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Warrington Worldwide

Issue No. 275 November 2022 FREE EVERY MONTH



Warrington Monopoly launched!

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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

I COULD write a book on all the negativity going on in the world at the moment – but instead I will try and focus on some positives going on in Warrington at the moment.

Despite all the doom and gloom in the economy, Warrington hosted its third Business Conference, entitled "World Class Warrington."

This provided a great opportunity for local companies to showcase their success, as well as an opportunity for others to meet and discuss business opportunities in the town.

Well done to the teams at Warrington Chamber and

Warrington & Co for delivering another excellent event at Cineworld and to the inspiring guest speakers.

At the same time a number of new businesses have been welcomed to the town centre, with the Parlour Bar in Time Square and the Vandal Restaurant in Palmyra Square – both great additions to the town centre economy, already boosted by the arrival of Chester University

Meanwhile, Warrington has been heavily involved in the Rugby League Cup, as a host town to Papua New Guinea, while also creating history with the first ever PDRL World Cup tournament, providing a fantastic spectacle at Victoria Park.

So despite all the doom and gloom and the crazy world of politics we have been enduring, there is still plenty to be positive about here in Warrington.

Work is also underway to ensure we can have a festive season to enjoy from the team at the Warrington BID.

Out in the wider community we have Lymm Dickensian Day and Carols at the Cross and Culcheth Christmas Market to look forward to.

I am sure there will be plenty of other Christmas fairs and activities

taking place across the town.

After the problems of COVID, which still hasn't gone away, we certainly need a Christmas to lift our spirits this year.

Finally, as displayed on the opposite page Warrington has now got its own special edition of MONOPOLY.

This has been one of my favourite stories of the year as MONOPOLY has been around all my life – and I am delighted to see a Warrington edition – featuring many local landmarks and even a square for Warrington-Worldwide, the first independent daily newspaper in the country, when we launched way back in 1999.

I'm sure this will be featuring on a few of Santa's lists this Christmas – it will certainly be on mine!



Deadline for the December issue of Warrington Worldwide is November 15



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Local landmarks featured as Warrington's new Monopoly board game launched

WARRINGTON has landed the honour of its very own edition of the world's most famous MONOPOLY: Warrington Edition the very FIRST place in Cheshire to get its own board after seeing off 19 other locations across Cheshire.

A gigantic life-size replica of the MONOPOLY: Warrington Edition board was rolled out at Walton Hall and Gardens to kick-off the game's launch.

All the famous multi-coloured MONOPOLY property squares like Mayfair and Park Lane from the classic MONOPOLY London original are represented by Warrington landmarks and organisations. The Warrington Foodbank is one of several charities to be honoured within the game along with St. Rocco's Hospice and The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Peace Centre.

"Warrington Foodbank is thrilled to be recognised and chosen to appear on the Warrington Monopoly Board," said David McDonald, CEO of Warrington Foodbank. "The charity is well established in Warrington as a helpful community supporter dealing with families in need, distress, and crisis. We are able to help all families regardless of income who find themselves in a period of hardship."

The brand new MONOPOLY: Warrington Edition game landmarks and features include:

- **FOODBANK NEXT DOOR TO 'OLD KENT ROAD':** Next door

to 'Old Kent Road' (the board's most affordable square) on a Community Chest space will be Warrington Foodbank. At the other end of the board The Golden Gates will be unveiled as the 'Mayfair of Warrington'.

- **FIDDLERS FERRY BECOMES WARRINGTON'S ELECTRIC COMPANY:** The famous 'Electric Company' square is represented by Fiddlers Ferry Power Station. It forms one half of a Utility Set, with Lymm Dam featured on the Water Works square.

- **30+ LANDMARKS 'PASS GO!':** Other Warrington landmarks featuring include: The Transporter Bridge, Warrington Wolves, Walton Hall and Gardens, the Warrington Museum & Art Gallery, Victoria Park and The Pink Eye (on a pink square – of course!).

"We have been wonderfully spoilt for choice putting this unique game together," says Jennifer Lau, Custom Games Executive at Winning Moves UK. "It's a board celebrating Warrington's past and present and is very much reflective of the times."

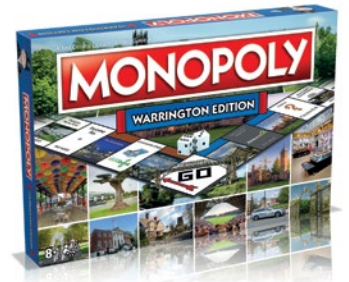
The Mayor of Warrington, Cllr Jean Flaherty, said: "It's exciting to see what has been included

on the Warrington edition of this iconic game. David and the team at Warrington Foodbank do a fantastic job supporting people across the borough to access the food and help they need. They provide a vital service, helping families in need during challenging times. They are very well thought of in our community, so it's a great honour to see them take up a square on the board. I look forward to seeing which other landmarks and organisations will be joining them!"

The Chance and Community Chest cards are themed too. One sends players 'Back 3 Spaces' for getting stuck in traffic on the Thelwall Viaduct. Whilst another rewards players for their best nostalgia photo taken of the iconic – and now former nightclub – Mr Smith's, which was a magnet for youngsters across Lancashire and Cheshire to flock to Warrington.

The money is customised as well. It includes motifs of The Golden Gates and the Transporter Bridge – a nod to Warrington's rich heritage. "This game without these two heavily represented, would be like MONOPOLY without the dice" adds Ms Lau.

Over the last 25 years Winning Moves UK and Hasbro has produced official version of MONOPOLY in places all over the world from Sydney to Dubai .. and



now Warrington. The MONOPOLY: Warrington Edition game is now available at Waterstones, WH Smith and extensively online, including on Amazon and Booghe.

MONOPOLY first hit shelves in 1935 with the Racecar, Thimble, Boot, Top Hat, and Battleship among the original set of MONOPOLY tokens while the Scottie Dog and Wheelbarrow were added in the early 1950s. Although the brand has evolved over the past 87 years, the gameplay and iconography of the classic MONOPOLY game has remained unchanged, making it a timeless classic sure to be enjoyed by future generations. Today, MONOPOLY is the world's favourite family game brand and is enjoyed by more than one billion players in 114 countries across the globe.

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Tuesday 20 th December	
Wednesday 21 st December	
Thursday 22 nd December	Hybrid Saturday Service with 22/47/96/98/594 & 596 operating with earlier finishes around 19:30 on Christmas Eve
Friday 23 rd December	
Saturday 24 th December	No Service
Sunday 25 th December	Sunday Service
Monday 26 th December	Hybrid Saturday/Sunday Service with 5/5A/47/96/594 & 596 operating (with earlier evening finished on 31 st)
Tuesday 27 th December	
Wednesday 28 th December	
Thursday 29 th December	No Service
Friday 30 th December	
Saturday 31 st December	Sunday Service
Sunday 1 st January	Normal Service (school day timetables)
Monday 2 nd January	
Tuesday 3 rd January	

Warrington's own buses

Warrington Weekend Wonderland is happening in the Town Centre

A festive weekend cracker is being brought to you by Warrington Business Improvement District. And what better way to start the festive season than with a whole weekend of Christmas activity and events taking place across Warrington Town Centre.

Warrington Weekend Wonderland is all set to launch in a carnival of festive fun over the weekend of Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th November.

There's something for everyone on both days including over 60 Christmas market stalls along Bridge Street and Marketgate, there will be a variety of local choirs performing at Golden Square, a selection of traditional fairground attractions over at the new Time Square Quarter, a visit from Santa, the return of the At No.25 Christmas installation, street performers entertaining visitors and even a team of drummers who will lead the Lantern Parade to the Town Hall to launch our spectacular after dark light and sound show! So set the weekend aside because Santa Claus is coming to town like never before.

Everyone is invited and most activities are free including lantern making workshops followed by the Lantern Parade. With lanterns lit and held aloft, the Parade will march from Marketgate, down to the Town Hall on Saturday 26th where at 6pm the Town Hall will be illuminated in what promises to

be an unmissable light projection extravaganza from the acclaimed Double Take Projections Company, who have worked in some of the world's greatest cities.

Supplementing Warrington's already fantastic offering of shops, restaurants, cafés and bars. Warrington BID has joined forces with Independent Street Markets to showcase local artists and makers who will be providing a unique selection of foods and crafts over the weekend, whilst also creating a fantastic Christmas day out for all.

So, expect amazing local food - freshly baked produce from micro bakeries, tasty street food, epic cakes, award winning Warrington based pies, fresh roasted coffee, Indian treats and delicacies, artisan gin, olives, Turkish delights and deli. There will also be beautiful, handcrafted jewellery, unique arts, craft, hand poured candles, cheese truckles, mulled wine, local photography, dog treats and much more. The market will be open from 10am - 7pm on the Saturday and 11am - 5pm on the Sunday.

Santa Claus will be in town over the weekend from 1:30pm to 6pm accompanied by his elves, he'll be

stopping to chat with all our little people, finding out who's been naughty or nice, and what they expect to see under the tree on Christmas Day. He will also be joining us with his sleigh on the lantern parade.

All of the festive fun is brought to you by Warrington Business Improvement District (BID) and is supported by our partners, Culture Warrington Golden Square, Warrington Borough Council, the Warrington Lions and Independent Street.

Andrea Morley - BID Project Manager said: "Warrington's Weekend Wonderland has been funded by the businesses based in our town centre, the aim is to

make Warrington the people's number one choice for shopping, entertainment, food & drink over the festive period, but importantly to give the people of Warrington a wonderful weekend of festive fun by delivering a haze of activities that are accessible for all to enjoy. This event is just the start of some big events we have planned for 2023 in our Town Centre."

If you would like to receive updates about the weekend visit the Bid website or follow on socials www.wearewarringtonbid.co.uk Facebook - @WeAreWarrington Instagram - @wearewarrington Twitter - @WeAreWarrington



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It's a "No Brainer" as Warrington agency win SEO, digital and PR brief

WARRINGTON-based digital PR, SEO and content marketing agency, No Brainer, has won the SEO and digital PR brief for the UK's biggest private personal alarms provider for older people.

No Brainer won a competitive pitch for the brief and is now helping TakingCare Personal Alarms develop a winning SEO, content and link-building strategy, as well as creating SEO content, editorial newswjacking and digital PR hero campaigns.

Which? approved TakingCare, part of the AXA Health, is the largest private personal alarm provider in the UK and was named the 'Best Elderly Personal Alarm Specialist' in the GHP Social Care Awards 2022.

The account will be led by No Brainer's head of SEO and Insights Laura Rudd and Tori Attwood, the company's digital PR account director.

"TakingCare is a fantastic and exciting UK brand and we're delighted to be working with the team to continue to grow their business," said Laura.

"They are doing some genuinely meaningful things to help older people live better and more independent lives, and we love nothing more than helping purpose-led brands like TakingCare do well. We're incredibly proud to be working alongside them and to be supporting their efforts to

grow through better SEO, digital PR, and link-building."

Daniel Lennox, head of sales and marketing at TakingCare said: "For us when it came to selecting our SEO and digital PR agency, it was a 'no brainer'. From the outset, the team developed a pitch and shaped a model and approach we knew could help us win big in the digital space and we're delighted to be working together."

No Brainer supports a range of companies across the UK with SEO, PR and digital PR and social and content marketing, and shapes the SEO strategies for a range of brands, including the HomeServe Foundation, the registered charity of FTSE-250 company HomeServe, and leading commercial law firm Primas.

No Brainer was named the North West's "PR Consultancy of the Year" by the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR) in 2021, as well as one of Prolific North's Top 50 PR agencies and NW Business Insider's Top 20 PR Agencies. In 2021, it also won the Media Relations Award at the Public Relations and Communications Association (PRCA) Awards.



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“World Class Warrington”

by John Laverick - Warrington & Co

Well, following last month’s sole focus on the Rugby League World Cup, a resumption of normal service with a roundup of all things Warrington & Co, perhaps amongst a few other things.

First things first, the 3rd annual Business Conference was held at Cineworld on the 14th October. The conferences are a combination of two things really, a chance for people to promote their businesses but also to share some insights into how to get the most out of doing business in Warrington and to meet other businesses.

The attendance at each one has increased over the 3 years and the format has settled well into mixture of presentations and panel discussions. This year saw well over 200 people attend for the “World Class Warrington” version. This attempted to inspire the audience into thinking globally, especially through exporting with local

companies such as Driveworks and EMR already doing this extensively and sharing the secrets of their success, I think it achieved its purpose.

Whilst the presentations were good and inspirational and the presence of Bill Esterson, Shadow Minister, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) outlined how His Majesty’s Opposition would support UK industry for me the panel discussions were a real draw. Andy Carter MP and Charlotte Nichols MP were each on one of the panels together with leaders of various businesses in the Borough. I was struck particularly by the coherent message of the benefits of being

in Warrington, pride in what we achieve as a town and passion to drive this onward.

The news of the resignation of Kwasi Kwarteng was released during the panel discussion with Andy Carter which made for some highly amusing questions about being the future Chancellor, which Andy Carter ruled out. If the conference had been a week later he could have been asked about being the new Prime Minister. A week, is perhaps, a short time in politics.

The Warrington Business Conference is firmly established as the largest networking opportunity in the town and complements Warrington & Co’s other flagship events – the Annual Property Review and Apprenticeships & Jobs Fair.

Time square continues to attract good quality operators and with the completion of leases for Revolutions and Yum Cha and the opening of Parlour Bar in October. These will complement the opening of the University of Chester for the new academic year which happened in September and will really start to bring the scheme to life.

As you can’t fail to notice if you have been to that part of town, New Town house is being demolished – a sign of good progress following



John Laverick

01925 442 243

www.warringtonandco.com

the granting of Outline Planning Approval for the new mixed use scheme on the site. Whilst this is a major milestone for the site which is partly within the Council ownership, the real impact of this approval is as an endorsement of the Warrington & Co Town Centre Masterplan and the concept of bringing significant housing into the town centre in concert with the draft Local Plan.

This approval equally gives greater certainty on the delivery of affordable housing within the Town Centre with the undertaking to target full policy compliance of 20% affordable housing.



Carl Oates from one of the event sponsors presenting at the business conference

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Council becomes first in UK to produce all its own electricity

WARRINGTON Borough Council has become the first local authority in the UK to produce all its own electricity with the completion and hand-over of an advanced hybrid solar+ battery farm.

The facility, built by GRIDSERVE, is on an 88-acre site at Cirencester – equivalent to more than 50 football pitches and is the council's third solar farm.

It is the first DC-coupled solar farm of this size in the UK and the most advanced to be completed in the country since GRIDSERVE's York project in December 2019.

The project continues the nationwide expansion of subsidy-free renewable power, to meet the UK's net zero-carbon energy commitments.

Cirencester Hybrid Solar Farm uses battery storage and sophisticated technologies to maximise revenue and help balance the grid – both during the

day with direct solar generation and at night with energy stored in the 51 MWh battery.

The 23 MWp solar farm includes more than 43,000 bifacial solar panels on trackers, co-located with 51 MWh of DC-coupled energy storage. This is one of the world's most technically advanced solar farms, which has achieved a significant design feat to avoid multiple conversion processes, increase efficiency, and help balance the grid. The site will produce enough energy to drive over 88 million miles¹ every year in modern electric vehicles, or put another way, will produce enough energy to drive more than a hundred thousand electric cars from Land's End to John o' Groat's.

It demonstrates how local authorities can partner with

GRIDSERVE to deliver projects which cut carbon, supply zero-carbon clean electricity, and fund essential council services.

Electricity from Cirencester will be used to help provide net zero energy for Warrington's fleet of all-electric buses, coming next year, while the hybrid solar farm in York – handed over in December 2019 – is providing energy which can be sold into the grid.

A third site in Hull is supplying all the council's net zero energy needs, making Warrington Council the first local authority in the UK to produce all of its own electricity.

GRIDSERVE will operate and maintain all three solar farms during their lifetimes to maximise system performance and value for the council.

ANDY CARTER MP

Member of Parliament for Warrington South


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To make an appointment call **01925 231 267** or email **Andy.Carter.MP@parliament.uk**

Promoted by Stephen Taylor on behalf of Andy Carter MP of 1 Stafford Road, Warrington WA4 6RP. Funded through the allowances available to the Member of Parliament.










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Services will take place:

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- 🕒 St. Elphin's Church- Wednesday 7th December 7pm (indoors)







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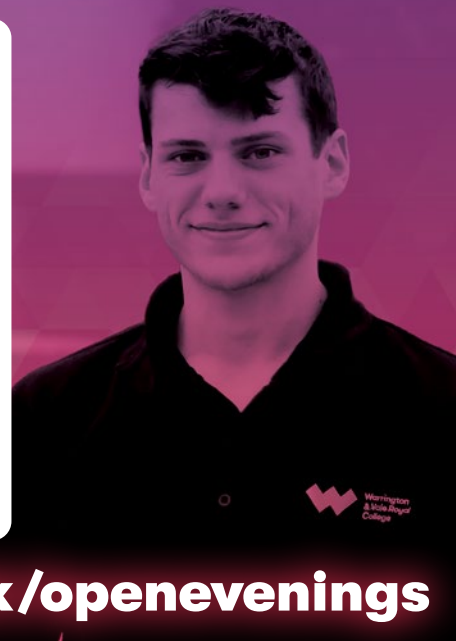
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Last month Silmo happened in Paris. It's been running for over 50-years and is the world's number 1 optical show. Part of the shows is the highly prestigious Silmo d'Or (Golden for those whose school French is as rusty as mine) Awards. Winning one of these awards is a very big deal. Here at EDGE, we were delighted (although not surprised) to see that Shamir's Metaform lenses won the much coveted 'Vision' award.



Graham Weir
Optometrist + Owner



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Priestley partnership takes internship to next level

A LEADING video game developer has spoken about the importance of a partnership with Warrington's Priestley College that gives students a chance to break into the billion-dollar industry.

Arthur Parsons, Design Director at 10:10 Games in Warrington, said the internship programme linked to Priestley's Computer Game Design course was creating opportunities.

"I was blown away by the quality of work at Priestley and there really wasn't much difference between what was being produced there and third years leaving university," he said. That made me question why would the students that are really pushing the quality bar go to university. Surely there's got to be a way of getting those students into industry and the internships are a way of doing that."

Harry Foster, who studied Computer Game Design at Priestley, has been made a Junior Associate Designer. The 18-year-old has been working with the rest of the team at their offices on Centre Park Square on a game featuring Funko characters.

"I made my first game when I was eight. I was proud of it at the time, but it was just a cube that jumped from platform to platform," said Harry, a former Culcheth High pupil.

"My parents used to tell me to get off my computer because I was on it all the time, but now I am getting paid for it and I am doing something I love."

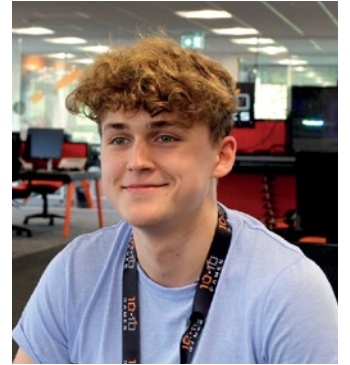
Harry was introduced to Arthur by his college tutor during a WA Games

event. He successfully applied for an internship with the company – an opportunity made available to students taking the vocational course at Priestley College.

"Harry is far more mature than his 18 years, which is important because he is working alongside people who have been in the industry over two decades," said Arthur.

Josh Campher and Ian Slonker, who teach the course at Priestley, said their goal was to continue giving students the skills they needed to make an impression on the industry.

The course covers everything from AI to level design and character modelling.



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Hero Dads hit million pound target for suicide prevention charity

THREE dads who set out to achieve something positive following the deaths of their daughters have now raised more than £1 million for Warrington based national suicide prevention charity PAPYRUS.

The 3 Dads Walking, who recently finished a second trek across the UK, passing through Warrington, where they met local campaigner Adrian Derbyshire, who lost his own 16-year-old daughter Julia, seven years ago, say they have been completely overwhelmed by public kindness and generosity.

Andy Airey from Cumbria, Mike Palmer from Sale, Cheshire and Tim Owen from Norfolk had originally set out to raise around £3,000 each.

Their current total raised for PAPYRUS Prevention of Young Suicide stands at over £1,004,709.

The fathers dedicated two fundraising walks to their beloved daughters who were lost to suicide; 17-year-old Beth Palmer, 19-year-old Emily Owen and Sophie Airey who was aged 29.

Ged Flynn, chief executive of PAPYRUS, said: "The 3 Dads Walking have captured the nation's hearts. In these days of financial uncertainty, people have dug deep to support them in their efforts to raise much-needed funding for our charity.

"Together with the 3 Dads Walking, they have refused to

see young suicide as inevitable. Together they have shared real passion for our young people and given them new hope. Together they have helped to save young lives."

Bereaved father Mike Palmer said: "We set out hoping to raise a few thousand pounds each. We then raised our target as the generous donations came in. All we can say is that we have been completely overwhelmed by public kindness and generosity.

"Thank you to every single person who has supported us and continues to support us."

In addition to raising money and awareness, the 3 Dads Walking want to see children and young people taught life-skills in the classroom.

Their online petition to have suicide prevention included on the school curriculum has collected more than 126,000 signatures, which should prompt a debate in the House of Commons.

Andy Airey said: "In 2021 we walked 300-miles between our homes and in 2022 we walked twice that distance, 600-miles between the parliaments of all four nations, from Northern Ireland

through Scotland, England and Wales.

"It was a long journey but worth every single step. What could be more important than the wellbeing of our children and saving young lives?"

Tim Owen said: "We need to do something positive in their memory and hopefully that's what we're doing. I'm not saying we've done

it because we're still doing it, and we'll keep on going until it's done."

Hollywood actors Daniel Craig and Nicole Kidman each donated £10,000 to the 3 Dads during their walk last year, as did soccer legend Lou Macari who lost his son to suicide.

More information about 3 Dads Walking can be found on their website: www.3dadswalking.uk



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Young biologists' inspirational African adventure

YOUNG biologists studying at Warrington's Priestley College have experienced an inspirational visit to some of the most ecologically diverse parts of the world.

Priestley took 20 students to Ecuador where they worked with conservationists and veterinarians to rehabilitate animals while a party of 13 travelled to Eswatini to learn about local culture, tracking animals and identifying species.

"It was the most incredible, eye-opening experience I have ever been a part of," said former Penketh High pupil Sophie Weston, who spent her time in Ecuador.

Each trip was on location for nearly two weeks carrying out research, working with animals and absorbing local culture.

In Ecuador, the students spent a week at YanaCocha Animal Rescue Centre where they trained and fed animals and worked with conservationists.

Their second week was spent at an ecological reserve in Tamandua where the focus was on conservation techniques and working with local tribes.

Among the highlights was a jungle hike to visit waterfalls and seeing a collection of weird and wonderful animals along the way.

In Eswatini students learned about local culture, how to track animals and identify species while in their second week at the Mbuluzi game reserve they found out how to set Sherman traps for rodents

that were later studied by scientists.

Among those collecting data on this trip was Reece Delamere, who also studies Environmental Science alongside Geography at Priestley College.

He said the experience had confirmed he would like to work in conservation after university.

"I always thought it was marine conservation that I was interested in, but now I am going to keep my options open," said the former Penketh High pupil.

The trips were organised by biology tutor Louise Naidu who said the experience had enriched the lives of those who took part and given them invaluable entries for their university applications and CVs.

She has now secured funding which will allow the trip to go ahead again next year, creating more opportunities for another cohort of aspiring biologists.

"The feedback we've had is that this was a life-changing moment for many of those who took part and that is what college is all about," she said.

"This is something they will never forget and I have no doubt that many of these students are the conservationists and ecologists of the future."



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Council to implement changes to Westy Low Traffic scheme following public feedback

FOLLOWING public feedback Warrington Borough Council is making some changes to the experimental Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) scheme in the Westy area of Latchford.

When the Westy Low Traffic Neighbourhood scheme went live in June 2022, introducing a series of temporary wooden planters as modal filters, which restrict vehicular traffic from accessing particular streets, it caused a storm of protest from local residents, many saying they hadn't been consulted.

The scheme was aimed at reducing traffic, preventing drivers from using residential streets for 'rat running', improving air quality and creating a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists.

As part of the trial, the council committed to listen to the views of local people, to understand levels of support, and whether residents have any comments about specific locations or aspects of the scheme.

An interim survey was undertaken from 18 July – 11 September 2022 to gather public feedback on the scheme, receiving 986 responses. A review of this feedback has now been completed, and has – along with monitoring information collected on traffic patterns and impacts – identified a number of issues, including:

- Some increases in access traffic and increased speeds on residential streets such as Lindley

Avenue and Broadbent Avenue.

- Challenges accessing homes in the Griffiths Street and Reynolds Street areas.

- Difficulties operating the lockable bollard on Reynolds Street to provide access for school coach trips.

- Planters appearing overgrown and untidy.

To address these concerns and issues, the council will be making a number of changes to the scheme. These are:

- The removal of the planters at the north end of Griffiths Street. This will allow greater access options to homes in this area.

- Removing the bollard on Reynolds Street, and extending the eastbound one-way from Davies Avenue to the planters at Tinsley Street. This will improve access to Reynolds Street, relieve pressure on Longdin Street and allow coaches to pick up from schools unhindered.

- Restoring Broadbent Avenue to two-way traffic, between Griffiths Street and Davies Avenue.

In addition, there will be an increase in the maintenance of the planters that remain in place during the trial.

The changes will be made to the LTN in the first week of November.

A letter is being sent to all Westy residents, and details of the changes are also being published on the council's website and social media channels.

Monitoring of the impacts of the revised scheme will continue, with a full monitoring and evaluation report publicly available at the completion of the trial.

A new public survey will go live in early 2023 to help the council understand how the revised scheme is working. The feedback received will inform any future decision as to whether the scheme is made permanent or not. This decision is

expected to be made in six months' time.

A survey by Warrington South MP Andy Carter had also revealed the vast majority of residents were opposed to the low traffic schemes.

To see the revised plans for the Westy LTN, view the survey report in full, and find out more about the Central 6 Streets Plan, please visit warrington.gov.uk/central-6-streets-plan

For general LTN enquiries, please contact eatf@warrington.gov.uk or write to: Transport for Warrington, East Annexe, Town Hall, Sankey Street, WA1 1UH.



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Unique "shared" church to close



A UNIQUE Warrington church – "shared" by the Church of England and Roman Catholic churches – is to close this month after existing for 34 years.

Dwindling congregations and rising costs have made it impossible for the church, in St Bridget's Close, Cinnamon Brow, to continue.

Parish priest, Father John McLoughlin said: "It is very sad. But if people will not attend services, it is only to be expected."

"They want churches for weddings and funerals but they don't want to attend regular services."

The Church of the Resurrection and St Bridget, dates from 1988 when the foundation stone was laid on land originally intended for a Roman Catholic church.

But the idea of a joint church was born in 1984 when Bishop David Shepherd, the Anglican Bishop of Liverpool, and Archbishop Derek

Warlock, RC Prelate of Liverpool, put forward the proposal.

They were close friends with a common philosophy of "better together."

The project was discussed and approved by both congregations.

Final service at the church will be on Sunday, November 13 at 9.30am and all members of the congregation are welcome.

The church building is of modern design and was built to serve a growing population in the area as a result of the Warrington New Town, during the late 1960s. It is rectangular in plan, built of buff-coloured brick with a pitched and slated roof brought down onto metal columns.

Its future has yet to be decided.



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Gulliver's World to host festive fun and Christmas adventures

GULLIVER'S World is offering a range of Christmas adventure packages for families this festive season including a chance to meet Santa who is back in his traditional grotto.

The Warrington theme park resort will be transformed into a magical winter wonderland to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year.

As well as festive rides and attractions, the young and young at heart will again be able to meet Father Christmas in Santa's Grotto which makes a welcome return.

Families can also climb aboard the North Pole Express for a magical train ride with twinkling lights and special Christmas delights. The experience includes a chance for every child to give Santa their Christmas wish list and choose their favourite gift from the live, interactive Christmas shop.

Exclusive Cracker, Smasher and

Festive Breakfast packages are available from Saturday, November 19. They include selected rides and attractions, the North Pole Express Experience, meeting Santa in his Grotto and children choosing their own gift from the Elf Workshop.

The Cracker package includes a light festive meal while watching Gully's Christmas Show. For an option without food, the great value Smasher package is available from £22.

Families can also extend the magic with a Santa Sleepover or Christmas short break in unique themed accommodation like the Lost World Den, Pirate Themed Suite or Gully & Gilly Themed Suite.

Gulliver's World will also host a festive fireworks display on December 23 and a Santa Send-Off on Christmas Eve.

Between Christmas and New Year, on December 29 and 30, there will be the chance to experience festive rides and attractions, Twixmas packages and short breaks including a meal and tickets to the Aladdin pantomime show.

Craig Clews, resort director at Gulliver's World, said: "We can't wait to welcome guests for our magical Christmas season which will feature plenty of elfy mischief and festive activities.

"This is a time for families and children to make special memories that will last a lifetime and Gulliver's World is the place to celebrate Christmas in style."

For more information and to book your perfect Christmas experience, visit: www.gulliversworldresort.co.uk/christmas-at-gullivers

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Rugby League World Cup brings a taste of PNG coffee to Warrington Market

COFFEE lovers in Warrington got their first taste of one of Papua New Guinea's largest exports thanks to the Rugby League World Cup.

After striking up relations with Papa New Guinea as a host town for the Rugby League World Cup, a batch of coffee arrived in Warrington – and got its first tasting at 2 Brothers Coffee stall at the town's market.

Local coffee lover Adrian Derbyshire was on hand to do some "slurping" with Simon Dari Pih and

Pamela Hoepel-Aupae from the PNG Tourism Promotion Authority, PNG team mascot Cedric and Natalie from 2 Brothers Coffee.

THE PNG coffee will be available at 2 Brothers for the duration of the Rugby League World Cup – and if it proves popular it could become a regular feature.



Living with Menopause in Warrington? Have your say

Healthwatch Warrington is your local health and social care champion. From North to South Warrington and everywhere in between, they make sure NHS leaders and other decision makers hear your voice and use your feedback to improve care.

As voted by the Warrington public, one of their main priorities of work this year is Women's Health.

They have linked this to the National Gov.UK Women's Health Strategy for England (updated 30th

Of August 2022) Department of Health and Social Care.

They heard the importance of women being provided with information about the menopause before they experience it, so they recognise symptoms and know how to seek support. In the public survey, only 9% of respondents said they have enough information about the menopause and less than 2 in 3 (64%) of respondents felt comfortable talking to healthcare professionals about the menopause.

Many respondents to the GOV

Survey reported finding it difficult to access appropriate menopause care. This was reported as being due to a lack of recognition of symptoms from both women and healthcare professionals, with some written submissions noting that symptoms of the menopause can be confused with other conditions, such as women sometimes being prescribed antidepressants rather than menopause treatments.

Healthwatch Warrington would like to find out what is important to the women of Warrington. Please

visit their website to complete our online survey. This is a short poll of 4 questions, this will help them identify what is important to you and they then can focus our work around areas that you have prioritised.

Contact Healthwatch Warrington to talk about this project or to feedback on any health and social care services in Warrington: 01925 246893. Contact@healthwatchwarrington.co.uk

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Menopause

**Are you going through the Menopause?
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Tell us what matters to you.

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Brother of Viola Beach band member joins BBC Children in Need Rickshaw Challenge

Pictures: John Hopkins



THE brother of Viola Beach guitarist River Reeves, Quinn Dunne, teamed up with the BBC's Matt Baker outside Warrington Parr Hall to take part in the Children in Need Rickshaw Challenge.

Quinn was cycling from Warrington to Wrexham helping to raise awareness for young people's mental health, and the support provided by BBC Children in Need.

The charity relay-style ride covered five days live on BBC Breakfast TV with Matt Baker chronicling their journey for an upcoming documentary called The Rickshaw Relay Rides Again.

Life seemed to stand still for Quinn when he lost brother, River, aged 19, in a tragic accident in 2016. River was one of the four members of the band Viola Beach, who all died, along with their manager Craig Tarry, when their car came off a bridge in Sweden. It made headline news across the world but at home Quinn and his family

were left devastated and didn't know where to turn. Thankfully they found Child Bereavement UK, who are funded by BBC Children in Need and offer counselling for children and young people who find themselves dealing with unthinkable grief.

Prior to setting off on his journey Quinn said: "I'm really looking forward to taking part in the Rickshaw Relay. The BBC Children in Need funded Child Bereavement UK helped support me through one of the toughest moments in my life when I lost my brother, and that support was invaluable. I'm taking part in this challenge to give back and help other young people who are going through a tough time to get back on their feet."



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Eko the Sea Giant visits Warrington to celebrate launch of Rugby League World Cup

WARRINGTON town centre came alive with a host of vibrant, free family events for the opening weekend of the Rugby League World Cup including a visit from Eko the Sea Giant.

After touring the town centre waves washed Eko, a sentient Sea Giant, onto the shore in the Old Market place at Golden Square.

There he encountered vulnerable Violet. These two beings – an ancient creature, and a young girl – offer their stories: an impactful dialogue around our earth's

climate emergency, told through dance, movement, and masterful puppeteering, providing an understanding that speaks to the world at large.

There was also a giant-sized arcade featuring iconic arcade games in Time Square.



Brand new Health & Social Care Academy officially opens

A brand-new Health & Social Care Academy, has officially opened its doors at Warrington & Vale Royal College.

A number of key stakeholders, employer partners and supporters from the voluntary sector attended to join the celebration of the amazing things to come at the facility which was officially opened by Warrington North MP Charlotte Nichols.

The Health & Social Care Academy, based at Warrington campus, was established with

thanks to a £1m investment from Warrington's Town Fund and significant support from key partners including Warrington Borough Council, Warrington & Halton NHS Trust, the University of Chester, employers and many other stakeholders from voluntary sector organisations.

The college has now officially declared the Academy and students looking to join the college to study a health care, social care or childcare subject can look forward to benefiting from this outstanding

facility.

Guests were welcomed to the Health & Social Care Academy where they had the chance to network with one another, before listening to Amy Yorke, the Health & Social Care Academy Business Centre Manager welcome guests with a brief presentation about the Academy and its story so far. This was followed by a few words from special guest Dave Thompson, Chief Executive at Warrington Disability Partnership, with whom the college has a strong partnership. Guests

were also treated to a talk from Kelsey Siddall, Warrington & Vale Royal College HNC student, who has seen huge success during her time at the college. She delivered a heart-warming speech about her educational journey and how, with the support of the fantastic tutors and facilities at the college, she is pursuing her dream career in the health and social care sector.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Russ Bowden, said: "Warrington's Town Deal has been an important programme of work for the town over the last few years and I'm really pleased to see the Health & Social Care Academy open.

"Schemes like the Health & Social Care Academy prove that when we work in partnership we can do great things. The Academy is going to be a game-changer for Warrington and the future of our local health and social care workforce."

The launch was a huge success and the college wishes to extend thanks to those who attended and to those who have supported the Academy since its inception through to its opening. To find out more about the Health & Social Care Academy and to view the range of subjects on offer at Warrington & Vale Royal College, please visit: wvr.ac.uk

If you'd like to see the Health & Social Care Academy for yourself, be sure to attend an upcoming Open Evening at Warrington campus. These are being held on Wednesday 9th November 2022 and Tuesday 7th February 2023. Visit: wvr.ac.uk/openevenings to register your place.



MP Charlotte Nichols performs the official opening.

Work starts on new "football hub" at high school

WORK has started on a new 3G pitch at Warrington's Cardinal Newman High School, to replace the existing artificial grass pitch which has been out of operation for a number of years.

The new pitch will help create a new football hub for students, local sports clubs and the wider community.

The plan to improve the site as a new Football Hub is a key project within Warrington's Central 6 Regeneration Masterplan delivery plan, which covers a wide range of project areas from parks, sport and leisure, to housing, air quality and employment.

The Cardinal Newman project supports a key Central 6 Masterplan objective of giving young people and the wider community increased opportunities to participate in positive activities. It also responds to a priority raised by the community during the masterplan consultation, to improve access to high-quality sports pitches and facilities.

Contractors are now on-site at the school, to carry out the replacement of the existing artificial turf with a new, state-of-the-art 3G pitch. This follows refurbishment works to the sports hall flooring recently completed to enhance the Futsal facilities held at the site.

The new pitch will consist of an artificial grass (3G) surface with floodlights, security fencing, CCTV, controlled gates, and space for spectators. The pitch will be marked to cater for 11-a-side, 9-a-side, 7-a-side and 5-a-side football.

It will help create a strategic football hub at the school, with school students, the community and local clubs benefitting from the new pitch

as well as increased opportunities to enjoy Futsal in the school sports hall.

Cardinal Newman headteacher, Jo Langstaff, joined council members, staff and contractors on site to celebrate the start of work.

Jo said: "We have a proud sporting tradition at Cardinal Newman, but we have been without a 3G pitch for a very long time. We are really grateful for the support of Warrington Borough Council and the Football Foundation in helping us to realise our ambition of having the excellent sporting facilities which our students and our local community deserve. The students can't wait for the pitch to open."

Designed with equality and diversity in mind, the new facility will enhance the provision of accessible sports space within the high school and provide new football opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.

School students will use the site for curriculum PE and after-school participation between 9am and 5pm. It will be available for community use from 5pm-10pm on weekdays and between 9am and 8pm on weekends. Livewire will manage the site during the hours of community use.

The project also forms part of the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS), refreshed in January 2020, which incorporates the local Football Facilities Plan, produced by the Football Foundation and Football Association to support local

authorities in identifying current and future facility needs.

The £1.2m scheme is being supported through a successful grant application of £589,000 from the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation,

with the remainder of the funding coming through the Warrington Town Deal, Warrington Borough Council and Cardinal Newman High School.

Work is expected to be completed in February.



Charlotte Nichols MP

Warrington North

If you live in Warrington North and have an issue you need help with or would like to book a surgery appointment, please get in touch.

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By David Watkinson

The largest mini-budget U-Turn for 50 years

They say that a week is a long time in politics. As I write this it is just over 3 weeks since Liz Truss and her then Chancellor delivered their mini budget, and the provisions contained therein were the subject of last months article. **This month we will amend that article to reflect what has happened to the various measures included.**

Firstly, the increase in **National Insurance Rates** from 12% to 13.25% which took effect on 6th July will be reversed from 6th November. Similarly, the increases in National Insurance paid by employers and by the self-employed will also be reversed. This will benefit anyone earning over about £1,000 per month from employment or self-employment, but will not benefit anyone whose income is primarily pension or investment income. **This is one of the two major changes that, as we write, have been retained and will go ahead as from this month.** However, the equivalent cancellation of the increase in dividend tax has been cancelled, meaning that this increase for the current tax year from the previous 7% to 8.25% will take effect.

Secondly, the reduction in the **Standard Rate of Income Tax** from 20% to 19%, originally planned for April 2024, was

to be brought forward to 6th April 2023. **Not only has this accelerated timeframe been cancelled, but the reduction in the basic rate has been cancelled for the foreseeable future.**

Thirdly, whilst the **Higher Rate of Income Tax** remains at 40%, the Chancellor announced that the **Additional Rate of Income Tax**, which is currently 45% on taxable income over £150,000, would be scrapped from April 2023. **This planned reduction has been scrapped, meaning that those high earners will not make the average £10,000 saving on income tax.**

Fourthly, the previously announced increase in the **Rate of Corporation Tax** to 25% in 2023 has to have been scrapped, the rate remaining at its current level of 19%. **This reversal of policy has now been reversed, and Corporation Tax will increase to 25% next April as originally planned.**

Fifthly, the Chancellor announced a reduction in **Stamp Duty on Property Purchases**, the full details being included in last months article. **This is the second of the major changes announced three weeks ago that has been retained.**

Sixthly, the planned increase

next February in duty rates on beer, wine, cider and spirits was to have been cancelled. **This planned increase will now go ahead, resulting in the price of a pint of beer increasing by 7p a pint, and a bottle of spirits by £1.35.**

The above are the main provisions affecting the average "man in the street". There are, however, a number of other announcements.

The **most publicised** change is that the current limit on **bankers bonuses** will be scrapped. Following the financial crash in 2008, bankers bonuses were limited to double their annual salary (**lucky bankers**). They are now even luckier, as their bonuses will once more be unlimited. **This easing in regulation has been retained.**

At the same time there was to be a **Crackdown on Working Benefit Claimants**, and this crackdown has been retained. Currently, if you are on **Universal Credit** then you need to "actively seek" work. However, a "light touch" is currently applied to this requirement once you work for 9 hours a week on the National Minimum Wage. This will increase to 12 hours a week immediately, and to 15 hours a week from next January, resulting in potentially more



Margaret Black and David Watkinson

benefits being sanctioned.

We understand that "Investment Zones", which will enjoy the substantial tax advantages spelled out last month, **will continue**, and in fact applications have now closed. However, many of the councils that have applied have since expressed doubts about whether they will see the light of day.

Finally, some lucky news, for us at least! Last month we failed to mention the planned changes to the IR35 legislation that were included and intended to ease the burden on contractors and those companies who make use of them. **Lucky for us because, unsurprisingly, that easing in the legislative burden has now been cancelled.**

STOP PRESS: In this fast moving situation we have learned in the last few minutes (written 18th Oct) that Liz Truss is **"moving away" from the "commitment to the Pension Triple Lock" that she confirmed two weeks ago. PHEW – WATCH THIS SPACE!!**

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Oliver Holmes one of five Warrington players to join new-look Leigh



BACK-ROWER Oliver Holmes has left Warrington Wolves to join Leigh Leopards, it has been announced.

Leigh Centurions announced a big re-brand to the Leopards, and with it a glut of new signings.

That included three Wire players that were known to have left the Halliwell Jones Stadium – Matt Davis, Jack Hughes and Rob Mulhern.

Youngster Jacob Gannon, who never made a first team appearance for Warrington, has also made the move to Leigh Sports Village.

Holmes, 30, only moved to Warrington from Castleford with coach Daryl Powell last winter.

But he departs after just one season at the club, where he scored three tries in 24 appearances.

A club statement said: "We wish Ogi all the best for his future in the game and thank him for his time in the primrose and blue."

Super League new boys Leigh also announced the eye-catching signings of former Man of Steel Zak Hardaker and centre Ricky Leutele from Huddersfield.

Warrington are thought to be trying to create room on the salary cap to bring in either a half-back or a centre.

They were recently linked to Catalans scrum half Josh Drinkwater and former Wigan centre Oliver Gildart, who is currently in Australia with Wests Tigers.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003: NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE

Jathra Ltd has given to Warrington Borough Council an application for the grant of a Premises Licence for The Cottage Indian Restaurant, 90 Church Street, Warrington, WA1 2TF

The licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on at the premises are: sale of alcohol on and off Monday – Saturday 12:00 – 23:00, Sunday 12:00 – 22:30.

The Licensing Register of Warrington Borough Council is held at East Annexe, Town Hall, Sankey Street, Warrington, WA1 1UH and, where applicable, at www.warrington.gov.uk. The record of the application may be inspected during normal office hours at the Council's above address and, where applicable, at any time on the above website.

Representations which shall be made in writing may be made by a responsible authority or any other person to Warrington Borough Council to be received at their above address by no later than 9th November 2022.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application; the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction being £5,000. (B11/22)

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