# Culcheth Life

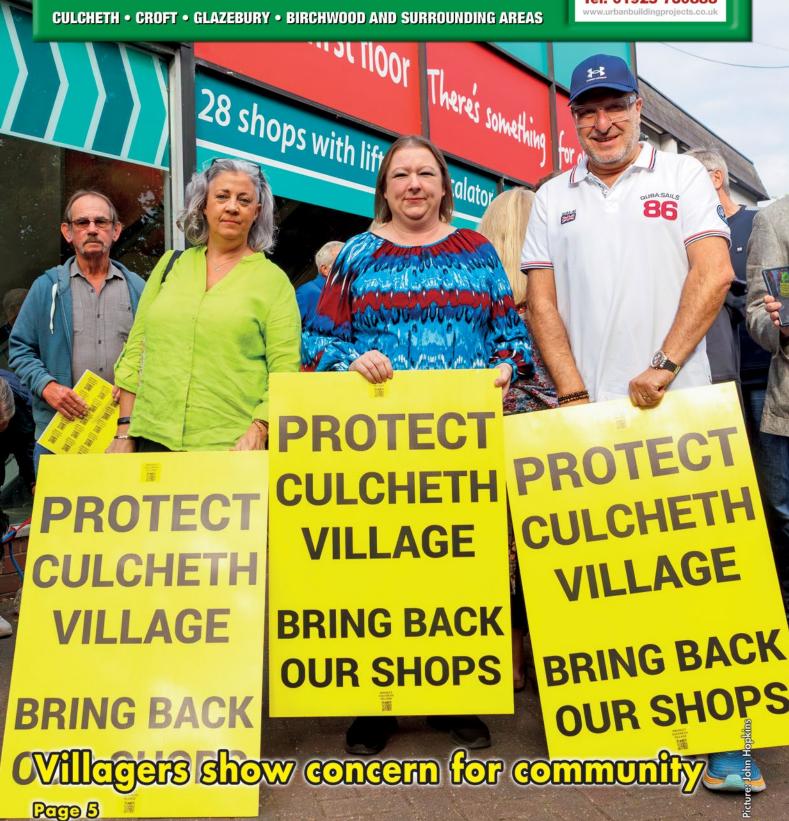
Magazine

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# Editor's Opinion

WELL, my hopes in last month's edition of people putting their political differences aside when campaigning on local issues appears to have been short lived!

While the campaign concerning the CPS Centre galvanised a united front, it hasn't stopped local politicians falling out with each

Concerns have also been raised about people attempting to grab the glory and the headlines on issues impacting the village. We have also been accused of not being impartial and favouring

one councillor over another.

As I have said many times over the years – here at Culcheth Life and Warrington Worldwide, we are completely political independent.

We have no favourites, politically and the political flag.

and fly no political flag.

We will work with ALL local councillors and campaign groups as best we can - but we can only work with the information we are

given.
If you see one politician gaining more publicity over another – it is not down to our doing, we are just engaging with those who engage

It has been the same way in all my 40 years plus of reporting local

Some politicians are simply more proactive working with local media and sending in issues of concern, while others prefer to stay out of the spotlight and carry on doing their work behind the scenes.

Also, when local issues come to the fore we will engage with those who engage with us. If it is a political issue or named individuals we will also try and give a right of reply for balance.

Clearly some people value their local media more than others – that is their choice. But please don't accuse us of favouritism or bias.

Returning to local issues, I fear we haven't heard the last on the CPS Centre as the owners have an asset, they want to make money out of - and sadly a shopping arcade wasn't providing the return on investment they wanted.

Meanwhile, the Grey Horse

Pub at Glazebury, has now been targeted by vandals who are opposed to it becoming a House of Multiple Occupation (HMO), which has brought the racists in our community out of the woodwork.

These are very worrying times and however you feel about an issue, you should never resort to crime to make your voices heard.

Let the planning process take its course and make your views known through the right channels.

Daubing a building with graffiti helps no one! Shame on those

responsible.

Deadline for the October issue is September 16



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# Call for restraint as village pub earmarked for HMO daubed in graf

A councillor has called for restraint after a former village pubearmarked for a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) was daubed in graffiti at Glazebury, Warrington.

It follows concerns from local residents about ongoing works to convert the upstairs of the Grey Horse pub on Warrington Road into a HMO.

The premises has since been daubed with anti-HMO slogans.

Local Cllr. Neil Johnson said: "The current situation with The Grey Horse is causing understandable anxiety throughout Glazebury.

"I am working with the Borough Council to ensure that all planning regulations are adhered to. The current situation is that the Council have informed the owner that they would require a change of use application if the upstairs was to be converted into a HMO. Currently, no change of use application has been submitted.

"I will strongly support all residents who oppose the concept of a HMO at The Grey Horse.
"However, I would urge everyone to exercise restraint. Vandalism and criminal damage is not the answer. If anything, this plays into the applicant's hands. Our community is better than this. We do not need to respond to unwanted or unwelcome proposals

with criminal behaviour. As we have shown recently with the CPS Centre application, we can defeat these kind of inappropriate proposals by making our voices heard and through the power of argument.

I will keep in touch with everyone about the next steps, and support all residents in saying 'no to a HMO' in Glazebury.'

Despite attempts to cover up the graffiti, further attacks took place.





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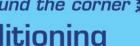
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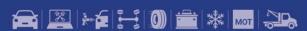


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# Celebrating second anniversary of community-owned Raven Inn

THE Raven Inn at Glazebury has been having a great summer, with events like The Sealed Knot battle re-enactment in July and the Glaze-n-bury music festival in the fields opposite, bringing new faces in to enjoy this lovely 16th-century pub.

In August, many of its 180+ members celebrated the 2nd anniversary of operating as a Community-owned pub and enjoyed a party with live music from the Harper Brothers.

usual features homemade Braised Beef in Guinness gravy with chive mash or handcut skin-on chunky chips and seasonal vegetables. Its trio of meat homemade roast with all the trimmings is acquiring a fame of its

For September, they have the return of the WA Hillbillies for their regular slot, starting Friday 12th at 8pm, and also their annual Greek night on Friday 26th, when one of their members joins the kitchen staff to produce a Greek menu, including his legendary Moussaka, served with his Tzatziki and Greek Salad.

With his Izatziki and Greek saida.

Yannis, the 'chef for a day' said:
"I have been making my northern
Greek Moussaka for friends and
family for over 30 years and I
know it's enjoyed by everyone.
The gubergines courgettes and The aubergines, courgettes and potatoes are layered with a meat, herbs and spices sauce and topped with a béchamel sauce... it's simply yum!"

Other Greek dishes will be served, such as stifado, stuffed peppers and kleftiko.
For reservations, call 01925 390466.



# Road closure for gas mains replacement works

A road closure for up to four weeks is set to come into force on Hob Hey Lane, Culcheth from September 1st.

The closure from the junction of Wigshaw Lane is required to allow Cadent

Where Learning is Fun!

Gas to carry out gas mains replacement work.
Warrington Borough Council has given notice it intends to make an Order under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The effect of which will be to introduce a prohibition of driving on Hob Hey Lane from its junction with Wigshaw Lane to its junction with Clifton Avenue.

The Order will be effective from 1st September 2025. The closure is for a county of Avenue is a county of Avenue.

period of 4 weeks, however, will be in place as and when signed on site. Access will be under the control of the relevant Contractor for the duration of the works. The alternative route will be via Wigshaw Lane, Common Lane and vice versa.



Where Learning is Fun!



culchethprimary@onecommunitytrust.co.uk

Warrington Road, Culcheth, Warrington, WA3 5HH

# Villagers show concern for community and loss of shops with rally outside CPS Centre

VILLAGERS turned out in force to show the strength of feeling over the loss of shops at the CPS Centre in Culcheth.

It follows on from a decision by the owners of the CPS Centre to withdraw a planning application regarding proposals to eventually transform the tacility into living accommodation and the eviction of more than 20 local traders earlier this year.

Local trader Aysha Khan teamed up with local residents Bernie Kingston and Gill Stott, to set up a group 'Protect Culcheth Village' & Bring Back Our Shops.

On the 8th August 2025, they were three people sitting around a table in the Sundial Community Kitchen at the Daten, deeply worried about the future of the village. a planning application regarding

about the future of the village.

about the tuture of the village.

In a joint statement, they said: "The planning application for the CPS Centre had landed with a thud—another proposal that felt out of step with what Culcheth really needs. We knew we couldn't sit quietly. So, we acted

"What followed was nothing short

of extraordinary.
"Within 48 hours, we organised a public meeting, gathered contact details, and launched a Facebook group—'Protect Culcheth Village' & Bring Back Our Shops. We hoped a few people might join. Instead, over 300 residents rallied with us, sharing

their stories, frustrations, and hopes for Culcheth's future.

"The planning application was withdrawn on the 14th August 2025, hours before the council meeting. While that was a relief, it didn't erase the effort so many had made—closing businesses early, rearranging work schedules, preparing to speak up. Over 230 people had already attended our community meeting earlier that week. That level of engagement deserves recognition, not dismissal.

"Despite the withdrawal, we still went to the Town Hall. Not to protest, but to thank each other. To stand

together. To say: this matters.

"We've heard from lifelong residents and newcomers alike. People who moved here years ago and watched the slow erosion of village amenities. Others spoke village amenities. Others spoke of how each decade chips away at the character of Culcheth. The CPS proposal was just the latest example—but it was the one that sparked action.

"Our group isn't just about opposing one development. It's about reclaiming our voice. We want to see Culcheth thrive again—with shops

Culcheth thrive again—with shops that serve the community, spaces that bring people together, and planning decisions that reflect local needs. "We want to have a visible

presence in the community so that our voices can be heard and while we appreciate the efforts made so far, there has been a noticeable lack of involvement and action from the parish council, which has only served to strengthen our resolve and focus on key issues in the community.

"The photoshoot (requested by Culcheth Life) outside the CPS Centre was a beautiful moment. Families, neighbours, friends—all standing

shoulder to shoulder. It wasn't just for a magazine. It was a declaration: we

"We're proud of what we've built in such a short time. But this is only the beginning. We'll continue to monitor beginning. We it continue to monitor future proposals, engage with the council, and push for a planning approach that puts Culcheth first.

"To everyone who joined us, thank you. Your support, your time, your voices—they've made all the difference.

difference.

"Together, we're protecting Culcheth





# **Open Evening Thursday 2nd October 2025**

Registration from 5:30pm

**Headteacher Presentations at** 6:00pm & 6:30pm

www.culchethhigh.org.uk

Please refer to our website for further details.

We look forward to welcoming you.

#WeAreCHS



# MP gives thumbs up to Birch

WARRINGTON North MP Charlotte Nichols has given the thumbs up to the annual Birchwood 10k after completing the event.

Organisers of the event, which sets off from Birchwood Shopping centre, were celebrating the 40th

centre, were celebrating the 40th anniversary of the community event organised by volunteers.

After completing the event, Ms Nichols said: "A huge congratulations to Spectrum Striders on the 40th Birchwood 10k today!" I've not done a long run for a while now, so what better opportunity to

now, so what better opportunity to get back into it than a jaunt around Warrington North in the sunshine of a Sunday morning?

"The Birchwood 10k is an entirely club-run event from marshalling, through organising road closures, to sourcing timing chips and finisher prizes – including this year's coveted towell I'm this year's coveted towel! I'm particularly grateful to the marshals for all their encouragement for the runners like me at the back of the pack who were chasing the finish line rather than a PB. I definitely



had a little think about my life and my choices at around the 5k mark when we passed Bates Farm and I realised if I'd done their weekly Farm Run this morning instead, I'd already have been finished!"

"A huge thank you to the club and everyone who took part!"

First to cross the line was John Doherty from Liverpool Harriers & AC in a time of 31:54, with runnerup James Brown from Bury Athletic Club in 33:01.

Jack Pilkington from Warrington Athletic Club was third in a time of 33.43.

The first female was Alyssa Davey of Sale Harriers in a time of 37.28, with runner-up Sally Armitage of Ilkley Harriers in a time of 39.28, and Alia Brathwaite from Bury Athletic Club came third in a time of 39:34

Warrington's Louise Blizzard came 5th in a time of 40:52.





Pictures: John Hopkins







# TWISS GREEN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL Open Days 2025

Join us at our open days for families interested in joining our Reception Class for September 2026 and our Nursery Class for Spring, Summer and Autumn 2026 intake.

Wednesday 8th October: 4pm - 6pm Tuesday 21st October: 9.30am - 11am Saturday 15th November: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

All open days will consist of a presentation followed by a tour of the school. Wednesday 8th October will have a presentation at 4pm and 5.15pm. Saturday 15th November will allow families the opportunity to take part in crafts and Forest School activities.













To book a place, please ring or email the school office on the below details:



Twiss Green Lane, Culcheth, Warrington, WA3 4DQ



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# wood 10k







# Charlotte Nichols MP Warrington North "I hold regular constituency advice surgeries. If you are a Warrington North resident who needs help or support, please contact my office to book an appointment." charlotte.nichols.mp@parliament.uk charlottenicholsmp.com 0207 219 3000 Please include your full name, address and postcode

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# The Gardening Guide



Give evergreen hedges and topiary a final cut so they present a nice sharp profile throughout the winter.

Simon Bax, Plant Area Specialist

- Make sure that pests such as slugs and snails and diseases such as mildew are dealt with as soon as they are seen
- Fruit trees can be planted now as they benefit from the warm soil and the cool air
- When the autumn rain arrives fertilise your lawn with a slow release autumn feed
- Reduce watering and feeding in preparation for the winter period when most plants go dormant and just need keeping moist



Discover great garden and lifestyle tips from the Bents team. Visit our Bents Experts Instagram page or scan the QR code to find out more.

Bents Garden & Home, Warrington Road, Glazebury, Cheshire WA3 5NT. 01942 266300. Check online for seasonal opening times. For the latest events and online shopping visit bents.co.uk









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# Tumble down the rabbit hole at Bents this Christmas



# TUMBLE down the rabbit hole with Alice and embark on a fantastical light trail at Bents Garden & Home this Christmas.

This brand new experience will take visitors on a magical journey telling the story of Alice's adventures and the curious creatures she meets

along the way.

Located in Bents' Hidden Gardens, this is a light trail with a difference. Greeted by the white rabbit himself, visitors will follow a series of theatrical sets, light projections and enchanting sounds all of which depict the twists, turns and questioning conundrums of this

magical story.

Having fallen down the hole into the white rabbit's magical world visitors will come across famous characters from this much loved children's tale such as the curious caterpillar on top of his giant toadstool, Tweedledum and Tweedledee, the Queen of Hearts who's lost her tarts and the maddest tea party of all!

Bents Hidden Gardens are just

as the name suggests...extensive gardens, hidden behind the

the past 12 years Bents has been carefully tending to this beautiful piece of land, creating their Hidden Gardens which can now be enjoyed by Bents' customers, starting with Alice's Winter Light Adventure.

Adventure.

In addition to the many light features that will greet visitors throughout the story, there will also be refreshment stops offering a range of hot and cold drinks as well as delicious festive treats, all delivered with a Bents' twist.

Visitors will embark on their journey in timed group sessions to ensure they can enjoy their experience to the full. Free parking is available at Bents, with entry to

experience to the full. Free parking is available at Bents, with entry to the light show through the Centre, starting around the Lake before entering the Hidden Gardens for the culmination of the show. The trail ends with a group 'selfie spot', before arriving back in Bents' popular Winter Food Market.

Tickets are now online and can be booked at bents.co.uk







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# Up to 24 weeks of road closures on **Birchwood Way for** M62 Junction 1 improvement works

UP to 24 weeks of temporary road closures will come into force on Birchwood Way from September 1st for improvement works to be carried out to the M62 Junction 11.

The closures on Birchwood Way from its junction with Moss Gate to the M62 Junction 11 will take place from 9pm to 5am to minimise disruption.

Warrington Borough Council has given notice it intends to make an Order under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The effect of which will be to introduce a prohibition of driving on Birchwood Way from its junction with Moss Gate to the M62 Junction 11.

The Order will be effective from 1st September 2025. The closure is for a period of 24 weeks, between 9pm and 5am, however, will be in place as and when signed on site. Access will be under the control of the relevant Contractor for the duration of the works. The alternative route will be via Birchwood Way, Woolston Grange Avenue, M6, M62 and vice versa. The closure is required to allow for improvement works to be carried out to the M62 Junction 11.

## WI members "transported to the Isle of Wight"

SPEAKER Steve Halliwell transported members of Sundial WI, Culcheth, to Ventnor on the Isle of Wight - one of the hottest garden sites in the UK – with his talk "Victoria to Ventnor."

He began with slides of Osbourne House, the Queen Victoria's favourite home with huge cedars of Lebanon , holm oaks, cork oaks and a wonderful

oaks, cork oaks and a wonderful walled garden.

He then concentrated on the plants at Ventnor by the sea. Each country had its own area with typical plants – South Africa had beach daisies, South East Australia the kerosene plant and the woolly tea tree. New Zealand had toothed lancewood and satin had toothed lancewood and satin flower. There were date palms in the Mediterranean beds and turtles

in the streams.

The "strawberry tree" was a favourite with its coloured peeling

bark. China and South America had their places and Mexico with its Fan Palm. Desert plants like cacti and agave do well in Ventnor.

Chris Wilkinson Steve warmly and he judged the competition – "A National Trust competition – "A National Trust Property", choosing Margaret Jones and Aileen Paterson as winners.

President Eileen Griffiths greeted five visitors and five Birthday Girls. She thanked Di Mitchell for the table flowers which were won by Sylvia Morris. There were a lot of outings and craft workshops planned by Cheshire Federation for the autumn and they hope for

ror me autumn and they hope for photos for the anniversary year.

Next month's speaker will be Ken Page with "Seven Stories from the Seven Hills". The competition will be "Something to do with Liverpool".

Visitors are under the property of the seven Hills of

Visitors are welcome.

# Death of long-standing WI member

THE monthly meeting of Croft WI began with a minute's silence in memory of long-standing member Barbara Hadfield who very sadly passed away at the end of July.

Barbara was a former treasurer

of Croft WI and a loyal member of the Readers Group. Her warmth, wit and wisdom will be greatly missed.

The meeting was held at Culcheth Library as there was repair work being carried out at the Memorial Hall in Croft.

CFWI chair Selina Prescot attended as guest of honour and led a question and answer session to discuss ideas for future plans for Croft WI. Members were invited to suggest venues for an evening and/or lunchtime Christmas party. This was followed by social time

with sandwiches, scones, tea and coffee provided for everyone

Croft WI Carnival Centenary Celebration Afternoon Tea made substantial profit and the committee members decided to divide the funds raised between Croft Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers, Croft Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, Croft ATC and Croft

Toddlers Group.

The flowers for the meeting were a beautiful bouquet of roses kindly provided by Bettina Sharpe. President Gill Coon presented the bouquet to Selina Prescot and thanked her for so generously giving her time to take part in the meeting.

A coach trip to Liverpool has been arranged for September 30.

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