

Frodsham Life

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Issue No. 78
September 2011

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Frodsham Bee



Your new look
Frodsham Town Council
Newsletter
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www.frodshamlife.co.uk for all the latest news

Editor's Comment



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THE activities of wheel-clampers on a piece of land at the rear of Church Street, Frodsham have really aroused the wrath of local residents.

We have never before received so many calls, letters and emails on a single issue - all condemning the clampers.

The Mayor, Cllr Andre Dawson,



was not alone in describing the clampers' actions as amounting to entrapment. A number of callers used the same word.

What is strange is that a landlord should choose this time to introduce clamping.

The Coalition Government made it clear last year that clamping on private land was to be outlawed. Legislation is on the way and it is only a matter of time before it becomes illegal to carry out clamping in the way it has been done at Frodsham.

So why start now?

Any short term gain the landlord may make is surely not worth the ill-feeling caused.

The land in question has, in the

recent past, been gated to prevent parking. If the owner does not want parking on the land, why open the gates?

Frodsham suffers from acute parking problems as it is and the anger caused by the arrogant, irresponsible approach of the clamping firm involved has hardly done anything to improve the situation.

The Town Council, while powerless to do anything itself about clamping on private land, has made its feelings clear in no uncertain terms.

We hope the owners of this site can be prevailed upon to end the clamping immediately rather than wait for the new law to come in.

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Fighting back against the recession



FRODSHAM is fighting back against the recession with nine new businesses moving into the town in the past year.

The new small and medium-sized businesses have all moved into Frodsham Business Centre in Bridge Lane and they are all flourishing.

Centre director Simon Longden (pictured right) said: "Our experience during the recession is that if you offer businesses affordable office space and the right level of support they will continue to look to develop. Attracting new firms into the centre is important. But looking after the firms that have been with us for many years is also crucial."

Mr Longden said a number of customers occupied just one office when they first moved to the centre but have since expanded as they are happy with the service provided.

Among those who have stayed and are doing well are the Cerebral Palsy charity Scope and IT specialists Medhurst.



It's all downhill on September 10!

THE sixth annual Frodsham Downhill Run will take place at the Frodsham Community Centre field, off Fluin Lane, on Saturday, September 10.

More than 250 runners are expected to take part in the run, together with supporters Widnes Vikings RLFC as part of a fete and fun day organised by the community association.

The event starts at 12 noon and continues until 10pm.

Apart from the run, there will be dancing, live jazz, circus skills, competitions, stalls and food ranging from afternoon teas to snacks and barbecued burgers.

'Live at the Centre' between 6pm and 8pm from offers a range of music styles from local artistes, Bianca, DJAKS and The Undecided.


There will be a funfair from Thursday September 8 until the Saturday.

All proceeds are in aid of Frodsham Community Association.

Odd, but not everyone knows we do tradesman insurance.

We do.

Call 01928 735967 for a quote or pop into the office to talk to Katie at NFU Mutual Office, 123 Main Street, Frodsham WA6 7AF.



Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited. We do right by you.

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Jewellery made with Real Flowers in Sterling Silver



New Bracelet Range Now In Stock!
As seen on 'The Only Way Is Essex'

25 Church Street, Frodsham, WA6 6PN

01928 731675

BEST WESTERN
Forest Hills Hotel

Wedding Fayre
Sunday 2nd October 12pm - 3pm

A Chance to see the Overton Suite set out for a Wedding Breakfast, and Civil Ceremony room. All Bedroom types will be available to view

With over 20 Suppliers, Cakes, Cars, Dresses, Photography, Chocolate Fountain, Flowers and much more!

10% Discount offers and Bumper Easter & Valentines 2012 Wedding Packages!

Make a Day of it and stop for a Traditional Carvery Sunday Lunch - Sunday Carvery offer just £12pp for 3 Courses, £10pp for 2 Courses, bookings from 12pm - 2.00pm "Quoting Wedding Open Day"

Fashion Show at 1pm by Cheshire Brides

FREE Entrance, with Goodie bags available on the day

Exhibitors:
Sitting Pretty Chair Covers, Cheshire Brides, Wynford & Josie Evans Photography, Leonidas Belgian Chocolates, Acer Florist, Browns of Chester - Personal Shopper & Cosmetics, Creative Cakes, Weaverham Flowers & Cars, Deam Wedding Co., Fun Casinos, Ceinwen Roberts - Harpist, Lindor, The Wedding Organiser, Cake Creations, Belles & Beaus Vintage Cars, Chocolate Fountains for all occasions, Bobcat Magic

Come and see your Wedding Co-ordinator Tracey or Charlotte

BEST WESTERN Forest Hills Hotel
Frodsham, Cheshire WA6 8HH
Tel: 01928 735 255
NEW Website - www.foresthillshotel.com
e: conference@foresthillshotel.com

New look website launched

FRODSHAM Life magazine is delighted to announce the launch of its new look website - helping put Frodsham and surrounding areas on the worldwide map.

The new look site has a clean modern look and will be updated on a regular basis with all the latest community news and sport from not just Frodsham but also Helsby, Kingsley and surrounding areas.

It is also integrated with a new Frodsham Life facebook page, giving local residents the chance to communicate their own news items and events.

It also features a business guide giving local businesses the chance to improve their online presence.

Check out the new look site now at

www.frodshamlife.co.uk and if you have a facebook page make sure you join our face book page to ensure you get all the latest news alerts.

Alongside Frodsham Town Council, Frodsham Life, which also now includes the Town council's monthly news letter, is often the first port of call for people searching on Google for anything to do with Frodsham.

If you have a news item you would like us to promote on the internet or a business which would like to attract more traffic to its website please email us at info@frodshamlife.co.uk for more details.



Frodsham Business Centre

Bridge Lane, Frodsham, WA6 7FZ



Easy Access To/From The Motorway

Just off M56 Junction 12

Office Suites Available

- Sizes Starting From 250sq ft • Other Sizes Also Available
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For more information

Tel/Fax: 01928 733151

www.frodshambusinesscentre.co.uk



HALTON LEA

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at the heart
of your community



FALL INTO

Autumn

FASHION SHOW

ON 30th SEPT. & 1st OCT.

SHOW TIMES 12.30 / 1.30 / 3.30pm

Interactive Pods available from 10am-4pm

Halton Lea Retailers – Showcasing this seasons must have items for the autumn and winter season, not forgetting those party nights out!

Fashion Fix Pod – A stylist will be at the pod to answer and advise shopper's questions on shapes, colours and latest trends.

Glamour Pod – **Blush Beauty Salon** will be demonstrating how to look after your skin during the cold autumn and winter months with **Dermalogica** products plus hand and nail care advice.

Health & Wellbeing Pod – **Boots** are offering free advice on this year's autumn/winter make-up ranges and the on trend colours for this season.

Style Pod – **Supercuts** are offering free demonstrations on all this seasons must have hairstyles for short, medium and long hair lengths.



www.halton-lea.co.uk

BURTON

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Main Street Community Church

Not a churchgoer or haven't been for a while?

Second Sunday at Main Street Community Church is a service designed for all ages and for welcoming those unfamiliar with church



It's on the second Sunday of each month at 10.30am and lasts about an hour!

PLUS: We have other special events in 2011 – YOU are invited!

- Thursday 8th September 7.30pm 'Wellspring' Celebration service for 10 years of Thursday coffee mornings – If you come for coffee, come & celebrate!
- Sunday 18th September 10.30am Celebration of Tim Coad's 5 years with the church. Special morning guest service with Speaker Pastor Tom Giles
- Sunday 2nd October 4.30pm Mike Vickers from Weaverham will be at a special 'Open Door' event to tell us exciting stories from his recent walk from Cheshire to Cornwall!

A community way to save, to apply for small loans at a sensible rate, maybe purchase appliances at a sensible price & fair financing.

Open every Thursday 10.00 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.
At Main Street Community Church (Corner of Chapelfields)
Also - Citizens Advice Bureau Drop-in is open at same times



If you want to know more see www.msccch.org or call in for a coffee:
Coffee Mornings on Tuesdays 10am – 12.30 & Thursdays 9am – 2pm

Tel: 01928 724023
61 Main Street, Frodsham, Cheshire WA6 7DF
There's a Car Park at the rear and we use the double doors under the porch at the side on Sundays!



Students celebrate outstanding A Levels

UPPER Sixth students at Helsby High School are celebrating an outstanding set of A Level results!

Provisional analysis shows that the A* to E pass rate was 99.5 per cent, with an A* to C pass rate of 79 per cent.

A total of 38 students achieved at least two A* or A grades among their results.

Head teacher Mr Dowler said: "These results reflect the commitment and hard work of our students, guided by our dedicated teaching staff and supportive parents. I should like to wish all students every success in the next stage of their lives".

Particular congratulations go to Aoife Haymer, Lucy Smalley, Zoe Tattersall and Alistair Young who attained three A* grades each.

Stephen Waugh, who is going to study Mathematics with Economics at the London School of Economics, deserves special mention with an impressive five A* grades.

Our picture shows students celebrating. Left to right: Stephen Waugh, Alistair Young, Rose McLaren, Aoife Haymer, Jennifer Brow, Zoe Tattersall, Samuel Colvin, Lucy Smalley, Ben Tynegate, Amy Stamper, Sarah Feldman, Tim Cullen, Connor Gamble, Rachael Stamper.

The True Grit Project in Halton: Are you looking for a new challenge?



SPARC is a registered charity. We value diversity and encourage applications from all sectors of the community. These posts are subject to an enhanced CRB.

SPARC

Supporting People Achieving Real Choice
Registered Charity No: 1060095

A new project funded by the Big Lottery Fund to support people to deal with disability hate crime.

The SPARC charity is looking for two motivated and flexible staff:

**Project Leader (p/t and fixed term)
and**

Support Worker (p/t and fixed term)

Both posts are part time and fixed term posts funded by the Big Lottery Fund

The True Grit Project will provide specialist training for people with Learning Disabilities living in Halton. The new project will deal with disability hate crime. You will deliver structured training in Personal Safety, Risk Management and Emotional Intelligence.

You need:

- Extensive experience of working with people with learning disabilities
- Relevant professional qualifications in education/social care
- To be able to work mainly in the evenings and weekends
- Excellent communication skills and ability to present to large groups

For an application form, please write to:

The Chair of SPARC: c/o 69 Nicander Road, Liverpool, L18 1HU

or Email: sparc-charity@hotmail.co.uk

Closing date: September 30th 2011



Travel website aims to ease the way

PEOPLE in Frodsham and Helsby should find travelling around the area easier thanks to a new website.

A new travel and transport web page has been launched on the Cheshire West and Chester Council website, and provides all the latest data on traffic throughout the borough. The web pages have been designed so that the information is easily accessed either via an interactive map or in table format.

A range of information is available on the interactive map including current travel disruptions (such as road works, traffic jams and accidents), car parks (including prices and number of spaces available) live traffic cameras and motorway travel information.

Cllr Lynn Riley, CWC executive member for community and environment, said: "The aim of the new website is to improve customer information, promote better journey planning and help reduce congestion on the network.

"It will also help our directorate to co-ordinate all works undertaken on the highway in a more effective and efficient way."

She said the council was working with neighbouring authorities so that their information could be accessible on the website.

"Future development of these pages is planned to provide more information that will be really useful to be able to make better journey choices either before they leave home or en route," she added.

The travel website is at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/transport_and_roads.aspx

Reach for your dreams

SIXTH Form @King's offers students the opportunity to reach for their dreams.

In 2011, the student at Kings received an average of over four offers for the universities of their choice - not just any universities, T2 to Oxford and Cambridge and over 70% to the top 30 universities (as listed by The Times).

With outstanding facilities and impressive teaching, King's offers the best opportunity for students to achieve their dreams and choose from 26 A level choices and extended projects.

But it is not just about academic achievement, there are 120 clubs and activities on offer, from 25 superb music groups to one of the best rowing schools in the country; from Northern champions at Hockey (girls and boys) to Chess school of the Year.

From September 2011, King's Sixth Form curriculum also includes an afternoon of enrichment every two weeks involving a huge choice of academically-stretching subjects. The independent Sixth Form Centre has its own cafe, common room, quiet study room, seminar room and lecture theatre and there are plans afoot to extend it further.

If you would like to know more, call 01244 689553 or email admissions@kingschester.co.uk or visit www.kingschester.co.uk/welcome

Gibson's
KINGSLEY MILL

Everything
for the animal in your life.

- Visit our pet food & accessory store and then treat yourself in our quality country clothing & riding wear shop.
- Always lots of offers in store.
- Food, Bedding & accessories for every animal from hamsters to horses and everything in between.
- Big savings on our own brand products.

Mill Lane, Kingsley, Cheshire Tel 01928 786210
Opening Hours Mon - Fri 9:00am - 5:30pm Saturday 9am - 5pm & Sunday 11am - 4pm

Information Evening at King's. 5th October



Sixth Form

For ages 16-18

Shape your future.
Choose King's Sixth Form.



And so it begins...

A Sixth Form experience that's independent.
Inspirational. And challenging.

The future starts here. Call 01244 689553

for more information or a prospectus.

email: admissions@kingschester.co.uk

www.kingschester.co.uk/welcome



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER



Arts project puts DNA in the picture

ARTIST Rob Vale had a great response to his appeal to Frodsham folk to put their DNA in the picture as part of a unique arts project at the new Princeway Health Centre.

Rob has created individual 'DNA portraits' featuring a photograph of a precious family heirloom or keepsake combined with a digital image of an individual's DNA sample - taken from a simple cheek swab, using a DNA artwork technique which was developed by a pioneering company in Canada called DNA II.

Those taking part included Sue Roberts, Practice Manager at the Knoll Surgery Frodsham, who chose a Didgeridoo to have photographed and combined in a special photograph of her DNA at the Rock Clinic High St, Frodsham. She is pictured with other samples including a watch with someone's DNA and other articles chosen by people.

Rob said: "It's an amazing process. I give participants a simple DNA sample kit so they can swab their cheek with a cotton bud to pick up some cells that are then sent off so

their unique DNA can be extracted. This process produces an image that looks like a barcode.

"Because the image comes directly from the person's DNA, every single one is unique - representing that individual and genetic information passed down through succeeding generations. By combining this image with a photo of a precious object or heirloom, passed down from one generation to the next, we create an unusual and original portrait of that person. The process has been really fascinating. Everyone has loved using the DNA sample kit, creating artwork from their own genetic code and the objects that people have brought to be photographed have been amazing - from antique pocket watches and violins, to shoes, furniture and quilts. The variety of objects that matter to people is amazing."

Tories gain council seat

THE Conservatives have gained another seat on Frodsham Town Council - increasing the size of their group to four.

Their candidate, Carol Davis, had a 51 vote majority over former Mayor Geoff Bath in a by-election in South ward.

The by-election arose from the resignation of a UKIP candidate who won a seat at the May elections but never attended a meeting.

Result of the poll was: Carol Davis (Cons): 183; Geoff Bath (Ind): 132.

Mr Bath had lost his seat on the council in May due to a slip up on his nomination papers.

A vacancy in North ward, caused by the resignation of Independent Sam Harmer, who also resigned without attending a meeting after winning a seat in May, is due to be filled by co-option. Interested persons have been asked to apply to Town Clerk Ian Hope and, in the event of more than one application, the council will hold a ballot of members attending the next council meeting. In the event of a tie, the Mayor will have a casting vote.

FRODSHAM GOLF CLUB

Christmas Party Night

At Frodsham Golf Club - Saturday 17th December

Price Includes:

4 Course Gala Christmas Dinner

Including Coffee and Mints

*Complimentary Drinks All Night on Selected Drinks

Disco with our Resident DJ

£40.00 per person

New Years Eve Extravaganza

A Fantastic New Years Eve Not to be Forgotten!

Champagne Reception on Arrival

4 Course Gala Dinner at 7.30pm

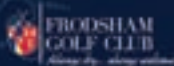
Live Entertainment and Disco from 9pm

Enjoy a Complimentary Bacon Barm Before Midnight*

Free Bar until Midnight

£65.00 per person

Please call 01928 732159 for all bookings



Tickets must be paid for in full at the time of booking. *Bottled wine and Champagne are not included. You can find details of the New Years Eve menu on our website at www.frodshamgolf.co.uk

Christmas at Evenwood Farm

Bookings taken from 1st September
for Christmas Fayre & Christmas Day

Christmas Fayre 29th Nov - 24th Dec

£15.95 or £9.95 child

Christmas Day 12 noon - 1.30pm

£42.95 or £22.95 child

Christmas Themed Party Night

Friday 16th December - £18.95

Pensioners Parties

5th, 6th, 12th & 13th Dec

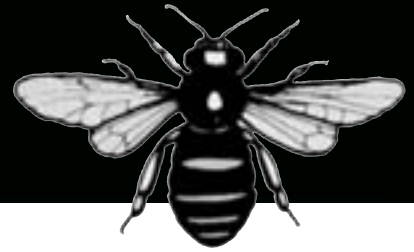
£9.99



01928 571 328

Evenwood Close, Off Blackheath Lane,
Runcorn WA7 1SH

THE FRODSHAM BEE



Over 70s Voucher Scheme

Frodsham Town Council is delighted to introduce the Over 70s Christmas Voucher scheme which we hope will benefit the whole community - Over 70s, local businesses and local clubs and societies. The Council has chosen to offer all of its over 70s residents a £5 voucher that must be 'spent' in Frodsham before 31 January 2012 with which to celebrate Christmas.

How to apply

If you are a local resident who will be 70 on or before 31 January 2012 please complete the application form below and return it to the Town Council Office, Footman's Cottage, Castle Park or to any Town councillor on or before 30 September 2011. Vouchers will be delivered before 25 November in time for the Christmas Festival. A full list of participating businesses, clubs and societies where vouchers may be exchanged will be published in October.

Local Businesses, Clubs and Societies in Frodsham

Several local retailers have agreed to participate in the scheme. If you own a local business in Frodsham and would like to participate in this scheme please contact the Town Council office. The Town Council would like to see the choices offered to our older residents extended to include local activities and events - perhaps including meals, socialising or entertaining - whatever our local groups and societies would like to put on for them. The Town Council will, subject to the detailed rules and conditions, redeem each valid voucher it receives from a business or local group by 28 February for £5. The Town Council sees this initiative as being an excellent opportunity for local groups to put on events for our older residents and potentially to raise money. Some of our older residents may like to donate their vouchers to a local group or society - the Town Council will be prepared to accommodate this too, again subject to the detailed rules and conditions.

If your group would like to be an active participant in this scheme please contact the Town Council by 30 September with details of your proposals. All local groups and societies that are active within Frodsham to a significant degree will be eligible to

exchange the valid vouchers for money with the Town Council providing the vouchers are submitted for exchange by 28 February 2012.

Voucher Scheme rules

1 - That at 31 January 2012 the applicant is 70 years of age or older and has only made this one application for a voucher.

2 - That the applicant is a resident of Frodsham and is shown as a resident of Frodsham on the current electoral roll.

3 - That Frodsham Town Council (FTC) will make checks to confirm the validity of certain applications and reserves the right to require proof of age and residency to support any application

4 - FTC reserves the right to refuse to issue a voucher to anyone for any reason where they believe that is necessary to preserve the integrity of the scheme.

5 - FTC's responsibility is to issue the voucher only - it is a matter for the local business, groups and societies whether they will accept them.

6 - Vouchers will be issued by 25 November. All vouchers expire on 31 January 2012 whether or not they have been presented.

7 - The vouchers cannot be exchanged for money by any applicant.

8 - All businesses, groups and societies must present the vouchers for payment by FTC by 28 February 2012; payments by FTC will be made to those with valid claims on or before 31 March 2012.

9 - FTC reserves the right to limit the issue of vouchers so that its liability in terms of paying against valid vouchers does not exceed the budgeted figure of £6,000 - and in applying such a limit FTC may either reduce the value of the voucher or choose to issue the vouchers on a first come first served basis up to the budgeted figure.

New Member representing South Ward

The Town Council welcomes Councillor Mrs Carol Davis as a new member representing South Ward following her success in the recent by-election. **Councillor Davis can be contacted on 07944 170257.**

North Ward vacancy

At FTC's September meeting the Councillors will be looking to co-opt a member to fill the vacancy in Frodsham North Ward. If you would like to be considered for this vacancy please contact the Town Clerk at the Council office on **01928 735150** by **16 September** or e-mail **council@frodsham.gov.uk**

Winter gritting scheme

The Town Council has set up a working party to look at the options for providing salt/grit for volunteers to spread during snowy and wintery conditions. Up to 60 volunteers are needed. If you live on a road that is not gritted by Cheshire West and Chester and want to volunteer to be part of the scheme please contact the Town Clerk at the Council office on **01928 537150** or e-mail **council@frodsham.gov.uk**

Frodsham Town Council Over 70's Voucher Scheme Application Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Telephone No: _____

Signed: _____

Please return to:
Frodsham Town Council, Castle Park, Frodsham WA6 6SB, any Town Councillor,
selected shops or Frodsham Post Offices
by Friday, 30 September, 2011
Tel: 01928 735150 Email: council@frodsham.gov.uk

FRODSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN MAYOR: Cllr A W Dawson
DEPUTY MAYOR: Cllr R Shearn

NORTH WARD

VACANCY

Frank R Pennington 07752 297 188
Rita Shearn 01928 732906
rita.shearn@talktalk.net
Pammi Taylor 01928 731932
pammi.taylor@btinternet.com

SOUTH WARD

Carol Davis 07944 170 257
caroldavis.kb@gmail.com
Lynn Riley 07800 869 350
lynn.riley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Fran Sutton 07842 296 114
franroger@btconnect.com
Sara Wakefield 07737 684 436
sara@weavervaleconservatives.co.uk

EAST WARD

Graham Bondi 01928 735503
council@frodsham.gov.uk
Linda Brown 07984 043 058
lindabrown@talktalk.net
Andrew Dawson 07970 635 629
andrew.dawson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Ruth Redhead 01928 735800
rgfhalles@hotmail.co.uk
Mark Warren 07979 513 205
invertedmark@tiscali.co.uk

WEST WARD

Darren Kelly 07961 910 369
Cllr.dkelly@gmail.com
Kyle McGregor 07719 978 103
kyle_mcgregor@o2.co.uk
John Nield 01928 731386

TOWN CLERK

Ian Hope 01928 735150
council@frodsham.gov.uk

ANOTHER OUTSTANDING YEAR AT PRIESTLEY

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OR ABOVE
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7 YEARS RUNNING**

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CLASS OF 2011**

**100% PASS RATE
IN 41 A-Level subjects**

**over 73% of A-Level
grades at A* to C**

**100% PASS RATE in all
BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMAS**

**79% - High BTEC grades
49% Distinctions**

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WOOLSTON
A*AA
MANCHESTER

ADAM MILNER
SIR THOMAS BOTELER
A*A*A*A
MANCHESTER

JESSICA BAXTER
CARDINAL NEWMAN
A*AAB
MANCHESTER

SIMON NOLAN
WOOLSTON
AAB
LIVERPOOL

MARTIN BROWN
SIR THOMAS BOTELER
A*A*A*A
YORK

KAMIL ROPIAK
BIRCHWOOD
A*AAA
MANCHESTER

RACHAEL GALILEE
CARDINAL NEWMAN
A*A*AB
GAP YEAR

RACHEL SEWELL
FRODSHAM
AAAB
MANCHESTER

JACK HYNES
WOOLSTON
AAAA
MANCHESTER

SAM WHITEFORD
LYMM
AAAB
LIVERPOOL



JAKE WHITTAKER
CARDINAL NEWMAN
A*A*AB
OXFORD



AMY WHITE
CARDINAL NEWMAN
AAA
YORK



CALLUM MCLEAN
FRODSHAM
DD (BTEC) AC
LIPA



EMMA FOSTER
BRIDGEWATER
AAAA
LIVERPOOL



HAYLEY JONES
BRIDGEWATER
A*ABC
SOUTHAMPTON



MATT BIRD
PENKETH
A*AAA
OXFORD



BEN PILLING
NEWTON
A*AAB
MANCHESTER



IAIN FINDLAY
BIRCHWOOD
A*A*A*B
SOUTHAMPTON



RACHEL JEFFERSON
WILLIAM BEAMONT
DDD (BTEC), D
LIMU



ROBIN BRABHAM
PENKETH
A*A*A*A
YORK

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENINGS & GUIDANCE EVENTS

FOR STUDENTS WISHING TO START COLLEGE IN SEPTEMBER 2012

WED 9 NOV	5.30pm-8.30pm
THURS 10 NOV	5.30pm-8.30pm
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Fury over clamping 'sharp practice'

FRODSHAM Town Council has fired off a salvo of angry letters over a car clamping operation described by the Mayor as "sharp practice."

Cllr Andrew Dawson told a meeting of the council: "I think we all agree that this is a deplorable state of affairs. It looks like entrapment to me."

"We are powerless to do anything about it because it is on private land but it seems to me to be sharp practice."

The council was told numerous complaints had been received about cars being clamped on a car park at the rear of the WH Smith store in Church Street.

Many motorists had parked there for years - until it was suddenly locked and gated.

Some time later the gates were re-opened and motorists started to park there again - only to find they were clamped and made to pay £83 to be released.

Cllr Dawson told the council: "It looks like a revenue raising exercise."

The council decided to send strongly-worded letters to the landowner, the clamping organisation, the police and Cheshire West and Chester Council, complaining about the clamping.

Frodsham Life was inundated with complaints - particularly about the siting of a warning notice which was placed high up inside the gates in a position where most people would not notice it.

Mr Steven Derby said: "If the landowner doesn't want people to park there, why did he re-open the gates? Most people would not notice the warning sign."

Mrs Sarah Bostock said: "The sign was very high up and a tree was covering half of it."

"The police were called who agreed the sign was not visible but said there was nothing they could do."

"The clamping company would not even tell us who owns the land. I had children with me and had no alternative but to pay. This should not be happening in our village when we should be supporting local business."

"This is an utter disgrace and Frodsham residents should be made aware of this. It will certainly deter people from shopping locally."

She added that after a number of cars had been clamped, the clampers put more warning signs up.





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First Green Flag award for Castle Park

FRODSHAM'S Castle Park and Helsby Quarry have both won "Green Flag" awards - the scheme organised by the Keep Britain Tidy group which has become the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces.

They were among seven parks and green spaces across Cheshire West and Chester to gain the award this year.

It was the first time Castle Park had entered the scheme, following its extensive renovation programme made possible by Heritage Lottery Funds for People funding.

The historic nine hectare park has an extensive range of facilities including historic Castle Park House (pictured right), play area, formal gardens, conservatory, athletics track, tennis club, bowling greens, café, toilet facilities, parking and youth facilities. The park has recently set up a 'Friends' group and is seeking new members who are interested in getting involved.

Helsby Quarry has had Green Flag status for many years. A former quarry which was transformed into a local nature reserve, the site is also a Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS) for its unique sandstone cliff.

Cllr Stuart Parker, the borough council's executive member for culture and recreation, said: "I am delighted that seven sites throughout Cheshire West have been awarded this high accolade, something I know our Green Space officers have worked hard to achieve.

"They are helped in many cases by dedicated local groups who want to make their open spaces as green, sustainable and enjoyable as possible for all and dedicate a lot of their free time to maintaining the park.

"This is the first year that Castle Park in Frodsham has received the award and I hope that local residents enjoy making the most of the facilities available there and in all of our borough's green spaces."

Thought-provoking exhibitions

THREE thought-provoking exhibitions at Frodsham's Castle Park Arts Centre are attracting considerable interest from local people.

In Gallery 1, "Grid Reference" is an exhibition of work by 19 experienced mixed-media artists who take part in the TX Creative course at Frodsham Methodist Church led by Ann Goddard and Wendy Rudd.

The artists developed their ideas in a sketchbook - some of which are on display in the exhibition - and let the process of design and exploration take them on various routes which often leave them in unexpected places.

One work by Maria Tam was inspired by the grid-like structure of apartment blocks in the former East Berlin showing how residents had stamped their individuality on a monotonous and dull housing environment.

In Gallery 2 is the expedition by Ron Callender - featured in last month's Frodsham Life - showing his 30-year enthusiasm for hunting for gold around the world.

Gallery 3 has a collection of landscapes in acrylic and watercolour by experienced artist Roland Brandom who runs two classes at the art centre and exhibits all over the country. He is also a member of the local Eddisbury Artists who meet at Castle Park every week.

He says that in his landscape paintings he tries to seek out what nature has to offer in the way of shape, pattern, line and form and then tries to design his picture in a more gestural, inventive way.

All three exhibitions run until September 19

Advertiser's announcement

Wasps - handle with care

THIS spring and summer have been quite dry - perfect for wasps! Over the next few weeks wasp activity will peak. A large nest resembles a huge intricate sculpture and may contain many thousands of workers along with the queen. Early in the spring it is possible to treat a small nest yourself as long as it can be accessed safely, but in later summer it is absolutely essential to have it destroyed professionally.

Adult wasps rely on the wasp larva (or grubs) to feed them a sugary excretion, when the queen stops laying eggs the food supply gets cut, and the wasps go foraging for anything containing sugary liquid - children's ice creams, soft fruit and even your pint! It's at this time that most stings occur and problem nests should be treated in advance.

Although they can occur almost anywhere, a great majority of wasp nests occur within roof spaces. A reputable pest controller MUST, BY LAW, inspect the loft space for open water tanks and bat roosts. This is in order to satisfy the legal requirements of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Control of Pesticides regulations 1986. It is also good practice to determine the position of the nest. Just because wasps are seen going under the eaves, don't assume this is the nest, it may be anywhere within the loft. For this reason the householder must be present to allow access for inspection. A lot of failed treatment attempts are due to lack of professional procedure, and re treatment may be necessary at extra cost to the homeowner. Disturbing or poisoning bats could result in fines of thousands of pounds, a simple check is all that's required.

Atlas Environmental Solutions, are a local pest control company based in Warrington. Technicians are fully trained and hold the latest Royal Society for Public Health qualifications, along with all necessary public liability insurance. For help and advice, please phone 01925 445222 or 07999 487925.

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Motoring

The car with a smile on its face

THE Corsa is Vauxhall's second best-selling model after the Astra and is a near-permanent fixture in the UK's top-three best sellers' list.

Recently it has been given a makeover with many of the premium styling cues from other Vauxhalls, such as the Insignia, Astra and Meriva now features a signature chrome bar carrying the new Griffin badge.

It stretches across the front grille and, with a re-styled front bumper with a more prominent, wider lower grille has given the Corsa a smiling appearance.

Framing the Corsa's new face are "Eagle-Eye" headlamps, which have also made an appearance on the recently launched Meriva.

The units have a chrome finish and include daytime running lights as standard across the range. New chrome-finished fog lamps and housings complete the picture at the front of the car.

Complementing the Corsa's fresh look are five new exterior colours in

the range.

Vibrant new colours also dominate the Corsa's cabin, brightening the interior.

Also inside, is Vauxhall's new optional Touch and Connect multimedia system, which replaces the existing CD60 unit.

Touch and Connect uses a five-inch touch screen display featuring both 2D and 3D maps for the navigation system, as well as a CD/tuner, aux-in, USB and Bluetooth mobile phone connectivity.

Outside, the new Corsa benefits from new 16-inch alloy wheels on both SE and SXi models, while the 192PS VXR receives a new 18-inch alloy wheel, modelled on the design of the optional 20-inch wheel worn by the Insignia VXR.

Corsa's new appearance complements recent upgrades to chassis and powertrain.

With its fresh new look, it is now a very different car to the one on sale little more than a year ago. Before the

latest exterior and interior design changes were made, the Corsa had already benefited from a long list of significant upgrades to its chassis and powertrains. For example, certain ecoFLEX engines now feature Vauxhall's Start/Stop technology, which has reduced emissions on the 1.3 CDTi (95PS) ecoFLEX model to just 94g/km,

combined with fuel consumption of 91.1mpg on the government's extra urban cycle (80.7mpg combined).

Vauxhall's engineers have also made important revisions to the car's steering and suspension set-ups. Softer springs were employed in the front suspension, mated to an anti-roll bar with new bushes and an increased diameter, improving ride

and control characteristics.

Complementing this were revised damper setting all round, an optional re-tuned ESP system and enhanced steering geometry, ensuring that the Corsa remained as pleasurable to drive as it was economical to own.

The new Corsa range starts at £9995.

'Oldies' more likely to be Good Samaritans

OLDER drivers are much more likely than younger drivers to stop to help if they saw someone broken down at the roadside, according to a recent AA/Populus poll.

Almost one quarter of drivers would not stop to help as they would suspect that the breakdown was a con trick.

Participants were asked: "If you saw someone by the roadside (not a motorway) by a vehicle that looked like they had broken down, what would your reaction be?"

Sixty one per cent would stop if they felt comfortable it was safe and thought they could help - 65 per cent male and 55 per cent female.

Of those that definitely would not stop, 16 per cent were in the 18-24 age group and only 10 per cent over 65s.

Twenty two per cent think most people have mobile phones so can seek assistance themselves and 24 per cent would be concerned it was a con trick. Londoners would be least likely to stop.

More affluent drivers would be more likely to stop than semi-skilled or unemployed drivers.

AA president Edmund King believes it is perhaps surprising that 61 per cent of motorists would stop.

He said: "Our poll shows that the 'Good Samaritan' is alive and well and driving along the highways and byways of Britain. On the other hand it is disappointing that almost 40 per cent don't feel able to stop.

"It is interesting that older drivers seem much more likely to stop to help other drivers."



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Mr McCabe said: "Becoming part of the 'the world's biggest hotel family' we are still independently owned and managed, but now part of a global brand.

"The hotel will continue to provide the same expected service and high quality standards we are known for."

The hotel was built in 1988 and swiftly became part of the Frodsham community, hosting hundreds of weddings, Christenings and even Golden Wedding anniversaries of people who originally had their wedding receptions at the former Merseyview.

The management team and staff were all part of the assessment procedure and shared the hotel's success in joining Best Western.

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