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## Santa's

**Santa's Grotto  
back at Walton Gardens**

Page 10

Picture: John Hopkins

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**Mind, Movement,  
Menopause**



Women's Health Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of a new programme to help women understand and manage their menopause symptoms. The programme is designed to provide women with the knowledge and skills they need to take control of their health and well-being during this time of their lives.

The programme is held at Silver Jubilee Hospital on the second floor. For more details please contact the Menopause Team on 01925 573328 or visit [www.women'shealthfoundation.org.uk](http://www.women'shealthfoundation.org.uk)

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See advert P5



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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

# Editor's Comment

**CHRISTMAS is coming and traditionally it is the season to the jolly – but there will be many suffering this year from the “cost of living crisis” and the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

The festive season can be especially tough for those with health issues, especially mental health, as they see others living the high life.

Please take the time to check up on your family, friends and neighbours over the Christmas period to make sure they are ok, particularly the elderly who will be stubbornly turning their heating down to keep the bills down.

Try and ensure no one is sat alone all day on Christmas Day and Boxing Day – and please don't put additional strain on our over stretched health service by visiting A&E with minor ailments – your local pharmacy or GP should be your first port of call – although I know getting through to your doctor can be time consuming sometimes. But we must keep the pressure off our local hospital for those in real need.

Meanwhile a lot of hard work is going on across the town supporting the Foodbank and various Toy Appeals – and if you can please support those in need – as the real gift of Christmas is the gift of giving.

Here at Warrington Worldwide we have done our best to help provide coverage for all the great work going on in our community as well as continuing our Legacy Project grants.

These include a £500 grant to

Warrington Disability Partnership, to help furnish an outdoor café at the Centre for Independent Living, which became a lifeline for the local community during the pandemic. We are also sponsoring the Accessible Santa's Grotto at Walton Hall & Gardens.

We have also donated a further £500 to the Adrian Derbyshire Foundation to help purchase teddies to be handed out by Father Christmas to poorly children in Warrington Hospital on Christmas Day.

Adrian lost his own teenage daughter to suicide but continues to help others and we are humbled to help support his annual crusade to the hospital to bring a smile to the



faces of poorly children.

Truly inspirational and a great example of the gift of giving.

So lets raise a glass to Adrian, Warrington Disability Partnership and all those who show the true spirit of Christmas.

Merry Christmas and here's hoping for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year!

*Ideal for Christmas!*

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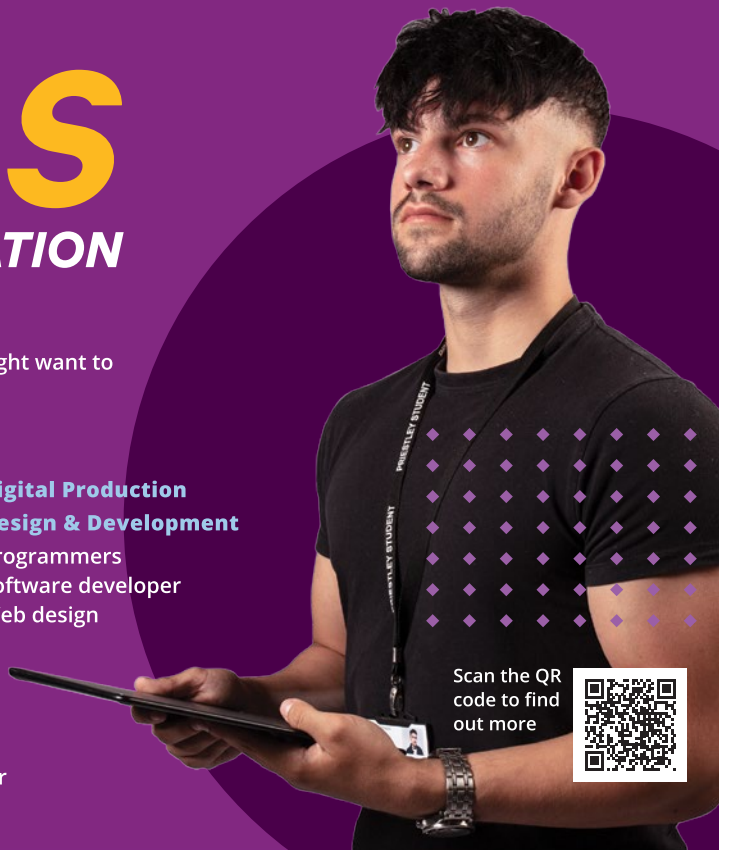
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# Bold plan continues to revive landmark building in town centre

**A hive of activity is continuing to revitalise a landmark retail building in Warrington town centre, with a further planning application put to borough council planners.**

The scheme, submitted by NMT Entertainment Ltd, involves another part of the former Co-op store in Sankey Street – more recently occupied by TJ Hughes.

Although not Listed, the building is considered important in the history of the town centre as it was formerly the flagship store of the former Warrington Co-operative Society.

The applicants say the proposal is part of an ambitious project to revive and regenerate the building in a prominent central location, with an adjoining part of the building already being transformed into The Hive shopping mall – with anchor store, Black Sheep Coffee due to open in the new year.

It is anticipated that the ground floor of the building, most recently used as a supermarket, would be mostly occupied by retail shops in a vibrant “arcade style” format, with scope for food and drink outlets. Sport, recreational and fitness uses would be mainly at the lower, basement, level.

New shops are proposed along Sankey Street but the building would be serviced from the rear, off Egypt Street.

The applicants state: “The proposal will enliven the frontages of the property, generate significant employment opportunities, add to

pedestrian foot fall and positively contribute to the attractiveness and vitality of the town centre.

“For the same reasons, the proposal would enhance the character and appearance of the Bridge Street Conservation Area, within which the site falls.”

Conversion of the upper part of the building is not part of the application, but in the longer term, the aim is to bring forward the second floor with separate access from Cairo Street.

“The assembly hall on the second floor will be retained as existing and its future will be considered as part of a future proposal.”

The applicants point out that the property shows signs of deterioration, inside and outside, and its “run down” appearance is pronounced when viewed from Sankey Street.

“The main features of architectural interest are now largely confined to the second storey, which include Portland stone dressings, cupola type towers at each corner and large pedimented round arched windows. This ornate detailing and the elaborate fenestration give the upper part of the application building a distinguished presence in the local townscape.”

Borough planning officers are now studying the proposals.



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



Warrington's

own buses



# Warrington Weekend Wonderland set to be a Christmas cracker!

**WARRINGTON'S Weekend Wonderland is set to be a Christmas cracker for all the family with a carnival of festive fun in the town centre, including an artisan market and a chance to see Father Christmas and his sleigh for free!**

Taking place over the weekend of Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th of November, this Christmas 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.

## Christmas Artisan Market | Sat 10am - 7pm, Sun 11am - 5pm

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. With over 70 Christmas market stalls along Bridge Street, Marketgate, Horsemarket Street, Buttermarket Street and Bank Street.

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, 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.

## Funfair & Swing Grill | Sat 10am - 9pm, Sun 11am - 8pm

Chadwick Funfair will land in Warrington once more, with a collection of fairground rides, including a carousel, train ride, Disney character toy ride and plenty of tasty Bratwurst!

## Community & School Christmas Choir Performances - Free | Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 11am - 4pm

Join us over in Old Market Place at Golden Square, where there will be a host of community and school choirs performing on the stage, spreading their festive joy.

Please see the below list of performers for our Carols around the Tree Saturday:

10am – Cinnamon Brow school

11am – Barrow Hall school

1pm – Wired for Sound choir

2pm – St Phillips C of E school

3pm – Penketh Primary school

4pm – Warrington Youth Zone choir

5pm – St Thomas school

Sunday:

11am – Statham Community Primary School

12pm St Bridget's & Our Lady's School

1pm Evelyn Street Primary School

2pm Bewsey Lodge Primary School

3pm Locking Stumps Primary School

4pm Beamont Primary School

Music | Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm  
Join Radio Warrington at Marketgate, where they'll be broadcasting live, entertaining us with Christmas songs throughout the day, building up to the lantern parade at 5:15pm

## The Return of No.25 Christmas Installation - Free | Sat 10am - 4pm, Sun 11am - 4pm

Back by popular demand, we see the return of Culture Warrington's At No.25 Christmas Installation from last year but with a slightly different twist for 2022. Artists Erica Wilkinson and Lauren Muir have created a festive Nordic inspired space that will feel safe, comforting and fulfilling – a magical space that will encourage a moment of peace, calm and creativity in the busy Christmas shopping period, that facilitates the meeting of both friends and strangers. We will also add some magic by exploring some festive Nordic folklore characters and workshops throughout December.

\*Situated in Golden Square, next to Costa

## Lantern Making Workshops - Free | Sat 10.30am - 3pm

Culture Warrington and Community objectives will be continuing their popular lantern-making workshops at Chester University Campus (Time Square). This is a great opportunity for all the family to create a lantern together that can be used for the Town Centre Parade at 5:15pm (Available first come first served basis)

## Warrington Contemporary Art Festival Fringe - Free Sat 11am-6pm

Come along to New Art Spaces (Former M&S) as Warrington Contemporary Arts Festival launch their first ever Fringe Festival in collaboration with Warrington and Vale Royal College! Inspired by the theme of 'Connections' students will transform the ground floor of the former M&S site into a unique exhibition with additional windows installation and live performance throughout the day.

## Father Christmas and His Sleigh - Free | Sat & Sun 1.30pm - 6pm

Father Christmas will park his sleigh in town with his Reindeers (props), so you can take a seat and snap a precious memory. Father Christmas will be exploring the town centre and what we have on offer, chatting to all our children and finding out if they are on the naughty or nice list. He will also be joining you all on the lantern parade from Marketgate to the Town Hall.

## Street Entertainers - Free | Sat & Sun 3pm - 6pm

Special guests will be joining us on the streets of Warrington from 3pm. We have all your favourite Christmas characters including Santa's Elves, the grinch and a few surprises!

For full list of events visit [wearewarringtonbid.co.uk/warrington-weekend-wonderland](http://wearewarringtonbid.co.uk/warrington-weekend-wonderland)

# WARRINGTON'S WEEKEND Wonderland

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**&**

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# Mind, Movement, Menopause



LiveWire Warrington has developed a 6 week support programme to help women who are experiencing the different stages of menopause. The programme includes both NHS guidance and other alternative approaches covering topics such as:

- What is menopause?
- Symptoms and lesser known symptoms
- Nutrition & Weight Management
- Exercise
- HRT
- Psychological impact
- Coping strategies

The programme consists of 45 minutes of exercise with a focus on a full workout for heart and bone health and a combination of core and muscle tone exercises followed by 45 minutes of education and support talks to share personal experiences.

Embedded in the programme are a number of guest speakers including a local Warrington GP and a Clinical Psychologist.

The programme provides a safe environment to enable you to talk about the challenges of menopause and provide you with the guidance in making better informed choices.

The programme is held at Orford Jubilee Neighbourhood Hub on Wednesday evenings, for more details please contact the Lifestyles Team on:

**[lifestyles@livewirewarrington.org](mailto:lifestyles@livewirewarrington.org)**

For more information see: <https://livewirewarrington.co.uk/news/menopause>

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# Market Manager scoops prestigious national Lifetime Achievement Award

**WARRINGTON** Market manager Andy Ward has been presented with another prestigious national award, after receiving the National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA) lifetime achievement award, for his accomplishments during a 31-year career.

Andy's award follows in the footsteps of being named Market Manager of the Year in 2021 – one of numerous awards received by the showpiece market.

Judges praised Andy for his major contribution to the industry over the past three decades. Previously working in markets in Wakefield and Sheffield, Andy retired in 2015. He then worked as a Consultant Market Manager for Market Place Management Ltd, successfully managing two indoor markets for them, in Derby and Market Harborough.

Andy then came out of retirement, returning to local government when Warrington Borough Council appointed him as Market Project Manager to oversee the design and build of their (now multi-award winning) indoor market and food court. At the end of his temporary four year contract he was asked to stay and manage the market permanently, as he made Warrington his home.

During his career, Andy has been an ardent champion and mentor for

the market industry and those who work in it. Passionate about sharing best practice Andy has been involved with NABMA for over 25 years. He is regarded as a leading expert in market rebuilds, giving freely of his time and expertise to other local authorities and consultants involved in improving their market offer. He also provides mentorship for colleagues within the market industry.

Andy said: "This award is for everyone involved with Warrington Market and reflects the work gone into making Warrington Market one of the best in the country. It's also a testament to how well we have reacted, post-pandemic, to get the market back up and running to a level that far surpasses the level we were at before the pandemic hit.

"It's wonderful to see the market going from strength to strength as a popular, vibrant venue, enjoyed by so many people from Warrington and beyond. Receiving this national recognition from my peers is the icing on the cake!

"Of course, none of this success could have been achieved without the dedicated, hardworking and talented Warrington Market team and our traders, so this award is definitely dedicated to all of them too."

Warrington Borough Council's Cabinet member for economic development and innovation, Cllr Tom Jennings, said: "This national award – the latest success story for Warrington Market – is well-deserved. Andy's dedication, expertise and innovation have been crucial in making the market a first-class destination which we can all be proud of.

"Andy has been a long-

standing supporter of markets, he is passionate about delivering a vibrant and welcoming venue which is playing a key part in the recovery of our town centre."

The main market is currently open 9am – 5pm, Monday to Saturday whilst the Cookhouse food hall is open 11am to 7pm Monday to Thursday, 11am to 11pm Friday and Saturday and 10am to 7pm on Sundays

For more information about what's happening at Warrington Market, visit [warrington.gov.uk](http://warrington.gov.uk), email [markets@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:markets@warrington.gov.uk) or follow on social media @warringtonmkt



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# New version of the 12 Days of Christmas

by John Laverick - Warrington & Co

**Before putting pen to paper this month, I had a look back at the piece I wrote just before last Christmas. I am not sure if that was a good idea or a bad idea.**

The changes in 12 months have been remarkable driven by both international events and home grown ones and I can't help feeling that there is a new version of the 12 days of Christmas to be had here..... 4 new chancellors, 3 new deputies, 2 New Prime and Prince Charles, now as King. Hopefully you can do better so answers on a post card in the usual manner.

The focus this time last year was on COP 26 and the opportunities a low carbon economy could bring, which

are absolutely still valid, even more so, given that it is one year later, but the backdrop for COP 27 has changed – and then some. However, the optimist in me focuses on the potential accelerating effect that a drive for energy security may have on the carbon agenda of, be it wind, solar, nuclear or more importantly efficiency in the use of energy either in the fabric of our buildings and our transport. The realist in me thinks that although this may be where we get to ultimately the path may be a little

less straightforward, as the drive for energy security also comes with the temptation to return to fossil fuels, however a short term measure that may be.

At the time of writing the Chancellor has just finished his Autumn Statement. As always the devil will be in the detail, but it is good to see from Warrington's perspective that Northern Powerhouse Rail is still very much on the agenda as we have great potential to deliver long term economic growth and development to Warrington if we take good advantage of this major project.

Likewise, I am hopeful that the promise to act on energy efficiency will be followed through to action on the ground. Whilst this is being touted as a new initiative, it is not. The recently completed Green Homes Grant programme is a case in point. It was a government led programme to fit double glazing, insulation, solar panels and new boilers to the least energy efficient properties. Cheshire & Warrington was able to fit some of these energy efficiency measures to about 550 homes, making them warmer, more habitable and less expensive to run. Across the NW the total was closer to 5,000. This brought a double benefit to those least capable of dealing with significant household fuel bills.

What's 550 homes in Warrington,



John Laverick

01925 442 243

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against the near 100,000 households that we currently have? It's a start, on the worst performing end of the scale and a proof that centrally funded programmes can work.

Anyway, something to get our teeth into next year and we must not forget that it is Christmas and I am hoping that the newly minted bars and restaurants in Time Square will be able to tempt some of you out to celebrate. I was thinking of stating that we might get back to normal after Covid and the rest, but it seems that we are not quite there yet.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

## Care company placed in special measures now ranked "Good"

A Warrington-based care company rated inadequate and placed in special measures due to multiple breaches of care, has now been rated "Good" by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

The transformation followed a re-brand from Krinvest Supported Living to Balance Care at the premises on Marsh House Lane and the appointment of a new operations director, Rav Sekhon.

In 2018 Krinvest Supported Living received the 'Inadequate' rating with the CQC and was under 'Special Measures' due to multiple legal breaches of care and was in danger of being closed down. Link to CQC page here: [www.cqc.org.uk/location/1-3234237488/reports](http://www.cqc.org.uk/location/1-3234237488/reports)

Commenting on the transformation, Rav said: "I joined in April 2018, just after the report had been shared, and began with addressing the issues raised. It took a huge team effort to do so, the CQC returned 6 months later in September and needed to see clear evidence of change to prevent the service from being shut down. Thankfully, we were able to evidence significant change to the service, and received an updated rating of 'Requires Improvement. Although this was the first Requires Improvement rating I had received in my career

(all other ratings were 'Good'), it is the rating I am most proud of.

"In March 2019, 6 months later, we rebranded as Balance Care. We wanted to create something new and move away from the old (negative) reputation. Days later, the pandemic then hit, and like all care providers, we battled through to keep people safe and well. There were some close calls, and at points, we did worry about losing people we cared for, but with god's grace we did not.

"In July 2022, the CQC finally came out to inspect Balance Care – I think they had been busy with managing the pandemic, as they paused all routine inspections for a 2 year period. This inspection went very well, we achieved a 'Good' rating and an absolutely flawless report. Link: <https://www.cqc.org.uk/location/1-6953631142>

"We did it! Four years later – from the risk of being shut down by the CQC to achieving a 'Good' rating with zero errors noted. It was a dedicated team effort and is evidence of what we can achieve when we commit ourselves and truly care about the work being completed.

"From here, we will continue to build, and hopefully one day have the opportunity to become 'Outstanding,' added Rav.

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## There are plenty of courses to choose from including:

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- Cooking on a Budget
- Christmas Dishes
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- Spanish
- Italian
- Creative Writing
- Christmas Wreath Making
- Christmas Floristry
- Enhance your Digital Skills

**The list is endless!**

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[www.disabilitytradingcompany.co.uk](http://www.disabilitytradingcompany.co.uk)



# Fully accessible Santa's Grotto is back at Walton Gardens



## WARRINGTON Disability Partnership's popular Santa's Grotto is back – and fully accessible.

The charity has over 20 years experience of running a fully inclusive Santa's Grotto. Not only is the grotto wheelchair accessible, so too is the undercover winter wonderland scenery that is held in the indoor riding school at Walton Hall and Gardens, Warrington.

WDP's Santa can also communicate with deaf children and parents through British Sign Language.

After listening to parents, WDP have included Quiet Hours, where the individual needs of children, parents and grandparents can be met, including Autism, Dementia and Alzheimer's.

The Quiet Hour also caters for

people who have sight loss, with a guided tour and an interactive experience including touching, feeling and smelling a Christmas tree and other display items.

Mrs Clause and her team of elves will be on hand to assist Santa in making it a very special day.

WDP's Santa's Grotto, opens on Saturday 26th November and is open weekends and the week before Christmas. An inclusive Santa Dash will be held on Sunday 11th December at the same venue.

For more details visit [www.disabilitypartnership.org.uk/events/grotto.shtml](http://www.disabilitypartnership.org.uk/events/grotto.shtml) or call 01925 240064.

But be quick – tickets are selling out fast!

# WDP's Santa's Grotto 2022

**Santa will be in his Grotto on**

- Saturday 26th November - 10am till 4pm
- Sunday 27th November - 10.30am till 4pm
- Saturday 3rd December - 10am till 4pm
- Sunday 4th December - 10.30am till 4pm
- Saturday 10th December - 10am till 4pm
- Sunday 11th December - 10.30am till 4pm
- Saturday 17th December - 10am till 4pm
- Sunday 18th December - 10.30am till 4pm
- Monday 19th December - 10.30am till 4pm
- Tuesday 20th December - 10.30am till 4pm
- Wednesday 21st December - 10.30am till 4pm
- Thursday 22nd December - 10am till 4pm

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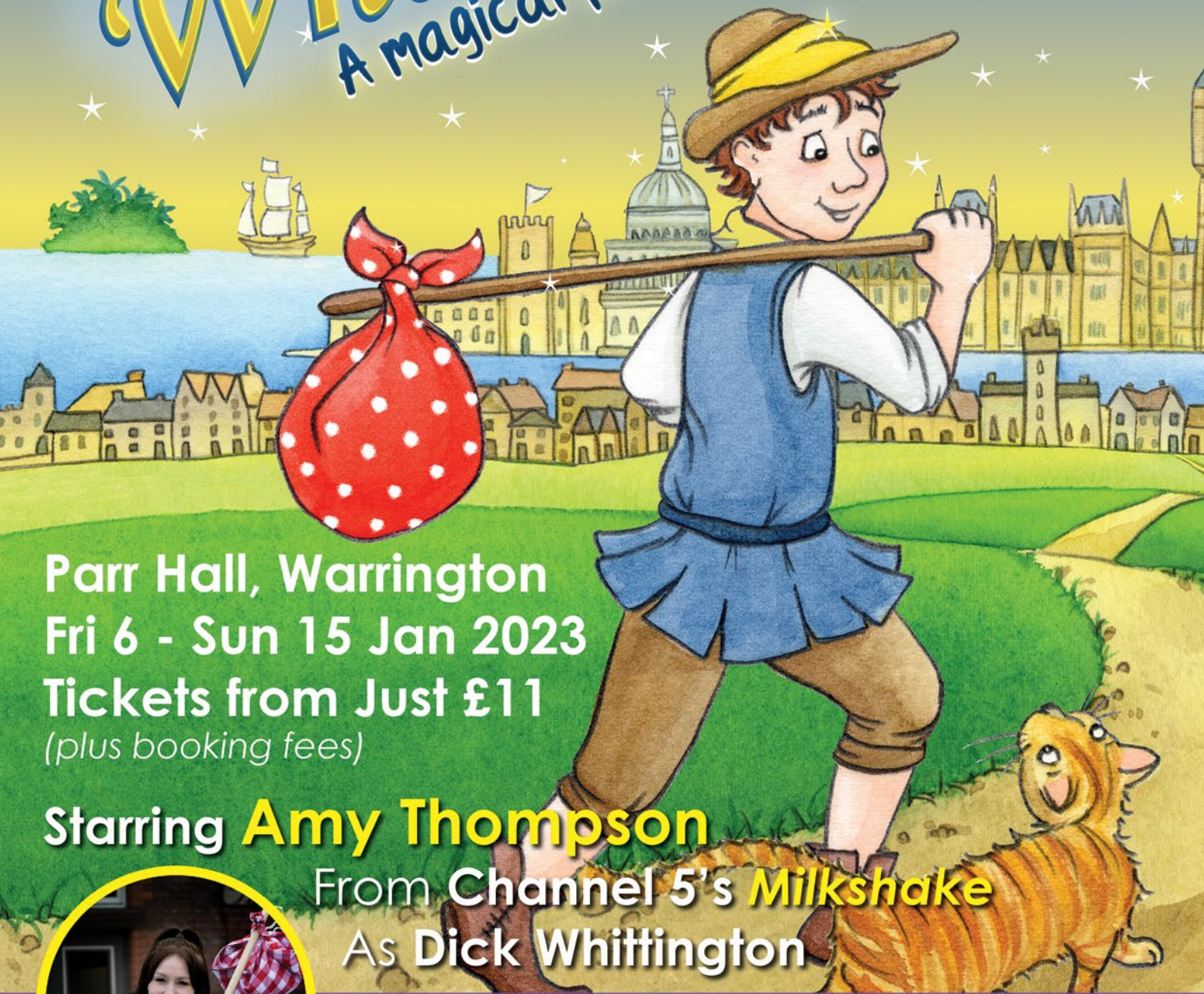


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Pyramid & Parr Hall in association with Tony Peers Productions presents...

# Dick Whittington

A magical family pantomime



Parr Hall, Warrington  
Fri 6 - Sun 15 Jan 2023  
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Starring **Amy Thompson**

From Channel 5's *Milkshake*  
As Dick Whittington



Box Office: 01925 442345  
[parrhall.culturewarrington.org](http://parrhall.culturewarrington.org)



# Rags to riches tale of Dick Whittington is coming to Parr Hall

**WARRINGTON** Parr Hall's much-loved family panto is making its return this festive season with the magical tale of Dick Whittington.

The historic venue has once again teamed up with Tony Peers Ltd to bring a little sparkle to Christmas in Warrington. The

rags to riches story, suitable for all ages, will be at Parr Hall between 6 January and 15 January with tickets on sale now.



With all the costumes, comedy, catchy songs and calamities Parr Hall pantos have become renowned for, families are invited to join Dick Whittington and his cat in a quest to stop the wicked Queen Rat. With the Queen Rat threatening to take over London, will our hero triumph over all adversities to become the Lord Mayor?

Chris Persoglio, Venue and Events Manager at Parr Hall, added: "Our much loved annual panto combines three elements that always come together perfectly every festive season. A captivating story, a wealth of charm and talent from the brilliant team at Tony Peers and Parr Hall's warm and intimate atmosphere.

"Dick Whittington is a classic rags-to-riches story which is brought up-to-date with laugh-out-loud comedy, cheeky jokes and catchy songs and we're certain that families will have a lot of fun watching our heroes battle Queen Rat with all the usual twists and turns and calamities along the way. We've also kept our prices as low as possible as we don't think seeing a festive show as a family should cost the earth, especially at a time when money is tight for a lot of people."

Tony and his team have been entertaining families for decades with a tried and true format of fun,

laughter and a happily ever after that has kids and adults alike glued to their seats.

The cast is led by Milkshake presenter Amy Thompson who was at Parr Hall just months ago when the popular children's show came to Warrington.

She said: "I'm really excited to be playing Dick Whittington this year and bringing the show to Warrington in January. I always remember the audiences in Warrington to be some of the best – super loud, really supportive – so I cannot wait to perform there."

Tony who has worked in show business since 1969, added: "Following last year's successful pantomime, Snow White, it is a particular joy to be coming back to the Parr Hall again with Dick Whittington.

"Regular readers of this Christmas message will recall that Warrington is a particular soft spot for me as I appeared in the pantomime at the Parr Hall many, many years ago and it holds a special part of my Christmas memories. Thank you for supporting us over the years and we look forward to seeing you once again this year."

Dick Whittington is at Parr Hall between 6 and 15 January. Tickets are from £11. Visit <https://parrhall.culturewarrington.org/whats-on/dick-whittington/>

Advertiser's announcement

## Menstrual pain not being taken seriously? Have your say

Healthwatch Warrington is your local health and social care champion. From North to South Warrington and everywhere in between, we 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 our main priorities of work this year is Women's Health.

We 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.

The survey heard how women had not been listened to in instances where pain is the main symptom – for example, being told that heavy and painful periods are 'normal' or that the woman will

'grow out of them'. Women also told us about speaking to doctors on multiple occasions over many months or years before receiving a diagnosis for conditions such as endometriosis.

Healthwatch Warrington would like to find out what is important to the women of Warrington. Please visit our website to complete our online survey. This is a short poll of 4 questions, this will help us identify what is important to you and we 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 246 893, Contact@healthwatchwarrington.co.uk, [www.healthwatchwarrington.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchwarrington.co.uk)

### Do you suffer with Menstrual Pain?

Do you feel that you aren't listened to where pain is the main symptom?

Do you suffer from:

- Premenstrual syndrome (PMS)
- Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder (PMDD)
- Endometrioses
- Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS)
- Fibroids
- Adenomyosis

Healthwatch Warrington want to understand what is important to YOU and hear your experiences of what is like to suffer with Menstrual Pain



Take the survey



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# Former Mayor's charity appeal raises thousands for local charities

**THE former Mayor of Warrington, Cllr Maureen Creaghan, invited representatives from her chosen charities to the Town Hall recently to announce the distribution of funds from her mayoral year.**

The money has been split between her chosen charities, who she supported throughout the year:

Forget Me Not Unit at Warrington Hospital – caring for patients with Alzheimer's and Dementia

JUMP – providing photograph and film memories for children with terminal and life-limiting illness in the North West of England and Wales

Lifetime – providing support and services for elderly residents

PAPYRUS – supporting the prevention of young suicide

Cllr Creaghan was the 137th first citizen of Warrington, but due to coronavirus restrictions, was only sworn in as Mayor part-way through the previous Mayoral year.

Fundraising activity, even during the COVID-19 pandemic, has raised over £3,000 for PAPYRUS, Lifetime and JUMP.

A family donation of a gazebo and build at The Forget Me Not Ward at Warrington Hospital was also donated.

Cllr Creaghan, said: "I'm delighted that we have managed to donate thousands of pounds to four

incredibly deserving local charities from my role as Mayor.

"I am particularly proud that we were able to manage this in what was a challenging time for us all, and I know that the funds donated will be very much appreciated by these charities."

The Mayor's charity appeal continues this year, with the current Mayor of Warrington, Cllr Jean Flaherty.

For further information about the role of the Mayor and this year's chosen charities, visit [warrington.gov.uk/mayor](http://warrington.gov.uk/mayor)



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# Christmas at Primrose...



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# College collaborates for first-ever student-led Fringe Festival

**WARRINGTON & Vale Royal College is collaborating with Warrington Contemporary Arts Festival for its first-ever student-led Fringe Festival.**

The established Warrington Contemporary Arts Festival (WCAF) has returned to the town centre for its twelfth year, running a busy, eclectic programme of events designed to push the creative boundaries of both its curators and visitors. The two-month festival, produced by Culture Warrington, welcomes artists from every discipline to showcase a range of

exhibitions and performances. The theme for 2022's festival is 'Connections', as WCAF celebrates its role in providing opportunities for talented creatives in the area. Inspired by this theme, Warrington & Vale Royal College is delighted to be working in collaboration with organisers this year to launch the first-ever Warrington Contemporary Arts 'Fringe'

Festival. The Fringe Festival is a brand-new, exciting opportunity for art & design and performing arts students to fully immerse themselves into the creative industry, gaining experience of designing, producing and presenting work within a public space.

Located at the vibrant New Art Spaces: Warrington, which most might recognise as the former Marks & Spencer site on Sankey Street in Warrington town centre, students will transform the ground floor and window space into a unique exhibition of artist talks, live animation and incredible artwork.

Following weeks of curation and installation by students on industry placement and an exclusive private viewing, the Fringe Festival will officially open its doors to the public from Friday 25th November until Sunday 4th December. To book your free ticket, please visit: [culturewarrington.org/whats-on/warrington-contemporary-arts-fringe-festival/](http://culturewarrington.org/whats-on/warrington-contemporary-arts-fringe-festival/)

To learn more about creative courses at Warrington & Vale Royal College and its brand-new Advanced Creative & Digital Skills (ACDS) Centre, visit: [wvr.ac.uk/acds](http://wvr.ac.uk/acds)

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# Statham Manor - Coming Soon



New Care is delighted to be opening a stunning new care home in Lymm village. **Statham Manor**, situated on Statham Avenue, is surrounded by countryside and will be a peaceful place to call home.

**Statham Manor**, is a home for life offering outstanding residential, dementia and 24 hour nursing care. Residents receive individual person-centred care, which is adapted as and when medical needs change. Supporting the care offered is a comprehensive menu of daily activities designed to stimulate and encourage independence.

There are 66 fully furnished bedrooms, each benefitting from an en-suite wet room, plus several stylish communal lounges, dining rooms and quiet reading rooms, as well as beautifully landscaped gardens.

Statham Manor provides residents with a safe home-from-home environment. For more information, or to make an appointment to view Statham Manor contact us on 01925 596000 or email [enquiries@newcarehomes.com](mailto:enquiries@newcarehomes.com).

**Statham Manor Care Centre**  
90 Statham Avenue  
Lymm, WA13 9AQ  
[newcarehomes.com](http://newcarehomes.com)





# Litter Network volunteers aim to make Howley bloom in Spring!

**VOLUNTEERS** have been working hard to make Howley bloom next Spring by planting thousands of daffodil bulbs.

Supported by Warrington Borough Council, the Howley & Fairfield litter network took delivery of 4,500 daffodil bulbs.

Local organiser, Julie Campbell said "We are grateful to WBC for funding this local project and for supporting our team efforts to make this area a cleaner, greener environment for all the residents. We also appreciate the help of volunteers from our local community, including our local councillors, St Elphins Park voluntary gardening team and the support of our sister Warrington litter teams".

Planting started just off Parr St by the Howley Hotel pub and Mrs O's Cafe, and work continued for

a week. Local Howley Litter team coordinator, Hannah Austin said: "Since setting up the litter team in February this year, we have removed over 650 bags of litter from this area in a series of Sunday volunteer litter picks. We have now started to think about the whole environment including making the most of planting up some of our local green spaces. The daffodils are something real that the whole community can look forward to. We know it will be a difficult winter, but when these daffodils come up in the spring next year, we will know we have come through it together".



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## Unify Credit Union opens new branch



A NEW branch of Unify Credit Union has opened in Warrington's Golden Square Shopping Centre.

The Mayor, Cllr Jean Flaherty, officially opened the branch which will make it easier for local residents to join, deposit money into their savings, and apply for loans.

Initially opening on Tuesdays and Fridays, from 10am to 2 pm, the branch is inside the Warrington Foodbank Information Centre. If the new service proves popular, the opening hours will be extended.

The opening ceremony was attended by volunteers who have helped people access credit unions in Warrington over many years.

Warrington Credit Union merged with Unify Credit Union last year. Unify has been established for more than 30 years and provides low-cost financial services across Warrington, Wigan, Leigh, Chorley, South Ribble, and Skelmersdale.

Unify is a savings and loans co-operative owned and run by its members and profits made from loans are shared among savers as an annual dividend. In the last year alone, Unify has helped members with more than £5million in small affordable loans.

Unify chief executive Angela Fishwick said "We're delighted to expand our services into Warrington with the opening of our fifth branch. With so many banks and post offices withdrawing from communities we want to make sure people can still access the face-to-face support they want when managing their money. Come and see us and see what your credit union can do for you."

You can join Unify or find out more by visiting the branch, by phoning 01942 245656 or go online to [unifycu.org](http://unifycu.org) or via facebook [www.facebook.com/UnifyWarrington](http://www.facebook.com/UnifyWarrington)

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25 - 27 December	Closed
28 - 30 December	9am - 5pm
New Year's Eve	9am - 4pm
New Year's Day	Closed
2 January	9am - 5pm

## Cookhouse

Christmas Eve	9am - 4pm
25 - 27 December	Closed
28 - 29 December	9am - 7pm
30 December	9am - 11pm
New Year's Eve	9am - 1am
New Year's Day	Closed
2 January	9am - 7pm

[warrington.gov.uk/market](http://warrington.gov.uk/market)



**WM**



# Warrington Wolves new kits and 2023 fixtures

**WARRINGTON Wolves unveiled their new kits for 2023 at the annual fireworks display at the Halliwell Jones Stadium.**

It comes hot on the heels of the club announcing the squad numbers for the new season, as well as the release of the Super League fixture list.

The number seven remains vacant on the list, fuelling further the rumours that Catalans scrum half Josh Drinkwater is set to make the move across the English Channel.

Stefan Ratchford switches to number four, a hint that he may be a preferred centre option in the absence of the injured Connor Wreghitt who wears 20.

New signings from the NRL, Paul Vaughan (10) and Josh McGuire (13) have starting numbers, while fellow new arrivals Sam Kasiano (14) and Gil Dudson (17) come in from Catalans.

Youngster Josh Thewlis is rewarded for his fine campaign with the number two shirt, and James Harrison moves up to number eight.

NRL import Matt Duffy takes one, with fellow recent signing Matty Nicholson handed 12.

Warrington open up the campaign as they did last year, by playing Leeds, but this time it's at home.

The game will take place on Thursday, February 16 at the Halliwell Jones Stadium and is the first Sky Sports televised clash of the season.

The first away game is against

Huddersfield on Friday, February 24.

The trip to France to face Catalans is on Easter Saturday, April 8.

The Wolves will face Hull FC at Magic Weekend, which takes place on June 4 at St James' Park, Newcastle.

Warrington Wolves 2023 fixtures

Thu Feb 16 – Leeds (H)  
 Fri Feb 24 – Huddersfield (A)  
 Thu Mar 2 – Salford (H)  
 Fri Mar 10 – Hull KR (A)  
 Fri Mar 17 – Leigh (H)  
 Fri Mar 24 – Castleford (A)  
 Sat Apr 1 – Hull (H)  
 Sat Apr 8 – Catalans (A)  
 Fri Apr 14 – Wigan (H)  
 Thu Apr 20 – St Helens (A)  
 Fri May 5 – Wakefield (H)  
 Fri May 12 – Hull KR (H)  
 Fri May 26 – Leigh (A)  
 Sun Jun 4 – Hull FC (Magic Weekend)  
 Sat Jun 10 – Huddersfield (H)  
 Fri Jun 23 – Castleford (A)  
 Fri Jun 30 – Leeds (H)  
 Fri Jul 7 – St Helens (H)  
 Fri Jul 14 – Wigan (A)  
 Sun Jul 30 – Wakefield (A)  
 Fri Aug 4 – Catalans (H)  
 Sun Aug 20 – Leeds (A)  
 Sat Aug 26 – Hull FC (A)  
 Sat Sep 2 – Castleford (H)  
 Sun Sep 10 – Salford (A)  
 Fri Sep 15 – St Helens (H)  
 Fri Sep 22 – Huddersfield (A)



Picture: Eddie Whitham

# 3k Santa Dash/Walk

## Sunday 11th December 2022

### 10.00am Start

**Walton Hall,  
Walton Gardens - WA4 6SN**

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# England win inaugural PDRL World Cup final in Warrington

**ENGLAND** became the first ever Physical Disability Rugby League world champions at the Halliwell Jones Stadium.

They beat New Zealand 42-10 to win the PDRL World Cup, which was wholly held in Warrington.

Victoria Park hosted the group stages, with England winning all four of their games.

Wales and Australia were the other two teams in the tournament, with Wales denied their place in the final by a technical infringement.

It was previously revealed that Wales had committed an unintended technical breach. This breach was in regard to the ability classification level of the players

onfield; in PDRL, ability is divided into three categories, and denoted by specific sock colours. There can be only a specific number of players per sock colour on the field at a time. The Welsh coach attributed the infraction of this rule to "miscommunications across the board".

Wales beat Australia 32-18 in the third placed play-off at Victoria Park earlier on Sunday afternoon.

England and New Zealand took centre stage, following on from Samoa's emphatic win over France in the men's World Cup.



## 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.

0207 219 3000

[CharlotteNicholsMP.com](http://CharlotteNicholsMP.com)

[charlotte.nichols.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:charlotte.nichols.mp@parliament.uk)

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# £financially yours

By David Watkinson

## In the Chancellor's own words, an "Eye-Watering" Autumn Statement

Hopefully, after the Autumn Statement, the government will now have settled down on what our future taxes and benefits will be. Much of what the Chancellor announced had already been briefed, so what are the main provisions:

Firstly, the main provisions in respect of **Income Tax** are as follows:

- The **Personal Allowances** remain frozen next year, and for future years until April 2028, at £12,570. By law, allowances increase in line with inflation unless the government takes action to stop them. Since April 2019 the allowance has only increased by a total of £70 from £12,500 in 2018/19. Had the government not taken the decision to freeze them in all but one year since, the allowance would be approximately £14,520 in the current year, increasing to approximately £15,970 next year. At the basic rate of 20% this means that a basic rate taxpayer will be paying over £13 per week more in tax next year than they would have been paying had allowances been allowed to increase by their default amount.
- The **Basic Rate Band** will remain at £37,700. The **Higher Rate Band**, however,

will be reduced by £25,000 resulting in the **Additional Rate** becoming payable next year at a total income of £125,000 rather than £150,000 at present. This reduction will result in someone earning £150,000 paying additional tax of £24 per week.

- Similarly, the **National Insurance Bands** will be frozen until 2028.
- However, the tax free **Dividend Allowance** will be reduced from the current level of £2,000 to £1,000 in April 2023 and £500 in April 2024.
- All **Income Tax Rates** and **National Insurance Rates** will be frozen at the current rates for next year.

Taking all of the above into account, the Chancellor said that someone fortunate enough to earn £150,000 per annum will be paying just over £1,000 per month more in tax and national insurance.

Secondly, the **Capital Gains Tax Allowance**, £12,300, will be halved to £6,000 from April 2023, and further reduced to £3,000 in April 2024. The **Capital Gains Tax Rates** remain frozen at current rates. These are 10% for basic rate taxpayers and 20% for higher

rate taxpayers for assets except residential property. The rates on gains from the transfer of residential properties are 18% and 28% respectively. Business Asset Disposal Relief remains unchanged.

Thirdly, the **Inheritance Tax Allowance** will be frozen at the current level of £325,000 until April 2028. The rate on Inheritance Tax charged on the value of estates above this level remains at 40%.

Fourthly, the turnover above which a business must register for **Value Added Tax** will be frozen at the current level of £85,000 per annum until April 2026. With inflation at 10.1% this is effectively a decrease in the registration threshold in excess of £8,000 meaning that many more SME's will be dragged into VAT.

There were a number of other announcements made including a reduction in tax relief on Research and Development expenditure. However, no announcement was made concerning the rate of **Corporation Tax**, meaning that the increase in April 2023 from 19% to 25% for businesses with taxable profits in excess of £250,000 will be implemented. Businesses with taxable profits below £50,000 will remain at 19%, with marginal relief being



Margaret Black and David Watkinson

applicable for profits between £50,000 and £250,000.

Finally, there were a number of non-tax announcements made, including:

- The pension triple-lock being maintained, resulting in the basic state retirement pension increasing by 10.1% to £10,600.
- Similarly, other state benefits will increase by 10.1%. However, additional resources will be made available to counter fraud, and to provide training and coaching to improve claimants earning capabilities.
- Continuing help to households to meet energy costs, additional cost of living payments for pensioners and people on benefits.
- An increase in the hourly minimum wage of 9.7% in April 2023 from £9.50 at present to £10.42 per hour.

The Chancellor himself said that his Autumn Statement would be "eye-watering". It has proven to be so!

*WatkinsonBlack have considerable experience in all areas of taxation and business services. This includes providing a very cost-effective payroll bureau service, as well as assisting to ensure compliance with the latest Making Tax Digital legislation. If you are employed or self-employed either as a sole trader, partnership or limited company and want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting on any taxation or accounting matter then please contact us by telephone on 01925 413210 or by e-mail to [info@watkinsonblack.com](mailto:info@watkinsonblack.com). Please note that these ideas are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always obtain professional advice before taking any action.*

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# “Surreal” moment as Marshall returns to coaching set up

**HOMEGROWN** Warringtonian Richard Marshall described it as a “surreal” moment as he returned to Warrington Wolves’ first team coaching set up as Assistant Coach as preparations get underway for the 2023 season.

Marshall will act as defensive coach with fellow Assistant Ryan Sheridan continuing as attack coach under Head Coach Daryl Powell. Danny Evans will take over the development of our Under 18s as Academy Head Coach.

The Warringtonian began his coaching career with the club and worked as Tony Smith’s Assistant Coach during the club’s successful 2009, 2010 and 2012 Challenge Cup campaigns.

Marshall has also worked as Assistant Coach previously at St Helens as well as Head Coach of Salford Red Devils and Halifax Panthers. He rejoined the Wire last season as Academy Head Coach and played an instrumental role in developing the club’s young talents, which saw nine players awarded first-team contracts for the new season.

Meanwhile, Liam Myler has also moved up to become the club’s new Lead Strength and Conditioning Coach with Adam Gummerson taking the role of Academy Physiotherapist. Joining the Club are Ryan Conville as Sports Therapist, Ewan Atkinson as Lead Soft Tissue Therapist & Medical

Admin and Tom Ashton as Sports Scientist.

Speaking on the progression to First team Defensive Coach, Marshall said: “It is a proud moment. We had a successful season with the academy last year and a lot of those lads have progressed into the first team, so it’s an honour and a privilege to continue working with them. From when I was first here, the likes of Stef [Ratchford] and Ben Currie are still here – they’ve had a big impact on my coaching career and vice versa. It’s been a bit surreal really – it doesn’t feel like I’ve ever been away. I’ve had a decent career outside of Warrington Wolves but to come back to my hometown team and help Daryl and Ryan was a really good opportunity and one I couldn’t turn down.”



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### PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Karl Sheridan has given to Warrington Borough Council an application for the grant of a Premises Licence for The Coffee trailer, A56 Church Road, Lymm Dam, Lymm WA13 0AS.

The licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on at the premises are: sale of alcohol off premises Monday - Sunday 08:00 to 22:00

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](http://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 8th December 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. (B12/22)

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