

Culcheth *Life*

Magazine

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**Curtain to go up
on "Cinderella"**

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Editor's Comment



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WHILE it was sad to see the Christmas Market cancelled at short notice, it was pleasing to see community spirit continue at the local church fayres.

Organising community events is never easy, especially when you are let down by others and Culcheth isn't the only local area that has been struggling on organising community events post the COVID pandemic – I say Post, as in life has returned to pretty much normal for many of us – although COVID is still very much about.

My heart goes out to those who tried their best to put on the Christmas Market, only to be let down by others – and some of the abuse they received online via social media was totally unacceptable.

If you think you can do better put your name forward and show some community spirit.

I understand a successful Christmas Market did take place at Partridge Lakes Café, while there was also plenty going on at the local church halls, to keep the spirit of Christmas alive.

Let's hope any issues for future events in the village can be sorted out.

Meanwhile exciting times are looming at The Raven Inn as they continue to raise funds into renovating the property so it can reopen as community pub next year.

Fund-raising has been going on at pace and as you can read

elsewhere in this issue, there is now an opportunity to see your name go down in history of the Founders Wall for just £25 – great value.

My name has already gone down in history on the wall at Culcheth High School, but I will also be adding my name to the wall at the Raven Inn.

It truly is amazing what has been done to keep this community asset.

Finally I would like to wish all our readers and advertisers a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year – and remember Christmas is the gift of giving so please try and help and support those in need in your local community.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the team at Culcheth Life

.....

Deadline for the January issue is December 13

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Curtain to go up on "Cinderella"

CULCHETH Players are already working hard rehearsing for their annual pantomime, to be staged over two weekends in January at Newchurch Parish Hall.

The curtain will go up on "Cinderella" on Saturday January 14 at 1pm and 6.30pm and Sunday January 15 at 1pm.

Then, for those who miss out, the show will be staged again on Saturday, January 21 at 1.30pm

and 6.30pm and on Sunday January 22 at 1pm.

Tickets are priced at £7.50 although children under two go free when not occupying a seat.

After the success of last year's show, Culcheth Players are again

hoping for sell-out audiences.

They will again be joined in the chorus by local girls from Rosemary Powell's School of Dance who are already giving up free time on Saturday mornings to perfect their routines.

The famous Culcheth Fairy will be putting in an appearance too! He was the surprise guest last year and got a huge cheer from the audience when he came on stage.

In addition, four very talented young people from local group ABC Autism Rocks. They will be performing a number on stage which is guaranteed to get the

audience clapping along and joining in.

Tickets can be bought in advance at www.ticketsource.co.uk (booking fees apply) and a limited number of tickets at £8, cash only, will be available on the door on the day of a performance, depending on availability.

Tickets are on sale now and the advice is to get them soon.

Culcheth Players would also like to remind people that free parking is available nearby at Jackson Avenue and there is also a large free car park at Shaw Street - a 7-10 minute walk away.



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Development plan for disused care home site

PLANS to demolish an old and disused care home at Culcheth and replace it with nine new houses and a six-bed care facility have been submitted to Warrington Borough Council.

The proposals by Twiss Green Barns Ltd, of Culcheth, involve demolition of the former Radcliffe Meadows Nursing Home in Twiss Green Lane.

They seek to make use of a previously developed site currently in a poor condition by delivering a new, high quality residential development offering a significant enhance to the built environment.

Borough council planners have been told the existing nursing home building is in a deteriorating condition, contains asbestos and is unsafe to survey.

The new, two-storey care facility will provide high quality accommodation to meet modern care standards and provide a

good level of residential amenity for future occupants. It will have a roof-top garden.

The proposed new houses have been designed with regard to national space standards and there will be safe vehicular and pedestrian access to the site with no negative impact on the highway network. A suitable level of parking will be provided on the site.

If the scheme is approved, the new care facility would be operated by Warrington Community Living, a local charity that supports people with learning difficulties, physical disabilities, older people, people with dementia and people experiencing mental health issues.



Garage to be converted into two-bed home

PLANNING chiefs at Warrington have given the go-ahead for the conversion of a garage/storeroom into a two-bed dwelling at Croft.

The scheme is at Kenyon Farm, Heath Lane and will result in a small, family home with a parking space and an electric vehicle charging point.

Outwardly, there will be little change in the appearance of the building, although a chimney will

be removed and two windows inserted in a side elevation where there are currently garage doors.

A back garden will be created using part of the residential curtilage of the existing farmhouse.

Warrington Borough Council planners say the development will not have any impact on the Green Belt.



3k Santa Dash/Walk

Sunday 11th December 2022

10.00am Start

Walton Hall, Walton Gardens - WA4 6SN

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A chance for your name to go down in history on Founder's Wall

CAMPAIGNERS who have successfully saved the historic Raven Inn at Glazebury, are giving people a chance to see their name go down in history on a special Founder's Wall.

It will act as a memento to the part you have played in ensuring the Raven flies again.

Having raised considerable funds via the community shares offer, the team responsible for the 450-year-old Raven are moving on to the next phase of getting the pub up and running.

The plan is to offer the opportunity to be recognised as one of the 'founders' of the Raven, by having your name on the Founder's Wall.

Spokesperson Peter Sturman said: "Yes, the Founders Wall is about raising funds, but it has a much greater importance.

"We were well aware the £250 entry level for shares would be difficult for some people, particularly in this day and age.

"This new initiative allows people to support the Raven in a different way, involving a much smaller outlay.

"For a £25 donation your name can be on display, in the Raven, for

evermore. As one of the founders who helped re establish the Raven Inn.

"From when we first discussed this, it has been a favourite of mine. I have a vision of a child, who has yet to be born, some time in the future, looking at the name of their parent or grandparent and proudly proclaiming that their relative helped save the Raven.

"Everyone who has invested in shares will be entered on the Founders Wall, if that is their wish." added Peter

If you are looking for a truly unique Christmas present, go no further.

For just £25 you can give someone something they have never had before by nominating them.

You are helping to save the Raven, at the same time.'

Further information can be found on the Raven website: www.theraveninn.org



Housebuilder's double investment in Birchwood



HOUSEBUILDER and property company Wain Group has completed a double investment in Birchwood with the purchase of a new office and extensive refurbishments to its existing Wain Homes North West headquarters.

The company has acquired Fontwell House, a modern two-storey office on Trident Business Park off Daten Avenue, Birchwood which will also house property, regeneration and strategic land company Wain Estates, as well as the Wain Homes Hub – the centralised support functions for all regions of Wain Homes, including marketing, IT, design, procurement and finance.

Completing the double investment, Wain Homes has undertaken a full refurbishment of its North West office at Kelburn Court in Daten Park.

The property now features a "townhall" area for team meetings, socialising, rest and relaxation and more open plan space with soft furnishings and homely decor

to allow greater collaboration between teams.

Wain Group executive chairman Will Ainscough said: "Birchwood is an ideal base for the group.

"Fontwell House offers all the services and amenities you would expect in a 21st Century office with first class facilities making it a desirable place to work and giving easy access to our regional Wain Estates developments and regeneration projects. It also serves as an efficient base for our Wain Homes Hub, which provides essential support services to all four Wain Homes regions.

"We also took feedback from our Wain Homes North West team and undertook a full modernisation of Kelburn Court in order to provide them with the most comfortable and well-equipped facility."

In total, nearly 100 people will be based in the two offices, a number set to increase as the company delivers its strategy for growth.

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Woman who made councillor's life sentenced after breaching stalking

LOCAL Borough Cllr Wendy Maisey spoke for the first time publicly after a woman who breached a stalking protection order, made her life a "living hell," putting her in fear for her life.

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) said a stalking protection order had been granted in relation to Marta Paszkowska, 45, of Chicago Place in Great Sankey, Warrington, on 19 November 2021.

This followed ongoing Instagram posts from Paszkowska, a former election candidate and parish Cllr at Westbrook, harassing Wendy Maisey – a Warrington Borough councillor for Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft.

Yet on 21 November and 22 November 2021, Paszkowska put further posts on Instagram about Ms Maisey and even mentioned the Protection Order, which had been imposed just days before and that the further posts were clearly in breach of.

The account "me_mp.why_not"

has a picture of Marta Paszkowska on the profile and it is clear that she runs this Instagram account.

Ms Maisey had reported these posts to the police and Paszkowska was arrested and charged with two breaches of the stalking protection order.

When questioned she told officers that she didn't understand what the order was or what the words meant. She admitted being responsible for the posts but insisted she didn't realise she was breaking the law.

Ms Maisey told officers that the ongoing abuse was affecting her life and that she was anxious and felt nervous in her home. She said she felt that the threat from Paszkowska was escalating and that she feared for her safety.

Paszkowska initially denied the

offences but pleaded guilty on 13 October 2022 to a breach of the order. On 3 November 2022 at Liverpool Crown Court, she was given an 18-month community order and ordered to do 20 days of a rehabilitation activity.

The Crown Prosecution Service also applied for a restraining order preventing her from contacting Ms Maisey in any way. This was granted by the court and will remain in place for two years.

District Crown Prosecutor Laura Tipping, of CPS Mersey Cheshire, said: "Marta Paszkowska caused real fear and concern in Ms Maisey, who she has targeted with Instagram posts of a harassing and intimidating nature."

"Instead of stopping when the initial stalking protection order was issued, she carried on with the behaviour. Threatening and harassing posts on social media can have a big impact on the victim's life – as has happened in

this case.

"Wendy Maisey is a local councillor who is working on behalf of the people in her ward. Paszkowska has threatened her ability to do that and she is now paying the price."

Following the case Cllr Maisey said: "After 20 months of living hell, I'm glad to see that the CPS was successful in Court yesterday in sentencing Ms Paszkowska. Her behaviour forced me at one point to move to an undisclosed address due to concerns for my life."

"No elected individual should have to go through this, the impact on my mental and physical health has been immense."

"I've remained silent throughout this harrowing time to protect my three daughters, one who was also targeted by her."

"I've been a strong advocate for encouraging women into not just politics, but into public life and appalling behaviour like this only

High school's European Bake-Off

IN celebration of European Day of Languages, students at Culcheth High School dusted off their aprons and took to the kitchen to take part in a European Bake Off.

The event was a roaring success with more than 25 entries from students across all year groups, representing a range of countries

across Europe including Holland, Malta and Greece.

The standard was high, which made judging a difficult task.

Story Smith came in third place for her spectacular Spanish cake, followed by Jenny Huddart for her fantastic French fondant icing. Finally, first place was awarded

to Jonah Ball and Elliot Rowles for their Magnificent Map of Europe cake.

Teacher of Modern Languages Miss Cockram said: "Linguistic diversity is a fantastic way of achieving greater intercultural understanding and we are very proud to encompass this at

Culcheth High School

"We would like to thank all entrants and their parents/carers for giving up their time, effort and money to support the creation of the delicious masterpieces to help celebrate this day and promote cultural diversity within our school."



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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Be a "living hell" protection order

discourages this process. My only hope is that she now sees the error of her ways, doesn't put anyone else through this and abides to the conditions of the restraining order. She's previously been remanded in custody for breaking the terms of the Stalking Protection Order put in place for my safety and she has shown no respect for me as an individual or for the Law of our

Country.
"I'd like to thank the CPS and Cheshire Police for their ongoing support, in particular the Harm Reduction Unit who have been amazing throughout this ordeal. Without the wraparound love and support from my friends and family I probably would have reluctantly stepped down from public life."



Sean's exhibition was huge success

AN exhibition by self-taught artist Sean Sutherland was so successful he is planning another one early next year.
Sean, from Birchwood, has been interested in art since childhood, but has only been painting for about four years.
His exhibition, at the Red Telephone Box Tearoom at Risley

showcased his work in oils. His main focus is on landscapes, with photo-realism being his ultimate aim.
The exhibition attracted so much interest he now plans to put on another, early in the New Year.
Prints of the paintings are available to purchase.



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The Gardening Guide



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Simon Bax,
Plant Area Specialist

- Natural food is at its scarcest at this time of year so keep your bird feeders stocked up at all times - look after your feathered friends
- Evergreen plants come into their own over the winter and stems may be cut and used in arrangements
- Improve the structure of clay soils by digging in plenty of bulky organic matter such as composted bark
- Remember to protect your half-hardy plants during very cold spells

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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 or call 01925 240064.

But be quick - tickets are selling out fast!



Songs from the Shows

THE Three Towns Operatic Society are to stage "Songs from the Shows" at Culcheth Methodist Church on Saturday, December 3 at 7.30pm.

There will be something for everyone with songs from Disney films and various stage musicals.

Tickets are £10 including refreshments on the door. There will also be a raffle with some luxury hamper prizes. Telephone Daphne on 01925 765561.

All proceeds will go to Church Funds



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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PARISH NEWS

Christmas Market Event

This year's Christmas market event was regrettably cancelled because the Parish Council was let down on two separate occasions. In the first place one organisation pulled out of the delivery of the makers market, which left the Parish Council scrambling to pull together stalls at a late stage. Cllr Bland worked tirelessly to arrange an agreement with another organisation to coordinate the provision of gazebos for the event. This organisation withdrew from the agreement at the last minute due to staffing issues.

Planning Concerns

The Parish Council is consulted on planning applications. If you have an opinion on an application, please let the clerk or councillors know as soon as possible within the 21-day consultation period.

Defibrillators

The Parish Council and a Jubilee Awards for All grant has funded the purchase and installation of a defibrillator at the ESSO petrol station on Warrington Road in Culcheth and at the Old Victorian Sweetshop and Tea Room on Warrington Road in Glazebury. The Parish Council has also funded the replacement of the defibrillator outside of the Scout Hut on Jackson Avenue in Culcheth. They are all now fully operational.

Litter Picking

The Parish Council would like to thank the individuals who have volunteered to help keep the public spaces in Culcheth and Glazebury litter free. Charlie Skinner, Ann Connor, Linda Walsh, Holly Darnton and Yvonne Keating are much appreciated for the generous way they donate their time to remove rubbish from much used community spaces. If anyone would like to join our trusty band of volunteers, please contact the clerk to register your interest.

Garages on Newchurch Avenue

Cllr Johnson has worked hard to get Warrington Borough Council (WBC) to deal with the derelict garage site adjacent to Newchurch Avenue. Initially the roofs and garage doors were removed from the derelict garages but after further consultation, the garages are to be removed and hopefully the site will be used as a parking resource.

Website

The Parish Council has invested in developing a new website. www.cg-pc.co.uk is the domain name for the new website, and it is intended that over the next 6 months features will be added to make the Parish Council website a useful resource for the whole community. If you would like us to add details of an event you are organising, or details about your organisation to the website, contact the clerk to discuss your request at clerk@cg-pc.co.uk

Flies

Flies have been causing an issue in areas of Culcheth. To ascertain how widespread, the issues were, and the severity of it, Cllr Holmes has assisted residents by creating a survey which many have completed. The results of the survey have been disseminated back to WBC. Locating the source or reason behind the increase in flies remains challenging, but it is hoped with further investigation the situation can be resolved.

Next Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 13th December at 7:30pm at Glazebury Methodist Church

Publication of Information

The Parish Council has adopted a publication of information scheme. Details of who we are, what we do and how the public can access information is published on the main notice boards, Common Lane, Culcheth and Culcheth Library and on our website:

www.cg-pc.co.uk



Festive Fayres show Christmas spirit

WHILE the proposed Culcheth Christmas Market was sadly cancelled there was still plenty of festive activities taking place in the village, including the annual Christmas Fayres at Culcheth Methodist Church and Newchurch Parish Hall, as well as the lights switch on.

Over at the Methodist Church Hall youngsters had a chance to meet Father Christmas while stalls included 7th Culcheth Brownies and St Rocco's Hospice.

Meanwhile over at Newchurch Parish Hall festive tunes were played by Newchurch handbell

ringers, while stalls included Hand Crafted by Chris and created by Gilly K Crafts.

Meanwhile the annual art exhibition took place at Jackson Avenue where local artist Patti Rosser is pictured.



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TAYLORED SIGNS AND GRAPHICS

WI members remember Sylvia

MEMBERS of Croft WI stood in silence at their November meeting in remembrance of long-standing and popular member Sylvia Swift, who had sadly died.

It was the annual general meeting, and president Anne Lamming then reported on the many highlights of a busy and successful year.

She thanked the committee and all members who have given their time and support.

Anne is standing down as president after eight years in office and the committee thanked her for her sincere dedication and determination to make Croft WI welcoming and successful.

Gill Coon was duly elected as the new president.

Croft WI now has 86 members and the number attending meetings has increased throughout the year as people enjoy socialising again after the pandemic.

In addition to attending monthly meetings members have enjoyed taking part in Bowling, Bridge, Busy Bakers, Darts, Luncheon Club, Readers Group, Scrabble, Singing

for Fun and Walking Netball. The leaders of these activity groups each gave a short speech to let those yet to join a group know what they have been missing!

Croft WI celebrates its 70th birthday next year and at refreshment time the new committee served a cheese and wine buffet (plus soft drinks) while a discussion was had on the results of a survey of members on their likes, dislikes and ideas for the future.

The competition "A Handmade Christmas Star" was won by Jill Hillam, 2nd Margaret O'Leary and 3rd Louise Geekie.

Diary Dates:
December 5: Christmas Lunch at The Horseshoe

December 14: Christmas Party at Leigh Golf Club

Croft WI meets at 7.30 pm at Croft Memorial Hall on the third Wednesday of each month. Visitors are welcome.

Life on a narrowboat!

MEMBERS of Culcheth and Newchurch WI heard about life on a narrowboat at their November meeting.

The meeting at the Parish Hall began with Jerusalem, accompanied by Margaret Jones.

The two speakers, Chris and Barbara Kay, then began with an account of the lives of narrow boat families.

Both speakers are very much involved with the National Waterways Museum at Ellesmere Port and Chris began with slides showing the Museum's Indoor Exhibition Area and the outside landscaping, as well as views of earlier days before improvements. He showed sketches of the dreadful roads of the 18th century. This led to canal building on a huge scale - "canal mania" by the early 19th century.

The canal companies did very well but then slowly lost out to railways. Barbara talked about the narrow boat workers and their hard life. She wore a long skirt and pinafore and a wonderful frilled sunbonnet with "curtains" to the shoulders and Chris showed slides

of narrow boat interiors, compact and snug for a small family but later condemned as squalid by health and school inspectors and nurses.

In 1877 narrow boats had to be registered but it was hard to catch the children for school as they helped man the boats. Finally by the 1960s narrow boats had become a form of leisure.

Brenda Pinion thanked Barbara and Chris while Jane Bushby won the competition prize for "A Piece of Canal Art". Quite a few members had visited the Ellesmere Port site and had enjoyed their experience.

Ann Hambleton and Freda Wilcock served tea and President Eileen Griffiths thanked Jenny Hainsworth for the table flowers. She greeted the "birthday girls" and thanked two retiring committee members. On 6th December there will be a Box Supper with entertainment and an evening celebration meal is to take place in January.

The luncheon club met at the Horseshoe Pub on Tuesday 22nd November. The meeting closed with a raffle.

Sam picks up three trophies

PACE bowler Sam Stanier picked up three trophies at Glazebury Cricket Club's annual meeting and presentation night.

He won the 1st XI bowling averages, the Wicket Taker's award, with a haul of 86 and the Player's Player award.

Jordan Carroll won the 1st XI batting averages and also the Most Improved Player award.

The Run Getter award went to

Anthony Meulman, with 584.

Srinivas Vallabhaneni won the 2nd XI batting averages and the 2nd XI bowling averages award went to Guru Lakshmeekar

Young Player of the Season was Varish Vallabhaneni.

The 1st XI enjoyed a successful season in the UKFas Cheshire League, coming fourth in division three. The 2nd XI fared less well, fishing bottom of their division.

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