

Culcheth Life

Magazine

ISSUE 263 | JULY 2025
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Editor's Comment



IT'S fantastic to see the return of The Sealed Knot Civil war re-enactment returning to the Culcheth/Glazebury area this summer – the first of two big events scheduled to take place on the field opposite the historic Raven Inn.

As you can see from our centre spread coverage in this issue – it certainly looks set to be another great event – and will provide a great boost to the local economy while retelling a little bit of local history.

Well done to all those involved in organising this event which is going to be followed up with a music festival in August.

Music festivals appear to be all the rage these days, so it is fantastic to see one coming to the local area.

Details on how to get tickets can be found on page 7 of this issue, which you may notice is bigger than normal – that's mainly down to the extra advertising support.

Without the support of the local businesses and organisations we wouldn't be able to keep this free local news service going – so once again thank you to those who support us.

One of our latest advertisers is Culcheth's newest high street travel agency, Go Ben Travel, specialising in Celebrity Cruises – offering some exclusive offers on their opening day on July 20.

It is fantastic to see a local travel agency return to the village centre – so make sure you check them out when looking for any last minute summer breaks.

Our high street has taken a battering from online shopping, in particular the travel industry, which was all made 10 times worse during COVID.

In my opinion it's much better to use a face-to-face travel agent than rely on an online booking, especially if

you are unfortunate and have some issues while on holiday.

Like with any big transaction, it is better knowing the person you are dealing with.

So we wish Go Ben Travel all the best for their new business venture here in Culcheth and thank you for placing your trust in Culcheth Life to promote your business.

As always when you can, shop local and support local businesses.

Enjoy your summer – there is plenty to look forward to, whether it's on the Mill Fields in Glazebury or on a Celebrity Cruise!

**Deadline for the
August issue of
Culcheth Life is July 22**

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Pickleball arrives in Culcheth

PICKLEBALL – a fast-growing sport which is a lively mix of tennis, badminton and table tennis – has arrived in Culcheth.

Culcheth Pickleball Club – part of Culcheth Tennis Club – already has four brand-new pickleball courts and is welcoming new members, complete beginners or experienced players.

It has all been made possible thanks to a £1,200 grant from Sport England.

Pickleball is easy to learn, affordable, and offers a fantastic way to stay active. It's suitable for all ages and skill levels, and the benefits go beyond the court—boosting cardiovascular health, improving flexibility, and, perhaps best of all, creating connections with a friendly, welcoming community.

Indoor sessions are currently

running at CHS Hire, while outdoor games are held at the Datten Club. Coaching is available for beginners and improvers. Full details are available on the Culcheth Tennis Club website:

Pickleball originates from America and gets its name from Pickles, the pet dog of the family that invented the game.

Curious to give it a go? The club is happy to arrange a taster session—no pressure, just plenty of fun. Just go along to a special Open Day on Sunday July 6, 10am – 2pm at the Datten Club, Charnock Road. Everyone's welcome!

You can get in touch by emailing culchethtennis@gmail.com or by calling 07989 284343.



Great summer offers at the Raven Inn

The Raven Inn at Glazbury is having a good summer. Throughout the month they have great offers which include a selection of homemade pies with chips & peas at 2 for £22 on Thursdays, a pint and a burger for £10 on Saturday 3-5pm, and kids eat for £1 accompanied by an adult's dinner (3-5pm Monday-Friday)

The Now familiar quiz night on Tuesday and Music on Fridays continue, with more events planned for later in the summer.

Support this historic pub-one of

the oldest in the Northwest-serving fine real ales and great home cooked food. For bookings, please call 01925 390466.

Meanwhile, Mill Fields are bringing back the Sealed Knot event this year on the 12th & 13th of July. 11am to 4pm. Bigger and better this year, you don't want to miss it.

Visit www.thesealedknot.org.uk/event/culcheth-warrington/ £5 entry fee and £15 for family ticket. Pay on entry.



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Walkabout with Torus Housing hailed "huge success"

Local Independent Councillor Neil Johnson carried out a successful "walkabout" with Torus Housing, meeting tenants in the Newchurch area of his ward.

Accompanied by Torus housing officer Ian, Neil visited every part of Newchurch with Torus housing properties, enjoying fruitful conversations with residents, and listening to their views over the level of service they were receiving from the local housing provider.

Neil says: "My walkabout in Newchurch with Torus Housing was a huge success."

"This was a great opportunity for people to speak directly with a representative from Torus Housing and it allowed me to keep in touch

and make sure that tenants in our village are getting the level of service they deserve. We visited all the areas of Newchurch with Torus properties and had some great conversations. I am now working with tenants on improvements to several homes.

"I am dedicated to supporting all residents in my community, wherever they live. I will be continuing my weekly door knocking sessions to chat with people throughout all three villages



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Exciting plan to combine 14 churches in Winwick Deanery into one parish

DETAILS of a proposal to combine the 14 churches in the Winwick Deanery into one single parish under a Fit for Mission Initiative proposed by the Liverpool Diocese were discussed at a packed meeting of the congregations from the churches involved, at St Peter's Church, Newton-le-Willows.

Described as an "exciting development, members of the clergy and parishioners from the deanery area were welcomed by the Arch deacon of St Helens and Warrington, Simon Fisher, to hear details of the project and the progress made with neighbouring Fit for Mission schemes in St. Helens and West Derby.

A question and answer session with a team of representatives from the Diocese and St Helens churches provided information on the experience of setting up a new joint parish and the benefits involved.

The churches involved in the Winwick deanery include: St Oswald's Church, Winwick; Newchurch, Culcheth; Christ Church, Croft; All Saints, Glazebury; St John's, Earlestown; All Saints, Newton; St. Peter's, Newton; Emmanuel, Wargrave; St. Michael's, Burtonwood; St Luke's, Lowton; St Mary's, Lowton; St Thomas, Golborne; St. Helens, Hollinfare; St. James, Haydock.

Reverend Martin Cox, priest in charge of St Oswald's church and the Deanery of Winwick and rector of Christ Church, Croft and Newchurch, Culcheth,

envisaged the formation of the large single parish as an exciting development for the mission and ministry of the Church of England in the Winwick Deanery. He said: "The Fit for Mission project will introduce a new culture through a large single parish. It will effect closer connections between member churches who will be strengthened by joint resources and specialist advice. The two-year

lead in will enable us to address common concerns related to such a significant change in Church of England Parish life. Looking to the future I feel that this is a really important opportunity for us to shape our parishes to ensure that we continue to serve all people who live in our diverse communities."

Details of the scheme have been submitted to all the churches concerned under the Liverpool Diocese "Fit for Mission" project. Its aim will be to provide a secure framework of finance and expertise to enable the stronger and combined deanery parish to meet the challenges facing

many of today's churches. The churches who decide to join will benefit from financial support and expertise provided by the diocese plus professional assistance with the setting up of new management systems which will enable the church network to function efficiently and provide more time for the mission care the church provides.

The churches involved will be asked for their decision on whether to take part in October this year after which there will be a two year lead in of intensive planning during 2026 and 2027 to prepare for the introduction of the new, functioning parish.



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Independent rolls up sleeves to clear weeds

FOLLOWING complaints from local residents at Culcheth Independent Cllr. Neil Johnson rolled up his sleeves to clear weeds from gutters and pavements in the village.

Cllr. Johnson says it follows inaction from Warrington Borough Council to tackle the issue.

Cllr. Johnson said: "I have been meeting residents on Wellfield Road who emailed me about the problems they were having with weeds along the pavement and in the gutters. They were very disappointed that the Labour councillors had taken no action to get these eyesores tidied up.

"Seeing the problem for myself, I got out my tools and gardening

gloves and set to work myself. The weeds have all been cleared away now, but look at the size of this one (pictured), it was almost as tall as me!"

He said it was "shameful" that the village had been allowed to get in such a poor state.

He added: "I want to champion pride in our community. I don't mind getting stuck in to help clear up, but we have to question how the Town Hall are spending our money?"





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The Sealed Knot returns bigger and

Following the fantastic response to their first event in 2024, the Earl of Manchester's Regiment of Foote once again will bring the sights, sounds and smells of the English Civil Wars to this close knit community in the rolling fields of Culcheth.

Be transported back in time with a tented encampment, watch displays of pike, musket and cannon, see demonstrations of traditional skills, and discover what life was like in the age of Roundheads and Cavaliers!

Located on Mill Fields opposite the Raven Inn on Warrington Road – and within easy reaching distance of Warrington, Leigh, Newton-le-Willows, St Helens, and Manchester – don't miss discovering more about the history under your feet in a place where Parliamentarians and Royalists once clashed in 1651!

Opening hours: 11am-4pm

each day.

The history: In September 1651, two thousand defeated Scots from the Battle of Worcester were escaping north, harassed and picked-off along the way. Five hundred Scots crossed the River Mersey at Hollin Ferry and, following the track just west of the Glaze Brook, traversed the next obstacle – Jibcroft Brook, five miles north at The Raven Inn. The Scots were now deep in enemy territory. Alerted to the troop movements, Lord John Holcroft and his men ambushed them from land adjacent to The Raven. Given the difference



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Civil War event better than before!

in troop numbers, the ambush was probably little more than musket and small cannon fire. In 1905 a 'Minion' canon ball was found at nearby Moss House Farm (which must have been fired at point blank range) and in 2019 several musket balls were detected opposite the Raven by detectorist Sean Holcroft. The 3" diameter ball is on display in Warrington Museum.

One historical character associated with the site is Captain Thomas Blood who married one

of the Holcroft daughters. Because the Raven Inn was later described in 1770 as 'ancient', it is more than likely that John Holcroft and Thomas Blood frequented The Raven for their ale. But that wasn't the end of Blood's story: he remained a military man, rising to the rank of Colonel and later hatched 'a dashing plan' to steal the Crown Jewels in 1671, which ended in abject failure. Surprisingly, he was not hanged for his crime but gained a good deal of notoriety.



Picture: Levitt Parkes



The Gardening Guide



Cut back your basket to give it a new lease of life - follow up by giving extra attention to feeding and watering

Simon Bax,
Plant Area Specialist

- July is the month for hedges - newly planted hedges will need watering regularly and if they are straggly they can be lightly trimmed to encourage growth
- Watering is crucial this month so remember to look after your containers and baskets
- You can still sow crops such as carrots, turnips and fast maturing salad crops
- Remember to sit down and enjoy what you have created - an ideal time to relax with friends, a glass of wine and a barbecue!



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Charity group Remarkable Autism named "Small Employer of the Year"

CHARITABLE organisation, Remarkable Autism, of Lowton, Warrington, has been named "Small Employer of the Year" at the University of Huddersfield's Apprenticeship Awards 2025 that celebrates the achievements of apprentices and their employers.

Remarkable Autism Charity and its integrated service, Sundial Therapy, that provides therapeutic support to autistic individuals aged five to 25 at Wargrave House School and Ascent Autism Specialist College, received the 'Small Employer of the Year' award from vice-chancellor Professor Bob Cryan, at a ceremony, at the university.

The apprenticeship awards recognised Remarkable Autism as an outstanding employer that invests in apprentices to enhance its services, following the charity making huge strides to increase the number of apprenticeship opportunities available across its organisation that also includes Wargrave House School and Ascent Autism Specialist College.

'Small Employer of the Year' was awarded to Remarkable Autism and Sundial Therapy for the specific work they have completed with occupational therapist apprentices who support students by focusing on function in everyday life and providing bespoke therapy across a range of areas to develop students' fine and gross motor skills and coordination, sensory processing, and independence progression.

The occupational therapist apprentices, Cathy Bayliss and Stanislav Lipinski, have made a significant impact to Sundial

Therapy, allowing the service to enhance its capacity to provide high-quality support to students, whilst driving innovation and developing skilled professionals.

Head of therapy and clinical services at Sundial Therapy, Susie Grubert, said: "We are delighted to be named 'Small Employer of the Year' at the 2025 University of Huddersfield's Apprenticeships Awards.

"Our apprentices are a key part of our overall team's success and since they joined the team in September 2024, we have been able to reintroduce our therapeutic groups. We have also seen the engagement and progress of students improve significantly as Cathy and Stanislav have been able to develop bespoke resources that meet the needs and interests of all individuals."

As part of their role, Sundial Therapy's occupational therapist apprentices also provide direct support in a range of environments to ensure students receive real-time assistance, and aid in the assessment process within the occupational therapy service. This allows the occupational therapy team to reach more young people across its service and create long term sustainable progress for everyone.

CEO of Remarkable Autism Charity, Robin Bush, added: "Over

the past two years we have been dedicated to nurturing talent, whilst fostering a culture of continuous professional development through apprenticeships and are thrilled to be recognised for this work as 'Small Employer of the Year'.

"By hiring apprentices across our provisions, we're able to expand our capacity and support autistic young people to redefine what's possible, break down barriers and ultimately, empower them to live happy and fulfilled lives, all whilst training the next generation of skilled professionals at the same time!"

Brian Culleton, director of apprenticeships at the University

of Huddersfield, said: "The judging panel was impressed with the inclusive and innovative culture that Remarkable Autism has built. Their apprentices don't just assist – they lead. They've contributed to therapeutic groups, developed bespoke resources and sensory circuits, and made noteworthy service improvements.

"As an employer, Remarkable Autism embodies compassion and creativity, and a deep belief in the power of hands-on learning to change lives. Remarkable Autism is, quite simply, a remarkable employer. We're delighted they've won Small Employer of the Year."



Clare Meighen of Remarkable Autism and Susie Grubert of Sundial Therapy.

Open Gardens event will support hospice and church

THE popular Culcheth Open Gardens event is taking place on Saturday and Sunday, July 5-6 from 1:30- 5 pm in support of St Rocco's Hospice and Culcheth Methodist Church.

Tickets are available from Forget-me-not toy and book shop – Lodge Drive, WA3 4ER and Oliver's in The Courtyard Off Common Lane. Tickets bought in advance are £5 and on the day will be £6.

The event has been well supported over many years and the organisers are looking forward to welcoming old and new friends to their gardens.

The gardens that will be open are as follows:

- 29 Culcheth Hall Drive – Plant and Art sale
- 18 Culcheth Hall Drive
- 16 Culcheth Hall Drive
- 2 Chatsworth Drive
- 1 Chatsworth Drive
- 22 Chiltern Road – cakes and refreshments, 1.30-4pm
- 25 Chiltern Road
- 66 Sutton Avenue
- 38 Twiss Green lane
- Culcheth Methodist Church and Community Garden
- Highfield House, 82, Kenyon Lane – garden ceramics sale.



Culcheth councillor joins borough council cabinet

COUNCILLOR Matt Smith, of Culcheth, has been confirmed as Warrington Borough Council's new cabinet member for children, families and education.

The children's portfolio will be well-known to Cllr Smith, who was cabinet member for children's services between 2019-2021.

He said: "I'm very proud to represent children's, family and education services once again on cabinet.

"Our children's services in Warrington are really strong. We provide a good level of service to our young people and families, and the standard of education across Warrington is excellent.

"I want to do what I can to support our young people, championing their views and experiences. I feel it is particularly important that I represent the views of young people who may be underrepresented, or who may not feel listened to.

"In particular, this Pride month, I want to celebrate the good work of the council in supporting LGBTQIA+

young people. The Teenager and Gender Sexuality (TAGS) youth group, supported by the council, does really fantastic work. Young LGBTQIA+ people need to be supported and given opportunities to fully express themselves in safety and with confidence – and this is a priority for me.

"We have a strong track record of providing good services to young people and their families, and I'm looking forward to continuing to build on this."



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PARISH NEWS

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.

Community & 80th VE Day Celebration 2025

Community Day and the celebration of the 80th anniversary of VE day took place on Monday 5th of May. The day was a great success, thousands of residents and visitors turned out to support local voluntary groups and charities by helping them raise much needed funds. The organisation of the day went smoothly with the Parish Councillors opening the Green at 8am to allow participants to set up stalls, fairgrounds and stages. The entertainment from musicians, dancers, performers was first rate. The Parish Council thanks all the community for making this day a great success and we look forward to next year's event.

Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Plan

At a recent Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Plan meeting, a steering group was set up and a constitution for its operation was agreed. The group intend to work in partnership with individuals, local authorities, and organisations to identify local priorities by carrying out community consultation and collecting information from surveys and meeting residents. This will then allow them to produce, launch and distribute a final Parish Plan document. If you would like to contribute or be involved with this project, contact the Clerk through their email address clerk@culchethandglazebury-pc.gov.uk

Warrington Youth Zone

The Parish Council are thrilled to announce the launch of a transformative joint venture with Warrington Youth Zone. This strategic partnership is set to elevate the opportunities available for young people in our local community. This joint venture will introduce a series of innovative programs and initiatives designed to cater to the diverse needs of children and young people in our villages. The joint venture between Culcheth & Glazebury Parish Council and Warrington Youth Zone marks a milestone in our efforts to support and empower young people. We look forward to witnessing the positive changes and growth that this partnership will bring to the local community.

Next Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 8th July in Glazebury Methodist Church at 7:00pm

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.culchethandglazebury-pc.gov.uk



Advertiser's announcement

Your Celestial Guidance from Louisa Earth Angel

A message for the soul this month.

Aries - "Walk with fire, but listen with stillness."

Taurus - "Trust the slow bloom."

Gemini - "Your words are spells, peak wisely."

Cancer - "You are safe to feel it all."

Leo - "Shine, but stay rooted."

Virgo - "Let the details dance."

Libra - "Balance is found in the breath."

Scorpio - "Transformation is your gift."

Sagittarius - "Wander with purpose."

Capricorn - "Climb with care, not pressure."

Aquarius - "Flow into the future."

Pisces - "Your intuition knows the way."

Sign up to the newsletter for more monthly insights www.louisaeearthangel.com



Long-serving councillor elected chairman of parish council



LONG-serving councillor Paul Campbell was elected chairman of Culcheth and Glazebury Parish Council at its annual meeting.

Members also elected Cllr Alicia Edwards as vice chairman.

Over a period of almost 20 years, Cllr Campbell has served as a parish councillor and was a previous chairman of both Culcheth and Glazebury and Croft Parish Councils.

He also served as a borough councillor on Warrington Borough Council 2008-2012 and was a Parliamentary Candidate in 2010.

He said: 'It's always an honour when my fellow parish councillors are willing to put their faith in me to lead the parish council in the upcoming year.'

"I stepped in as temporary chairman in February taking on that role up until the AGM where I was formally elected."

"The parish council fulfils an important role in the local community. Being local, all councillors put their

names forward to work on behalf of all the residents of our villages, and they do this as a team. Since February we have had a successful time in bringing in a balanced budget and putting on a great annual Community Day, working with local organisations and charities. We have also now employed a team from the Warrington Youth Club to work with the young people in our villages.

"Coming up we will have this year's Remembrance Day Parade to look forward to once more, having successfully brought it back last year. The parish council deals with many issues that affect our community and will continue to do so. I look forward to the year ahead working with my councillor colleagues for the benefit of all the residents of Culcheth and Glazebury."

If residents have any issues or you wish to speak to any of your councillors please email clerk@culchethandglazebury-pc.gov.uk

WI celebrated its 35th birthday

BIRCHWOOD WI celebrated its 35th birthday at its monthly meeting.

There was party food and bubbly and an entertaining talk from guest speaker Pete Turner, a local professional magician. No rabbits were pulled out of hats or ladies sawn in half, but he certainly had members intrigued with his demonstrations of the science of perception, and how the mind can be tricked into seeing things that aren't really there!

A report was also given on the successful fundraising day at Birchwood Carnival, and future events to look forward.

Speakers at future meeting will cover a wide range of topics, including about Warrington robberies, a sugarcraft workshop and walking the length of the British Isles in aid of Guide Dogs.

Birchwood WI welcomes new members. They meet at Birchwood Community Hub, Benson Road, Birchwood.

Forget the stereotype of 'WI means Jam and Jerusalem' – they do neither, although one member does make delicious jam that she sometimes brings to a meeting!

For further information email birchwoodwi@yahoo.com or ring Jane on 07775756079.



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Countdown to 34th Disability Awareness Day

LOCAL charity Warrington Disability Partnership, the organisers of the UK's and possibly, the world's largest free to enter voluntary led pan disability awareness day, are finalising the plans for this year's 34th annual show.

Held within the grounds of Walton Hall and Gardens on Sunday July 13, DAD 2025 will be the finale of a week of complementary events that includes.

- Warrington Carers Hub's, Carers Wellbeing Festival,
- Creating Adventures, Tribute to We will rock you,
- Ella Together, Summertime Special,
- Party in the Park for disabled children, young disabled people and young carers organised by Warrington Disability Partnership, Warrington Youth Zone and Warrington Carers Hub,
- Party Time with Bjorn to be ABBA.

Local disability education specialists Expanse Learning Group and the north west's water supplier United Utilities, are leading the list of sponsors for DAD 2025.

The aim of the event is to promote independent living through the theme "It's what disabled people can do that matters". DAD 2025 exhibitors will highlight solutions supporting independent living and mobility, with equipment, products, transport, employment, education, training, health and social care, leisure activities, alongside over 100 charities/support groups.

During Disability Awareness Day, visitors can gain an insight into the help and support that is available

locally, regionally and nationally from statutory organisations, businesses and voluntary sector groups.

Most of the exhibitors will be housed in a huge, tented village of marquees that will be supported by; an extended Sports Zone, a Main Arena, a huge Performing Arts Marquee, with some of the UK's leading disabled artists.

Three further marquees will house a range of arts activities, including the new Access All Areas Arts Project, a collaboration between Warrington Disability Partnership and Culture Warrington. With a gallery showcasing the work of local disabled artists.

Also new for DAD 2025 is a programme of "have a go" workshops in the Arts Zone. Hosted by Walton Lea Partnership, another addition is the Chillout and Wellbeing Zone in the Courtyard behind the Greenhouses.

The Sports Zone offers "have a go" sports activities including Tennis, American Football, Snooker, Rugby League, Martial Arts, Tai Chi, Football and Scuba Diving in the on-site pool. In addition, Warrington Youth Zone's giant sports inflatables.

For those looking for a more relaxed day we will have a fantastic line-up of talent in the Arts Marquee. Alternatively, sit alongside the Main Arena watching Guide Dog display

team, Reach Sled Dogs Display Team, Batida Rio Samba Band, Royal Marines Corps of Drums and sports demonstrations.

All this and a Silent Disco, Circus Skills and play areas, plus Walton Gardens accessible onsite zoo, crazy golf, high ropes and pitch and putt.

Support services at DAD 2025 will include a free accessible Park and Ride service, free accessible buses from Warrington Town Centre courtesy of Warrington's Own Buses, a free mobility scooter and wheelchair loan service (subject to availability), British Sign

Language interpreters, additional unisex wheelchair accessible toilets and over 60 trained stewards and helper's eager to make it a day to remember for everyone.

The team involved behind Disability Awareness Day have worked with teams from across the world, who organise events in Cameroon, Gibraltar, Egypt, Sudan, Thailand, Uganda and many more countries.

For more details and tickets for the evening events please contact the DAD Admin team on 01925 240064 or visit www.disabilityawarenessday.org.uk



#DAD2025

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Sundial members given fascinating insight into history of Warrington women

Sundial WI met at Newchurch Parish Hall on June 17 when members were given fascinating insight into history of Warrington women.

President Eileen Griffiths welcomed Members and "Jerusalem" was sung before the speaker, Philip Jeffs, began his talk on "Warrington Women".

Philip, the Borough Archivist, explained how the archives arranged the data and after some ideas from the Sundial audience he showed slides about Warrington women from the late 18th century through to the mid 1940s.

He made a start in 1921 with Mrs Graham Hutchinson, the first female magistrate in Lancashire. (She was based in Grappenhall.)

The Warrington Guardian gave lots of details about her husband but not about her! In fact she had set up Baby Boxes to help hard-up mothers and had worked in a soldiers' convalescent home in World War 1.

The photo of the Borough Anniversary showed one woman, the Mayor's wife.

Philip then showed "fields" of activity like poetry, teaching, suffragettes and suffragists, Red Cross work, and charity work. Members heard about Anna Laetitia Barbauld, Hannah Phillips who laid out cholera victims,

Mabel Capper, the first woman journalist in the Guardian and Dr Mary Anderson, workhouse patients then later soldiers with VD in Whitehouse Hospital. Hannah Young in the 1800s made so much money with her cookery and household management books that her husband took her name! Philip welcomes any suitable entries. Eileen thanked him and he judged the competition – a Warrington Artefact. Aileen Paterson and Roma Etherington came first and second.

After tea Brenda Pinion gave details about summer and autumn trips. Margaret Fearn donated the table flowers and there were 7 Birthday Girls, with Freda Wilcock winning the table bouquet. Brenda took names for the Lunch Club at Il Cortile on 25th June and Eileen gave the latest details from Chester Federation. The autumn meeting has 2 special guests – Jeryl Stone the chair of NFWI and Aled Jones. The speaker at the meeting on 15th July is Roger Browne and his subject is Cole Porter – His Life and Music. The competition is "A Musical Character".

The afternoon concluded with the raffle.

Bungalows plan approved – despite objections from parish council

PLANNING chiefs at Warrington have given the go-ahead to plans for two detached bungalows at Croft – despite objections from the parish council.

The two dwellings are set to be built on land at the junction of Lady Lane and Mustard Lane and will be adjacent to the Grade 2 Listed St Lewis' RC Church.

There are two other listed buildings nearby – St Lewis' Presbytery and an 18th-century well in the garden of a house.

The church and presbytery date from 1827.

Croft Parish Council objected on the grounds of proximity to the Listed buildings, traffic issues, over-development of the site and the fact that the new properties would not be in keeping with the Listed buildings.

Members of the borough's development management committee were told the site was previously a builder's yard.

It was highly sustainable, being within walking distance of a bus route.

Although there is an access to Mustard Lane, access for the new properties would be via a shared driveway to Lady Lane. Existing hedges would be retained to provide privacy.

The site was surrounded by other dwellings, the church and the associated St Lewis' RC Primary School.

Planning officers recommended the scheme be approved as it was not inappropriate in the Green Belt and would not have any adverse impact on neighbouring properties.



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