

Frodsham Life

Magazine

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IN this column a month ago, we expressed the hope that there would be meaningful contests in all the elections to be held in the Frodsham area on May 2.

Those elections have now been held, but at the time these words are being written, the results are not known.

However, what is known is that our hopes of a month ago were largely in vain.

Only one Frodsham Town Council ward was contested. The other three could not even attract enough candidates to fill the available seats, which means one of the first tasks the new council will face will be to find three people willing to be cajoled into filling the vacant places.

'Bullying'

It would be easy to suggest that the fractious nature of some of the debates that have taken place at Frodsham in recent years have frightened off some potential candidates. Indeed, we have had councillors resigning on the grounds of "bullying."

But these problems have receded in more recent times – and in any case, the situation is no better in Helsby, Kingsley, Norley and Alvanley. There is not a single contested parish election in any of our neighbouring villages.

We are forced, therefore, to come to the conclusion that apathy,

or a basic lack of understanding, are to blame.

People in Frodsham frequently make it clear they are proud of their town and its many attractions and we are sure the residents of the neighbouring parishes are equally proud of their local communities.

It seems strange that so few people are prepared to step forward to play a part in ensuring they remain communities to be

proud of.

*The results of the Cheshire West and Chester Council elections and the Frodsham Lakes ward election will be published at www.frodshamlife.co.uk as soon as they are known.

Deadline for the June issue of Frodsham Life is May 28

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High school students celebrate

MEMBERS of the most recent group of Year 7 students at Helsby High School are celebrating completing their Bronze LORIC award.

They were presented with their certificates by headteacher Martin Hill, who congratulated them on their achievement. The school wants to do everything it can to support students' learning and personal growth.

It launched LORIC – Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative, Communication - to help students to develop the skills desired by employers and necessary for future success. There are three levels of challenge - Apprentice, Graduate and Masters. It is designed so that students start on the Apprentice level in year 7 with most completing this by the end of year 8. In years 9 and 10 they then work towards the Graduate level.



Two new insurance and mortgage specialists join Amathus team

AMATHUS Financial Services has appointed two new insurance and mortgage specialists to its Warrington-based team.

Christopher Thorne and Jane Lister have joined the existing team at the Birchwood office and bring with them a wealth of property related experience.

Christopher said: "I'm very much looking forward to working with our clients to attain their goals whether they are looking to purchase their first home, thinking about equity release or looking to re-mortgage, we provide a bespoke service, tailored to the individual's needs."

Jane adds: "Our aim is to give

our clients the best service and the most cost-effective solutions using the latest technology. We can source the best deals available on the market, everything from life cover to complex business protection as well as access to a comprehensive panel of mortgage lenders.'

Of the appointments, Lynne Lister, Managing Director of Amathus FS said; 'We are delighted to welcome Jane and Christopher. Their individual skills complement those of our existing team and will enhance the service we offer to our clients.'



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Youth theatre bring Roald Dahl to life



THE fantastical world of Roald Dahl will be brought to life at Kingsley later this month.

Kingsley Players Youth Theatre is to present Richard George's adaptation of "James and the Giant Peach" at Kingsley Community Centre on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, May 22, 24 and 25 at 7pm.

The story tells of James when he is forced to live with his mean aunts, Sponge and Spiker, after a terrible tragedy befalls his parents.

He meets a mysterious little old man, and here is where his life changes!

Join James as he meets the attention-seeking Centipede, the miserable Earthworm, the motherly

Ladybird, the musical Grasshopper, the sassy Spider and the lazy Glow-Worm, and goes with them on a life-changing journey inside a giant peach!

Youth Theatre leader and production director, Jake Powell, said: "After the success of 'Arabian Nights' last year, I am thrilled to be back directing this classic story. We

have a fantastic cast of 12 children and young people, aged nine to fifteen, who bring this whimsical tale to life!"

Tickets cost £5 and can be booked in advance through the website www.kingsleyplayers.co.uk or by ringing the box office on 07724 892154.

Planning battle over dwellings

A PLANNING battle is set to take place over proposals to build two dwellings on land at Top Road, Frodsham.

Cheshire West and Chester Council refused planning permission for the houses on land to the west of the Travellers Rest public house.

But the applicant has appealed to the Secretary of State against the decision and the appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations.

The result of the appeal will be made known later.

High school youngsters on the ski slopes




STUDENTS from Helsby High School have been busy on the ski slopes – despite the absence of snow.

Youngsters from Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 took part in three full evening sessions on the dry ski slope at Stoke over the winter.

They learnt skiing skills including slalom gates and freestyle.

Further skiing opportunities may be available during the summer term.

Frodsham Panto Group Presents
Alice in Wonderland
Written by Andrew O'Leary
Lazy Bee Scripts



MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM
 On Wednesday,
 5th June 2019 at 7.30pm
PRINCIPAL AUDITIONS
 On Friday 7th June 2019
 Auditions at 6.00-7.30pm
 for Dormouse, Caterpillar,
 Cheshire Cat, & Orphans
 Auditions for other
 Principal Roles
 7.30pm until late
ENSEMBLE AUDITIONS
 (Chorus/Dancers)
 on Sunday, 9th June 2019
 9.00am until noon

All to be held at Frodsham Community Centre
For further details phone 07379 407 946

Long serving councillor steps down



LONG-serving Helsby councillor Alan McKie has stood down to concentrate on business and voluntary work.

Mr McKie had been a member of Cheshire West and Chester Council since it was established and before that was a member of the former Vale Royal Council, representing the Helsby area.

He was also a member of Helsby Parish Council.

Married to Marjorie, the couple have a daughter and four grandchildren.

Tributes were paid to Mr McKie at the April meeting of Helsby Parish Council after it was announced he would not be seeking re-election because of his business duties, at home and abroad, and his volunteer projects.

Cutting edge non-surgical beauty treatments

ELEGANCE Health and Beauty, in Hollow Lane, Kingsley, Frodsham, has been established for 15 years and combines the latest in non-surgical face lift with a range of holistic treatments.

It is one of a very few salons in the Cheshire area to offer the CACI synergy technology.

This treatment offers LED light therapy along with a micro current to re-educate the facial muscles so that the results are more visible and also longer lasting.

The cutting edge in non-surgical treatments, CACI synergy offers a huge variety of treatments for all ages and skin concerns.

Elegance Health and Beauty offer free consultations with all their treatments.

They are main stockists of ESPA products, offering a comprehensive range of ESPA facials and massages.

A dedicated team of professionals is on hand, all highly trained and experienced to offer the highest possible Spa standard experience – and there is a full range of beauty treatments available in a soothing, welcoming environment.

Treatments offered include CND shellac gel nails, Biosculpt gel nails, Jessica @ Mii make up, Hopi ear candles, Reflexology, Hot stones massage,

Indian head massage, Threading and waxing, dermaplaning and

St Tropez tanning. They are also stockists of Spongelle.

Each month there is also a selection of special offers so it's worth keeping an eye on the Elegance Health and Beauty Facebook and Instagram pages for their latest offers.



Left to right: Zoe Litherland (Beauty Therapist), Carrie Hartley (Salon Manager and Therapist), Ying Yau (Beauty Therapist).



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Outstanding rating for local care company with people at its heart

A FRODSHAM-based home care company has been rated 'outstanding' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Home Instead Senior Care received the award following a detailed inspection by the care industry's regulatory body.

The company provides care and companionship to older people in their own homes, allowing residents of Frodsham, Runcorn and Widnes to live independently for longer.

Currently, just three per cent of home care companies are rated as outstanding.

In their findings, inspectors reported that 'People received exceptionally personalised care

and support specific to their needs and lifestyle choices' and that Home Instead 'put people at the heart of the service.'

Director Alison Moynihan said, "We are thrilled that the Care Quality Commission has awarded us with an 'outstanding' rating, recognising the wonderful team here at Home Instead. We care very much about our clients and our caregivers, who each and every day go the extra mile, making sure that we are providing exceptional care at home and out in the wider community."

Alison and her husband Brian, co-directors of the company, are also praised in the report,

which states that 'leadership was exceptional and distinctive'. They were acknowledged for engaging the team and the local community working in partnership with others with activities such as dementia awareness talks and charity cake and coffee mornings.

Laura Clark, operations and registered care manager, was recognised for her leadership, dedication and commitment to promoting a culture that is extremely person-centred and inclusive.

There are numerous examples included in the report which demonstrate how caring for people is at the heart of the service. One client was supported throughout their discharge from hospital by their caregiver who 'maintained regular contact with health care professionals to ensure that the right care and support was provided on the person's return home.'

Inspectors heard about one client who had a lifelong interest in horses and one breed in particular, but hadn't been able to have contact with horses for a long time. The team arranged for the client to visit local stables that specialised in the breed, allowing them to spend time around the horses which was a special moment for everyone.

One client really enjoyed a cup of tea but it had to be just right. So their caregiver put together notes,

step by step, on how they liked their tea prepared with personalised tea making instructions built into their care plan, so it would always be perfect.

"The details really matter," said Brian Moynihan. "Our caregivers are in our clients' homes every day and care visits last a minimum of 60 minutes. This means they have time to build up relationships with their clients, learn about what they like and what motivates them. Without the rapport that exists between our caregivers and their clients, we simply couldn't support older people in their independence as well as we do. To care, you really have to care!"

Home Instead matches clients to caregivers who share their interests. One client wanted to go swimming so they were matched with a caregiver who is also a swimming instructor. The caregiver was able to take them swimming and supported them so they could swim happily and safely.

The CQC inspectors commented that 'people were treated with dignity and respect and felt the service was caring'.

To find out more about Home Instead Senior Care, or for details about becoming a caregiver call 01928 733020 or visit: <https://www.homeinstead.co.uk/halton>



L-R Brian Moynihan, Jane Bourne, Alison Moynihan, Lyndsey Russell, Laura Clark (Registered Care Manager), Rebecca Wojtala.

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- At Home Instead Senior Care, we work with you to provide flexible, personalised home care based on your specific requirements and when you need it.
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Crime Commissioner funds road safety event for older road users

CHESHIRE'S police and crime commissioner David Keane was in Frodsham recently to fund a project which aims to make senior road users safer on the county's roads.

More than 50 residents attended the event to hear tips and advice on how they can drive safely for longer.

The seminar was targeted at over 60s and focused on speed awareness, driving in the dark in rural areas and how to be aware of other road users, including cyclists and horse riders.

After the seminar, drivers were offered a driving assessment with a qualified driving instructor to measure their performance and receive tailored advice and support.

PCC Keane awarded a grant from his Safer Communities Fund to help fund the event. The Commissioner also opened the event.

He said: "Over the last year, the number of people dying and becoming seriously injured on Cheshire's roads has risen significantly. 13 of those killed in road traffic collisions in Cheshire last year were over the age of 60. This represents 28% of the overall deaths on Cheshire's roads in 2018.

"In some of these cases, a fatal outcome could have been avoided

if the drivers, riders or pedestrians involved had followed simple safety advice to protect themselves and other road users."

The seminar was organised by Frodsham Town Council in partnership with Cheshire police, Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWAC).

"It's great to see that local organisations like Frodsham Town Council are working with the police to proactively try to reduce the number of incidents on Cheshire's roads.

"My Safer Communities Fund is here to support local residents and community groups who want

to proactively tackle crime so it's fitting that this project benefits from the funding", added David.

Frodsham Town Council and CWAC hope to run future events to support even more senior road users in the area.



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Sixteenth Festival of Walks is under way

THE sixteenth annual Frodsham Festival of Walks is already well under way, with hundreds of walkers trekking footpaths and trails in and around the town.

A team of volunteer walk leaders has already taken enthusiastic walkers on nearly 20 walks, long and short, flat and hilly.

But there is still time to join in the fun. The festival, supported by Frodsham Town Council, continues until May 6.

Anyone who wants more details before deciding whether to join one of the walks can call Liz Kenny at the Town Council on 01928735150 or, out-of-hours 07851 618670.

Walks still to take place are:

May 2, 10am: Limestone Crags of the Clwydian Range, led by Paul Day. Meet at lay-by on east side of A494 half a mile south of Llanferres village.

May 2, 10.15am: Thurstaston Rocks and Landscape: led by Hilary Davies and Kath Gee. Meet at the Thurstaston Centre map in the main car park at Wirral Country Park.

May 2, 10.30. From Rome to Victoria: led by Judy Cross. Meet at Great Budworth Ice Cream Farm, New Westage Farm.

May 2, 6pm. Sophie's Helsby Dog Walk, led by Sophie Rigby and Caroline Ashton. Meet at Sophie's Groom Room 245, Chester Road, Helsby.

May 3, 10am. Pub lunch at the Travellers Rest, led by Anne Shaw. Meet at Bradley Lane (Kingsley Road end).

May 3, 10.30am and 2pm. Frodsham Wind Farm, led by Stephen Snowdon and Abbey McGinty. Meet at motorway bridge, Brook Furlong (off Marsh Lane).

May 3, 1.30pm. Waterside and Woodland Walk, led by Iris Keating and Kath Gee. Meet at Preston Brook Village Hall, Sandy Lane.

May 4, 9.30am. Weaver Valley Wandering, led by Susan Kellett. Meet at Stone Bridge, Frodsham.



May 4, 2pm. Weaverham Heritage Walk, led by Peter Clarke. Meet at St Mary's Church, Weaverham.

May 5, 11am. Community Police Officer Walk, led by PCSO Neil Flanagan. Meet at Frodsham Community Centre.

May 5, 2pm. Hob Hey Wood Discovery Trail. Led by Clare Birtles. Meet junction of Langdale Way and Townfield Lane.

May 6, 10am The Frodsham Hills Challenge Walk, led by Alan Gerrard. Meet at Frodsham Methodist Church, Kingsley Road.



Frodsham councillor led delegation to monitor Turkish elections

FRODSHAM councillor Andrew Dawson is back home after leading a delegation of members of the Council of Europe who were monitoring local government elections in Turkey.

He led a 22-strong team of representatives from 20 of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe – the body that safeguards human rights, democracy and the rule of law throughout the continent of Europe.

The Council of Europe is not the European Union and Britain will remain a member of it whether or not it leaves the EU.

Cllr Dawson and his team came home impressed with the mechanics of voting in Turkey – which they felt were largely sound and conducted competently – but they were less impressed about the wider political climate in Turkey.

The former Mayor of Frodsham said: "We spoke with local politicians, journalists, election officials and government officials. We also watched the votes being cast in several polling stations and some of the counting afterwards. Throughout we were considering whether the elections were 'free and fair.'

"In terms of the voting system we could learn much from the Turks. Every voter has to produce identification and sign the voters list

once they have voted. Their system is bureaucratic – with voters having to put their ballot papers (there were four elections run simultaneously) in an envelope before placing the envelope in the ballot box.

"All ballot boxes were opened and counted at the end of voting and counted by the staff who had administered the voting. I estimated that at least 750,000 people were involved in administering the voting for the 57 million voters country-wide.

"So whilst the mechanics of voting were largely sound and conducted competently we had to express serious reservations about the wider political climate in Turkey."

Cllr Dawson said some of the reservations were:

*the use of state resources in ways that favour one political party over another;

*the lack of effective regulation of the media including TV, radio and newspapers allowing wall to wall coverage of one political party whilst largely ignoring the others; and

*a very wide definition of "terrorism".

Cllr Dawson said that prior to the Turkish elections, nearly 100 elected Mayors had been removed from office and replaced by government trustees, allegedly for



corruption or for being terrorists or being associated with terrorists.

Given challenges being made to the voting, principally in Ankara and Istanbul, the Council of Europe remained very interested in how matters play out, he added.

"It was a great honour to be invited to lead the delegation to Turkey and I was able to keep in touch with Frodsham and deal with local problems raised by constituents while I was there."



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MP talks business with Chamber chief

ISSUES ranging from Brexit planning to training and start-up funding were on the agenda when local MP Mike Amesbury met with a business chief recently.

The Weaver Vale MP met with Debbie Bryce, Chief Executive of West Cheshire and North Wales Chamber of Commerce at his Runcorn office where they talked about some of the challenges and opportunities facing their members.

The not-for-profit Chamber is one of 53 accredited chambers of commerce in the country and covers the whole of West Cheshire and six counties in North Wales and will be celebrating its Centenary year. The organisation offers a range of services for SMEs, ranging from start-up advice from seasoned businesspeople. Networking events and help with export paperwork.

Mr Amesbury said: "It was a really productive meeting and the Chamber are doing a lot of excellent work, including working with schools, and working with people who have learning difficulties by



helping them do things like prepare for job interviews.

"We also spoke about Brexit and some of the challenges facing SMEs in my constituency.

"I pledged also to do everything I can to help them support our vital business community, whether that's locally or from Westminster."

Roald Dahl fortnight for pupils

AS Roald Dahl put it: "A little nonsense now and then, is cherished by the wisest men."

Frodsham Manor House Primary School put it to the test with a Roald Dahl literacy themed fortnight.

It gave staff and pupils the the chance to have plenty of fun dressing up as Dahl characters.

It also involved many opportunities for creative writing, science workshops, musical theatre sessions, whole school treasure hunt, library visits and a key stage two panel quiz.



Anti-social behaviour still an issue

COMPLAINTS of anti-social behaviour by groups of teenagers in The Ship Street area of Frodsham continue to be received by police.

PCSO Neil Flanagan said reports of teenagers damaging wing mirrors and playing "knock and run" meant he would continue to be a "visible presence" in the area, particularly of an evening and at weekends, in an effort to either catch the culprits or deter them.

These activities caused alarm and distress for elderly residents.

There had also been complaints of youngsters climbing on the roof of the WH Smith store in Church Street.

"This is not only very dangerous, but has resulted in some damage being done to the building.

"I am working closely with staff at the store to put in place some measure that will prevent this from happening in future."

Litter pick

NEXT litter pick at Kingsley will be on Saturday, May 11 when volunteers will meet at the Community Centre at 10am.

It's now almost 15 years since the Kingsley Litter Pick became a regular event in the village but additional help is always welcome. In February, 12 volunteers collected 12 bags full around the village.

Parish council to get new office

KINGSLEY Parish Council now has an office in the village – providing a point of contact for residents.

"The Boardroom" is the small building at the entrance to Kingsley Cemetery, believed to date from 1896 and built in traditional Cheshire brick.

It was at one time used for parish council meetings but fell into disuse some time ago.

Now it has been refurbished and a mailbox installed where letters and other communications can be delivered.

The parish clerk will be available at the office on the first, second and fourth Fridays of each month between 9am and 3pm and on the third Tuesday between 3pm and 6.30pm. The village PCSO will also be holding surgeries there and it is hoped to arrange parish and borough councillor surgeries there too.

Parish council meetings will continue to be held at the community centre as The Boardroom is not large enough to accommodate the full council and members of the public who might attend.

However, smaller committee meetings or working groups could be held there.

Kingsley Cemetery was digitally mapped last year and electronic access to the information is to be installed in The Boardroom.

Speedwatch volunteers abused on social media

MEMBERS of Frodsham's Speed Watch Group and its co-ordinator have been subjected to abuse on social media, the Town Council has been told.

PCSO Neil Flanagan said there had been some negative posts and comments which he had reported to the administrators of the Frodsham Facebook page.

He said: "I am amazed that people giving up their spare time to volunteer to make our roads safer should get any abuse whatsoever."

Frodsham has two speed cameras and the community Speed Watch Group has been busy over the past couple of months, out at least twice a week on roads where there had been complaints about speeding from residents.

PCSO Flanagan has also been using "Smiley SID" – the speed indicator device – more frequently and has used the TruCam enforceable device on Fluin Lane.

Motorists caught speeding there would receive penalties imposed by the police.

More volunteers are always needed to ensure Frodsham's two speed cameras can be kept fully in use.

Cheshire Hike success for Frodsham Scouts

TWO Scouts from 4th Frodsham (Overton) were amongst the overall winners of the 2019 Cheshire Hike, as almost 500 young people trekked across the Cheshire countryside over two days in this year's competition.

Jessica Pickstock and Jemima Worrall, both 13, picked up the top prize finishing as the overall County winners in the intermediate age category, and also claimed the Mersey Weaver District trophy. The Helsby High School students hiked 46km in the two day event which took place on 13th and 14th April, carrying their tents and cooking equipment. They were assessed on their compass, map reading and camp skills, as well as facing a variety of challenges at checkpoints along the way. Jess and Jemima attributed their success to great team work and enjoying every minute.

Joining the girls in collecting District trophies were Scarlett Jones and Liberty Houghton of 1st Norley Scouts (Juniors), who finished a very close second overall behind the winners in the County for their age group, Kiran Dobson and William Roberts from Beacon Explorer Scout Unit (Seniors), and Dean Stapleton and Jack Clemson from Aquila Explorer Unit in Widnes (Senior Plus).

Oliver Chambers, Mersey Weaver Scouts District Commissioner, commented, "I am extremely proud of the young people from Mersey Weaver who took part in this difficult two-day challenge which required determination, resilience and most of all teamwork. We had some outstanding results in the district including Jess and Jemima from 4th Frodsham who brought home the Intermediate trophy - such an incredible achievement. Well done to all the young people who trained hard for the event and thanks to both the leaders and our Hillwalking and Trekking ASU for giving up their time preparing the young people for the event."

The Cheshire Hike is an annual hike competition open to all Scouts and Guides in Cheshire and the Wirral which tests core outdoor skills. Hundreds of teams compete in pairs across four age groups, knowing nothing of the routes or terrain that awaits them until they receive their map co-ordinates at their respective starts on the first morning.

If you would like more information about joining or volunteering with Scouting in this area please visit <https://mwscouts.org/> for more information.



Above: Jess and Jemima with their trophies.

Below left: 4th Frodsham Scouts who participated in the Cheshire Hike: Sebastian Lemmon, Aran Dobson, Kiran Dobson (Beacon Explorers previously 4th Frodsham), Ellie Molyneaux, Dave Grundy (Scout Leader), Lilly Nicholson, Jess Pickstock, Jemima Worrall.



May election results

THE results of the May council elections were still not known when Frodsham Life went to press.

But with only three candidates standing in three of Frodsham's four wards, they were all elected unopposed - and the new council will need to co-opt one additional member in each ward if there is to be a full complement of councillors.

Elected unopposed were:

Castle Park ward: Mark Nield (Independent) Alan Oulton (Independent), Pat Williamson (Independent).

Waterside ward: Debra Mostyn-Jones (Independent), Frank Pennington (Independent), Bernie Wade (Independent).

Overton and Five Crosses Ward: Caroline Ashton (Conservative), Liam Jones (Conservative), Bill Stockton (Independent).

Helsby Parish Council: Elected unopposed: Christopher Ellams, Pat Holder, Michelle Massey, Terry O'Neill, Margaret Porter, Polly Barry, Alan Gardner, Sam Johnson, John Kimpton, Sarah Temple, Peter Duffy, Stuart Hulse, Andy Macpherson, Mallie Poulton, George Randles.

Kingsley Parish Council: Elected unopposed: Sue Billows, Jayne Black, Judith Critchley, David Crossley, David Fletcher, Claire Jones, Daniel Moores, Christopher Pownall, Graham Warburton.

Manley Parish Council: Elected unopposed: Pamela Brook, Jane Challoner, Colin Ford, Harry Gorse, Peter Sherlock, Ian Walton.

Alvanley Parish Council: Elected unopposed: Stephen Allen, Suzanne Chadwick, Brenda Crowe, Roy Dugdale, Emma Tysoe.

Norley Parish Council: Elected unopposed: Ann Crawford, Kenneth Fayle, Terry Harvey, Deryn O'Connor, Ian Stockton, Jon Wild.

Sutton Weaver Parish Council: Elected unopposed: Hannah Bullock, David Crombie, Lorraine Jones, Tony Long, Simon Richards, Brian Starkey, Will Watson.

Results of the Frodsham area wards in the Cheshire West and Chester Council elections and the Lakes Ward election on Frodsham Town will be published online at www.frodshamlife.co.uk as soon as they are known.

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Photographic Society receive substantial grant for new projector



FRODSHAM & District Photographic Society have received a substantial grant from the Marshes Community Benefit Fund towards the replacement of the club's seven year old projector. With gratitude, Vice-president John Hughes received the cheque from a Panel member (pictured

above) ahead of the AGM. That followed a very interesting Print of the Year Competition, organised by Miriam Manners. The winner, chosen by members present, was a print by Ian Stanley with an unusual take on one of Antony Gormley's iron figures at Crosby beach - 'Return to the Sea'.



Although there are no regular Monday meetings at Castle Park Arts Centre over the summer it does not mean the society goes to sleep. You can catch an exhibition at St Laurence Church until May 7 or attend Lightroom Live, £11 for the day, at Frodsham Community Centre on May 12.

Tour Series bike racing at Birkenhead on May 21 is also on the cards and will be a club event. If you keep an eye on the website you will find lots more - enjoy the summer. www.frodsham.photos

Pupils visit zoo as part of conservation project



PUPILS, staff and governors from Frodsham CE Primary School visited Chester Zoo as part of a whole school conservation project to promote the use of sustainable palm oil. The trip provided the children with the opportunity to find out more about several species that are endangered due to habitat loss in Borneo and Sumatra. During the summer term each class will be learning across the curriculum about the impact of the expanding unsustainable palm oil industry. Each class will study in detail a particular species whose survival is threatened by the destruction of rain forests in order to manufacture palm oil which can be found in 50 per cent of supermarket products. Their work will feature in an exhibition to the school community in June. Head teacher Mrs Lucy Kirby said: "Working in partnership with Chester Zoo, this project is a fantastic way for children to understand the impact we are having on our environment and for them to be motivated to stand up and make a change for a better future for our planet."

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New council will have to tackle CCTV issue

THE vexed question of CCTV cameras for Frodsham will be on the agenda of the first meeting of the new Town Council following the May elections.

Members of the council's community committee – meeting before the elections – decided to leave the matter to the new council after hearing there had been little progress in talks with Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC).

The Town Clerk was asked to contact Vanessa Griffiths, CWaC's regulatory services manager to enquire why two CCTV cameras which had already been approved and not yet been installed.

CCTV has been a hot topic in Frodsham for some time – particularly since the Town Council discovered by accident that CWaC had established a business case for CCTV in the town centre two years ago without telling the Town Council.

The Mayor, Cllr Lord Frank Pennington, was among the more outspoken critics of CWaC.

He compared Frodsham town centre of a night with the Wild West – more like the Gunfight at the OK Coral.

"There's hardly a night when there isn't trouble – it can't be allowed to go on," he said.

He suggested that cameras could be introduced gradually if cost was an issue.

Since then it has emerged that



Cllr Lord Frank Pennington points out where the first camera should be.

the proposal was for just two cameras covering the A56 and Church Street.

Back in January, Cllrs Lynn Riley and Andrew Dawson, Frodsham's two representatives on CWaC, told borough officers that more cameras

were needed in Frodsham, covering the car parks, the medical centre, Castle Park and, possibly, the Ship Street area.

They said they were "disappointed" at the response from the officers.

There did not appear to be any provision for CCTV in Frodsham in CWaC's budget.

Since then they had described CWaC's two-camera proposal as "pathetically inadequate."

A chance to see "The Danny" – the maritime equivalent of a Grade 1 Listed Building

THE Daniel Adamson – the old steam ship rescued from the scrap yard and now one of the most historic ships in the country – will be on show at Sutton Weaver Swing Bridge on Bank Holiday Monday, May 6.

Visitors can go on free, guided tours of the ship, take a peek at the unique Art Deco saloons, climb the ladders to stand in the wheelhouse where the skipper steers the ship or even take a look in the sooty engine room.

The bar will be open selling drinks and snacks and there will be some activities for which there is a small charge. All proceeds go to the upkeep of the vessel – affectionately known as "The Danny."

But before that, the Danny will be open to visitors at Sutton Weaver Swing Bridge on Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5 with free crafting activities for all the family between 11am and 4pm.

Visitors will be invited to make crafts to take home or to decorate the site for the Bank Holiday festival.

They can also learn the fascinating story of the Daniel Adamson.

The ship, a small but powerful tug, was built at Birkenhead in 1903 to tow long strings of barges laden with goods from the inland towns of Cheshire and the Potteries to Liverpool docks. Today, she is unique in being the last surviving steam-powered tug to be built on



the Mersey and is believed to be the oldest, operational Mersey-built ship anywhere in the world.

In her early days, she also carried passengers between Ellesmere Port and Liverpool, a service that continued until 1915. During the First World War, she briefly joined the Royal Navy as an unarmed patrol boat around the Liverpool coastal area.

In 1922 she was bought by the

Manchester Ship Canal Company and was used to carry VIP visitors around Manchester docks. In 1984 she was withdrawn from service and, despite being moved to the Ellesmere Port Boat Museum her condition deteriorated and in 2004 she was earmarked for scrapping.

It was then that Mersey tug skipper Dan Cross launched the rescue bid, forming the Daniel Adamson Preservation Society.

Word spread about the campaign and volunteers from all over the country, including original members of her crew, came forward.

In 2015, a Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £3.8 million enabled her to be fully restored and she is now part of the National Historic Fleet – the maritime equivalent of Grade 1 Listed buildings – alongside famous such as The Cutty Sark, HMS Victory and SS Great Britain.

New social exercise class launches in Castle Park

ARE you bored of boring exercise? Do you dread your workout? Then come and try Rabble: the hilarious way to get fit.

Rabble is held every Saturday in Castle Park, Frodsham at 11am, and is suitable for all abilities. The host is Vicky Duncalf, video blogger with Frodsham TV.

Rabble sessions are one hour of team-based games inspired by playground classics such as Dodgeball, Capture The Flag, etc, but adapted to deliver a real HIIT workout. Players can burn up to 800 calories an hour, but you're too busy having fun to notice you're exercising.

Rabble is huge all over the country, and especially popular in London. It's a big social event too, as players usually head to a cafe after the session and there are regular group outings.

This gives it a real community feel, and it's a great way to meet



new friends – there have been numerous Rabble marriages – who needs Tinder?!

The first session is always free for new players – either look for

Rabble Frodsham on Facebook, or turn up on the day. Bring family and friends and turn your exercise into a real social occasion.

Lorry crashes into railway bridge

Pictures by Dave Buckley, of DRB Jewellers, Frodsham, shows the scene at the Sutton Weaver bridge



A HEAVY lorry crashed into a railway bridge on Chester Road, near Sutton Weaver causing traffic delays in the area.

The vehicle overturned after the collision and police had to close Chester Road between the Sutton Weaver

swing bridge and the junction for the A533 Southern Expressway.

Delays continued for some time while Network Rail checked the railway bridge for damage.

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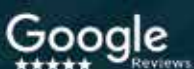
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