

Culcheth Life

Magazine

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Editor's Comment



IT'S certainly been a roller-coaster few weeks since Kenyon Lane Croft, hit the headlines as the preferred location for a gypsy traveller transit site.

Cllr. Neil Johnson's decision to resign from the Labour party and breach the confidentiality of the working party to find a suitable location, has certainly split opinion.

While it has been frowned upon in the corridors of power and with other elected politicians it has been welcomed by many local residents.

While I fully understand the reasons why these difficult decisions

need to be kept out of the public domain, I also fully understand the reasons why Cllr. Johnson took the decision to leak the location.

At the end of the day he is elected to represent local people and he felt on this occasion, the need for people to know outweighed secrecy while a deal was completed.

The problem we now have is how are we going to find a suitable transit site which the council has a legal obligation to find?

This is the second time in about 10 years a suitable location has been found and the second time the location has been leaked, leading to it being scrapped.

So, what is going to stop the next location being leaked? At the end of

the day few people want a transit site on their doorstep.

So, what is the solution – well how about some common sense?

Travellers want to be near motorway networks and we have service stations up and down the country – so why not just designate transit sites up and down the country attached to service stations?

We even have a new service station being built near Croft on the motorway network while the Poplars Truck Stop near Lymm, is surrounded by fields and seeking expansion.

Would these locations not provide a solution with all sides happy? Or is that too much just like common sense? It could even be a condition of planning consent that a traveller site is part of the development!

What's on at All Saints Glazebury

3rd November - 11am All Saints Day, Family Communion
7pm All Souls Service

10th November - 11am Parish Remembrance Service

11th November - 10:45am School Remembrance Service

1st December - 11am Advent Sunday (gifts brought for donation)

15th December - 11am Toy Service (gifts brought for donation)

18th December - 2:45pm School Christmas Service

22nd December - 6:30pm Carols by Candlelight

24th December - 11:30pm Midnight Communion

Parish Communion is held at All Saints every Sunday morning at 11am, all are welcome.



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The Raven fighting back after road works

THE roadworks which engulfed the Raven Inn at Glazebury have now finished and as predicted, the severely restricted access to the community pub has had a negative impact on business.

The road closure took place with little warning as the contractors started the road works in the wrong order.

Spokesperson Peter Sturman commented: "It was very obvious the roadworks would adversely affect the Raven. September was a very poor month, particularly during the weeks when evening weekday access was denied for patrons from Culcheth direction.

"We maintain Warrington Borough Council (WBC) should have informed us of the possibility of the roadworks twelve months prior to them starting. We know the work was scoped at least 16 months prior to it commencing.

As it was, we got 14 working

days notice. Even then the advice contained mixed messages. What's more, it was only on the second day of the roadworks that we got the definitive direction on vehicular access, after we and **Culcheth Life** Editor Gary Stentelbery had chased the council up.

"There was no opportunity for any contingency planning.

"We intend formally writing to WBC. We have delayed that a little as we are aware the council have had their hands full debating a proposed traveller's site.

"Since the roadworks have finished business has picked up. We are fortunate to have very loyal patrons who stuck with us during this really difficult period.

"Everyone at the pub is working very hard to repair the damage and we are extremely grateful to all the people who are visiting the pub now they are not having their access barred by outside influences.

"As the pub seeks to get back on its feet, we welcome all patrons, old and new, to come along and support the Raven Inn Community pub and have a good time, a nice drink and an excellent meal, at the same time.

"We will kick December off with a Christmas Fair inside the space above the pub, on Sunday 1st December."



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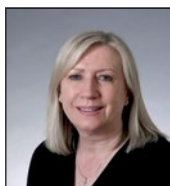
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Croft Parish Council News



Valerie Allen MBE
(Chair)
vallen@croftparishcouncil.gov.uk

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH ON

On Friday 29th November 2024 it's the Croft Christmas Tree Lighting event. This will feature singing from the children of both Croft schools. Please all come along and gather from 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start at the Christmas tree opposite The Horseshoe Inn.

GARAGES AT CROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE

The parish council is taking steps to save the garages from demolition. At the time of writing, we are in negotiations with Warrington Borough Council regarding a lease/agreement. Croft Parish acknowledges that these garages are an important asset to our community groups.

SPEEDING & TRAFFIC

The parish council is working with Warrington Borough Council to try to reduce the speed of vehicles on our roads and increase road safety in our village. WBC has agreed to reduce the derestricted zones in the village to 40mph. An officer from WBC will be attending the parish council meeting on Tuesday 19th November at 7.30pm to address traffic management issues in Croft.

APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER

Following the retirement of Roger Lamming, Cllr Bower has agreed to take on the role of Public Rights of Way officer for the village of Croft.

PROPOSED TRAVELLER TRANSIT SITE

Warrington Borough Council has publicly stated that it will no longer pursue the purchase of land at Kenyon Lane Nurseries.



Cheyenne Bower
cbower@croftparishcouncil.gov.uk



Norman Partington
npartington@croftparishcouncil.gov.uk



Philip Sharpe
psharpe@croftparishcouncil.gov.uk



Susan Ward
sward@croftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Residents may contact Croft Parish Council's Clerk on Email: clerk@croftparishcouncil.gov.uk
The Parish Council issues updates and information on Twitter: [@croftparish](https://twitter.com/croftparish)
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Rotary Beer Festival raises £6,000 for charity

THE recent Rotary Beer Festival at The Village Club raised £6,000 for charity.

Until Covid curtailed activities in 2020, Culcheth Charity Beer Festival was always a popular early autumn attraction raising more than £100,000 for Rotary charity causes between 2011 and 2019.

Resurrected by popular demand for 2024 - on Friday and Saturday September 20th & 21st over 500 revellers attended the 10th Charity Beer Festival at the Village Club where they sampled 26 great cask ales and lagers from 20 breweries. Visitors also enjoyed a tasty selection of draught ciders and bottled beers plus sparkling fizz and wine, plus hot food and snacks supplied by the Village Club.

Entertainment was provided by popular local vocalist, Poppy on both days. The Hunter Healey Oompah Band were star attractions on Friday, while on Saturday, Culcheth Ukulele Club - The Rockets had guests toe-tapping and singing along with a very lively afternoon session. Then BackTrax rounded the event off with an act featuring pop, soul and rock'n'roll from the 60's to the 00's.

FESTIVAL DRINKS TALLY

- More than 1,500 pints of cask beer & lagers supplied

- 30 gallons of cider quaffed
- 50+ bottles of Fizz popped & Wine sipped
- Over 100 bottled lagers scoffed

Thanks to all supporters including main sponsors - Hunter Healey Accountants - MKM Builders Merchants - The Raj Indian Restaurant - Crompton Opticians - Broster's Farming.

4T's Brewery in Warrington have been invaluable helpers - supplying the bar equipment and sourcing all the draught beers, lagers and ciders.

Rotary spokesperson Les Blakbourne said: "We couldn't have managed at all without the magnificent support of over 40 volunteers manning entry desks and serving behind the bar - thank you all - you were all brilliant."

"Last, but by no means least - Thanks to the Culcheth Village Club on Wigshaw Lane for hosting and keeping us fed."

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY -

December 2024 - "Santa's Coming" - Charity collection around local streets

September 2025 - With your help "Culcheth Charity Beer Festival" could be back!



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 Where Learning is Fun!

Local photographer draws on his skills for relaxation

LOCAL photographer Michael Berry has come a long way in the three months he has been attending art classes at Culcheth Community centre.

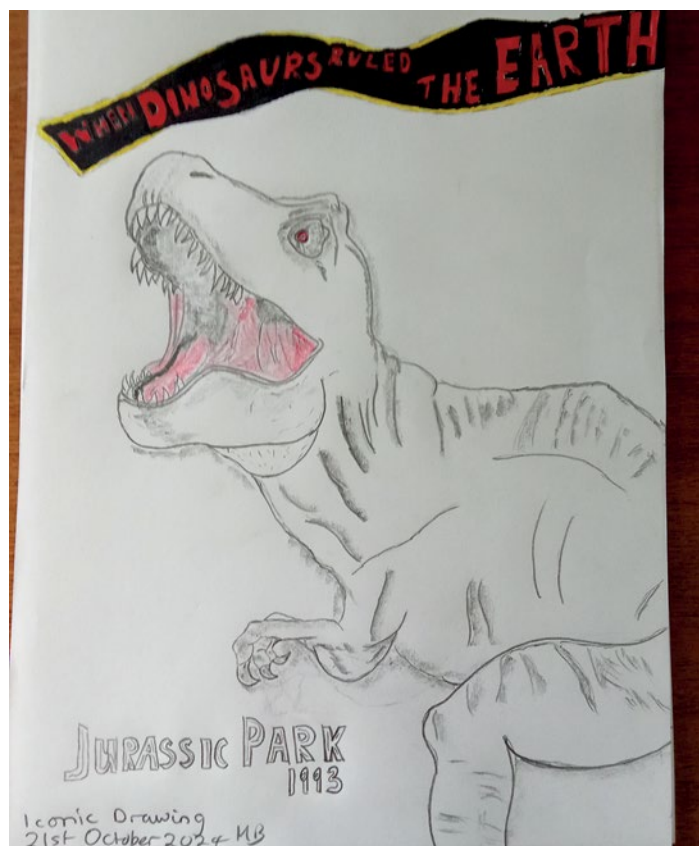
Michael, who runs Iconic Photography Studio based at Birchwood, said: "Drawing, along with photography, is a great way to express yourself and is also a very relaxing activity."

He attends the session on Tuesday and Thursday at Culcheth Community Centre on Jackson Avenue with an aim to improve his drawing skills and incorporate it

into his photography work.

Michael added: "I have been good at drawing cartoons since childhood and was taught more by Tony Bridge in the 1990s.

"For me to become confident in drawing people in such a short space of time, shows that my practice back then has stuck with me."



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Independent councillor celebrates "victory for whole community" as council abandon transit site plan

INDEPENDENT Cllr. Neil Johnson is celebrating a "victory for the whole community" as he accused Warrington Borough Council of a "selfish act of bravado" over secret plans for a gypsy traveller transit site at Kenyon Lane, Croft.

He also described council claims that they were withdrawing the plans due to bad press and social media comments after he controversially leaked the location of the Kenyon Lane site as "rubbish!"

Cllr. Johnson resigned from the Labour Party before disclosing the "secret" location of the proposed site which the council had already spent £25,000 on trying to secure a land deal.

Following the announcement, Cllr. Johnson said: "I am pleased that Warrington Borough Council have finally listened to the residents of Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft and withdrawn their ridiculous plan for a gypsy traveller transit site on Kenyon Lane."

"This is a victory for our whole community. The voices of local people have been heard because we banded together and refused to be steamrolled."

"However, this decision could have been made a lot sooner. It was obvious that a transit site could never be built at this location because of issues with access, narrow roads, the suitability of nearby services, and a host of other reasons. Instead of withdrawing this nonsense sooner, Warrington Council engaged in a selfish act of bravado by trying to struggle on. As a result, Labour councillors have cost the taxpayers of Warrington £25,000. They should pay this money back from their own hopeless pockets or have it deducted from their allowances. Why should we fund their incompetence?"

"I would like to thank all the residents who worked with me on my campaign against the transit site. I do not regret revealing the secret location for one minute. The people had a right to know. I have met with dozens of people in Culcheth and Croft about this issue over the last couple of weeks. We have worked together on reasonable alternatives, a business

case against the Kenyon Lane site, and much more. I have been proud and pleased to put local residents front and centre of everything I do. Together, we have triumphed."

"All of this has been achieved without any input from my fellow ward councillors or the local MP. They shamelessly abandoned the people of Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft in their hour of need and we will never forget that. If they had any good grace or integrity left, they would both resign."

"Finally, I turn to the Council's claim that they have withdrawn their plans because of bad press and social media comments. What rubbish! They have had to withdraw them because the community came together and worked with the landowners to prevent their sale. Councils do not make decisions because of things people write on Facebook. If Councillors and officers can't handle a bit of criticism and scrutiny, then they shouldn't put forward ridiculous proposals in the first place."

"I am looking forward to continuing to work for the good of my community, shoulder to shoulder with local people as their independent voice for Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft."

Announcing their decision to abandon the Kenyon Lane site and seek an alternative Warrington Borough Council issued the following statement.

"The Council has, for many years, searched for a location for a gypsy traveller transit site. We have an obligation to provide suitable pitches for the gypsy traveller community, in a sustainable location that is supported by access to public services. The council spends over £150,000 a year managing over 70 unauthorised encampments. This has a negative impact not just on council finances, but also on local communities, businesses, and the gypsy traveller community themselves."



"On 14 October, the council's cabinet took the decision to acquire land off Kenyon Lane with a view to locating a transit site, a proposal that would have subsequently involved extensive consultation with the local community. We have spent over £25,000 in preparing the option to acquire the site, which itself would be subject to planning consent and independent scrutiny by the Secretary of State. The disclosure of confidential information ahead of the Cabinet's meeting has resulted in social media content that has been upsetting to some of those involved. We have therefore decided not to progress with the acquisition of the land and will continue to search for an alternative, suitable site."

In response to Cllr. Johnson's criticism Charlotte Nichols said prior to the plan being scrapped: "Residents have raised concerns with me about a potential traveller transit site near Kenyon Lane in Croft."

"These are sensitive matters for the community. The Council must be comprehensive and inclusive during the decision-making process."

"I remain in conversation with Warrington Borough Council regarding these specific proposals, and in more general terms on the wider issues caused by a lack of appropriate transit facilities in Warrington."

Following Cllr. Johnson's "inaccurate statement" fellow ward Cllrs. Janet Seddon and Matt

Smith, who both live in the ward issued the following statement: "We welcome Warrington Borough Council's confirmation that they are no longer planning to purchase the former Kenyon Lane Nursery as a potential traveller transit site. While Warrington desperately needs a well-managed transit site to address the illegal encampments we've seen on Culcheth Village Green, Silver Lane, and other areas, we agreed with residents that this particular site was not suitable."

"The local Labour team, including all of our Borough and Parish Councillors, have worked tirelessly to support the residents most affected by this proposal. We have been in constant communication with Council Officers, the Council's Chief Executive, and members of the Cabinet. As elected representatives, we are fully committed to serving our community, and any online claims suggesting otherwise are ill-informed and untrue."

"We have been working at all levels to ensure this proposal was withdrawn. Crucially, our experience working with the Council has allowed us to effectively engage with decision-makers to secure a satisfactory outcome for the residents we represent. We would also like to thank the residents who contacted us; we greatly appreciate your support and the professionalism with which we were able to collaborate in opposing this proposal."

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CHRISTMAS is a celebration like no other and one that Bents Garden & Home always likes to celebrate in style.

Hundreds of customers recently joined the team at Bents for this year's official opening and start of the festive celebrations.

Having been kept under wraps for the past ten weeks, the recent opening was the first opportunity for customers to experience this year's magical wonderland, which once again features a host of beautifully themed displays.

Bents were joined for the occasion by Cllr Jean Flaherty from Warrington Council and a host of special festive characters all of whom helped with the opening and get Christmas at Bents underway.

Whilst Bents' seasonal square remains dedicated to all things spooky, with a hauntingly good display, the rest of the Centre is all about Christmas. And when Halloween is over there's even more to come, with the ice cream characters from the official Christmas opening providing just a taste of what's been planned!

Matthew Bent, Managing Director said: "Christmas has been a part of our family business for as long as I can remember and it never loses any of its charm or excitement, especially when we're surrounded by such beautiful and inspirational displays.

"My sister Rachel and her team of visual merchandisers design and create all of the fantastic displays we have in store and our joiners help bring these magical scenes to life. Once again they have delivered another fantastic wonderland for our customers to enjoy."

Bents' Winter Food Market is also back and bigger than ever before, featuring all the traditional favourites as well as a new Festive Terrace with air steam trailers serving freshly made pizzas and Bents style fish and chips.

Now that Christmas at Bents is open there is a full calendar of festive events planned at the Centre, starting with Father Christmas' Arrival Parade on Thursday 7th November at 4pm when Father Christmas will be joined by a host of friends for this special occasion.

Festive Wednesdays return on 6th November – 27th November when Bents' experts share their top tips and inspirational ideas and this year there are three opportunities to join Bents for Carols by Candlelight, Thursday 21st, 29th November and 19th December. For further details of these and other Christmas events visit bents.co.uk

Charlotte Nichols MP Warrington North

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Promoted by Charlotte Nichols at Orford Jubilee Neighbourhood Hub,
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The Gardening Guide



Now the winter rains have arrived remember to ensure better drainage in your pots and containers.

Simon Bax,
Plant Area Specialist

- There are a surprising number of plants that perform well over the winter period, often they are well scented - examples include Sarcococca, Hamamelis and Mahonia
- Areas of the border, that are currently empty, can be dug over and enriched with blended manure for next year's planting
- Cut down any herbaceous plants that have finished flowering and that do not have a strong winter structure. Weed and fork gently between them

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Council maintain dark unlit road meets safety guidelines to walk to school

HIGHWAY planners at Warrington Borough Council maintain that a dark unlit road at Croft meets Road Safety Great Britain guidelines for children to walk to school.

It follows a campaign by local Councillors at Croft, Matt Smith and Cheyenne Bower, who have joined parents in opposing the council's proposed changes to suggested school commute walking routes for children.

If a child has to walk over three miles to their nearest secondary school or if the route is considered too dangerous, they are provided a free school bus pass.

Cllr Smith says the council has chosen to reassess all walking routes previously considered too dangerous for school children to use and that some routes, like Lady

Lane at Croft, that were considered hazardous in the past, are now rated as 'available' for use by children.

Cllr Bower says over 100 metres of the Lady Lane route is unlit, has no pavement and the council's own data shows that the average speed of vehicles there is well over the speed limit.

But a Warrington Borough Council spokesperson said: "Walking routes to school are assessed by our highways teams according to Road Safety Great Britain guidelines, which focus on the interaction between pedestrians

and traffic.

"While no road is entirely without risk, Lady Lane has been assessed as having very light traffic, which is also visible from a distance due to the straight line of the road. This means the road is considered available to walk down with road safety in mind, such as wearing clothing to improve visibility and walking with an accompanying friend or adult if necessary.

"This assessment presumes that all road users will behave responsibly, follow the Highway Code and also crucially drive to the conditions of the road.

"If parents/carers or children are uncomfortable with this route to Culcheth High School, an alternative is available via Lord Street."

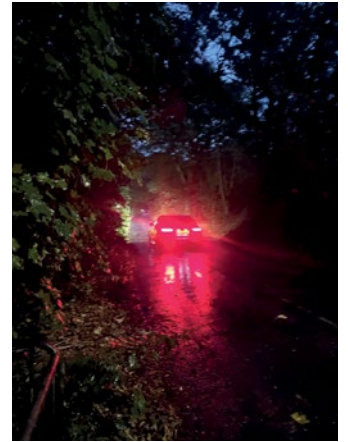
The council is also continuing to provide transport for low-income families and children who meet the home to school transport help criteria, which is based on government guidance.

But one concerned parent said: "This decision by the council to deem Lady Lane an acceptable route for children to walk to school is an accident waiting to happen. In my opinion, WBC have manipulated the data to produce a report that benefits only themselves without any consideration to the safety of the children."

Another said: "We shouldn't be

expecting children to walk down lady lane, no pavement part of the way and poorly lit. We should be encouraging them to go to school not asking them to do a nearly 6 mile round trip to get there and back. WBC need to reassess and get this changed."

Another added: "This is an absolute joke. I'm sure members of Warrington Borough Council wouldn't want their kids walking down Lady Lane with no pavement, streetlights and a blind corner!! I will be appealing the decision for my son and will keep appealing until they get sick of me! Absolutely appalling!"



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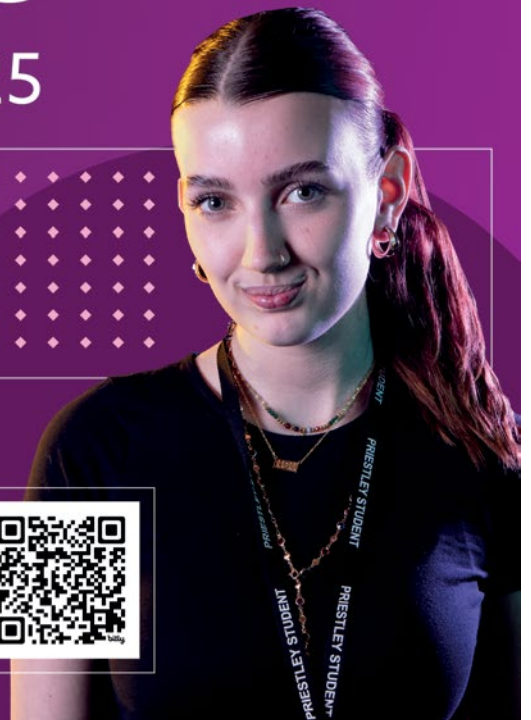
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Matrix Tuition: Local teachers offering personalised support online and face-to-face

In response to the increasing pressures on students and schools, two highly experienced local teachers, Lilia and Sophie, have launched Matrix Tuition, a new service offering personalised small group tuition for local students.

Understanding the unique challenges faced by families today, Matrix Tuition provides both face-to-face and online sessions, offering flexible options to meet the needs of every student.

Lilia and Sophie, with over 30 years of combined teaching experience, created Matrix Tuition to address a growing issue: overcrowded classrooms and shrinking school resources often leave children without the focused support they need. Their new business fills this gap by offering

small group tuition, where students receive targeted attention that's impossible to achieve in larger class settings.

What makes Matrix Tuition stand out is its blend of local expertise and flexible delivery. Whether students prefer learning in person or need the convenience of online sessions, Matrix Tuition offers both options. In face-to-face sessions, students benefit from a supportive, engaging environment where they can interact directly with their peers and tutors. Online sessions offer the same

level of personalised attention, with interactive tools and resources that make learning from home just as effective.

As local teachers who know the community and its education needs, Lilia and Sophie tailor their lessons to align with the local curriculum and individual student goals. This personalised approach is key to Matrix Tuition's success—whether the sessions are held in person or online, the focus is always on giving each student the targeted support they

need to thrive. In core subjects like maths, where one-on-one interaction is crucial, small group learning ensures that no child is left behind.

Matrix Tuition offers parents a convenient and effective solution, empowering students to succeed whether they choose in-person learning or the flexibility of online sessions. By choosing Matrix Tuition, parents are supporting a locally-led initiative that brings expert teaching directly to their children, both at home and in the classroom.



Lilia



Sophie

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Culcheth curry house The Raj named best in country



THE Raj Culcheth Indian restaurant has been named Best Restaurant at this year's Curry Life Awards, adding this accolade to the Editor's Choice Award it won last year.

The prestigious Curry Life Awards – staged by Britain's renowned curry magazine, Curry Life, took place at a glittering event on 13th October at the London Marriott Hotel Grosvenor Square in Mayfair.

Speaking after the ceremony, owner Anhar Miah said: "I'm thrilled, it's an endorsement of the strong reputation we have built among the locals.

"Everyone can find something they like and perhaps discover something new, or get the chance to experiment with different flavours."

Speaking after the 15th annual Curry Life awards ceremony, Curry Life Media Group Editor, Syed Belal Ahmed, said: "A major aim of the awards has always been to highlight best practice going on across the country – so that everyone has the opportunity to learn from the best – something that has always been a driving principle behind Curry Life itself.

"Over the many years we have been staging the awards, we have seen major improvements in standards and quality being offered to customers, to the point where several restaurants are now in a position to challenge for accolades such as Michelin stars."

The awards event is an annual celebration of British curry houses, which have an annual turnover of over £4 billion."

Keynote speakers at the awards included Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Wes Streeting MP. He commented: "Congratulations to everyone for their success at these awards. The hospitality industry has an enormous contribution to make to our country. But there's something more fundamental about what the hospitality industry does, and what curry houses across the country do, which is about bringing people together, making connections and creating communities. It's about making sure our high streets are thriving, and where people want to spend time and money and enjoy family and friendship. In the budget and beyond we will be doing everything that we can not just to support our large businesses, but to support our SMEs too."

Another key speaker was Lord Karan Bilimoria CBE, Founder and Chairman of Cobra Beer and former President of the CBI – who added: "The curry industry continues to play a crucial role in British society, contributing over £4 billion in annual sales and employing thousands of hardworking individuals, a vital contribution to the British economy and hospitality sector. While we've faced significant challenges in recent years—from rising costs to labour shortages—the industry's strength and determination remain

unwavering. At Cobra Beer, we are immensely proud to stand alongside curry restaurants across the UK, grateful for their loyalty and resilience. Together, we look ahead with optimism, knowing that our shared commitment will help us thrive in the face of any challenge."

Other guests at the awards ceremony included GB News presenter Camilla Tominey—who hosted the event—as well as Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Rushanara Ali MP, Charlotte Nichols MP and Jade

Botterill MP.

Rushanara Ali said: "The British curry industry has been absolutely vital – it has not only created opportunities for the British Asian community but also built a multi-billion pound industry. So it's wonderful to see the industry going from strength to strength. Huge congratulations to all the nominees and winners."

The Curry Life Awards are sponsored by Cobra Beer, WorkPermitCloud, Unisoft and Hillside Travels.



WI members carried on regardless

MEMBERS of Glazebrook WI "carried on regardless" when the speaker cancelled and the replacement speaker failed to turn up.

President Maureen Banner welcomed members to the meeting, and they sang Jerusalem.

The minutes were read and there was plenty of time to discuss essential business.

There is to be an "open house" at Chester HQ, and the Annual Meeting CFWI, on November 13 at the Storyhouse, Chester, with speakers.

Glazebrook WI is planning Christmas already, with a secret Santa, plus a Christmas Lunch

later. Irene Collins, gave a report of the visit to Eccles Organ Centre, which was much enjoyed by all who attended. The craft group is planning making a special Christmas tree, members meeting for lunch prior to this, in the Red Lion.

Members then had a leisurely tea. Helen Graham produced a mini quiz, via her phone, so members could end the day, without a speaker, but with gained knowledge.

Back to the dark days of the 1940s

MEMBERS of Croft WI were taken back to the dark days of the early 1940s when journalist Roger Blaxall gave an interesting and poignant account of the experiences of children evacuated from war torn Liverpool to Ormskirk during WW11.

Roger brought along many artefacts from that time including photographs, press clippings, identity cards and even a small suitcase belonging to his mother-in-law who was an evacuee as a seven year old.

The trauma of being sent to live with complete strangers and parting from parents were recounted by Roger and how children of that era had to be extremely resilient. It was not compulsory for parents to evacuate their children, but not doing so was frowned upon and a newspaper cartoon of the day showed a family enjoying a picnic with an image of Hitler smiling in a tree intimating that not evacuating children was not good as they would be caught in the blitz.

Roger had taken part in the compilation of many publications relating to those times and the experiences of the people involved. He's also been instrumental in organising reunions for the evacuees. Two ladies in particular were mentioned who had not seen each other since 1940! In fact most of the people attending these reunions were meeting up for the first time in many decades, not

just with fellow evacuees, but also with the families who took them into their homes.

It's hard to imagine in this day and age what it was like to be a child having to part from parents at a railway station, herded onto a train carrying just a small suitcase of clothes, a gas mask, a luggage label tied to their coats and being transported to a completely alien environment.

The children from Liverpool sent to Ormskirk were initially taken to a school which is now a furniture store where they were billeted with various families. Quite a number of siblings were parted being billeted with different families. Schools were attended on a half day basis, local children in the mornings and evacuee children in the afternoons, then vice versa on alternate weeks. There was some antagonism from local children to these kids with strange accents and unfortunately some local unfounded propaganda against the "scouse" children. Happily most families were kind and welcoming and life long friendships were formed.

Members enjoyed a questions session, but only one turned out to be an evacuee from that era. Secretary Louise Geekie gave a warm vote of thanks.

The competition "A Modern Day Evacuee Label" was won by Jill Hillam, 2nd Louise Geekie and 3rd everyone else who took part.

A hot pot lunch at the AGM

SUNDIAL WI held its AGM at Newchurch Parish Hall when president Eileen Griffiths welcomed everybody to tables set for a Hot Pot lunch and a tasty meal was served.

After lunch Margaret Jones accompanied "Jerusalem". Members were sad to hear that vice-president Doreen Procter was in hospital. Her amazing work in arranging trips and outings was going ahead as usual, with a trip to Stockport to see "My Fair

Lady" and a November outing to Boundary Mill and Worston. An earlier visit to Ferraris had been much enjoyed. The January dinner at the Village Club was confirmed.

There were three birthday girls and Ann Langridge won the flowers presented by Jenny Hainsworth.

The speaker on November 19 will be June Wilkinson and her topic is "Ice Cream Making". The competition will be "A Sundae Dish".

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