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# Warrington Worldwide

Issue No. 184

February 2015

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# Editor's Comment



WARRINGTON Wolves' decision to perform a u-turn on the use of e-cigarettes at the Halliwell Jones Stadium – on the back of a lucrative sponsorship deal – has received widespread condemnation.

While I understand the importance of sponsorship at sports clubs there are right ways and wrong ways to introduce them.

Was Warrington Wolves' sponsorship deal reliant on the lifting of a ban on the use of e-cigarettes?

The jury is still out on the use of these electronic gadgets with conflicting reports on their so called benefits. While they are seen as a healthier alternative to smoking tobacco cigarettes by some experts, they still contain nicotine, which is highly addictive.

The fact that the Wolves have so many links with health related organisations and actively promote healthy lifestyles, flies in the face of this decision of reversing a ban which was clearly put in place for a reason.

Whatever the health implications, if there are any, it is going to cause major problems for stewards on match days, identifying whether anyone is smoking a tobacco cigarette or "vaping," as to the human eye they will both be creating a plume of "smoke."

I know for a fact there are plenty of people who also find vaping as

much a distasteful habit as smoking. The whole situation could have been avoided if the club had carried out some proper consultation before implementing the u-turn on the ban.

At least they could have then gauged opinion before agreeing the detail of the sponsorship deal which is now in place for the next two years.

Some season ticket holders are so upset have asked for their money back for the forthcoming season. I would hope the Wolves can see the

sense in agreeing to this.

Meanwhile on a positive note **warrington-worldwide** is fully behind the new #LoveWarrington campaign with the aim of promoting the town as a visitor attraction and destination.

For those of you who use social networks please use the #LoveWarrington on all your forthcoming tweets in the build up to Valentine's Day to get it trending! For those of you who don't know what I mean there is a whole new world waiting for you out there!

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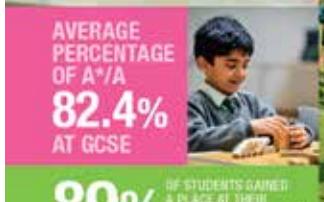




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# Spread the Love this Valentine's day



#LOVEWARRINGTON

WARRINGTON residents, visitors and businesses are being invited to spread the love this Valentine's Day as part of a campaign to promote the town as a visitor destination.

Marketing Cheshire, the official tourist board for Cheshire & Warrington and various community partners are launching #LoveWarrington Day on Saturday February 14 next year.

The event will take place in Golden Square and Warrington Market.

The aim is to not only promote Warrington as a leisure and business destination but also to harness the pride that many people have in their town.

The visitor economy in Warrington is worth over £447 million to the area.

Members of the community are being encouraged to get involved in promoting their town even

further.

Collectively The Love Warrington campaign is urging the Warrington Twitter community to use #LoveWarrington on all their tweets on the February 14 to try and get it trending in the UK. Although just a small gesture, it is hoped that by promoting the town through the event and via social media channels the profile of Warrington and its status can be raised as a visitor destination.

For further information about getting involved and to speak with a #LoveWarrington representative, please email Ashley Shacklady at Marketing Cheshire, a.shacklady@marketingcheshire.co.uk

Follow the campaign on Twitter @Love\_Warrington and use #LoveWarrington

Find the campaign on Facebook at Love Warrington



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Hello and welcome to my monthly column . . .

# Hypnotes

by Michael Mahoney

## Motivation

As 2015 commences, do you feel motivated and have you created your resolutions for the year, or are you left after the Christmas break feeling sluggish, unwell and demotivated? Many people suffer the winter blues, especially in January and February, and look forward to the spring weather and lighter nights, before they can get motivated into achieving new things.

It takes emotional energy to motivate a person into action, especially following a holiday, or time of stress or illness. Many people do start a new year with determination to succeed at the things they haven't yet quite achieved, or set new goals for themselves. A sense of determination and starting to create action plans can help to restore energy, as can hope and expectation of better things to come.

Very few people are totally happy with their lives, and either choose to make changes, or wish for things to change. Feeling motivated helps to change wishing into some form of action, however, the change that is required needs to be realistic and achievable in the first place. Many people struggle with confidence and

self esteem issues, which can impact on their ability to create their required changes, and may feel reliant on others or circumstances to help create the change, and therefore feel stuck with how things are.

We all have the ability to change things in our lives. The mistake people often make is setting the bar too high, and then failure quickly follows. This then leads to de-motivation, and quickly the person may give up. If instead, only one or two small goals are set, and these are then achieved, motivation to continue tends to follow. A structured approach is often best, just like learning a new skill, we have to learn the basics, and then build on that as we acquire new knowledge. We also have to adapt to the new changes, as this is a process where it has to be reinforced by conscious reminders until we automatically carry out the new skill, way of thinking or action we have achieved.

Renewed confidence and self esteem comes, with the feel good factor that we have achieved something new, no matter how small or insignificant the change may first appear. Motivation to then continue this course of action, or lead onto something else, becomes stronger.

The difficulty however, that may

arise, is that people can become complacent, and discount what they have achieved, or they may receive some knock to their confidence by outside influences, which then can result in a sense of failure. As the old adage says, 'Pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and start all over again'. You rarely have to start right at the beginning again, if you reflect on your achievements so far. You just start at where you left off, and revisit what needs to happen next.

The skill is not giving up on yourself, and believing in what you wish to achieve, and that you are worth it! Shoot for the star, and remember, there are human footprints on the moon – believe in yourself to achieve your goals.

If you require help and support in achieving your goals for 2015, please contact me or my associate, Cate on: 01925 658322 to arrange an Initial Consultation.



Michael Mahoney is a Clinical Hypnotherapist. He has research, and patient trials experience. He is a member of the Hypnotherapy Association, an associate of the Primary Care Society for Gastroenterology, based at Woolston Surgery, Neighbourhood Hub, Warrington WA1 4PN.

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# New showroom launched for furniture and recycle project

**MAYOR** Ted Finnegan and Warrington Town mascot Ollie the Owl were on hand to help officially open a new showroom for the YMCA's Furniture Help & Recycle project.

Based at the former Quaker



schoolroom in the town centre the project aims to provide good quality used furniture to people living on low incomes in the Warrington area.

Each week the YMCA help single parent families, homeless people moving into accommodation, women fleeing domestic violence, families living on benefits, elderly people and low income families.

They collect donated furniture from local people who no longer have a need for it.

Items wanted include three piece suites (with attached fire labels), dining tables and chairs, beds, wardrobes, drawers, pans, cutlery, crockery, carpets, bedding and household items.

Based at the Old schoolroom at 1a Academy Place, the showroom is open 9am-3pm Monday to Saturday.

For more details call 01925 653022 or email [furniture@ymca.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:furniture@ymca.orangehome.co.uk)

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*The Mayor and Ollie with Chairman Graham Welborn and volunteers at the official opening.*

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# Exciting year ahead

IT'S an exciting year ahead for Warrington. At the end of last year it was announced that the HUT Group who already have a base in Warrington are to expand their business from a new HQ base at

Omega. They anticipate creating 2,000 jobs across technology, engineering, digital, graduate and supply chain roles and work has already begun on the construction of their new £80 million Omega

premises.

Approval has also been granted at Omega to an as yet unnamed manufacturing business who will be creating a further 400 jobs. Work will be starting on site soon on that project.

Steelwork is emerging out of the ground at Stadium Quarter from the construction of the Business Incubator and this will be completed in June and open in September. Eleven jobs will be created at the Incubator itself and it could accommodate up to 100 businesses.

Late last year approval was also granted giving the go ahead to progress Warrington's ambitious multi-million pound plans to regenerate the Bridge Street/Time Square area. Hoardings are going up now and the demolition contract is about to be awarded. Demolition works will start in March and the first phase, which will be a temporary home to Warrington Market whilst their new £10 million facility is built, will open in 2017.

And there are lots more announcements to come. It's going to be a busy year!

## MP's jobs fair returns

WARRINGTON South MP David Mowat's annual jobs fair is returning to the Parr Hall on February 6.

The event is being sponsored by Ombudsman Services – who will be one of the organisations looking to recruit new people.

Mr Mowat said: "As an MP, I receive monthly updates on the unemployment figures in Warrington and so I know that the unemployment rate here has been plummeting in recent months.

"But of course, if you're one of the unfortunate people who is out of a job, the unemployment rate might as well be 100 per cent!

"So we can't afford to be complacent. Last year we had about 850 people through the door over the course of the day and over 30 exhibitors were on hand to offer information and over 300 job opportunities.

"Bringing local employers and local people together in one place is a tried and tested approach to get people back into work. Very often we find that people arrive at the fair with a particular sort of job in mind, but end up having a conversation with a company in a completely different sector."

Mr Mowat has also been running a jobs club since 2009, with over two thirds of those attending subsequently finding work or attending further training courses.



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# jobs fair

I will be holding a Jobs Fair on Friday 6th February 2015 at The Parr Hall.

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David Mowat - MP for Warrington South

If you are a business that would like a stand at the Jobs Fair, please call 01424 441833 or email: [terri@eventsoffice.co.uk](mailto:terri@eventsoffice.co.uk)

[www.warringtonjobsfair.com](http://www.warringtonjobsfair.com)

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# New youth theatre launches

A NEW youth theatre group has been launched in Warrington – giving an opportunity to 7-11 year-olds who want to develop their drama skills, build confidence and make new friends.

Express Youth Theatre already run a successful group for ages 12-16 but are expanding to run the new juniors group at the Pyramid Arts Centre.

The groups work towards public performances throughout the year, varying from scripted shows to devised work created by the group themselves.

Artistic director Sammi Walsh said: "After the success of our current group, we are really excited to be opening a new group and engaging more young people in the arts.

"There is so much young talent in the town, and the new youth theatre will provide an opportunity for young people to develop their skills in theatre, building confidence and having fun while doing it!"

Anyone interested should email [express@platformprojects.co.uk](mailto:express@platformprojects.co.uk)  
For more information visit [www.expressyouththeatre.org](http://www.expressyouththeatre.org)



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# Happy Household initiative launched

A PROGRAMME of activities and services to help residents improve their home or garden has been launched by Golden Gates Housing Trust (GGHT) and its partners as part of The Delivering Wellbeing in Bewsey and Dallam project.

The Happy Household Initiative will work with partners including Priestley College and the YMCA to support approximately 40 tenants through a programme of training sessions allowing them to develop pride and ownership in their home and garden.

The training will consist of an introduction taster session lasting two hours, followed by three further training options including Household Cleaning, Gardening, and Painting and Decorating. Residents will be encouraged to take up one or more of the additional training options which will last 5 weeks amounting to 10 learning hours in total. The sessions will be delivered through Priestley College and will be held at Bewsey Community Centre. Participants will receive incentives

to help them achieve their goals, with a £300.00 prize for the most improved home at the end of the project.

GGHT Chair, Roy Smith said: "We are delighted to be able to offer this initiative to tenants and residents and we hope as many as possible will take advantage of the sessions on offer. It's a great way to gain improved knowledge on health and hygiene

in a home environment as well as increasing skills and knowledge in painting, decorating, gardening and cleanliness of their home and garden."

If you're interested in being apart of this initiative then contact GGHT's Regeneration Team on 0800 25 26 27 or email regen@gght.org.uk by Friday, February 28.



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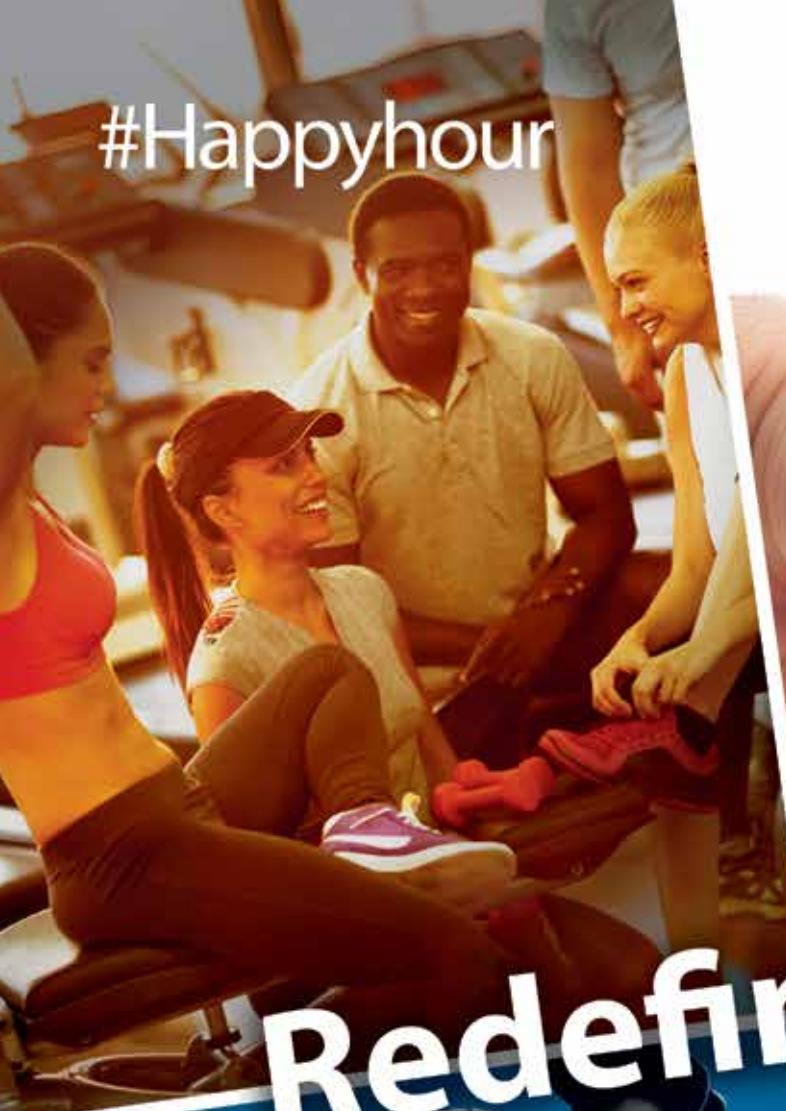
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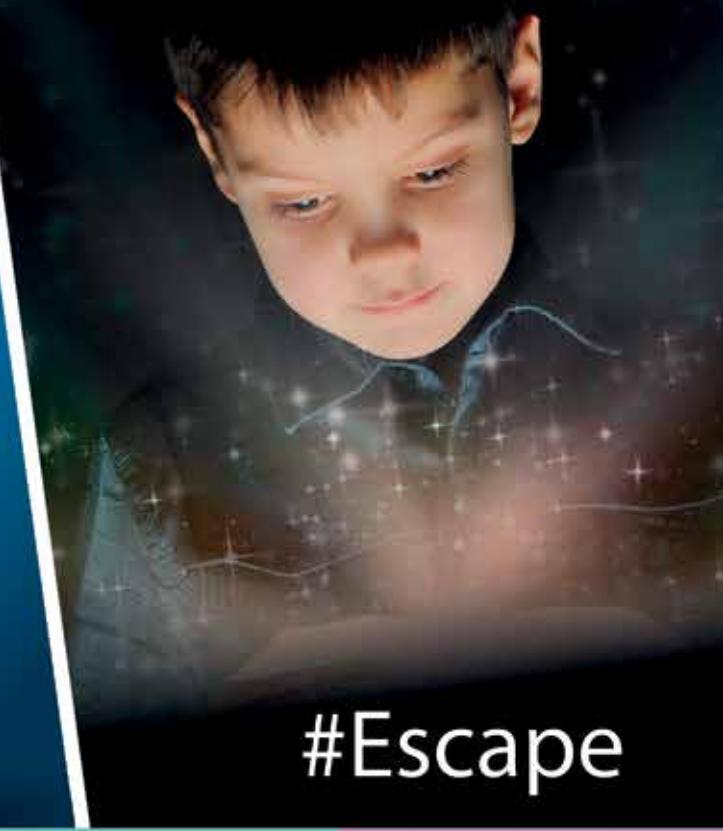
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## Weight Loss Groups

For each us and our families, it's about the small changes we can make and stick to that will have a huge impact on our health and wellbeing and with national Obesity Awareness Week in January, there is no better time to make your healthy New Year's resolutions. Whether it's cooking more healthily, avoiding snacks, or being a little more physically active, LiveWire can help, so forget fad diets and quick fixes; get lasting results and lose weight the healthy way!

LiveWire's friendly Lifestyle Advisors will provide guidance and support to help you stick to your new routine through group drop-in sessions or at one to one personal meetings. Helping to equip you with all the necessary tools you need to kick start your weight loss journey, whilst taking time to teach you the importance of physical activity, healthy eating and nutrition to achieve success.

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Like and share your resolutions @YourLiveWire on Facebook and Twitter and use the hashtag #noaw

## Take a break

New Year is the perfect time to make your health a priority. Stopping smoking is a hard habit to break, but research suggests a smoker is four times more likely to quit successfully with support than if they go it alone.

LiveWire's expert Lifestyle Advisors offer Stop Smoking help through one to one and group drop-in sessions throughout Warrington.

For more information on ways to quit or to find out how much money you are spending a year on smoking visit: [www.livewirewarrington.co.uk/smoking-calculator](http://www.livewirewarrington.co.uk/smoking-calculator)  
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## Escape

Escape the stresses of everyday life in one of LiveWire's libraries this year. Becoming a LiveWire library member is easier than ever with the new online sign up, and the best part? It's completely free!

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## Get Back into Exercise

If your focus this year is to move more, LiveWire can help you get back into exercise with the Reach for Health Programme. The programme aims to get you active through a series of gentle exercises over a 4, 8 or 12 week period. There is also a Stay on Your Feet scheme for people aged 65 years+, which includes a variety of Tai Chi and low impact exercise classes, held at LiveWire leisure facilities and community buildings across Warrington.



[livewirewarrington.co.uk](http://livewirewarrington.co.uk)

'Live well with LiveWire'

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## **7 Swimming Pools**

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## **Racquet Sports**

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---

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**Broomfields Leisure Centre**

Tel: 01925 268768

**Culcheth Community Campus**

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**Great Sankey Leisure Centre**

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\*Terms and conditions apply. Only one voucher per person. Some activities may require advanced booking; contact your nearest LiveWire leisure site for further information.

Expiry date 28th February 2015

# Redefine 2015 with LiveWire

With the New Year upon us there is no better time to make healthy resolutions.

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Each home features a light, spacious lounge complete with a wood burning stove. Plus there is the added benefit of a second reception room within each design, and all these ground floor spaces are complimented with under-floor heating. To the first floor there are five good-sized bedrooms, a large family bathroom and a further two well proportioned, en-suite bathrooms with high-quality fittings throughout.

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## Strictly St Rocco's raises over £32k !

TEN amateur dancers and their professional partners took to the dance floor for Strictly St. Rocco's 2014 raising an impressive £32,000 for the Warrington based hospice.

The glamorous evening was a great success; the room looked stunning, the dancers were outstanding and the outfits were fabulous.

The fundraising event helped to raise over £32,000 with more money still coming in as the dancers from across Warrington had their own Strictly experience in learning how to dance!

The event took place at Mere Golf Resort & Spa with the dancers taking to the dance floor in front of judges Bennie Westwood, Beryl Rigby, Ashley Taylor Dawson, Victoria Bennett and last year's winner Vicki Stockman.

A total of 400 guests attended the event and after judge's scores had been given and audience votes had been counted the winners were announced.

It was Principal from Penketh high, Ben Dunne (pictured right) and dance partner Emma Wilding's dance that wowed the judges and audience with their very cool American Smooth Quick Step.

In second place was Marketing manager from Foden Estates, Lisa Foden and professional dance partner Jack Clegg that did a sassy samba and got the guests up on their feet!

Hospice Matron, Alison White commented: "Strictly St. Rocco's was a fantastic night! It summed up everything about St Rocco's that is so special - it captured the hearts and minds of the community and over £32,000 towards patient care at the Hospice. We would like to thank everyone who attended and the ten dance couples who were so brave and committed to St. Rocco's Hospice!"

"Special thanks must go to our sponsor JLL and to Cadman's Dance Centre, whose support and expertise made it all possible. The judges and hosts also did a superb job on the night. All in all - a real night to remember!"

*The contestants and their partners and the winning pair Ben Dunne and Emma Wilding.*



# Warrington Market's

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Charlie Lee

Charlie Lee, an oyster seller on Warrington market in the 1940's posted messages every day to customers on a blackboard. Markets have always been a place to interact and meet other people.... Just like facebook!!



# Nature reserve nominated for national award

**WARRINGTON'S Woolston Eyes Nature Reserve has been nominated for the title "Nature Reserve of the Year" in the annual BBC Countryfile Magazine awards.**

Now members of the public are being asked to vote for the reserve, which extends to more than 500 acres, was first established in 1979 and is managed solely by volunteers.

It is now recognised as a reserve of national importance where more than 240 species of bird have been recorder, including 15 species of raptor, more than 30 species of wader, all five grebes, the three woodpeckers and five special types of owl. The reserve is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Brian Ankers, chairman of the Woolston Eyes Conservation Group said: "Woolston is a very special nature reserve. It is an oasis in an otherwise urban area and a prime example of conservation and commerce working together for the benefit of wildlife."

Volunteers from the group manage the reserve with the agreement of Peel Holdings who own the land and still use parts of it to deposit dredgings from the Manchester Ship Canal.

Many rare birds have been spotted at Woolston, including



Storm and Leach's Petrels, Spoonbill, Bittern, Little Egret, Night and Purple Herons, Ring-necked and Ferruginous Ducks, Quail, Red Kite, Great Grey Shrike and many more.

A small team of volunteers carry out ringing of birds, up to 7,000 annually and up to 100,000 birds have been ringed since 1980.

In addition to birds, many other animals have been recorded at

Woolston including fox, stoat, weasel, mink and Roe Deer, as well as small mammals, four species of bat, reptiles and amphibians including the rare Great Crested Newt. Butterflies, moths and other insects, many of them rare, are also present.

Permit holders can visit the Eyes and a public footpath from the end of Weir Lane, Woolston runs through part of the site. But access

to other parts is restricted to permit holders during daylight hours. Some areas are behind locked gates.

Anyone who wants to vote for Woolston Eyes can do so by visiting the website [www.countryfile.com](http://www.countryfile.com) or emailing [awards@countryfile.com](mailto:awards@countryfile.com). Postal votes can be sent to BBC Countryfile Magazine, Tower House, Bristol, BS1 3BN. Voting closes on January 31.

## 1,000 sign new protest over Peel Hall

MORE than 1,000 people have signed a new petition opposing housing development at Peel Hall, in North Warrington.

The petition was launched by Warrington North MP Helen Jones after she learned that developers Satnam Millennium – who have long wanted to build homes on the site – were preparing for yet another planning application.

Ms Jones said the petition had quickly gathered support.

It was backed by local councillors including Steve Roberts, John Kerr-Brown and Brian Maher, from Poplars and Hulme, and Geoff Settle, Graham Friend and Billy Lines-Rowlands, from Poulton North.

She said: "It is clear that local people are overwhelmingly opposed to plans to develop this site."

"Our message to Satnam is clear. However many times you come back, we will oppose you and we hope that the planning committee takes the same view when an application is submitted."

In March 2013, Warrington Borough Council refused an application by Satnam for permission to build 150 homes at Peel Hall.

In July the same year, an appeal by the company was thrown out by a Government-appointed inspector.



As early as 2012, Ms Jones claimed to have discovered a "masterplan" for 1,400 homes to be built in three distinct phases – with the first phase consisting of the 150 houses.

Last October, the MP claimed Satnam were still considering plans for 1,400 homes with access from Blackbrook Avenue, Birch Avenue, Elm Road and Poplars Avenue.

Thousands of local people signed earlier petitions opposing development and more than 300 objections were made by residents.

All three political groups on the borough council have spoken out against the proposals.

## Go to your GP - not A&E

HEALTH chiefs at Warrington are urging people not to turn up at A&E with problems that could be dealt with by a GP or other healthcare service.

NHS Warrington CCG says people can help by staying away from hospital at a time when local emergency services and A&E staff are facing one of the busiest starts to a year they have ever had.

CCG clinical chief officer and local GP Dr Andy Davies said: "Every year A&E doctors and nurses see thousands of patients with problems that could be better dealt with by their GP or other health professional. We're asking people to use the NHS sensibly and consider the most appropriate option whenever possible".

In winter the number of serious and life-threatening cases increases – with more people with breathing problems, strokes and heart-attacks caused by the cold weather. So people calling 999 or turning up at A&E when they could have been seen by their GP cause problems.

Dr Davies said: "There have been unprecedented levels of demand on emergency services across the entire country, with especially high numbers of frail, elderly patients who are extremely ill."

"Keep an eye on friends, family and neighbours often - seeking treatment sooner rather than later can avoid a hospital admission altogether."

"There's much more to the NHS than A&E departments and ambulances - there's a whole range of services that can treat you just as well and in most cases quicker than A&E."

## MP welcomes Sellafield jobs guarantee

WARRINGTON South MP David Mowat has welcomed news that the decision to renationalise the decommissioning of the Sellafield Nuclear Reprocessing Plant in Cumbria would not affect jobs in Warrington.

Decommissioning of the Sellafield site, which absorbs the vast majority of waste produced by the civil nuclear industry, had been managed by Nuclear Management Partners (NMP). However this decision will now see that work being supervised directly by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA).

In the Commons, Energy Secretary Ed Davey confirmed, in response to a question from Mr Mowat, that the move would not lead to redundancies, either in Warrington or at Sellafield.

David Mowat said: "I'm pleased that the Secretary of State has confirmed that there will be no redundancies as a result of this announcement."

"Outside of the Sellafield itself, Warrington has the biggest concentration of nuclear jobs anywhere in the country. What happens in the industry nationally will be magnified in the town."

"The nuclear sector supports thousands of highly skilled jobs here already and I am determined to see that figure increase."



## Globetrotting pensioner celebrates 90th birthday

GLOBETROTTING Janet Huxley-Jones, who recently moved in to Belong Warrington, on Loushers Lane, celebrated her 90th birthday in a party with friends and family at the community care village.

Due to her husband John's job with the RAF, Janet has lived all over the world, including Cyprus, Holland, Germany and Belgium. Relatives travelled from as far away as Spain to help Janet enjoy this special occasion.

Born in Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, Janet was working for British Rail when she met husband-to-be, John, with friends at an RAF dance. The two have three children, Bronwyn, Glynis and Richard, and four grandchildren.

After retiring, Janet and John settled in Holywell, Wales. The view from their home was so good that during the dark nights they could see the Blackpool illuminations from their back door. Later, they moved to Bolton to be nearer to daughter Glynis.

Janet, who loves ballroom dancing and Jeremy Kyle, moved to Belong Warrington in September 2014, and celebrated her birthday at the village in style with a glamorous outfit, a glass of brandy and lemonade and the help of her family. It was Janet's daughter, Bronwyn, a former Care Quality Commission health and social care inspector, who helped to choose Belong Warrington as the most suitable setting for her mother to receive the additional care and support that she needed.

Bronwyn said of the move: "All the staff at Belong go the 'extra mile' to ensure the comfort and happiness of those that live there. What a wonderful place. Mum feels right at home."

Janet said: "I've lived a lot of different places but the move to Belong Warrington has been my best move yet. It was wonderful that my family were able to be with me for my birthday and that they were able to meet so many of the friends I've made since coming here."

## Veterans' charity opens new centre

WARRINGTON-based Blue Apple Heroes – the charity which supports veterans with combat stress related illnesses and their families – has moved into a new home 4, Friars Chambers, Rylands Street.

For more than two years, the group have been nomads searching for a permanent home.

They were at the Gateway Centre in Sankey Street – but found they were out-growing the available accommodation.

Veterans and their families will now receive a warm welcome at the new centre where there is a range of activities and facilities including arts and crafts, garden centre and veterans-only day room with snooker, football games, movies and sauna.

There is also a family room with a coffee/tea shop and training room. Blue Apple Heroes founder Mark Smith is pleased with the move.

He said: "The Gateway was great but slowly we could see we were out-growing it, plus we needed a place where we could offer more.

"We were meeting twice a week, but the needs went beyond that.

"We are not far from the bus interchange or the railway stations. We could not have wished for a better site to call home.

"This not the end - it is the start of a new beginning, so as they say 'Watch this space'".

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# Gemma's art helps animal sanctuary



A WARRINGTON shop worker is one of 12 artists from four countries to contribute to a calendar to raise money for an animal sanctuary.

Former Bridgewater High School pupil Gemma Crombleholme, 29, was chosen from among illustrators in France, Spain, America and Singapore.

Her thought-provoking illustration for the calendar produced by The Vegan Art Calendar Group will raise money for Norwich-based Hillside Animal Sanctuary.

Gemma, who works at Golden Square's book and gift store, The Works, came up with a piece of art work entitled "Mother Hen" depicting a chicken and her brood of six eggs.

She said: "I work part-time as a supervisor and spend the rest of the time illustrating and producing art work. I tend to do a lot of commissions for people wanting drawings of their pets as well as commissions for people who want wildlife illustrations.

"I particularly like drawing birds and of course all the coloured pencils I use and the Bristol board I draw on is checked to ensure they contain no animal products whatsoever.

"I'm also in the process of illustrating a book about a little bird that cannot fly. It's a project that's in the early stages. I met the author when I was at university and we have agreed to work together on the project."

Golden Square Centre director Ian Cox said: "Gemma has done very well to be selected to be part of this calendar amongst all the other international artists and we wish her well with all her future artistic projects."

To purchase a vegan calendar, which are priced at £15, visit [www.veganartcalendar.weebly.com](http://www.veganartcalendar.weebly.com)

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# Financially yours

By David Watkinson

## Important changes in the near future

**By the time you read this the January tax return deadline will have passed, we will hopefully have submitted all clients' returns on time, and I will have had my customary double scotch in celebration!**

However, nothing stands still and so it is time to examine a couple of important changes that have occurred or which will be occurring in the near future.

Something that could affect everyone is the transferable allowance for married couples and civil partners that is being introduced in April. From that date, allowances of £1,050 can be transferred between partners provided that neither is a higher rate taxpayer. It is also not available if either partner was born before 6 April 1935 and they are eligible to receive the Married Couples Allowance.

This will benefit those couples where one partner either does not work or only earns an amount below the personal allowance. The

lower earner can make the transfer, meaning that the main wage earner will save tax of £210. The relief will not be given automatically, but will need to be claimed online.

Employers will be affected as new tax codes will be introduced. The partner making the transfer will be given a code ending in "N" and the receiving partner will be given a code ending in "M". This is instead of the normal "L" code.

Another change for some employers is more imminent. Late filing penalties under RTI (Real Time Information) began in October for all those businesses with 50 or more employees. Affected businesses will incur a monthly penalty of up to £400, depending upon the number of employees. Those businesses will receive a written notice in February 2015 for any penalties incurred in the quarter to 5th January 2015.

One further change that is happening in April affects employment intermediaries that supply workers



without operating PAYE. These intermediaries will be required to make a quarterly return detailing all workers and payments on which PAYE was not operated. This is a complex area and if you think you may be affected then you should seek advice.

WatkinsonBlack are pleased to advise on these as well as other matters, including providing a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. If you want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting on any taxation or accounting matter then please contact us.

Please note that these ideas are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always obtain professional advice before taking any action.

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# Paul makes it four titles in a row

*Pictures: Eddie Whittam*

AFTER one of his hardest seasons in MSA Superkart Championships Warrington's Paul Platt has won it for a fourth consecutive time.

Paul aged 35 from Great Sankey, will retain the number '1' plate for the 2015 MSA Superkart Championship season.

Driving his Ripspeed machine Paul hopes to emulate his team boss and mentor Paul Riley's five consecutive Championships on the bounce.

"It has been a season of up's and down's and high's and low's and at times I thought the Championship hopes would be shattered.

"Something seemed to go wrong at very important times but we (dad and I) pulled out all the stops and fixed the problems.

"In the last race at Cadwell Park an engine bolt broke and I thought that was really the end but we (the team of helpers...this time mum and dad were missing as they were on holiday) sorted the problem and I ended up winning the race and my 4th Championship....I phoned mum and dad and I am sure they celebrated the win.

"In the New Year with Division 2 returning to the Championship I can use my new Gas Gas engine with it's 6 gears. I am thinking of racing in Europe next year (2015) and I will attempt to get both titles" added Paul.



## Wolves e-cigarette deal sparks storm of protest after stadium ban u-turn

WARRINGTON Wolves' decision to lift a ban on using e-cigarettes in the Halliwell Jones Stadium AFTER signing a lucrative sponsorship deal with a national electronic cigarette brand has sparked a storm of protest amongst fans.

Warrington Borough Council's public health team have also expressed disappointment about being not consulted.

A council spokesperson said: "The Council's public health team is disappointed it was not consulted about Warrington Wolves' decision regarding its position on vaping.

The public health team will be taking national advice on the matter, including speaking to public health organisations in St Helen's where vaping has been allowed at their stadium, Langtree

Park, for the last year". As part of the sponsorship deal, TRUVAPE will be producing Warrington Wolves-branded e-cigarettes – or 'vapourisers' – to be sold in the Wolfware shop and online.

In addition, the South Stand is to be renamed the 'TRUVAPE South Stand' and TRUVAPE will work with the Wolves to help educate fans about the health impact of smoking, as well as the potential benefits of switching to an alternative like electronic cigarettes.

But the decision to lift the ban on using e-cigarettes has angered fans who took to social media platforms to register their protests.

Comments posted on the **warrington worldwide** facebook page include: "Shocking example for children. They will see this and

think it's ok."

Another fan posted: "Very, very bad. Poor judgement by the club."

Another posted: "Is it April the 1st already? Is this for real?"

But the club have defended their position highlighting that in recent years the e-cigarette industry had become more involved in a variety of sports partnerships, including Doncaster Cup horse racing, Burnley, Celtic and Birmingham City football clubs, St Helens rugby league team and motor sports including the British Superbike Championship and British Touring Car teams.

Wolves' decision to reverse the vaping ban follows a similar decision by the O2 Arena in 2013, when they teamed up with another e-cigarette brand and reversed their own vaping ban, allowing their guests the ability to vape without having to leave the O2 grounds.

Although electronic cigarette use, or 'vaping', has sometimes been a controversial topic in the press, recent UK figures from the Office of National Statistics have shown that fears that they may 'lure' non-smokers into smoking are unfounded, as the latest data indicates those who use e-cigarettes are almost entirely current or former smokers. Not only had fewer people taken up smoking, but more smokers had quit.

And experts such as Professor West of UCL and John Britton, director of the UK Centre for Tobacco Control Studies (UKCTCS), have joined their voices to the debate in favour of electronic cigarettes, stating that they "offer

a huge potential benefit to public health by helping smokers to shift to an alternative source of nicotine".

Alex Wilson, Wolves' commercial manager, said: "We are firmly committed to helping our fans make informed choices, particularly when it comes to health and fitness. Obviously the best option is to never smoke at all, but as a percentage of our fans are already smokers, we are pleased to be able to encourage them to consider switching to alternatives by allowing vaping in certain areas of the stadium, as well as providing a branded vapouriser that can be purchased on site.

"We initially introduced the vaping ban as a 'just in case' measure, but are now happy to reverse this as more news on the industry comes to light.

"We believe this partnership, with a reputable brand like TRUVAPE – known for their attention to safety and adherence to regulations – will help our fans enjoy a better matchday experience, and provide those who smoke with an alternative that experts believe has the potential to hugely reduce harm."

Picture shows: L-R: Ben Currie (Warrington Wolves), John Donoghue (regional sales manager, Truvape), Alex Wilson (commercial manager, Warrington Wolves), Gary Yeomans (country manager, Truvape), Gene Ormsby (Warrington Wolves)





# Wood leaves Wolves as club unveil new signings

LONG serving prop Paul Wood has left Warrington Wolves by request, and joined Championship side Featherstone Rovers.

Wood, 33, made 339 appearances for the Primrose and Blue since making his debut in 2000, scoring 50 tries.

Head of coaching and rugby Tony Smith, who admitted being shocked by Woods' decision to leave said: "I'd like to thank Paul for his contribution to the club. He's provided 15 years of great service. Paul expressed a desire for a new challenge and this request was granted.

"Competition for places is tough and we need people ready for that challenge. There is an exciting time ahead with the new staff, players and improvement of training facilities, therefore we require everyone to be 100% committed to the Warrington cause.

"We wish Paul and his family all the best for the future."

Meanwhile, the Wolves have unveiled a number of new signings including international Prop Ashton Sims (pictured below) from Australia and Man of Steel Daryl Clark from Castleford Tigers.

To see exclusive video interviews with both players and a pre-season interview with Tony Smith and a number of other players check out the [warrington-worldwide.co.uk](http://warrington-worldwide.co.uk) website.



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