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Village Life Magazine

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"My Darling Clemmie"

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Editor
Gary Skentelbery

Production
Paul Walker

Account Executives
James Balme

Advertising
01925 631592 option 1

Editorial
01925 631592 option 2

Email
info@warrington-worldwide.co.uk

Websites
www.culchethlife.co.uk
www.frodshamlife.co.uk
www.lymmlife.co.uk
www.village-life.co.uk
www.warrington.tv
www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk

Address
New Media Centre
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Editor's comment

As I write these notes work is going on behind the scenes to try and tackle the ongoing litter problem which is blighting the road networks in and around the Barleycastle Lane area of Appleton Thorn.

As things stand Warrington Borough Council will be organising a major clean-up operation over the weekend of March 14/15, which will involve road closures.

There are also plans to involve a community litter pick on the Saturday morning (March 14) from 9am-12 noon.

For full details keep a look out for further announcements on our website and social media channels. Everyone from the age of 14 is welcome to help.

While many council tax payers will think it is the duty of the borough council to keep our grass verges tidy, in reality with various cut backs over the years this is a near impossible task, so we all need to try and do our bit.

I know many people, including my wife, who diligently go out clearing grass verges, out of a sense of duty

to their local neighbourhood and sharing a passion for looking after the planet we live on.

While there are lots of people out there complaining about things, there are not as many actually doing something.

In fact it amazes me how many people, especially those who drive vehicles, still throw litter out of their windows.

Judging by some of the branding on the litter, most notably McDonalds, I would urge local businesses to also step up to the mark and show some care for your local community and indeed make an effort to educate your customers and workforce on the need to recycle litter responsibly.

While Warrington Borough Council has taken some enforcement action against litter louts in other parts of the town, clearly a lot more still needs to be done.

If you see someone throwing litter from a moving vehicle please try and make a note of their registration and report it to the authorities. If it is safe to do so, even try and take a photograph on your mobile phone as evidence.



Just as we all have a responsibility to try and look after our local patch, we also have a duty to help bring those to book who constantly flout the law.

Meanwhile I hope to see plenty of you joining in at the community litter pick- I will certainly be doing my best to be there!

**Deadline for
the April
issue of
Village Life
is March 17**

Hospital team wins "health centre of the year" award

THE Bupa Health Centre at the Spire Cheshire Hospital at Stretton has been recognised as Bupa's Health Centre of the Year in a partner location.

This was due to its commitment to training and high customer satisfaction levels.

One of more than 34 partner health centres across the UK, the facility at the Fir Tree Close hospital offers a variety of health assessments to customers.

Focused on supporting health and well-being, the assessments include female health checks, mature health checks, and fitness testing, with

doctors offering advice, a personal health report and an action plan to minimise any health risks identified during the assessment process

In the last five years, customer numbers at the health centre have nearly doubled, due to an increased number of clinics being offered and the launch of an evening session on Thursday nights.

Lisa McIntosh, business development manager at the hospital, said: "This is fantastic recognition of the excellent service provided by Spire Cheshire staff and doctors, who are committed to delivering the best service possible for customers,

"In recent years, we have focused

on boosting the availability of clinics for customers, to ensure the highest levels of convenience for people who travel from across Cheshire to attend for an assessment in Warrington. This has clearly reaped rewards and we look forward to supporting many more customers in 2020."

Patient admission numbers for Spire Cheshire Hospital as a whole have increased year on year, with key growth areas being general surgery, gastroenterology and urology. The hospital, which celebrated its 30th birthday in 2018, has also seen a significant uptake in diagnostics screening.



Progress being made on refurbishing swing bridges

PROGRESS appears to be at long last being made on the proposed refurbishment of the swing bridges over the Manchester Ship Canal.

A meeting was recently held between Warrington Borough Council and Peel Ports with contracting for the work now underway and an announcement due next month (March).

Stockton Heath based Steve Allcock, Conservative Councillor Candidate, who helps run the local Facebook Campaign group, Stockton Heath Matters, said: "Although we don't have exact details from this meeting, it is encouraging that Peel are taking ownership and that the work will consist of structural and mechanical repairs and not just a paint job as previously feared."

"We have been actively liaising with both Peel Ports and the Transport Team at Warrington Borough Council and will continue to push them for updates in March when a further announcement is due."

"The community has had enough, so the sooner information is made available and work commences, the better."

A Warrington Borough Council spokesperson said: "Positive discussions continue with Peel Ports regarding the engineering, refurbishment and painting of the swing bridges, with Stockton Heath earmarked to be the first project. Peel Ports are currently about to go out to tender for this work."

"At the same time, we are discussing with Peel Ports the implications for pedestrians and traffic of this work. A further announcement will be made in March."

Former Warrington South MPs David Mowat and Faisal Rashid, opposition Lib Dem Councillors and newly elected MP Andy Carter, have all been campaigning for the work to be carried out.

It is hoped that in March it will be announced when work will start on the Stockton Heath bridge, followed by the other bridges at Latchford and Walton.

The main fear is how the works can be carried out without impacting on traffic issues in the town, which are already escalated every time a bridge swings and then worsened when they stick in the open position.



£3m refurbishment underway at Park Royal Hotel

THE Park Royal Hotel is undergoing a major £3 million investment as part of a rebrand to a Marriott Delta Hotel in May this year.

The aim is to refurbish all bedrooms, conference areas and restaurant while there will also be a light refurbishment to lounge and bar area.

The refurbishment is expected to be fully completed by May 1 while the rebranding to a Marriott Delta Hotel should be completed by the middle of May.

There will also be a gradual refurbishment of the Leisure facilities with the first phase consisting of an upgrade of the gym equipment.

General Manager Mark Illingworth said: "These are exciting times at the Park Royal Hotel. Ideally we aim to have all the refurbishment in place within the next three months."



Love Krakow

Lesley has fallen in love with Poland and she would like to share with you her passion for the city!

Poland's second largest city is truly a delight for a short break, with frequent direct flights from Manchester and a short transfer to the city centre.

The old town is truly stunning with a large medieval square and beautiful cathedrals. It is an ideal location for people watching and sampling the amazing restaurants and bars. My favourite recommendations are the Art Restaurant, which offers excellent 'tasting' menus using locally sourced ingredients, paired with amazing Vodkas. Or if you

are looking for something really special, the Sara Geis Restaurant in the market square has stunning décor and beautiful food, all very reasonably priced.

Getting around the city is so easy, either on foot, or you can pass away a couple of hours on one of the little white trolley buses (ideal to get your bearings). They hold up to six people and have great commentary. You visit all the districts and historical places of interest – Old Town, Kazimierz (Jewish Quarter) and across the river to the

Schindler factory. En route you see many famous landmarks, and buildings featured in Schindler's List.

An hour away lies Auschwitz Concentration Camp, which is a very thought-provoking experience and I would recommend a guided tour. You can also combine this trip with the Salt Mines at Wieliczka, which is definitely worth a visit.

Where to stay? I have visited this city several times and my favourite hotels have to be Radisson Blu, which is situated in a great location, offering views of Planty Park (a beautiful belt of greenery surrounding the city), or the Hotel Senaki, situated on the Royal Mile with the stunning Wawel Castle at one end, and the Old Town

Square within very easy reach on foot. To summarise; if you love great food, history and wonderful locals you will LOVE Krakow!



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Still a question mark over HS2 in Cheshire fringes

A LARGE question mark continues to hang over the controversial HS2 rail project and its likely impact on the Cheshire fringes of Warrington.

While Secretary of State for Transport Grant Shapps has given new hope to campaigners at Culcheth, Rixton and Lymm by stating that "the writing is on the wall for the Golborne Spur" this brings new reassurance to residents in the High Legh area where current plans refer to so-called "passive provision" for two new junctions.

According to the HS2 company, these junctions are proposed to future-proof the design for a possible link up with Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) – a proposed east-west line formerly known as HS3.

NPR is still very much in the Government's sights, even if the Golborne Spur is dropped on economy grounds. And there is major support for it in the Manchester area.

Mr Shapps, responding to questions from Warrington South MP Andy Carter, stated: "The Golborne Spur is currently projected to cost between two and three billion, but delivers very little for that sum. The writing is on the wall as far as the future of the Golborne Spur is concerned. We expect to make the final decision on it in months, not years."

High Legh Parish Council made its total opposition to HS2 known a long time ago on the grounds of needless destruction of valuable Green Belt, agricultural and recreational land but it is far from clear that scrapping the Golborne Spur would remove the threat of the rail line – and the two junctions – at High Legh.

The line splits here, with one leading towards Wigan – the costly Golborne Spur which now seems likely to be scrapped – and the other towards Manchester Airport.

Warrington Borough Council, while it opposed the Golborne

Spur, say it will continue to lobby for the inclusion of Warrington on a new Northern Powerhouse Line from Liverpool to Manchester via Warrington and Manchester Airport.

Cllr Hans Mundry, cabinet member for transportation, said: "We are urging the earliest possible decision to be made on this, and for the delivery of Crewe to Manchester to be quicker than the 2035-2040 timescale suggested by the Government."

"We have also been clear, from the

outset, that while we are supportive of HS2, we will not support any plans which threaten significant disruption and environmental damage to our communities. That is why we are pleased that the government now appears to be listening and responding to our firm opposition to the Golborne Link and are strongly indicating that it may be dropped from the plans. We look forward to a formal announcement on this in the near future."



Little Lot Nursery donate Defibrillator to Street Pastors

THE Little Lot Day Nursery has donated a much-needed defibrillator to Warrington Street Pastors who help look after vulnerable people having nights out in Warrington town centre at weekends.

Mrs Bev Owen the Managing Director of The Little Lot Nursery based in the Stockton Heath Primary School building, heard that Warrington Street Pastors urgently needed a defibrillator.

The Nursery, a not for profit charitable organisation, with the

agreement of their Board of Trustees, decided to donate a defibrillator to Warrington Street Pastors, and to fund the cost of batteries for the next three years.

Bev said that the Board were delighted to be able to support such a worthwhile organisation.

The nursery takes children from the age of two to four years and involves all the pupils in local and national community projects.

John Britton, chair of trustees of Warrington Street Pastors, thanked

Little Lot Nursery for their generosity saying that on a number of occasions over the last three years a defibrillator had been needed.

The defibrillator will be installed in Street Pastors base 'Help on the Corner' on the corner of Bridge Street and Academy Way and will be available not only to Street Pastors but the Police in an emergency.

Street Pastors is an interdenominational church-based charity operating in Warrington town Centre from 11pm to 5am each

Saturday and some Fridays, staffed by trained and uniformed volunteers who are there to assist revellers in need in a non judgemental way regardless of race, colour, creed, gender, religion or sexual orientation.

Warrington Street Pastors is actively supported by David Briggs, The Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, The High Sheriff of Cheshire, Mark Mitchell, Cheshire Constabulary, Warrington BID, Warrington Borough Council and local Christian Churches.



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MP welcomes £8m funding boost for Warrington Council

WARRINGTON Borough Council is set to get an £8m funding boost from the Government which Warrington South MP Andy Carter believes should help prevent excessive Council Tax rises.

But Cllr Russ Bowden, leader of the Labour controlled council described the announcement as “more Tory Government ‘smoke and mirrors’ that doesn’t even begin to tell the real story.”

Mr Carter has welcomed the Government’s confirmation that Warrington will see its budget increase by 6% this year, part of the Conservatives’ commitment to level up local services across the country.

He says local authorities across the country, including Warrington, will receive a share of £49.2 billion local government funding this year – a 4.4 per cent real terms increase and the largest year-on-year real terms increase in a decade. Funding for key public services will be protected, with significant extra resources dedicated to areas where they are needed most. Thanks to the investment being made by the Conservatives, Warrington will have an extra £8 million to spend this year.

The latest Local Government Finance Settlement, which was confirmed by Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick in February, includes an additional £1.5 billion for social care. When added to the existing social care package, local

authorities will now have access to over £5.5 billion of dedicated funding across adult and children’s social care in 2020-21.

Warrington also has an additional £25million ringfenced as part of the Town Deal which was launched recently. This could be used to redevelop vacant buildings and land, drive private sector investment by supporting small businesses and ensure young people have the skills they need to get good jobs. Communities will also be able to consider how they can boost their transport links and increase access to high-speed broadband.

Mr Carter says that thanks to measures taken by the Conservatives, local authorities will be able to prevent excessive Council Tax rises – striking the right balance between the interests of council taxpayers and addressing pressures on services.

He said: “Warrington Borough Council plays a vital role in our communities, providing the crucial local services that people rely on every day.

“I am delighted that the Conservative Government has confirmed Warrington will have additional £8 Million funding this year, which will help our local leaders make positive change in the area.

“The Conservatives were elected on a promise to level up local communities across the whole country, and with this funding increase, we can start to do exactly that, ensuring everyone lives



in a community they can be proud of. I’ll continue to push for additional resource for our town, levelling up is a real priority for me.”

But Council Leader Cllr Russ Bowden responded: “After inflicting cuts of 60p in the pound on councils since 2010, it really does take some neck to trumpet increased funding. As is always the case, this is just more Tory Government ‘smoke and mirrors’ that doesn’t even begin to tell the real story.”

“This press release shows that the Government want to take credit for any increase, regardless of where it comes from. Shunting the burden of adult social care onto Council Tax payers through a 2% precept isn’t money from Government – it is money from hard-pressed Warrington residents.”

“The simple truth is that the Government is shirking its responsibilities over properly funding local services. We are succeeding in Warrington despite this wretched Tory Government, not because of them.”

Cllr Cathy Mitchell, Deputy Leader and

Finance Portfolio Holder added: “When the Tories make grand announcements like this, then you really do need to read the small print.”

“£1.3m of this supposed increased funding is from New Homes Bonus. That is money that we already expected to receive and have budgeted for. This will disappear next year and leave us with another funding gap to fill.”

“£4.6m is ringfenced funding for adult social care. Whilst this is welcomed, it is a sticking plaster that doesn’t cover the rising costs and increased demand.”

“The remaining £2.3m is what residents are paying in the Adult Social Care precept. It is ridiculous to claim that this is new Government funding.”

“For next year, the Council is facing a £14.1m funding shortfall to provide the valuable services that our residents rely upon, especially the most vulnerable. It beggars belief that the Tories are talking about increased funding when the stark reality is the complete opposite.”

Parish councillor cleared of failing to comply with code-of-conduct

STOCKTON Heath parish councillor and former Labour Parliamentary candidate for Warrington South, Nick Bent, has been cleared of failing to comply with the councillors’ code of conduct.

Two other Labour councillors, Chris Vobe, a member of Winwick Parish Council – and son of former Warrington North MP Helen Jones – and Great Sankey South borough councillor Amanda King, had made a formal complaint against him over posts he had made on social media.

The complaint related to a post Cllr Bent had made in which he claimed Cllr Vobe tried to “install” Cllr King as Labour’s Warrington North Parliamentary candidate and then get a paid job in her office if she won the seat.

The complaint was investigated by Warrington Borough Council’s director of law and governance, who concluded

not further action need be taken.

In a letter to Cllr Bent he said: “The reason for this is that while the social media account which contained the comments that formed the basis of the complaint do appear to make reference to your role as a parish councillor, the actual comments themselves do not relate to the business affairs of the council, or the role and duties of a councillor.”

Cllr Bent, who twice failed to win the Warrington South seat for Labour and who has announced that he will not be seeking re-election to Stockton Heath Parish Council, in May, said: “I am pleased My name has been cleared and that this matter is now closed.

“I enjoy serving on the parish council and I love living here, but the charity I run is growing rapidly and I need to focus on that and the voluntary work I do in education.”



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A photograph of two women laughing joyfully outdoors. The woman on the left is wearing sunglasses and a grey patterned top, holding a large ice cream cone with pink, yellow, and red scoops. The woman on the right is also wearing sunglasses and a red and white floral patterned top, holding a smaller ice cream cone with yellow and pink scoops. The background is bright and slightly blurred, suggesting a sunny outdoor setting.

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Money Column

By Margaret Black

Changes for the new tax year

As we write this column, approximately 6 weeks before the end of the tax year, we still have about 3 weeks to wait until we know what changes will take effect for the new tax year. Whilst this is totally unsatisfactory we shall look at what actions it may be advisable to take before 5th April.

Marriage Allowance

This is an absolute must for any couple where the higher earner is paying tax only at the basic rate (that is earning less than £50,000) and the lower earner has unused personal allowances (that is earning less than £12,500). Under these circumstances, the lower earner can elect to transfer up to 10% of his or her allowance to the higher earner.

The election must be made by the lower earner and can be made either by telephone by calling 0300 200 3300, or online at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-marriage-allowance>. In the current year, making this election will save the couple tax of £250.

Importantly, if the same conditions applied in previous years then the claim can be backdated for up to 4 years. Currently, that means that you can claim for tax year from 5th April 2015 onwards. However, on 6th April the claim for the year to 5th April 2015 will no longer be available, meaning that you will no longer have the ability to reclaim £210 for that year.

Personal Pension Contributions

Tax relief for personal pension contributions are given for the specific tax year in which the contributions are made, and they cannot be carried back. Therefore, if you want relief against your income for the tax year to 5th April 2020 then the contributions must be made before that date.

This may be important for a number of reasons. Firstly, there is an annual limit on the amount that you can contribute in any tax year. Therefore, if you wish to contribute up to this maximum then you will need to do so before this date. However, the contributions may effect a larger number of people in another way. The contributions increase the "net relevant earnings (NRE)" of the taxpayer, and that may be important in two ways if your earning before taking account of the contributions are above £50,000.

Firstly, child benefits are withdrawn progressively if the higher earner has NRE above £50,000. Secondly, the marriage allowance as above is no longer transferable. For instance, if you have income of £52,000 with no pension contributions being paid then this will result in child benefits being restricted. However, a pension contribution of £2,000 (£1,600 actual payment plus tax relief of £400) will stop any restriction being made. It will also enable the transfer of the marriage allowance to still be made.

Not forgetting, of course, that the forthcoming budget may have other consequences that we do not yet know about.

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Library still needs to prove its value



THE newly refurbished Stockton Heath Library is now relatively secure in the short term –but it still needs to prove its value to the local community.

The Friends of the South Warrington Library in Stockton Heath (SWISH) are looking for people with new ideas and different skills to join them and ensure the facility maintains its position as one of the best-used libraries in the borough.

Less than four years ago there was a real possibility the library – and a number of others across the borough – would have to close. But thanks to campaigning users and local parish councils a rescue plan was launched and the immediate future of the library was secured.

A £195,000 refurbishment was carried out giving the library a major boost and four parish councils pledged financial support. Stockton

Heath Parish Council moved its offices into the building.

But SWISH members are still concerned about the long-term future of the building and want local people to join them and attend their monthly meetings.

A spokesperson said: "Although the library is relatively secure for the short term, the demands on local authority resources have not changed.

"Libraries will continue to need to justify their place in the community among many competing demands. At a time when library book loans are in decline nationally, we need to help ensure that library services are supported and continue to remain a value and well-used service."

Anyone interested in joining SWISH and getting more involved with the library should contact chairman Peter Lewenz via email at chair@libraryfriendsswish.org.uk

Children thrive at "vibrant" pre-school

CHILDREN thrive in the "vibrant and well-organised" St Monica's Pre School at Appleton, according to a new Ofsted report.

The pre-school is "good" overall and is rated "good" for its quality of education, for behaviour and attitudes, personal development and leadership and management.

But at its last inspection, in March 2016, the pre-school was rated as "outstanding" and Ofsted says to further improve the quality of its early years provision, it should ensure that all staff consistently allow children enough time to think about and give their opinion on the questions they are asked.

The new report follows an inspection carried out in January. The inspector says staff create an environment that children take ownership of. They encourage children to make good choices and are superb role models.

Staff have high expectations. They teach children about rules and boundaries in ways that help them to

remember.

Children know what is expected of them and their excellent behaviour shows they feel safe and secure at the pre-school. They are self-assured, motivated and eager to learn. They access a variety of activities and play happily with each other, are polite and considerate to one another.

"It is clear that they have formed strong friendships."

Mathematical development is promoted well. Children have frequent opportunities to explore number language and recognise numerals. For example, staff help children to count each other and the adults in the room.

Ofsted says the curriculum is well thought out and staff are skilful and know how to re-shape and extend activities to challenge children effectively. They work hard to extend children's vocabulary.

Partnerships with parents is strong and parents are happy with the quality of care provided for their children.

Detached house plan approved

PLANNING chiefs have given the go-ahead for proposals for a three-bedroom detached dwelling at Old Hall Farm, Burley Lane, Appleton. It is the second time approval has been given for a dwelling on the site but the earlier one, some six years ago, never proceeded and permission had elapsed. Access will be from Burley Lane, immediately adjacent to the existing access for Old Hall Farm.

Advertiser's announcement

Estate Planning for Company Directors

FDR Law recently acted on behalf of a client (who we shall call Mr Smith) in preparing a Will. Mr Smith is a director and majority shareholder of a private limited company. As part of planning his estate Mr Smith wanted to ensure that his interest in the company passed in accordance with his wishes in the event of his death.

The company had been in the family for many years and Mr Smith wished to ensure that his children continued to benefit from the company after his death. It was Mr Smith's intention that any significant influence his children would have over the company should be held back until they were more mature had become more involved in the running of the business.

We discussed several options with Mr Smith who decided to include a gift of his shareholding into a discretionary trust.

Effectively, on his death Mr Smith would gift his shares to the trust, for his appointed Trustees to run for the benefit of his children as the trust's beneficiaries, and appointed two of his fellow directors and minority shareholders in the company as the Trustees.

Mr Smith's children would not have any automatic right to benefit from the shares (whether as sale proceeds or dividend payments) nor to utilise any rights as a shareholder. Instead, it would be at the discretion of the Trustees to make any payments out to the children from the trust fund.

The terms of the trust also granted

Mr Smith's trustees the right to appoint all or part of the trust capital, in this case referring to the underlying shareholding, for the benefit of either or all of the children. This allows for the trustees to, at their ultimate discretion, grant some or all of the shares to the children as they became more involved in the company.

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to planning the succession of a business and there may be different approaches which would suit your wishes. At FDR Law our

Private Client team have the skill and expertise required to ensure that your wishes are met. If you have any questions or are unsure how to plan your estate or the succession of your business, take advice and let us clarify matters for you.

For more information on Wills, Inheritance Tax, Estates, Trusts, Powers of Attorney or Court of Protection matters, contact Stephen Mackellar on 01925 230000 or email Stephen.Mackellar@fdrlaw.co.uk





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“My Darling Clemmie” – one woman show comes to Stockton Heath

STAGE and screen actress Rohan McCullough is to appear in a powerful one-woman show at Stockton Heath Methodist Church, on Walton Road, for one night on April 3.

“My Darling Clemmie” is a moving portrayal of Winston Churchill’s devoted wife, Clementine.

Written by Hugh Whitmore, the show focuses on an extraordinary relationship enduring not only the immense pressures of Churchill’s rise to power and the fury of war, but also his single-minded and often near-impossible behaviour.

Yet largely through an astute understanding of his complex character and her own willingness to play the role of the dutiful wife she stoically made the sacrifices that their relationship demanded. It seems that perhaps Churchill understood this.

He once described persuading Clemmie to marry him as “My most brilliant achievement.”

Tickets cost just £10 and can be obtained from the CARE UK shop in the Cockhedge centre, booked

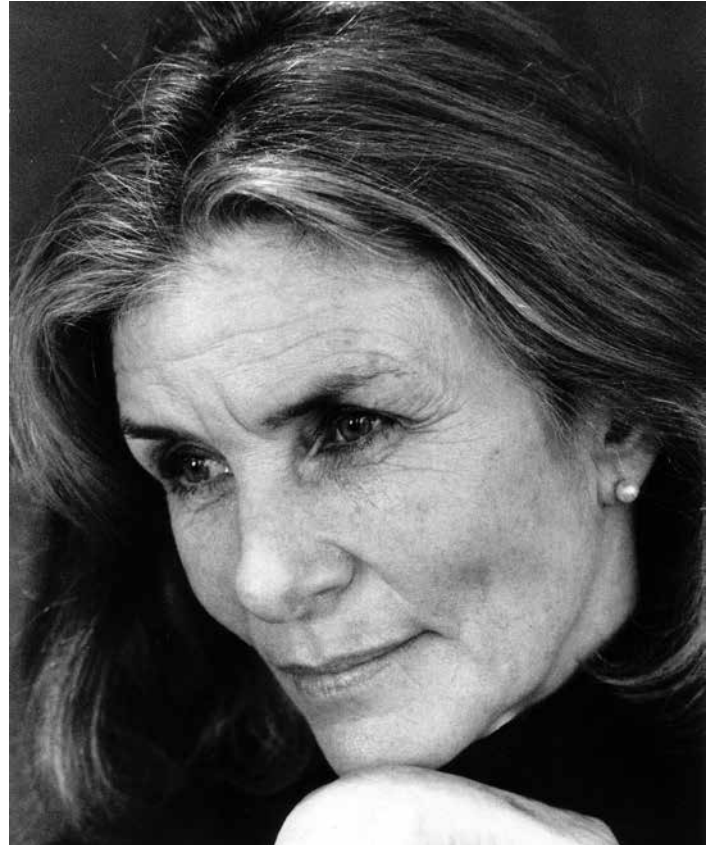
by ringing 01925 264179 or can purchased on the door.

All profits will go the CARE UK Charity Homes Team that works in Warrington helping to provide basic needs for living in the way of kitchen items, bedding, furniture, curtains and other household needs for those setting up home after fleeing domestic abuse, coming out of care and homelessness. These people are often given a new place to live but with nothing in it - CARE UK try to change this from an empty house to a home, using items that are donated but need money for the items they don’t have or can’t recycle.

Rohan McCullough trained for the stage at The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and began her career in the original cast of the legendary musical “Hair” and Jean-Louis Barrault’s Rabelais.

She has also been seen as Antigone in Oedipus at Colonus (Manchester Royal Exchange) and in Les Liaisons Dangereuses (RSC). Her film and television appearances include Sunday Bloody Sunday, Derek Jarman’s War Requiem and David Hare’s Straple. In recent years she has given poetry recitals with Sir Derek Jacobi, Edward Fox, and John Julius Norwich. She appeared frequently with Sir John Mortimer in his poetry and prose entertainment, Mortimer’s Miscellany.

Shortly after her appearance at Stockton Heath she is taking “My Darling Clemmie” to France.



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Teenager with dream of being a paramedic

A TEENAGER with ambitions to become a paramedic has taken a first step towards achieving his dream - thanks to St John Ambulance.

Charlie Anderson, aged 16, from Moore, has been named St John Ambulance cadet of the year for Cheshire and Merseyside.

This means he will one of about 40 young people competing for the title of national cadet of the year.

In September he is due to start a nursing cadet programme at college

as he aims to start a career in emergency medicine.

Charlie said: "I've wanted to be a paramedic since a young age and St John has allowed me to explore this dream. I am very passionate about helping those in need. I also find it extremely rewarding and couldn't think of a more fulfilling career."

If he won the national title, Charlie would represent St John Ambulance's young people at ceremonial occasions and Royal functions.

He has been volunteering with the charity for more than two years.



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What's on in the villages

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March 10
 STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
 Stockton Heath Library
 7.30pm

March 14
 LIVE AT ST WILFRID'S
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 One of the finest male voice choirs in the UK and winners of the 2018 Llangollen International Eisteddfod
 St Wilfrid's Church, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

March 17
 APPLETON PARISH COUNCIL
 Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road
 7.30pm

March 19
 GRAPPENHALL & THELWALL PARISH COUNCIL
 Council Offices, Bellhouse Lane. 7.30pm

Every day except Monday
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Every Monday
 COUNTRY DANCING CLUB
 St Thomas' Primary School, Parkgate Road, Stockton Heath.
 8-10pm. Details: 01925 262356

BRIDGE CLUB
 Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm.
 Details 01925 262534

HIGH LEGH BRIDGE CLUB
 Village Hall, 7-10pm. Rubber, Duplicate and Chicago played. Details: Audrey Greaves 0161 904 0120

Every second Monday
 PARK (APPLETON) WI
 Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.
 7.30pm

PHILOSOPHY IN PUBS DISCUSSION GROUP
 Red Lion pub, Stockton Heath 7-9pm
 Contact Bill Cooke cwncooke@gmail.com

Second and fourth Monday
 WARRINGTON ART GROUP
 Bellhouse Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, Grappenhall.
 7-9pm.

Every fourth Monday
 MARLFIELD WI
 Grappenhall Community Library, Albert Road, Grappenhall. 7.30pm

Every Tuesday
 COFFEE MORNING
 St Cross Church, Appleton Thorn. All welcome. 10am-12 noon

COFFEE MORNING
 Appleton Independent Methodist Church
 Appleton Parish Hall, 10am-12 noon

Every first Tuesday
 STOCKTON HEATH FLOWER CLUB
 Appleton Parish Hall, 7.15pm
 Details: 01925 602016

Every second Tuesday
 STOCKTON HEATH LIONS CLUB
 London Bridge Inn, 8pm
 Contact: Grahamclisse58@outlook.com.
 Tel 01925 262669

BOOK CLUB
 Bizzie Beans Coffee House, Bridge Lane, Appleton
 11am-12 noon

Every second and fourth Tuesday
 LYMM PROBUS CLUB
 Lymm Baptist Church. 2.15pm.
 Details: www.lymmprobus.club

Every Wednesday
 APPLETON HALL BADMINTON CLUB
 Sept to Easter at Hall Drive, Appleton.
 7.45-9.45pm.
 Details: 01925 262356

THELWALL MORRIS MEN
 Thelwall Parish Hall, Bell Lane,
 8.15pm. Details: 01925 767151

Every first Wednesday
 WALTON WI
 St John's Church Community Hall. 7.30pm
 Details: 01925 604384

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

Every second and fourth Wednesday
 APPLETON PROBUS CLUB
 Warrington Sports Club, Walton Lea Road, Higher Walton.
 Visit appletonprobus.org.uk or ring Mike on 07713 162797

Every third Wednesday
 HIGHER WALTON WI, Sandy Lane
 Community Centre, Stockton Heath,
 7.30pm. Details 01925 602486.

Every fourth Wednesday
 ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY
 Support Group, Brampton Lodge Day Centre, Bridge Lane, Appleton. 6.30-8.30pm

BRIDGE CLUB
 Belong Warrington, Loushers Lane 7.20pm.
 Details 01925 262534

Every second Thursday
 STRETTON WI
 Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road.
 2.30pm.

GRAPPENHALL PROBUS CLUB
 Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane, 10am.
 Details: 01925 264427.

Every third Thursday
 APPLETON AFTERNOON FLOWER CLUB
 Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road 2pm
 Details: 01925 740419

BOARD GAME NIGHT.
 Stockton Heath Library. 7.30pm
 Tel 07824 499 780

GRAPPENHALL WI
 Grappenhall Community Centre, Bellhouse Lane 2.15pm

LYMM & THELWALL U3A
 Members' meetings 10am
 Thelwall Parish Hall

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

Murder mystery with a World War 2 theme

A MURDER mystery evening is to be held at Warrington Sports Club on Friday, MARCH 27 to raise funds for the Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal.

The mythical "murder" takes place at Burtonwood in 1942 and the ticket price of £20 includes a World War 2-style two course meal. Forties-period dress is optional, but there will be prizes for the best-dressed lady and gentleman.

Tickets are available at the Walton Lea club or from Marion Burke on 01925 753780, to who any special dietary requests should be made.

Former bank to become restaurant

ANOTHER former bank is to be converted into a restaurant at Stockton Heath.

Borough council planning chiefs have granted permission to change the use of the disused Barclays bank in Walton Road.

There will be seating for around 50 people.

The former Lloyds and HSBC banks in the village have already re-opened as restaurants.



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