Town shows support for troops
Page 20
Editor's Comment

The curtain has come down on another Super League season without any silverware for Warrington Wolves, but two major finals and 4th spot in the league, is certainly a big improvement on last season and certainly not a bad start for Coach Steve Price in his first year in charge.

Unfortunately the Wolves have now lost in six consecutive finals, four times at Old Trafford and twice at Wembley, so some silverware is certainly due.

Meanwhile the club’s hunt for the elusive Grand Final victory goes on as they were out muscled by a strong Wigan defence at Old Trafford, giving the Cherry and Whites their third Grand Final victory over the Wolves in recent years.

While the Rugby League went out of their way to make the final affordable, with average ticket prices costing around £30 for adults, the costs inside the stadium were just about the steepest I have ever encountered – the best part of £17 for two single gin and tonics and a packet of crisps! Across the road at Hotel Football a can of beer was retailing at £5. I certainly won’t be frequenting these venues again to purchase a drink and contributing to the outrageous salaries of premier league footballers!

THE town’s bus company, Warrington’s Own Buse, has been shortlisted for a national bus award. The bus company has caught the judges’ eye with the transformation of the 20/21 service to “the Pops” and the South Warrington network to “the Cheshire Cat”.

Improvements have been seen across the town over the last 18 months, including new buses, new ways to pay through Contactless and an app, several reduced fares, environmental improvements, better frequencies, new technology and enhanced information.

Managing director Ben Wakerley said: “It is brilliant for our locally-owned company to be recognised at a national level for the improvements we continue to make.”

The UK Bus Awards will be held in London on November 20.
Poppy cascade honours town’s only WW1 woman victim

A POPPY cascade has been made to commemorate the death of May Westwell – the only Warrington woman to have died on active service during World War One – 100 years ago.

Miss Westwell, who served as a nurse, was aged just 30 when she died on a ship which was struck by a torpedo in the Irish sea as she was travelling home to make a surprise visit to see her parents back in Warrington.

She had previously worked as a teacher at Evelyn Street Primary School – and the poppy cascade was organised by St Barnabas Primary School, in Collin Street.

A special service was led by the Archdeacon of Warrington, the Venerable Canon Roger Preece and involved children from local schools and members of the British Legion. Miss Westwell was the only daughter of the late Mr. W. W. Westwell and of Mrs Westwell, of Lovely Lane, Warrington. Before she joined the forces, as well as teaching locally she was part of the congregation of St Barnabas Church in Lovely Lane.

She joined the Queen Mary’s Auxiliary Corps to support the War effort in April 1918. After spending some time in Belfast in an administrative post, she was transferred to the headquarters of the Irish Command in Dublin. She died tragically aged 30 on October 10, 1918 when the HMS Lenister, the ship she was travelling on, was struck by a torpedo in the Irish sea.

Miss Westwell had decided to use her short leave to travel back to Warrington to surprise her family and friends. They were all totally unaware of her being a passenger until they received the tragic news. The courage, bravery and valour of Miss Westwell was noted by a surviving passenger.

A letter to her family at the time stated: “There was a Canadian Major who was amongst the rescued, and the first remark he made was that of all the things that impressed him most at the time, was the behaviour of the G.M.A.A.C. on board. Their courage was magnificent. Your daughter was the one referred to as she was the only woman officer travelling and there were few women in uniform on the boat.”

Karen Longden, a teacher at St Barnabas School, who helped organise the Poppy Cascade, said: “We want to promote how Miss Westwell is a positive role model to children, especially girls, within our community and by using bottles, link the project to current issue of single use plastic around the globe.”

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Belvoir celebrate 10 years of success with launch of residential sales

AFTER ten highly successful years in business Belvoir Warrington are celebrating the launch of an exciting new residential sales service! Mayor of Warrington Cllr Karen Mundry was on hand to help celebrate the 10th anniversary of the town centre business and the launch of the new residential sales service.

Director Gary Pemberton said: “I started what was Belvoir Lettings Warrington in Autumn 2008 when the recession just started. We established ourselves as a very credible Lettings Specialist very quickly in Warrington and our business continued to grow every year.

“We re-branded to Belvoir Warrington and moved to new premises on 49 Sankey Street in January last year after out-growing our old premises.

“We have a fabulous team, managed by Janette Hughes our Office Manager. We are one of the most reviewed agents in town and we like to think ourselves as “Probably” the best Agent in Warrington!

Gary added: “We have tweaked the branding name to reflect that we now do sales, so we are now called “Belvoir Sales & Letting Agents Warrington”...

“The anniversary and launch event was a huge success and formally celebrated by the Mayor of Warrington cutting the ribbon and cutting the cake.

“We had over 40 guests join us in our celebration (We couldn’t fit anymore in!). Plenty of bubbles and delicious cake from Shelley’s was enjoyed by our guests.

“So as of now, we are officially doing Sales (Estate Agency), so please contact us for any advice or queries on selling your home or investment property. We have a wealth of property experience as a team and look forward to working with new customers.

For more details visit www.belvoir.co.uk/offices/warrington

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Update on Warrington Means Business

by Steve Park

I thought it an opportune time to give an update on some of the development schemes ongoing as part of our growth framework, Warrington Means Business.

The physical progress at Time Square continues apace. If you haven’t seen it for a while, the structure for all the component parts is now in place. It’s easy to forget that it was only less than a year ago that the Multi Storey Car park opened. Currently the building that will become the Cineworld multiplex is being clad with its exterior panels. This is the building that sits adjacent to the temporary market hall. Cineworld will bring a 13 screen cinema complex and will also house a number of the restaurant units.

Opposite, the steel frame for the new council building is in place and, in front of that and abutting Bridge Street, the structure that will become the permanent home for the market is nearing completion. Connecting the component buildings will be a new public square, Time Square, which will have access across from the multi-storey car park over to Buttermarket Street and across from Dolmans Lane to Academy Way. The new market building structure is now affixed to the historic former Boots building Grade 2 listed façade which will give it an entrance from Bridge Street. When open, the Market will be accessible from all four sides of the building.

By the middle of next year, externally, the buildings will look complete, however that is when the internal fit out will commence and the scheme will open mid 2020.

Omega – just a barren, disused airfield only four years ago – is now almost full and home to circa 9000 employees. Construction of the housing element is well underway with strong demand for the properties and Miller Homes and Redrow on site. Currently out of view is work on the 35 acre green heart. Planting will take place between now and March and the parkland will open mid 2020.

Elsewhere, the construction of the £19 million Warrington West Station at Chapelford is well underway and on schedule for opening in Summer next year. There is a lot going on with much more in the pipeline to commence next year.
Jasper Carrott set to stand up and rock

The tour marks a return to the stage for Jasper with a brand new stand-up show and performance alongside musical compatriots who have been rocking audiences all over the world.

Joining Jasper for the show on Friday 22 March is Bev Bevan, the legendary drummer and founding member of The Move and Electric Light Orchestra who, as well as being Jasper’s friend, has rock star credentials most musicians dream of.

Bev’s band is one of the finest around and features Geoff Turton from The Rockin’ Berries, Phil Tree, formerly of Wizzard, renowned session musicians Tony Kelsey and Abby Brant, and singer Suzi Woo.

Jasper’s career, which has spanned five decades, first started when he became resident compère at the Boggery Folk Club in Birmingham in the mid-70s. It was here that he discovered his talent for comedy and his inability to sing; the rest, as they say, is history.

A hugely popular stalwart of the British folk club scene, Jasper’s comedy single Funky Moped shot to the top of the British pop charts in 1975, establishing him as a household name overnight.

The flipside was his take on the legendary Magic Roundabout, a record still sought out today by a whole new generation of fans.

Stand Up and Rock is a unique show not to be missed; it’s an opportunity to see and hear great artists belt out classic hits and watch Jasper Carrott back where he belongs – making us laugh.

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Town’s oldest war veteran celebrates 102nd birthday

BELIEVED to be Warrington’s oldest war veteran, Sid Wilson was given a special reception at the town hall to celebrate his 102nd birthday.

Hosted by the Mayor of Warrington Cllr Karen Mundry, the surprise event was organised by local campaigner Julie Francis, who encouraged local residents to send in birthday cards to Sid, which were waiting for him at the town hall, along with a special cake.

Sid was born during the year of the Battle of the Somme.

He joined the RAF at around the time of his 23rd birthday in 1939, serving in Italy and Egypt, returning to England four and half years later around the time of D-Day in June 1944.

Sid joined RAF 39 Squadron, first working on the arms section of Blenheim Bombers and then Spitfires. His unit worked closely with the 8th army, spending much of his time in the desert working as an instrument maker on spitfires.

Before the war ended he married his WAAF girlfriend Marjorie and had one son, Robin.

He later became a teacher and moved to Warrington following his retirement aged 65, to live nearer his son. He currently lives in Cinnamon Brow.

To mark the occasion Warrington Borough Council unveiled some of their silhouettes outside the town hall to commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War.

Double award delight for designers at JD Kitchens

TWO designers from Warrington based kitchen company JD Kitchens have scooped industry recognition for their kitchen designs at the prestigious KBSA awards ceremony.

Cassandra Wilkinson – Leonard and Jason Johnson, who has been with Warrington based JD Kitchens for just under a year, both received commendations from the panel for their creative use of space and the attention to detail applied in their real-life home designs.

Jason said: “Sometimes a customer comes in they know exactly what they’re looking for, which is great, but I really enjoy helping to see beyond what already exists and create a new idea that makes the most of their space.

“Ultimately, I am here to deliver their dream kitchen within their budget, and the commendation from KBSA is a nice acknowledgement that I am getting it right.”

Dave Charlton MD at JD Kitchens is proud of the achievements of his team, and believes that the future is bright for both designers.

“Both Cass and Jason are not only really talented designers, they really look after their customers, throughout the build and installation to get the job done professionally and with little fuss. I am incredibly proud that they have both been recognised by the industry, they both deserve it”.

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Warrington Lions have donated a mini bus to Warrington Mencap following a fund-raising campaign.

The Lions were approached by Warrington Mencap to see if they could contribute towards the purchase of a new minibus, so they set about fund-raising for the project, assisted by Richard Cooke of Warrington Vehicle Centre Ltd, to help source a suitable vehicle.

A mini bus for Mencap Adults with learning difficulties was then purchased which will allow the delighted recipients to go on holiday, club outings, work experience and other activities that many take for granted.

The Lions used some funding from their Christmas Sleigh Appeal and other Club events provided by the good people of Warrington.

The handing over of the bus was made at Lee Court in Orford, when the keys were presented to Dorothy Pritchard MBE by the Mayor of Warrington, Councillor Karen Mundry and Warrington Lion’s President Christine McDermott, with members of Warrington Lions and Mencap in attendance.

Warrington Lions Club was formed in 1968 and has served its community with great distinction since that time. The club have 24 members and have service projects throughout the year. Christmas is especially busy when they bring out a spectacular Santa Sleigh onto the streets of Warrington. Many thousands of pounds are raised all of which goes to needy causes.

The club is always on the look out for new members, both men and women. So if you have a few hours to spare and would like to offer your time and skills to those less fortunate than yourself then the Lions Club is for you. Please ring Mike on 01925 816393 or visit the website and arrangements can be made for you to meet the Lions.
Taylor Business Park sale completed for £19.2m

THE sale of Taylor Business Park, near Culcheth, Warrington, recently completed for £19.2m for all of the land and buildings associated with the site.

The site consists of 55.15 Acres of land with a mix of industrial and office space across 284,773 sq ft and has extensive HGV parking facilities.

Paul Taylor, MD of Taylor Business Park Ltd, said: “We’re delighted that the buyers, Ribston, based in West Yorkshire have a similar hands on approach to ours and want to see the site sustain its high level of security and appearance that have been maintained since the 1960s. We’re sad to see it go but this is a new chapter for everyone now. The plan is to reinvest the funds into Warrington and the North West, sticking to industrial and commercial property and steering away from retail. The sale of this site and the price it has achieved just go to show how much investors recognise Warrington and Cheshire as a key part of the Northern Powerhouse and how it’s a logistical jewel in the crown of the North West with the convergence of so many major motorways and rail networks.

“We were very pleased to work with CBRE, Antrobus Capital Partners, KK Thompson solicitors and Claire Murphy Legal to achieve this. It was a challenging sale as there was a lot of unregistered land involved with the site dating back to the 60s when it was bought from the ministry of supply. Despite this the whole process, from going on the market to the completion of the sale only took four months. We’re looking forward to exciting times ahead. We’ve created a new management company, Taylor Estates, and we’ve already started looking at some interesting properties that are out there”.

The buyer, Ribston, added: “We are delighted to have completed the acquisition of Taylor Business Park which represents a significant holding for us and is complimentary to other assets in our Fund. From the first inspection we were immediately impressed by the attentive manner which three generations of the Taylor family had managed the estate.

“Having now acquired it, we look forward to forming our own relationships with the tenants, many of whom have had very longstanding presence on the property. Having a material asset in Taylor Business Park consolidates our representation in the North West where we own a number of properties on Trafford Park and also in Preston, Wigan, Bolton, Accrington and Stockport.”

Cushman & Wakefield acted for the purchaser.
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THE Heritage Café at Walton Hall & Gardens has undergone a major transformation with a new owner, longer opening hours and a brand new menu, catering for all tastes.

The facility is now operated by Lewis’s who have a longstanding attachment and love for Walton Gardens spanning over 60 years and extended their catering provision from July this year into the running and transformation of the Heritage Café.

This affection for the park and the community it serves is reflected in the pride Stefano Manfredi (Café Owner) clearly has after winning the tender to run the café, which is now open seven days a week from 9.00am until 4-7pm depending on the park’s seasonal opening hours.

Stef said: “We feel really privileged to serve the local and wider community in the café at Walton Gardens.”

Undertaking the running of the Heritage Café has the feel of a natural progression for Stef, who said: “I can remember being a young child and accompanying my Aunty Melia and also my Mum to the Café.

Awards for the night will include:
- Member of the Year
- Networker of the Year
- Rising Star
- Outstanding Achievement
- Quality Award
- Affiliate of the year

Founder and Managing Director Andrew Hibbert said: “With 48 members, over 30 affiliates now as members of the real5 network and in excess of £2.7 Million of referred business passed amongst the group this event is looking to celebrate our collective achievements since the launch in February and support a vitally important local charity.

“There will be great food, live music, plenty of entertainment and an auction/raffle to help raise funds.

Tickets are still available, please contact Rachel at rachel@real5networking.com

A group of friends who came together last year to raise funds after losing family members to cancer who were cared for at St Rocco’s, including fellow real5 member David McMullen who has helped to raise over £25k for the organisation in the last 12 months.

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New owner takes great pride in Heritage Café

on the ice cream trailer by the play area, riding the long slide and being allowed to play pitch and put in the Summer.

“The Autumn days of golds and browns at the park are simply gorgeous and I can remember scrabbling round trying to find chestnuts. Undertaking the running of the café has been daunting to say the least and there will be much to learn. We believe the park deserves an excellent café and we have been really heartened by the positive feedback we have received so far. Our aim has been to improve the quality of the food and drinks provision by introducing high quality barista style coffees, specialist toasted sandwiches and luxury cake and tray bakes. I think we have achieved our initial goal, but we must keep on improving.”

A great deal of thought has been put into the menu, reflecting both changing tastes and demands with an array of gluten free, dairy free, vegan and vegetarian options. Lewis’s have been conscious to aim to provide something for everyone and their pizza slice and fish finger muffins are perfect for both adults and young children alike. Not only do they provide traditional fayre such as the very filling and tasty Brunch Ciabatta (bacon, sausage, cheese and scrambled egg) using locally sourced ingredients from farms in Lancashire and Cheshire, but have also been keen to provide delicious vegetarian and vegan options.

Stef added: “As a team we spent some time testing various combinations and we are really pleased with the results”. The Vegan Black Bun and Vegetarian Red Bun have certainly become favourites!!

“The cakes and tray bakes are quite simply stunning and range from the Parsnip, Honey and Orange luxury layer cake to caramel digestive slices and chocolate brownie bakes. One of our dairy and gluten intolerant customers left a review saying that she had travelled the World and had just come back from New York and had never tasted a Lemon Cake as delicious as ours!”

The café’s very friendly staff aim to provide excellent customer service and welcome all visitors to the park. This includes dog walkers and their dogs. In the future Lewis’s want to develop activities that will support all local organisations including schools, clubs and businesses.

“Walton Gardens is about people and the experiences they have there. We want to be a positive part of that experience!”

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Belong Warrington care village achieves Gold Standard

THE Belong care village in Warrington has passed rigorous assessment of its standards of end of life care to achieve Gold Standards Framework (GSF) accreditation by the national organisation responsible for training and quality standards in the sector.

The state-of-the-art Belong village was awarded the Quality Hallmark Award by GSF for demonstrating excellence in care standards and showing evidence-based best practice in end of life and palliative care. And in their report, assessors praised Belong’s village model of care as conducive to high standards, citing its six 24-hour care households, with dedicated teams, offering both nursing and specialist dementia care.

Inspectors observed that end-of-life care plans were tailored to individual needs, and there was also endorsement of the use of technology to improve standards of care, namely the introduction of handheld computers for record keeping, which enable staff to spend more time with residents.

Janine Curwell, general manager at Belong Warrington, said: “We are absolutely delighted to attain the GSF Quality Hallmark Award. It’s an indicator to anyone who may require end of life care that they can count on our procedures to make what can be a very difficult time, easier and more comfortable for them, and for their families. Thanks should go to all the staff for their sustained commitment to maintaining the standards that have resulted in this recognition.”

The National GSF Centre in End of Life Care is a not-for-profit Social Enterprise Community Interest Company providing training and support to enable frontline staff to provide the highest standards of care. GSF improves the quality, coordination and organisation of care, leading to better patient outcomes in line with their needs and preferences.

Staff from Belong Warrington received their accreditation at an awards ceremony at the Ambassadors Hotel, Bloomsbury, London.
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My Warrington Remembers - Edwin Allen
Arts and Craft Shop

Edwin Allen of Anderton, near Northwich, founded his wallpaper, paint and glass merchant’s shop at 14-16 Buttermarket Street in May 1894 soon after he moved to Warrington.

He was a member of the International Grand Lodge of Druids, having joined the organisation around the turn of the 20th century. For 25 years he was the secretary for the organisation in the Warrington area.

He was also a Freemason, for which he held many offices, including Past Provincial Grand Warden of West Lancashire. He was a Past Master and ex-treasurer of the Gilbert Greenall Lodge (1250) and a director of the Masonic Temple, Winmarleigh Street. Among his other positions he was a borough JP (Justice of the Peace), and a member of Runcorn Rural Council, Runcorn Rural Board of Governors and Grappenhall Parish Council, over which he presided for two years.

Edwin Allen passed away on New Year’s Day, 1955 at the age of 87.

The business was carried on by two of his three sons and two grandsons. The company became one of the largest suppliers of art and craft materials in the northwest and was always run by different generations of the Allen family.

In 2014 the Allen family decided it was time to close down the business after 120 years of trading from the same Buttermarket Street premises.

Kathy, the final owner of the Edwin Allen business, said she had seen many changes in Warrington over the years and is a great supporter of independent and family enterprise. She is also pleased that an independent retailer took over the premises.

It was one of many long-standing family businesses in the town centre, alongside the former Whites Sports shop in Warrington Market, The Waysiders on Horsemarket Street, Hancock & Wood on Bridge Street and Reardon and Sons Fish Stall in the market, who were established in 1855.

To contact Gordon, email gigan@mywarrington.me.uk

New theatre plan

A business case is being put together to transform the former Drill Hall at Warrington town hall into a new town centre theatre venue.

Warrington Borough Council’s executive board member for culture and partnerships, Cllr Dan Price, said: “A business case for both capital and revenue funding is currently being developed.

“The case will include the possible conversion of the currently vacant drill hall into a performance space as well as considering the implications for other venues such as the Pyramid and the Parr Hall.”

The Drill Hall has previously been used for local and general elections and is part of the town hall’s East Annexe, home for Electoral Services.

No date for Executive Board consideration has yet been agreed, although Cllr Price is hopeful it will be on the agenda at the Executive Board in November.

It is understood that the theatre would be able to accommodate up to 400 people and be run by a third sector organisation, at no cost to the council.
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WARRINGTON people were given the opportunity to show their support for the troops as two regiments with links to the town took up their right to perform freedom parades through the town centre.

First were the The 75 Engineers Regiment based at Peninsula Barracks, who exercised their right as freemen of Warrington to march through the heart of the town.

The Mayor of Warrington, Cllr Karen Mundry, said: “The men and women of the 75th Engineers Regiment have long had a close association with Warrington. We were delighted to bestow upon them our highest honour by granting them the freedom of the borough in 2013.

“We are very proud of the regiment and this is a fantastic opportunity to thank them for the work they do.”

They were backed by The Nottinghamshire Band of The Royal Engineers.

Next up were the Duke of Lancaster’s Regiment which has links to Warrington going back almost 150 years.

Recently returned from Cyprus, and currently stationed at Chester, it was the first time the 1st Battalion had joined the other two battalions of the regiment to be in the North West at the same time.

The Freedom was first granted to the South Lancashire Regiment in 1947 and passed to the Duke of Lancaster’s Regiment in 2006.
Nutritional Therapy with Rosie: Female Hormone Balancing, Fertility and Pregnancy

Rosie Tadman (DipCNM, BANT and CNHC Reg) is a Nutritional Therapist who studied at the prestigious College of Natural Medicine, in London.

Rosie who works from Lymm Osteopathic Practice uses Modern Science and Traditional Wisdom to get women in hormonal flow and support couples to conceive. She supports underlying causes, rather than just suppressing symptoms.

Rosie works with women who:
- aren’t trying to conceive but want to get their hormones in check
- Want to come off a hormonal contraceptive, with ease
- Have a hormonal condition (PCOS, endometriosis, amenorrhea, PMS)
- are actively trying to get pregnant, through both natural and assisted routes
- are thinking about getting pregnant and want to ensure they are as healthy as possible
- are already pregnant
- are breastfeeding and would like postpartum support

Rosie also supports Men in improving their sperm count, motility and morphology.

Rosie says: ‘I love my job! I have the responsibility of working with individuals and couples during times where they often feel at their most vulnerable and supporting them to optimise their health is a real privilege. I take my responsibility for each and every client extremely seriously and I will leave no stone unturned to ensure they can reach their optimum potential.’

That said, I believe the journey to optimum health should be empowering and enjoyable, even through the most difficult times.

*To avoid any confusion or misunderstanding - Dr Art O’Malley BA., M.B. B.Ch., B.A.O., D.C.H., M.R.C.G.P., F.R.C.Psych., EMDR Europe Accredited Consultant for children adolescents and adults is working at Lymm Osteopathic Practice as an EMDR Psychotherapist helping patients with post traumatic stress.

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Spooky World returns!

Spooky World Scary-at-Night has returned, bringing horror thrills again just down the signed track mid-way along Stretton Road, Warrington.

A intense horror event for adults and brave older kids; there are live scare actors wandering throughout the grounds.

Due to popular demand last year they are also putting on a total of three Spooky-at-Night events for kids aged 10 to 14 years (advisory); one of them being on the night of the fireworks display at the site on November 3.

People and coach loads travel from far and wide to visit this attraction that is on the doorstep for Warrington and Cheshire residents.

Also offering a massive free car and coach park and an onsite fast food grill why not pay a visit yourself! You can purchase tickets online in advance from https://buytickets.at/spookyworlduk/
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the Pink
10th English Half Marathon was ‘one of best ever’

A total of 7,000 runners from four continents helped make the 10th annual Warrington English Half Marathon “one of the best ever” according to Race Director Rob Griffiths.

The three-day event across Warrington, consisted of the first ever GS Active Lifestyle Expo, a Pasta Party, EHM Night 5k, EHM10k and the classic half marathon distance.

The event kicked off on the Friday evening in Victoria Park with the EHM5k Night Race. There was a stunning light display provided by Culture Warrington, illuminating the track as runners finished the 5k around the park. The team of amazing volunteers braved the cold with their glow sticks, guiding runners around the course.

For the first time the event hosted an expo supported by Golden Square. The GS Active Lifestyle Expo was held at Old Market Place, Warrington, with runners and the general public being able to interact with a number of exhibitors and seminar talks.

The 10k saw Warrington winners in both the male and female categories. Lee Fuller of Warrington Club took the men’s 10k crown with a 2-second victory over Lee Hughes of Lymm Runners with Anthony Lawlor of Knowsley Harriers coming in third.

Warrington Road Runner’s Tracy Entwistle won the female 10k title in a time of 40:54, with Carmel Triggs in 2nd and Gemma Floyd of Morpeth Harriers in third place.

Steven Bayton of the Hallamshire Harriers won the half marathon in an impressive time of 1:07:35. Nick McCormick of Morpeth and St. Helens Sutton’s Matthew Crehan took second and third place respectively.

The female half marathon race was closely contested with Catherine Cardus of Lytham St. Anne’s Road Runners taking the win with a time of 1:27:14. Sharon Johnstone of Wilmslow RC came second, with Warrington’s Louise Blizzard finalising the podium.

The event concluded with the Wire FM Family Mile with over 1,200 people of all ages and abilities getting involved.

Race director Rob Griffiths said: “Ten years of the English Half Marathon in Warrington and based on the feedback so far, I must say that this one has been the best. The runners have crossed the spectacular Golden Gates and raved about our army of volunteers and the very loud and supportive Warrington residents who gave them that extra bit of energy to get them to the finish line. The team and I are looking forward to building on a great weekend, as we set our sights on another 10 years in Warrington.”

A team from warrington-worldwide entered the event for the first time, with nine members completing the 10k and one the half marathon, helping raise over £5,500 for the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace.

Donations can still be made online here https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/WarringtonWorldwide
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Late filing excuses
By David Watkinson

No doubt I am not the only person who receives those annoying calls telling me that I have been involved in “an accident that wasn’t my fault”. No doubt I am not the only person who tries to wind them up. My most successful wind-up was when I managed to get through to the “expert” even after I had told them that the accident was so bad that I was cremated the week before!

However, even I cannot beat some of the excuses given to Companies House for filing accounts late which they have recently published. The Companies House list highlights the many unusual reasons companies have given for not filing their company accounts on time, including the one unfortunate business owner who walked in on his wife and accountant sharing a bubble bath (it wasn’t me, Mr Business Owner, – honest). However, even that was not top of the list of unusual reasons.

Here is Companies House’s list of the most bizarre excuses for late accounts:

1. My accounts were ate by goats.
2. I found my wife enjoying a hot bath with my accountant
3. Pirates have stolen my accounts
4. We delivered the accounts, but to the betting office next door to Companies House
5. A volcano erupted and prevented me from filing
6. Slugs ate my accounts
7. It was Valentine’s Day (connected to the accountant, perhaps?)
8. My company was more successful than I thought that it would be, so I was too busy to file (lucky man).

Companies House commented “There will always be unforeseen events that mean a company is unable to file accounts on time. In exceptional circumstances, companies can request an extension to the filing deadline, however these requests must be received before the filing deadline.”

Companies House’s list echoes the unusual excuses HMRC gathers every year from taxpayers who have failed to submit their self assessment returns on time, many of which we have passed on to you in the past. This year, HMRC said their most bizarre was “I couldn’t file my return on time as my wife has been seeing aliens and won’t let me enter the house.”

At number three on HMRC’s list was ‘My ex-wife left my tax return upstairs, but I suffer from vertigo and can’t go upstairs to retrieve it’. The deadline for submitting your 2018 tax return is approaching fast. Better to get it submitted on time than relying on an excuse like those above.

WatkinsonBlack have considerable experience in all areas of taxation and business services, including the provision of a very cost-effective payroll bureau service. If you want to arrange a no-obligation initial meeting on any business 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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