, they are smartly dressed, show respect, they also enjoy a good time too but on a serious note please show them the same respect and dignity they gave you, when they went fighting terrorists to protect us, making our streets safer.

"Sadly my son Pte Daniel Wade never came home. Let's join

together and stop the prosecution of our veterans they deserve the same immunity as Tony Blair gave himself. Oursoldiers don't want nothing extra, just immunity let's unite and show our country Warrington is United with our soldiers."

The parade is due to start at 11 am prompt on July 27 from Warrington town hall.

Any one interested in joining the parade is invited to join the Facebook group Warrington Behind Our Veterans.

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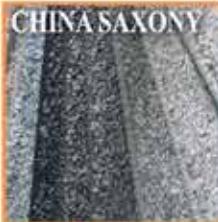


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St. Rocco's 2019
Colour Bubble Fun Run

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St Rocco's Colour Bubble Fun Run is a family affair



IT will be a real family occasion when June Bursill and her relatives get together to take part in this year's Colour Bubble Fun Run at Walton Hall on September 29.

June and her daughters, Nicola, Sarah and Diane, along with her grandchildren will be there to honour the memory of her husband, and their dad and grandad, Alan, who was cared for by St Rocco's earlier this year.

"Dad deteriorated quite quickly and was in pain and agitated at home. It was such a relief to all of us that he could come in to St. Rocco's," said Nicola. "The help we had had up to that point had been brilliant but going through this experience, and not knowing what to expect or what to do, it was great to have the support from St. Rocco's."

Alan wasn't one for hospitals but the family say that he became much calmer as a result of being cared for at St Rocco's.

"It's such a lovely environment and not at all like being in hospital. We could visit whenever we wanted and mum was able to be with my dad the whole time. There was space in the lounge for us to take time out. During the beautiful weather at Easter we were even able to take Dad out into the courtyard in the sunshine. He really enjoyed that, chatting and looking at the planes."

On June and Alan's 36th wedding anniversary staff made sure there was a celebratory cake and the family brought in flowers and bubbly to celebrate, wanting to make the most of every moment they could.

In the evening the St Rocco's choir came to sing for patients.

"It was such a special moment," said Sarah, "The choir started singing. I was sitting with Dad. I saw him open his eyes. He looked straight at Mum and it was as if he knew and then he passed peacefully away. If any moment could be described as perfect in our circumstances, it was then. We had a recording of the choir singing the same piece of music at Dad's funeral."

The family have already raised over £1700 through donations and fundraising but are determined to raise as much as possible through taking part in the Colour Bubble Fun Run.

June said: "We can't believe that places like the hospice can only survive on donations from the public. They are such important places. All hospices should be funded properly to ensure they are there when needed. We want to do our bit to help."

St. Rocco's Colour Bubble Fun Run takes place at 3pm on Sunday September 29 and is a fun event for all the family. You can sign up now at <https://www.stroccos.org.uk/events/colour-bubble-fun-run/>

Ex-Mayor joins in Hadrian's Way charity walk



FORMER Mayor of Warrington Geoff Settle celebrated with new friends and supporters, who have personal experience of bipolar disorder, as they stood at the Hadrian's Way signpost that marked the end of a charity walk of 84 miles from Bowness-on-Solway to Wallsend.

The group's aim was to increase awareness of bipolar disorder and to raise money needed to sustain local support services for people with bipolar.

Geoff is the lead facilitator for the Warrington Bipolar UK support group that was set up using the charity's share of funds raised during his Mayoral year, 2015-16.

He said: "I only joined the group on Newcastle's Quayside at the Millennium Bridge. I have only just been diagnosed with osteoarthritis of the hips so I can't walk too far but I was determined to take part even if it was just five miles.

"We are a peer support group and meet on the first Tuesday of the month in a room at the Gateway, opposite the Town Hall gates. It is free to attend, confidential and no booking is required. For further details about our service go to bipolaruk.org



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7TH
10TH
14TH
17TH
21ST
24TH
28TH

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Pretty Mudders show support for fighting Cancer at Race for Life

Pictures John Hopkins

HUNDREDS of people showed their support for fighting cancer at the annual Race for Life event at Victoria Park, Warrington, on Sunday.

This year, for the first time, Cancer Research UK invited everyone – men, women and children – to join the Race for Life event.

Hundreds of like-minded people joined together and remembered loved ones lost to cancer or celebrated the lives of those who have survived cancer for the Pretty Muddy and Pretty Muddy Kids events.

Cancer Research UK's Race for Life, in partnership with Tesco, involved an inspiring series of 5k, 10k, Pretty Muddy and Pretty Muddy Kids events.



Sarah Hunter, Cancer Research UK's Warrington Events Manager, said: "Life-saving research is being funded right now thanks to people like the men, women and children of Warrington who join the fight at Race for Life."

"By taking part and raising money, our participants play a crucial role in helping to turn discoveries made in the lab into new, better treatments for patients in Warrington and across the UK and we'd like to thank everyone who took part in the event on Sunday."

"The atmosphere on the day was hugely moving – full of emotion, courage, tears and laughter – as people came together to remember loved ones lost to cancer or

celebrate the lives of those dear to them who have survived. Race for Life offers a unique opportunity for like-minded people to unite against a disease that affects us all in some way."

"Now we're asking everyone who took part, and all the friends, family and colleagues



who pledged to sponsor them, to return the money they've raised as soon as possible. Money raised – whether it's £10 or £100 – will help Cancer Research UK scientists find new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat the disease, helping save more lives."

Money raised through Race for Life will help Cancer Research UK scientists find new ways to prevent,

diagnose and treat the disease, helping save more lives.

One in two people in the UK will be diagnosed with cancer at some stage in their lives, but the good news is more people are surviving the disease now than ever before. Cancer survival in the UK has doubled since the early 1970s and Cancer Research UK's work has been at the heart of that progress.



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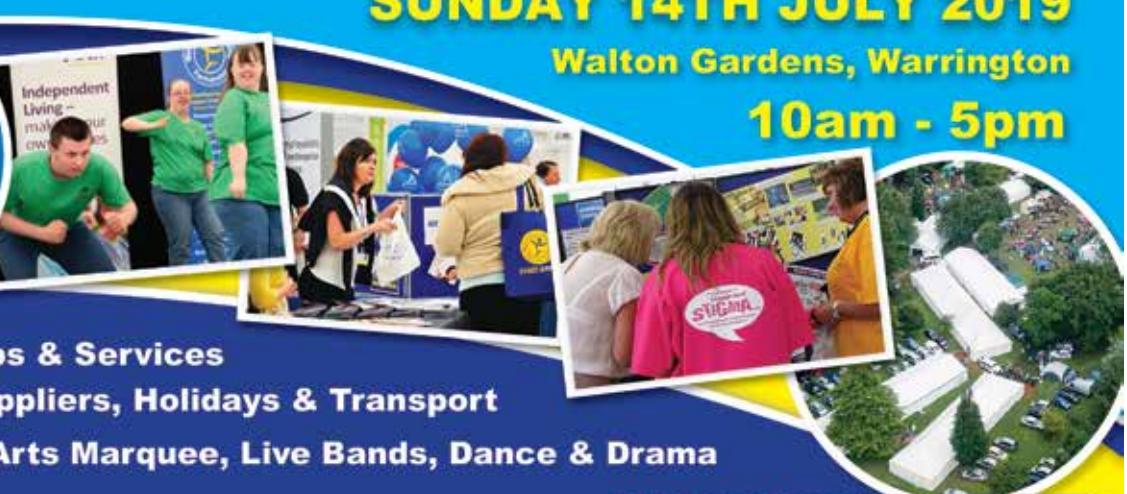




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Sell-out auction raises funds to help improve literacy

WARRINGTON & Vale Royal College is celebrating after the success of a sell-out book auction dinner at their award-winning restaurant, Buckley's.

The annual auction, sponsored by warrington-worldwide, raised over £900 which will be used to purchase books for the college's reading schemes including 'Accelerated Reader' and the Reading Agency's initiative, 'Reading Ahead', which the college runs with partner LiveWire Libraries.

The auction, which was led by the college's Director of English, Elizabeth Draper, and Learning Resource Centre Manager, Bethan Bligh, commenced with a delicious four-course meal prepared and served by the college's talented hospitality and culinary arts students.

Anna Lucas, author of Sir Undercracker, spoke at the auction and donated multiple copies of her children's best-seller, along with a visit to two local primary schools of the highest bidders choosing. The college's Personal Development, Behavioural & Welfare Manager, Stephanie Crane, and Work Placement Co-ordinator, Abbie Hildebrandt, bid together to win a visit from Anna Lucas to Darnhall Primary School in Winsford, where Stephanie Crane sits as a governor.

This academic year over 3 million words were read from the college's

fiction collection and over 3000 fiction books were loaned from the college's libraries at its Warrington and Winsford campuses. This increased reading has resulted in a demonstrable improvement in grammar, vocabulary and spelling, and the ability to process written texts. It has fostered an enjoyment of reading, and students are now in the habit of reading for pleasure. This year the college identified seventeen students as having made significant academic progress through reading, awarded Reader of the Year to Art & Design student Jack Dickenson, and Reading Group of the Year to ICT Diploma Level 2, for their excellent reading progress.

Elizabeth Draper commented: "It was a splendid occasion with a delicious menu and fun auction. The monies raised will have such a positive impact on our reading at college. It is only through local support and generosity, particularly from our wonderful sponsor and friend Gary Skentelbery from warrington-worldwide, that we are able to continue this fantastic reading journey."

The event has been inspired by the historic Warrington Gentlemen's Book Society, of which Gary is a member and special guests included the Society's Chairman Roger Bingham.

Mayor's charity appeal raises over £12,000



WARRINGTON'S outgoing Mayor Cllr Karen Mundry raised over £12,000 for local charities during her year of office.

The money raised has been split between the Mayor's chosen charities – Warrington Disability Partnership, a voluntary organisation improving the quality of life for disabled people and their families and the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Centre for Peace, a charity working nationally and internationally for peace and non-violent resolution of conflict.

Part of the money is going to a local charity, Harry & Co, which supports maternity bereavement services and other charities will also be awarded sums of the appeal.

Cllr Mundry said: "It's an honour to host this event to present these charities with over £10,000 between them. This money will help them to support the people of Warrington and beyond, and enable the charities to further develop and carry out their services."

Warrington Disability Partnership and the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Centre for Peace both received £3,500.

Other beneficiaries include: Harry & Co, Warrington Fire Cadets, Room at the Inn and Y Project and Warrington Wolves Foundation.

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By David Watkinson

Phishing

The problem of "phishing" contacts and e-mails is large and increasing, and fraudulent contact supposedly from HM Revenue & Customs is a very common one.

We have written before about some of these that have been experienced by clients or members of our firm. To try and counter this HM Revenue & Customs publish updated guidance on a regular basis, and the latest one was issued last month. This can be viewed by going to <https://tinyurl.com/pqvt5fw>.



David Watkinson and Margaret Black

In that guidance HM Revenue & Customs provide details of all instances when they are sending emails to their "customers". They also give a number of pointers for recognising a fraudulent email. These include:

- Poor spelling and/or grammar, such as missing pronouns, etc. A good example would be "We send you by email a claim form"
- A generic greeting, such as "Dear Taxpayer". Genuine emails will "usually" be addressed personally
- An incorrect "from" address, although they do say that fraudsters can falsify this to look legitimate.
- A request for personal information such as your address, unique taxpayer reference, postcode or bank details
- A notification of a tax rebate or an offer of a tax repayment
- A request for specific financial information unless you have previously given them consent and formally accepted the risks
- An attachment, again unless you have previously given them consent and formally accepted the risks
- A threat of action unless immediate action is taken
- A link to a fraudulent website. You should be aware that the link as displayed may not be correct. The real underlying link can be seen by hovering the cursor above the displayed link WITHOUT pressing any buttons or keys.

Examples of phishing emails can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phishing-and-bogus-emails-hm-revenue-and-customs-examples>.

The advice must always be to:

- only open emails that you are 100% certain are genuine
- NEVER to open any attachments if you have any doubts at all of their authenticity
- NEVER click on any links if you have any doubts at all of their authenticity

As they used to say on Hill Street Blues "Let's be careful out there!"

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Magic of the Locker Cup!



THE Magic of the Locker Cup returned as Warrington Wolves and Wigan Warriors turned back the clock 30 years at Anfield.

The game marked the 30th anniversary of the Great American Challenge of 1989 in Milwaukee, as both teams wore replicas of the original playing kits and also competed for the Locker Cup for the first time since 1995.

The popular pre-season friendly trophy had previously been competed for in 24 matches, with both teams winning 12 apiece.

The clubs agreed to amalgamate the two and celebrate 30 years since the Milwaukee adventure and play for the Locker Cup at the Magic Weekend.

Prior to the game players past and present teamed up at Locker's premises in Farrell Street, including former Welsh Wizard Mike Nicholas, who worked there during his playing days, before setting up a successful taxi cab company in the town.

Meanwhile Aussie Blake Austin was the star at Anfield as Warrington beat the Warriors 26-14.

Austin came up with a piece of magic just before the hour mark to break Wigan's resolve and put Warrington back in to a lead that they wouldn't relinquish.

Austin also pounced on a loose ball to send Toby King away for a length of the field effort which put the game beyond the Warriors, who lost to the Wolves for the third time this season.



Yellows to take on Accrington Stanley



WARRINGTON Town will take on Football League side Accrington Stanley as part of their pre-season schedule.

Stanley will visit Cantilever Park on Monday, July 22 (7.30pm kick-off), the third of eight planned friendlies for Paul Carden's side.

Carden himself is a former Accrington player, as is club captain Mark Roberts, while goalkeeping coach James Speare is a Stanley club legend.

The remaining confirmed friendlies are all local affairs with just one further home game planned so far, against Northern Premier League new boys City of Liverpool (Tuesday August 6th, 7.45pm), who are managed by Warrington's FA Cup hero and former skipper Craig Robinson.

The Yellows will be back in action on Tuesday July 16th away at Skelmersdale United, before a trip to Wythenshawe on Saturday July 20th.

They will play three sides from the division below them too – playing at the Halton Stadium against Widnes Friday July 26th (7.45pm), away at Prescot Cables on Saturday August 3rd and then away at Runcorn Linnets on Saturday August 10th.

The new league season kicks off on Saturday August 17th. Warrington Town's 2019/20 pre-season friendlies:

Tue 16th July Skelmersdale (A) 7.30pm
 Sat 20th July Wythenshawe Town (A) 1pm
 Mon 22nd July Accrington Stanley (H) 7.30pm
 Fri 26th July Widnes (A) 7.45pm
 Tue 30th July TBC
 Sat 3rd August Prescot Cables (A) 3pm
 Tue 6th August City of Liverpool (H) 7.45pm
 Sat 10th August Runcorn Linnets (A) 3pm

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