Man, 33, charged over fatal crash on M58

A MAN has appeared at Preston Magistrates Court charged with causing death by dangerous driving following a crash on the M58 in West Lancashire last year.

Anne Kerr, 50, from Southport and 14-year-old Joe Cairns, from Radcliffe, Greater Manchester, suffered fatal injuries in the accident involving a number of vehicles including an HGV and a minibus.

Thirty-three-year-old James Majury of Milton Road, Coppull, who was driving a Mercedes skip loader, was charged with two counts of causing death by dangerous driving and five counts of causing serious injury.

He entered no plea at the magistrates' court on Monday, January 13 and will now appear at Preston Crown Court on Tuesday, February 11.

Second collision

The accident occurred at about 8.45am on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 on the westbound carriageway of the motorway close to junction 3.

Mrs Kerr was a member of staff at Pontville School in Ormskirk, which caters for pupils with special educational needs. Joe Cairns was a pupil at the school.

Both were travelling in the minibus and died at the scene.

The fatal crash was followed by a second collision, at around 10.10am, in the queuing traffic and involved an HGV, a van and two cars.

As a result, a woman and two men suffered serious injuries and were treated at Aintree Hospital.

Local councillors and residents blast decision to cut recycling centre opening hours and raise concerns about increased fly-tipping

LOCAL councillors have teamed up with angry residents to protest about Lancashire County Council’s decision to reduce the opening hours at Burnsough’s Abbey Lane recycling centre claiming that the move has led to increased fly-tipping in the borough.

The authority reduced the opening hours of recycling centres across the county from November last year as part of cost-cutting measures which also saw the Abbey Lane site close on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

But local councillors and residents have labelled the decision “a load of rubbish” because of the impact the changes have had.

Andrew Pritchard, borough councillor for Burnsough West, said: “It is now a growing concern of local Burnsough councillors and residents that the decision by Lancashire County Council to operate a reduced waste services operation at Abbey Lane Recycling Centre is seeing an increase across the area in illegal fly-tipping.

“This is more evidence in support of a valuable service that the community value and rely on being cut to save the county council funds that are probably not forthcoming from central government.

“The reduced opening hours at Abbey Lane is also creating a growing problem for West Lancs Council as the increased incidents of fly-tipping are diverting valuable resources away from their day-to-day operations at a cost to them, while LCC don’t contribute to the issue caused indirectly by their poor decision.

“Councillors and residents have labelled the decision as ‘a load of rubbish’ because of the impact the changes have had.

Councillor Andrew Pritchard, a concerned resident, Burnsough parish councillor Chris Ryley and borough councillors, Kevin Wilkie and Cynthia Dereli protest outside the recycling centre.

Local councillors have teamed up with angry residents to protest about Lancashire County Council’s decision to reduce the opening hours at Burnsough’s Abbey Lane recycling centre claiming that the move has led to increased fly-tipping in the borough.

Because of this short-sighted strategy by Lancashire County Council local people are now having to travel outside the borough in order to use neighbouring authorities’ waste services - not to mention the tailbacks of queues that are now seen at Skelmersdale recycling centre with people turning away in frustration at the long waiting times to enter and dispose of their waste.

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“This decision, rather than promoting responsible waste recycling and consideration for our environment, actually flies in the face of the modern day mantra of recycle, recycle.

Cllr. Pritchard said that local councillors will continue to lobby Lancashire County Council and would urge residents to also make their views known to the authority and to local county councillors.

A spokesman for Lancashire County Council said: “Most fly-tipping is carried out by unscrupulous businesses which do not want to pay for their waste to be disposed of properly, and there is no evidence to link fly-tipping to the availability of our recycling centres.

“We are not aware of any complaints from district councils about increased fly-tipping in recent months. There is occasional queuing at a number of our sites when they need to be closed briefly while skips are changed over, however we are not aware of queuing having become a bigger issue at Skelmersdale.”

West Lancs Council have been asked to comment.

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THE Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust is hosting a recruitment event as part of a drive to hire an additional 100 nurses.

Registered nurses and final-year nursing students are invited to attend the event to be held in the Clinical Education Centre at Southport Hospital from 11am to 3pm on Saturday, January 25.

The trust is especially keen to speak to anyone wanting to return to the organisation, those looking for flexible work patterns and anyone keen for a rotational post.

During the recruitment event teams will be on hand to answer questions about different departments and what it is like to work at the trust.

Advice will be available about career development and training and NHS professionals will also be on hand for anyone looking for temporary roles with the nursing bank.

Director of nursing, midwifery and therapies, Juliette Cosgrove, said:

“We find recruitment events like this make the job application process easier for busy nurses or students. You can just pop along for an hour or so and potentially go home with a job offer.

We are in a much stronger position now than in recent years, with increased investment in staffing, facilities and our buildings, which will help us to improve our service to match increasing demands. We are keen to talk to nurses in the area about the opportunities ahead for our trust and staff.”

Interested candidates can just turn up on the day or book in advance if that is more convenient. Call 01695 656586 to speak to Karen who will be happy to help and answer any questions.

Registered nurses and final-year students are being invited to attend hospital trust’s latest recruitment event.

**Unopped hazards of museum collections!**

FROGS, firearms and flames will be the subject of the next meeting of the Ormskirk District Historical Society at Four Lane Ends Mission, Skelmersdale Road, Bickerstaffe on Monday, January 20.

Guest speaker, Heather C. Davies will give a talk on those and other unexpected hazards of museum collections, including radioactive breakfast ware and poisoned wallpaper!

The meeting starts at 7.30pm and admission is £3 for visitors and free for students.

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Sun 10am-4pm

**HOSPITAL EVENT PART OF DRIVE TO RECRUIT 100 EXTRA NURSES**

While recovering from a brain haemorrhage, I started the nursery in our greenhouse in the back garden. Growing and working with plants is a hobby of mine and helped me through recovery. We have donated hanging baskets, worked with children’s groups to plant pots, set up community events and sponsored the plants to the hospice shop.

To do this we need communities to support The Bloomin Nursery. If you would like to help your community, choose us to buy your plants from or to have us do the work you require on your garden please get in touch.

Our nursery is currently in Newburgh behind the Red Lion pub in April 2020. We will have many different varieties of plants on offer. You can also enjoy feeding the animals at Bella and Brave Animal Sanctuary.

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39 Years Trading

Volunteers’ bid to bag a fund boost to brighten up town’s alleys

ORMSKIRK Community Partnership are calling for shoppers to help them bag a share of Tesco’s community fund and brighten up local alleyways with community artwork.

A local voluntary association which aims to promote community events, activities and developments in Ormskirk and whose projects include the annual Gingerbread Festival, the partnership has been picked to receive a share of Tesco’s community fund.

Between January and March, shoppers at the Tesco store in Liverpool Road North, Burscough have the opportunity to cast their vote using a token given to them at the checkout when they shop. Depending on how many votes are cast, the OCP will receive a grant of either £500, £1,000 or £2,000.

The group plans to commission artwork from within the community to be displayed in alleyways in the town, with work created out of wrought iron in particular being under consideration.

Various locations in the town are being considered with the alleyway next to Clark’s shoe shop on Moor Street being the first. Volunteers from OCP have already removed graffiti from the area and given it a general tidy-up.

OCP chairman, Dave Mutch, said: “We want to tidy up and liven up areas of the town, and plan to tackle at least one scruffy alleyway - though hopefully more will follow. Each of the planned locations will have a community derived artwork in place, and it would be fantastic if shoppers at Tesco could use their token to vote for one of our proposals.

“We’ve been established for over 10 years, and funding like this is a life-line for us. Without such help, our work would be much harder. Please lend us your support if you shop at Tesco in Burscough.”

Collision witness appeal

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following a collision in Tarleton.

The incident happened at around 2.30pm on Friday, January 10 on Bank Bridge and involved a Renault Kangoo and a Ford Transit.

The occupants of the Kangoo, a 64-year-old man and 69-year-old woman from Southport, suffered serious injuries and were taken to hospital for treatment. The woman remains at Aintree Hospital in a stable condition.

The driver of the Ford Transit, a 41-year-old man from Southport, received minor injuries.

Anyone with information which can help police is asked to email 4064@lancashire.pnn.police.uk or call 101 quoting log number 850 of January 10.

Speedo Mick enjoys a splash of West Lancs hospitality on his marathon fundraiser

A FOOTBALL fan who is walking the length of the country in his swimming trunks to raise £100,000 for disadvantaged young people was treated to a bit of West Lancs hospitality when he stopped over for a night in Ormskirk!

Mick Cullen, 55, is nicknamed Speedo Mick because of the Everton FC-emblazoned swimwear he is wearing for his 1,000-mile walk from John O’Groats to Lands End.

He initially set out to raise £50,000 for community projects for disadvantaged young people, but having already passed that mark he doubled his target to £100k. And, at the time of writing, he had already topped £91,600 - meaning he might have to up his target again!

During his passage through West Lancs he stopped off at the Birches Brow Boutique Guest Rooms in Borym Lane, Aughton on Thursday (January 9).

Manager Adrian Doherty says they were contacted by Mick’s events planner and were only too glad to help out with such a worthy cause.

During his stay, Adrian took Mick out for a meal which one of the customers paid for. He said: “It’s been fantastic having Mick stay with us. What he is doing is absolutely outstanding and has been brilliant for the community.

“We went out for a meal and somebody paid for Mick’s and everyone in the community is up for helping him and making it as easy as possible to get through Merseyside.”

On the day Mick was due to stay in Ormskirk he had to take a brief pause on his walk due to a calf injury, prompting fears he might have to call a halt.

Fortunately it proved to be a minor muscle injury and he was treated by Everton’s medical staff at the training ground on Friday where he also met new manager Carlo Ancelotti.
Local Freemasons donate £50k to relief fund for drought victims

Report by Kenny Parker

FREEMASONS in West Lancashire have donated £50,000 to a relief fund for people at risk of starvation in southern Africa following the worst drought in the region for 35 years.

The drought, caused by record high temperatures and low rainfall, could affect an estimated 45 million people in Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Madagascar, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The Victoria Falls, which is located on the Zambia and Zimbabwe border has become a trickle and Lake Kariba, which also runs along the border to the two countries and a critical water source for both, is only 16 per cent full. An estimated 70 per cent of rural water sources in Zimbabwe have also dried up.

Plan International UK is supplying emergency food packs and urgent humanitarian assistance to those at risk of starvation due to the drought and has just received £50,000 from West Lancashire Freemasons.

West Lancashire Freemasons follow the pre-1974 boundary for Lancashire, so the branch also includes Sefton.

The grant was made through the Masonic Charitable Foundation, the grant making charity for freemasons of England and Wales.

Rose Caldwell, chief executive of Plan International UK, said: “We’re very grateful for this generous grant which will allow Plan International to reach thousands of people suffering from severe shortages of food. It is critical that we act now to provide this support to those most at risk.”

Tony Harrison, leader of West Lancashire Freemasons, said: “I’m very pleased we have been able to help Plan International with their relief efforts in Southern Africa. It’s clear that millions of people are at risk of a serious lack of food and clean water. “This is a desperate situation and Plan International UK and the other organisations helping on the ground need all the support we in the outside world can offer.”

Destroyed by drought - Mozambique farmland
OWL in call to reduce councillors’ allowances

‘Move will save £50,000 a year’, claim - but Labour say independent group leader helped to set current rate!

Report by Kenny Parker

INDEPENDENT group Our West Lancashire are calling for borough councillors’ basic allowances to be reduced to bring them in line with the county average.

OWL say the current figure, set at £4,942, is the highest in Lancashire and claim that adopting the average rate of £3,924.20 would make an annual saving of almost £50,000 at a time when more than 30 council employees are facing redundancy.

However, the ruling Labour group say that West Lancs councillors do not receive other cash benefits that members of other councils in the county do, and claim that more jobs have been created at the authority than have been lost.

Making public their response to a questionnaire from the Independent Remuneration Panel, which sets the allowance rate, OWL said “the highest of any Lancashire borough council and has been so for almost 20 years.”

They added that their proposals would make a saving of almost £50,000 a year at a time when approximately 38 council employees face voluntary or compulsory redundancy and claimed they had the support of 86.5% of local residents in a survey held in October last year.

In a subsequent statement the group added: “Sadly, to date, neither the Labour or Conservative groups have published their submissions to the panel and so the public do not know whether those councillors are seeking an increase in their pay at this time when council staff are losing their jobs.”

Councillor Ian Moran, who is half of the Independent group, said: “We have never asked for an increase in basic allowance. When it has been recommended in the past we have turned it down.

“The current rate was set when Adrian Owens was deputy leader of the council and when he was finance spokesperson for the Conservative council. If he thinks it is too high it was him who set it.

“Cllr. Moran said these were part of a restructuring of council services which will also create more than 40 jobs.”

A spokesman for the council said the redundancies were part of the re-organisation of the council and not connected to the level of councillors’ allowances. He added: “Councillors’ allowances are governed by the recommendations of the Independent Review Panel. The basic allowance has been the same since 2009 and in 2015 it was frozen for four years on the recommendation of the IRP when their report considered comparisons with other local authorities.

“A report relating to allowances for 2020/2021 will be considered at the council meeting on February 26. This will set out the IRP’s latest recommendations, which will relate specifically to circumstances applying to West Lancashire while considering comparisons with other local authorities, not only in relation to basic allowance but also the level and variety of special responsibility allowances across Lancashire.

“In some authorities these are higher in number and higher in rates. The IRP has not received any requests to increase the basic allowance for councillors for 2020/21.”

The leader of West Lancs Conservatives, Councillor David Westley, has been asked to comment on OWL’s proposal.

Councillor Moran said: “It was set during a Conservative-led council when OWL leader, Councillor Adrian Owens, was the deputy leader and finance spokesperson, he said the allowance goes part way to compensate councillors in employment for loss of earnings while carrying out civic duties.

On the subject of the proposed redundancies, Cllr. Moran said these were part of a restructuring of council services which will also create more than 40 jobs.”

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Pet store raises nearly £7,000 for animal rescue centre

STAFF and customers at Pets At Home in Burscough have raised nearly £7,000 for Carla Lane Animals In Need as part of the store group’s national charity Support For Adoption For Pets which provides cash for animal rescue centres across the country. 

The Carla Lane centre in Melling, was the Burscough store’s 2019 ‘Charity of the year.’

Events during the year at the Ringtail Retail park store raised £2,764 and a further £4,152 was raised during its Christmas Santa Paws appeal.

Witness appeal after attempted robbery leaves victim with facial injuries

LANCASHIRE Police are appealing for witnesses following an attempted robbery in Ormskirk which left a man with injuries to his face.

The incident happened on Friday, December 27 between 10.30 and 10.45pm.

The victim, a man in his 50s, was walking his dog on the field behind Nursery Avenue when he was approached by a group of people described as being in their late teens to early 20s.

One of the group demanded the victim give him money and hit him across the face resulting in injuries.

The victim defended himself and the group ran off in the direction of a footpath which leads to both Station Approach and Old Boundary Way.

One member of the group is described as being a white male, of slim build, 5ft 11in tall. He was wearing a black hoodie with the hood up and black cap underneath, black tracksuit pants and black trainers.

A second is described as being a white male, of slim build, 5ft 8in tall with blond, straight hair. He was wearing a deerstalker hat and a blue coloured body warmer.

Another member of the group was a white female with blonde hair. She was wearing a dark coloured body warmer.

DC Danny Gardner of Ormskirk Police said: “This was a terrifying experience for the man who should have been safe walking his dog.”

“We need to find the people responsible and would appeal to anyone who saw anything suspicious or witnessed the incident itself, to come forward.”

Anyone with information can call police on 101 quoting crime number 04/222443/19. Alternatively independent charity Crimestoppers can be contacted anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Mere loses bug hotel crown!

MARTIN Mere Wetland Centre is no longer the proud holder of the title ‘world’s biggest bug hotel’!

The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust reserve in Burscough was bestowed the title by world records compiler Guinness in September, 2017 after local schools, businesses and thousands of visitors helped to create the conservation attraction consisting of 720 boxes filled with straw and bamboo, occupying 18.46 cubic metres and housing leafcutter bees, mason bees, spiders, moths, a peacock butterfly, a frog and a bat.

However officials have now learned that their record was actually beaten last May by a youth group in Germany, which made a bug hotel measuring a massive 54.61 cubic metres!
End of the line for popular steam rally
Organisers decide to call it a day after 10 years and raising £330,000-plus for good causes

A popular village steam and vintage vehicle rally which has raised thousands of pounds for charity has come to the end of the road after the principal organisers decided to call it a day.

The Leisure Lakes Steam and Vintage Vehicle Rally has been held annually at the Mere Brow venue for the last 10 years, raising more than £330,000 for good causes.

But the duo behind the event, Peter Wareing and Alan Atkinson, say they will no longer be able to stage the rally, which started as ‘one-off’ but has turned into a “large scale, all-consuming event.”

A letter sent to exhibitors, traders and volunteers by the rally committee stated: “After a great deal of deliberation, the organisers Peter Wareing and Alan Atkinson, have decided it’s time to retire from the rally.

“It has grown over the years from a one-off event to a large scale, all-consuming event that takes months of dedicated organising by a hard-working team of volunteers.

“The letter added that, following a meeting of the committee, nobody else had come forward to volunteer to dedicate the time needed to take on the “onerous task” of organising future events.

“And it went on: “Over the past 11 years there have been many challenges to overcome, including site changes, postponements and cancellations due to adverse weather conditions, as well as the challenge of finding a suitable date to avoid clashing with other events.

“However, despite all this we are really proud to have successfully held 10 rallies that we as organisers would want to visit, with an array of features and attractions, including the late founder William Hunter’s brainchild - Aunt Nellie’s Tea Room.

“These rallies raised an incredible £330,637 for local charities, an achievement we are extremely proud of and we thank you all very much for helping us achieve this.

“It is for this reason that after 10 rallies we would like to bow out now and enjoy health and happiness with fond memories of so many like-minded people voluntarily pulling together to create 10 great weekends.

“We wish you all well for the future and would like to thank those exhibitors, volunteers, and trade stands who have supported us every year since our inception, we are especially indebted to you for your support.

“And finally we would like also like to take this opportunity to thank Peter and Alan for their dedication and wish them a well earned rest.’’

A line-up of traction engines at one of the Steam and Vintage Vehicle Rallies held at Leisure Lakes.
Knives and baton seized from man in Ormskirk during Task Force stop and search exercise

OFFICERS from the West Lancashire Neighbourhood Task Force seized throwing knives and a baton from a man in Ormskirk during a routine stop and search exercise on Friday, January 3.

Posting on social media, Ormskirk and Burscough Police wrote: “During a stop search this evening, officers from West Lancs Task Force have seized this baton and these throwing knives (pictured) from a male in Ormskirk.”

“Following interview in relation to the matter the owner will have his day in court.”

The dedicated task force, made up of four officers, was launched at the start of November to tackle issues including drug-dealing, anti-social behaviour and burglary, as well as beating organised crime group activity and targeting outstanding offenders.

County council launches new campaign to recruit fosters carers and help change a local child’s life

PEOPLE who could change a local child’s life by becoming foster carers are being urged to come forward as part of a new campaign launched this week by Lancashire County Council.

With around 20 new children coming into care in the county each week and needing urgent foster care placements, the campaign is aimed at people who can help ensure youngsters stay in their communities.

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson, Lancashire’s cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: “We always try to place children with our own foster carers, but the high demand for places does make this challenging to achieve.

“While some children will always need to be placed away from the county for safeguarding reasons, or can be looked after by family, we want to ensure others get the opportunity to stay local.”

The campaign, which launched on Monday (January 13) is being promoted in many ways including on billboards, and on social media channels.

It highlights the need for more foster carers and the incredible impact they can make on a child or young person at a time when it is really needed, while also enriching their own lives.

The latest statistics available from March 2019 show that 76.7% of children in care were placed within the authority area, compared to the national 58%.

Lancashire County Council is once again seeking foster carers who can help to change the lives of local children in urgent need of placements.

Lancashire County Council is once again seeking foster carers who can help to change the lives of local children in urgent need of placements.

Secure

Cllr. Williamson added: “It can make all the difference if children can stay locally. When children cannot stay with their own families, being in foster care in their local area can offer some the best possible chance of a happy and secure future.

“By maintaining local links, the child can still go to the same school and keep routines with friends and hobbies. Ideally, we want to keep them close to home in secure placements, supporting them to return to their families when appropriate.

“Children are only placed outside of our area if it is in their best interests, for example to live with extended family members, because they need a specialist placement or because there is a foster placement well matched to their needs.”

New foster carers can expect to receive between £244 and £421 per week for each child they care for.

For more information about becoming a foster carer or to find out more about the campaign, call the fostering recruitment team on 0300 123 6723 or visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/fostering

ThinkTank Academy provide all your training needs in one place!

We provide courses via face to face delivery and on our e-learning platform relating to Health and Social Care in the Adult and the Children and Young People areas. Everyone at ThinkTank Academy has a passion to support those working in Health and Social Care, to achieve a higher standard of care practice; let us prove it!

Face to face delivery is facilitated in our training room at Head Office or we can come to you! Our feedback is always positive such as “Really enjoyed the course, I would rate it highly!” or “A comfortable learning environment”!

We are launching our e-learning in March 2020. Did you know we’re able to take the stress of training matrices off you too? We will have a fully functional training matrix option available for all care services; as well as accessing the matrix to view, it can notify you when training is due and update once training has been completed with us!

We have great deals on for the new year, why not enquire now to see how we can help you? Alternatively, follow us on Social Media to look out for upcoming deals.
Green light for hotel plan for extension on Green Belt land

PLANS to extend a West Lancs hotel using Green Belt land were given the go-ahead by members of the borough council’s planning committee at their meeting on Thursday, January 9.

The owners of the Briars Hall Hotel in Lathom were seeking permission to build an L-shaped extension on undeveloped grass land to the west of the main hotel and to the edge of the woodland and brook, creating 22 extra bedrooms to add to its existing 25 rooms.

The applicant said that the proposed development would enable the hotel to provide accommodation with disabled access as the current bedrooms are on the first floor and only accessible by stairs.

Currently employing around 25 full-time staff and an additional 15 or more part-time for large functions, hotel bosses said the proposals could create a further 10 full-time and 20 part-time posts.

The hotel, located on Briars Lane, also applied to build a single-storey addition to the existing kitchen and a single-storey, flat-roofed events space linking to the existing function facilities.

In her report to the committee, Heidi McDougall, the borough council’s corporate director of place and community, had recommended that the plans be approved despite the fact the development would cause “significant harm” to Green Belt.

She said the economic case put forward to ensure the viability of the hotel and protect/boost local employment would bring significant benefits and outweigh the loss of Green Belt.

Decision on application to build new supermarket and offices put on hold

A DECISION on whether to allow a new Aldi store and offices to be built on the site of a building of historic interest has been put on hold by West Lancs Council’s planning committee.

The application, submitted to the authority on behalf of the German supermarket giant and GBA Services Ltd., sought to demolish the now derelict Bay Leaf restaurant, on Liverpool Road, south of Tarleton village, and build a retail space, a car park and two-storey offices.

GBA Services Ltd., which would occupy the office space, is a local company currently operating from Moss Lane in Tarleton.

The application was due to be heard by the committee on Thursday, January 9 but was withdrawn by officers “for further consideration.”

Next meeting of the planning committee is scheduled for Thursday, February 20.
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Trust to invest £1m to address shortage of anaesthetists

Report by Kenny Parker

SOUTHPORT and Ormskirk Hospitals NHS Trust is investing £1m in its anaesthetics service to address ongoing staffing issues which an internal report described as having ‘potentially catastrophic risks’ to patient safety.

However, trust bosses have moved to reassure patients that services at both hospital sites are ‘safely maintained’ despite difficulties recruiting anaesthetists - in common, they say, with trusts across the country.

The concerns were highlighted in the recent General Election campaign when local Labour party activists claimed NHS documents had exposed ‘extreme risks to patient and staff safety in hospitals.

With regard to the trust, which manages Southport and Fomby District General Hospital and Ormskirk and District General Hospital, the party claimed: “There is a catastrophic risk of inadequate staffing levels in the anaesthetic department due to burn out, sickness, annual leave or lack of sufficiently cheap agency staff.”

“This could affect the safety of emergency, ICU and maternity departments, and could mean that A&E would be closed to high risk patients, including children.”

The comments were based on a report to a board of directors meeting in November. Along with the inadequate staffing of the anaesthetics department, the risk profile also identified missing appointments/admissions as being of ‘potential catastrophic consequence’. Both risks were classified as being ‘likely’ to take place.

Southport and Ormskirk Hospitals NHS Trust told the Champion that NHS trusts across England are experiencing difficulties with staffing anaesthetic departments but that it is presently investing in the service and patients are safe.

A spokesperson for the trust said: “There is a shortage of anaesthetists across the NHS. Against this background the trust is investing £1m over three years redesigning our anaesthetics service, recruiting to new roles and providing training opportunities to our own staff.

“We are confident the medical cover and processes we have in place in the meantime ensure patient safety is maintained at all times.”

Regarding the issue of missing appointments, the trust said it was essentially an administrative matter involving patients who had not been formally discharged. The spokesperson said: “The trust is reviewing patients who have received hospital treatment but has not been formally discharged. To date, three-quarters of those patients were discharged without the need for further investigation. The remainder were seen by a doctor and then discharged with no further action.”

According to the Royal College of Anaesthetists 75% of anaesthetic departments across the UK have at least one unfilled consultant post and around half (48%) of departments have advertised a consultant post that they have been unable to fill.

Anaesthetics is the largest specialty in the NHS with one in six consultants being anaesthetists.

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Student who survived flesh-eating bug aims to alert others to danger

AN Edge Hill University graduate who survived a so-called “flesh-eating bug” after being bitten by a mosquito in Asia is aiming to warn other students of the danger.

Donna Cox had been travelling around Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand to celebrate completing a master’s degree in sport, physical activity and mental health. But the 22-year-old was forced to cut short her trip and return home after the bite became infected with necrotising fasciitis.

And doctors said that had she visited A&E just hours later than she did, she probably would not have survived.

Despite three operations on her leg, Donna was warned that she would struggle to walk again but she defied the odds to walk across the stage with crutches at her graduation ceremony.

Now she is aiming to alert others to the dangers of necrotising fasciitis, the symptoms of which include intense pain out of proportion to any damage to the skin, followed by swelling and redness; a high temperature and other flu-like symptoms which may develop into diarrhoea and vomiting; and dark blotches on the skin that turn into fluid-filled blisters.

She said: “A lot of students go travelling and I just want to do whatever I can to make sure people are aware of this infection and know what to look out for.

“I was doing everything you should to avoid mosquito bites like covering up and wearing spray but I was still getting bitten way more than anyone else I was with. Then this one bite became so painful that I couldn’t stand or walk properly. When the pain carried on getting worse I ended up booking a flight home.

Donna intended to book a doctor’s appointment but after speaking to an NHS out-of-hours service she went to her local A&E where she was admitted and kept in overnight before being rushed to the infectious diseases department at North Manchester General Hospital.

“I remember having to sign something giving them permission to amputate - and this was only a week after I got the bite.”

Donna is still undergoing physiotherapy but is grateful to be alive and still have her leg. And she is planning to return to thank the doctor who she believes saved her life.

She had planned to travel again after picking up her degree but instead spent five weeks recovering in hospital. That enabled her to start looking for work and she has now secured her ‘dream job’ as a mental health nursing associate.

“Now I almost feel like it was all meant to be!”

Donna (left) following her graduation and (above) her leg showing where the mosquito had bitten her.
Plasterer Kev is a smooth operator when it comes to celebrity dating

Report by Henry James

It’s not everyday you get the chance to go out with a celebrity... but that’s exactly what happened to Kev Donohue when he dated one of the Nolan sisters! Kev, a plastering contractor from Ormskirk, appeared on Channel 4’s ‘Flirty Dancing’ where he went out with singer and Loose Women star Coleen Nolan.

The singleton, 59, who grew up in Formby, was taking part in the celebrity edition of the programme, which was screened to raise awareness of the ‘Stand Up To Cancer’ appeal.

In the show, hopefuls are given four days to learn a dance routine but they don’t meet the person they are paired with until the date when it is hoped they will create a spark when they start dancing together.

After the performance, the contestants must decide if they want to see their dance partner again... or, if their first dance together was their last!

The producers filmed Kev’s back story at Hurlston Hall, where he regularly goes to the gym, and at Formby beach. The dancing was filmed in London.

The show is hosted by the choreographer, Ashley Banjo, who was impressed with Kev’s moves: “Kev has a sense of rhythm. He has the passion and is a really nice guy with a great smile. To get him up to Coleen round the floor in a few rehearsals is the challenge.”

Kev, who has also driven sleeper buses all over Europe for rock bands, such as U2 and The Rolling Stones, said: “I was head-hunted by the producers of the show on a dating site which I am on. They put me with someone who they thought I would be compatible with.”

“I had the camera on me, but I have worked in the entertainment business before so I was not phased by it at all.”

After the dance, he commented: “It was great. It was just magical. It didn’t feel like dancing with someone I didn’t know, or I had never met before.”

So, is there a future with Coleen? Well, it looks as though their flirty dance ended up a very brief romance and Kev confessed “no more dates are planned.”

Probate – Use a Professional

Dealing with the death of a loved one is a traumatic experience. One of the last things you are likely to want to think about is handling the administration of their estate if you have been appointed as an executor in their will or are going to be appointed as the administrator of their estate if they have died intestate.

It can be tempting to think that matters are straightforward and you can handle things yourself and that you could save the estate money if you dealt with the administration of the estate. However, this approach carries a great deal of risk and may not be in your or the beneficiaries’ best interests.

At Dickinson Parker Hill, our Private Client team of solicitors can help you ensure that the administration of an estate is carried out correctly, minimise the risks and can advise on ways to save tax and protect assets from future creditors, such as care home fees for surviving relatives. Having a qualified solicitor handle the administration of the estate can also ensure that disputes are avoided and that any claims on an estate are handled correctly.

If you attempt to handle the administration of an estate yourself you are leaving yourself open to potential claims if you make an error. Often, trying to rectify a mistake after it has occurred is far more expensive than instructing a solicitor in the first place. The costs of administering an estate should not be the only consideration when deciding how to proceed and you should be wary of unregulated companies who purport to have legal training and Private Client expertise but in reality do not.

We have been established over 200 years and have been advising the people of West Lancashire on the administration of estates for generations. Our Mr Michael Prendergast, head of Private Client at Dickinson Parker Hill, is a full member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and is supported by a team of Private Client solicitors and Probate Executives.

We offer a friendly and professional service and can arrange home visits for all matters. If you would like further information or would like to make an appointment please contact our offices on 01695 574 201 or email Michael Prendergast at mprendergast@dphlaw.co.uk.

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Cooper backs ‘neighbour’ for Labour’s top job

ROSE Cooper is supporting Wigan MP Lisa Nandy in the contest to replace Jeremy Corbyn as leader of the Labour Party.

The West Lancs MP said: “I am pleased to have nominated my friend and neighbouring MP Lisa Nandy for leader of the Labour Party. Lisa understands and will be strong in fighting for communities like ours here in West Lancashire, making our voices heard and delivering, not just talking, while truly holding the Tories to account over the next five years. “I have also nominated Dawn Butler for deputy leader, a strong candidate who I believe also speaks to a broad demographic not just within our party, but across the population of the UK.”

Council’s strategy to tackle homelessness recommended for public consultation

‘Action Plan will focus on improving the depth and range of housing advice services and accommodation offer’

CABINET members were set to discuss West Lancs Council’s draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2019-2024 at their scheduled meeting yesterday (Tuesday, January 14) with officers recommending that it then be made available to the public for consultation.

Under the Homelessness Act 2002 local authorities have to regularly review homelessness in their area. The council’s current strategy was approved in 2017, but a further review has taken place following the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2018.

The review found that homelessness in the borough is increasing with the most likely to present as homeless being males aged 25 to 44 and female single parents, which reflects the national trend.

And although the use of temporary accommodation in the borough was found to be minimal compared to national figures, it has increased during the last year.

Improvements

Key objectives outlined in the strategy are to reduce homelessness by increasing prevention and early intervention; enhance the housing offer for both temporary and longer-term accommodation; and to improve health and wellbeing. Officers have said that an Action Plan, “will focus on improving the depth and range of housing advice services and the accommodation offer, to ensure more homeless cases are prevented.”

They add that a period of public consultation is “required to allow stakeholders and the public to provide feedback or suggested improvements.”

It is hoped that the actions contained in the strategy will “help to improve the housing advice offer to all who are faced with homelessness which in turn will reduce the number of households becoming homeless.”
Animal sanctuary to expand rescue and outreach work

Report by Danielle Thompson

STAFF at a West Lancs animal charity are looking to extend their rescue and outreach work.

The team at the Woodlands Animal Sanctuary in Sandy Lane, Holmeswood, say their sights are set firmly on the continued growth of their rescue and rehabilitation centre to continue helping sick, abandoned and unwanted pets and wildlife.

Alongside this, they are also looking to grow their outreach programme which aims to engage with people of all ages to teach them about the animals’ health and care.

The charity has recently taken in three pygmy goats to live with their existing goats and sheep.

Education programme

Staff have named them Harry, Ron and Hermione, after the characters from the Harry Potter books – although they hope the trio don’t get up to quite the same level of adventures as their famous namesakes!

The goats, which are being rehomed from Inglenook Farm in nearby Rainford following its recent closure, will feature in the charity’s education and outreach programme by visiting schools, groups and clubs.

Meanwhile supporters have the opportunity to sponsor animals at the sanctuary and it is also still running its ‘Buy A Bale’ scheme, which encourages people to buy bedding and feed for those animals in the stable yard including ponies, donkeys, rabbits, sheep and goats. (For details search under Get Involved on the charity’s website at www.woodlandsanimal sanctuary.org.uk/).

Among other fundraising events planned at Woodlands this year is the annual spring ball, which will also mark the charity’s 15th birthday. This will take place at the Bliss Hotel in Southport and includes a three-course meal, live band and DJ. Tickets are £39.50 and are available now by calling 01704 823293.

Report by Danielle Thompson

The trio of pygmy goats which have newly arrived at Woodlands Animal Sanctuary.
Councillor should support ‘pedestrian friendly’ plan for Derby Street bridge

THERE were two interesting transport stories in the Champion (January 8) I’d like to respond to. Firstly, the Derby Street bridge. Perhaps not exactly here, but Northop, Abergele or Hensol. I have seen how traffic chaos can develop when two pedestrian crossings become one by a small parking area. Instead of throwing her toys out of the pram like most modern politicians, Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey may perhaps she should take the issue up with Lancashire County Council and show some decorum.

If the Jacobs report has shown there will be a minimal impact on traffic, she should be fully supportive of this pedestrian friendly scheme. She is a Labour politician after all. If she doesn’t support green initiatives, perhaps she should switch parties.

I personally think the scheme is a good idea. Ormskirk station is the second busiest in Lancashire and the pedestrian approaches to it are awful - and dangerous.

I’ve written about this before but Ormskirk station should be a major transport hub for rail, bus, pedestrians and cyclists. Liverpool South Parkway is a good example of how big the station should be, with its properly integrated bus terminus.

Support needed for M.E. research

MANY of your readers will know at least one of the 250,000 children and adults in the UK with myalgic encephalomyelitis (M.E.), also diagnosed as chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS), or M.E./CFS, though they may not see the devastating toll this serious neurological condition can take.

A lack of research means that we don’t yet know the cause, or have an effective treatment, but a large, planned genetic study could change this. While scientists and patients working together, the M.E./CFS Biomedical Partnership is applying for funding to test DNA samples from 20,000 people with M.E. Readers can show their support for this potentially game-changing biomedical research, and sign-up for updates, at www.mebio-med.org.uk/get-involved.

Sonya Chowdhury, chief executive, Action for M.E.

Drop a us a line

If you’ve got a view on a topic of local or national interest you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line? Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

They should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and include the sender’s name, address and contact details. Although not necessarily for publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

The editor reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for favour of publication.

Please note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

Chance to help us to fund the fight back against the devastation of meningitis

I’d like to invite your readers to make a New Year’s resolution to help us fight back against the devastation of meningitis in 2020 by supporting the New Year New You campaign.

I know only too well the misery meningitis can bring. I was just 16 when I contracted bacterial meningitis, which left me seriously ill in hospital. Thankfully, I made a good recovery but others are not so fortunate.

Now, we’re inviting everyone to join us and sign up for a Meningitis Now challenge or community event as part of our New Year New You campaign. We have lots to choose from, to suit all levels of fitness and interest, including treks, cycles and runs, in this country and abroad.

All the details are on our website at www.meningitisnow.org/new-year-new-you/

Money raised will help us to fund preventative research, raise awareness and support those affected by the disease through Meningitis Now’s unique range of services.

Please join us if you can in 2020 - together we can make a difference and fight back against meningitis.

Seema Jaswal, TV presenter and Meningitis Now Ambassador.

 Loss of market stalls is a disaster for our town

SEEING market stalls’ closing down sales, whilst others are proclaiming their intentions to cease being in Ormskirk, is a disaster for our town.

Look at the main area - where shops are closing with Iceland being the latest - and notwithstanding that this place will look derelict during the week, at least the twice-weekly presence of the market can justify the council’s statement that we are a Market Town.

So what if the council need to subsidise it a bit - and that includes their portion of rent - which is another reason given to me as their motivation.

Hopefully the ‘buat’ attitude, featured by the chief operating officer, Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey may rub off on the out of touch council.

Martin Pegett, Ormskirk, by email.

Urgent action needed to tackle disgusting dog mess menace

I WOULD like to see a story in your paper about the disgusting state of the paths in Skelmersdale.

There are too many bins in the middle of the grass with no access via a path, not only are there not enough bins (or bins placed in the middle of the grass with no access via a path) but there is not enough being done to deter bad dog owners from letting their dog foul the middle of every path for kids to walk in!

It is also disgusting to see endless dog poo bags hanging inside bushes because people can’t be bothered to take them home - also due to a lack of bins.

I look after a lady with learning disabilities who needs linking whilst out in the community and it is impossible to walk anywhere vệ or without having to step over dog poo while playing ‘dodgems’ to avoid the endless amounts of faeces in front of us.

Are we expected to walk in the road?

The whole of Skelmersdale is dogged by litter and faeces and is utterly unbearable to live in.

Doesn’t the council do something about the issue instead of letting it get to this disgusting state?

Sorry for the rant but this issue is out of control.

J.M., by email.

Failure to improve drainage will mean more misery for Burscough’s flood victims

HAVING read the Christmas and New Year message in the Champion from West Lancashire Borough Council leader Ian Moran (January 1) I thought it a good opportunity to write a response for inclusion within the letter’s page please.

Due to the combined failures of WLBC and Lancashire County Council to use much of the currently published flooding evidence for Burscough; the drawn-out process of issuing the Jacob’s report for Burscough; and WLBC’s failure to consult with United Utilities on planning application 2019/1182/ARM; it could be perceived that flooding evidence for Burscough is being managed by omission and that is likely to enable the next phase of building on New Tree Farm to go ahead without any improvement in the current drainage system.

This could save United Utilities tens of millions but would further the misery of flood victims in Burscough.

Gavin Rattray, secretary, Burscough Flooding Group.
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AN African-based charity, co-founded by a nun from Parbold, is once again appealing to the generosity of the West Lancashire community.

The Gorsilaure Project in Qinsantu, Bas-Congo, which provides a home and schooling for destitute children and orphans, has featured in the Champion regularly and its manager, Father Simon Lumbela, has been grateful for the generous support offered by readers over the years.

The charity was originally formed in 1998 after Sister Margaret Rose Scullion, of the Convent of Notre Dame on Lancaster Lane, Parbold, experienced the devastating effects of war on the people of the Congo.

Along with its accommodation, orphanage and schools, which provide primary and secondary education, it also has a hospital with maternity and surgical units, as well as overseeing farming, food production and manufacturing schemes.

Abandoned
Following Bas-Congo presidential elections in January last year, Sister Margaret Rose revealed in her Christmas newsletter to supporters that despite hopes that the country’s economic situation would improve for its citizens nothing had changed.
She wrote: “The socio-economic situation of the people is the worst in the world despite the so-called riches of the Congo. The people are in the worst kind of misery and parents are at a complete loss as to how to provide for their families. Numberless children are simply being abandoned.”

Father Simon added that the work of the Gorsilaure Project would not be possible without the generosity of its supporters.

“This is why, we are turning to you and asking you to remember the poor children of the Congo,” he wrote, “Thank you for your kindness.”

To donate to The Gorsilaure Project send a cheque or postal order (payable to The Gorsilaure Project) to Peter Harding at 6 Sealstrand, Dalgety Bay, Fife, KY11 9NG. Peter can be contacted on 01383 822540 or 07963 606 677.

Alternatively, people can donate directly to the charity’s bank account: Royal Bank of Scotland, sort code 832901 and account number 00684017.
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‘Don’t miss out...’

Universal Credit claimants urged to check their eligibility for lesser-known benefits

W EST LAN CASHIRE residents are being urged to check some of the lesser-known Universal Credit claims to see if they could be eligible.

According to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), there are more than 2.7 million people receiving Universal Credit, but there are additional entitlements that may be going under the radar.

This includes help with childcare costs, half-price travel on rail and bus services and help with a lack of ‘work clothes’.

Here are six Universal Credit entitlements that you may not know about:

1. Up to 85% of childcare costs can be reimbursed through Universal Credit. Costs can be reported online, and those in work while in receipt to Universal Credit can apply for up to £646.35 per month if you have one child and up to £1,181.40 for two or more children.

2. You can get up to 50% off train and bus travel if you are eligible for a Jobcentre Plus Travel Discount Card which is great for getting to interviews and appointments as well as being valid for all other journeys you make.

3. Not having ‘work clothes’ doesn’t have to stop you accepting a job as a Flexible Support Fund is available to help you cover the costs of starting work. This money does not have to be paid back, and can cover the costs of things like clothing and uniforms to start work, and travel to interviews.

4. If you are having a child you may be entitled to a one-off payment. Known as the Sure Start Maternity Grant, households on Universal Credit can benefit from a one-off payment of £500.

5. You could save on your Council Tax bill and in some cases you may not need to pay anything at all. Depending on your circumstances and where you live, you may be eligible for a Council Tax Reduction.

6. You can get help to start saving. The Government’s Help to Save scheme offers people who receive Universal Credit, and some people entitled to Working Tax Credit, incentives to save anything from £1 up to £50 per month. After two years of saving, the government will give you an extra 50p for every £1 you have saved.

Minister for Welfare Delivery, Will Quince said: “We are helping people to access the support they need, and Universal Credit can help you pay essential bills, such as housing and childcare. “We know life can be complicated at times, but claiming benefits doesn’t have to be. If you need help, our staff are here to simplify the system and make sure you’re getting the right level of support.”

If you think you may be eligible for any of the above additional entitlements speak to your work coach at your next appointment or send a message in your online journal.

It is important that you give the right information when making a claim and report life changes as soon as possible to ensure your Universal Credit continues to be paid correctly.

You may even find out that you are eligible for other benefits or support.

If you are unsure about something relating to your Universal Credit claim call the DWP’s Universal Credit hot-line on 0800 328 5644.

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Health officials’ call for borough residents to look after themselves and each other to keep winter illness at bay

Report by Henry James

HEALTH service officials are reminding West Lancs residents of the importance of looking after themselves and each other during the cold winter months.

Winter can pose many problems for health and wellbeing, especially for older people and/or those with long-term conditions.

Cold and wet weather, ice, snow and windy conditions all play their part in making existing health conditions worse and making people vulnerable to picking up colds, sore throats, asthma, norovirus and most commonly the flu. Many older folk in particular can also experience loneliness due to being more shut off due to the dark nights and colder weather.

But there are some simple steps people can take to maintain their health and wellbeing during the winter months and as part of the preparations for the year ahead, the NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), is urging people to get organised with their health too by looking after themselves and each other.

Dr John Caine, local GP and chair of the CCG, said: “A sense of community is so important and it’s essential that people are mindful of people who may be more isolated or vulnerable over the winter months.

“We recommend checking on older neighbours, ensuring they have the basics such as adequate heating and food provisions especially during very cold weather spells.

More information, including how to access courses and classes, is available at http://activewwestlancs.org/.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, West Lancs Council’s cabinet member for leisure, said: “Make 2020 the year you make your health a priority. Active West Lancs helps you achieve your goal, so take a look at the website and find the activities that are right for you.”

Dr John Caine, chairman of NHS West Lancashire CCG.

Dr Caine continued: “Another thing we are all guilty of over the festive season is over-indulging. And while that is all part of the celebrations, it is important that everyone maintains the most active healthiest lifestyle they can.

“There are many ways people can do this by eating a balanced diet and enjoying walks in the local park or a new fitness class, or by doing more day-to-day exercise such as taking the stairs and walking to the local shops.”

Active West Lancs offers a variety of programmes and activities to help borough residents improve their health and wellbeing.

Free Active Weight classes are starting mid-January at various locations across the borough and there are also health walks, walking football, tai chi, gym and line dancing sessions available to try.

More information, including how to access courses and classes, is available at http://activewwestlancs.org.

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LOOKING back to 2000, do you remember all the noise around the world telling us that the change from 20th to 21st century would see the collapse of our computer systems? I can remember the way we waited with trepidation as we logged on to our desktops and laptops for the first time on January 1, 2000, and the sighs of relief as nothing untoward happened. Now we have reached 2020, our computer systems continue to take control of our lives.

At home it has been a quiet few days with no phone calls threatening us with Amazon Prime subscription increases and computer and broadband repairs. However I have heard from a local resident about a number of text invitations on her mobile phone to take part in a Citizens Advice Satisfaction Survey.

Our national Citizens Advice Service and our local Sefton Advice Service do not carry out such online surveys.

Locally, if you are a client at one of our advice centres we may occasionally ask you after an interview with one of our advisors, for your views on our service for yourself, but this will be a short paper questionnaire to complete and hand back to our receptionist before you leave.

Phone calls offering a ‘fix’ for your computer over the internet are frauds. Do not give access to your computer to anyone who cold calls you and never give your personal details or send money to people you do not know.

Recently I heard of a phishing fraud involving EE mobile service and Monzo, the online bank. The fraudster managed to text a message to the victim apparently from EE saying that their monthly payment had not been received, and giving a link to enter his Monzo card details, which he did. The next day Monzo contacted him to state that his account had been compromised. The person asked me if he had been asked for his bank details recently and he told Monzo about the message from EE. It soon emerged that someone had made a £214 payment to a company he had never heard of – Bunq. He was seemingly the victim of a ‘phishing’ scam in which the fraudster impersonated both EE and Monzo. After investigations, Monzo credited the victim with the £214 that he had lost.

Finally, Merseyside Police have recently shared a warning with the public, after an elderly woman was tricked into handing over several thousand pounds in cash, following a phone call from a man who claimed to be a police officer. The pensioner, from Southport, was first contacted over the phone by a man who said he was a police officer from London who was investigating a fraud case and needed her assistance.

The man went on to ask the woman to withdraw a significant amount of money from her account and told her that someone would call for it later that day. She did so, and following this, then spoke to three different people on the phone - two men and a woman, who claimed to be working on the investigation.

And later in the day, a man aged 18-19 years old, dressed in a black bomber jacket and dark coloured jeans, turned up at the pensioner’s home to collect the cash. He is described as a black male, 5ft 10in tall, with an afro style hair cut around six inches in length.

Merseyside Police have also issued advice on what to do if someone turns up at your door, including those who pose as officials.

The force say that taking the following simple steps could prevent you, or your family, becoming victims:

- Remember to close and lock the back door before answering the front door.
- Always ask to see the identification of the person calling.
- If you are in any doubt about the identification shown, phone the company they claim to represent and check - don’t use the phone number they give you, look in the phone book for it.
- Ask the person to wait outside while you check and never leave your front door open while you do so.
- If the caller claims to be from an electricity, gas or water company, ask them to quote your customer reference number. A genuine caller from these utility companies will have that information.
- If the caller claims to be from the police he/she should have a warrant card and this can be checked by calling Merseyside Police on 101.
- If the caller leaves and you are still unsure about their credibility, write down the details of the person and the registration number and type and colour of vehicle if you know it and contact us on 101.
- For extra security and peace of mind, fit a viewer or spy hole and a strong chain to your door.

Citizens Advice Sefton has a general telephone service on 0344 493 0012, or you can visit either of the local advice centres. Opening days and times are shown on the website http://sefton-cab.org.uk/our-services.html

You can also report to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or online at www.actionfraud.police.uk.
Edge Hill honours distinguished judge

JUDGE Professor Paulo Pinto de Albuquerque has been recognised for his outstanding contribution to social justice and human rights law with an honorary doctorate from Edge Hill University.

A distinguished jurist and legal academic, he has authored more than 150 opinions and significantly contributed to the development of international human rights law.

Nominated by senior lecturers, Dr Mariagiulia Giuffré and Dr Tristiano Mariotti, the honorary award is a result of the judge’s significant contribution to strengthening Edge Hill’s research profile in human rights law.

Last year, he invited the law lecturers to Strasbourg to deliver training at the European Court of Human Rights.

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Super slimmer Kath is feeling happy because of Slimming World’

Kath Archer is looking forward to life after losing over 3st and keeping it off with her local Slimming World group. The 57-year-old, from Ormskirk has dropped 3st and keeping it off with her local Slimming World group in February 2019, Kath wore a dress size 12 and Dr David Haycock.

"I really enjoyed the festivities and finally feeling glamorous enough to wear the outfits I always wanted to but to start 2020 at my ideal weight has been the icing on the cake," says Kath. She adds, I was very nervous when I first walked through the doors of the group because I expected everyone to judge me, but I didn’t have worried because everyone was so friendly and welcoming. I’ve made friends and I love swapping recipes and ideas every week. There’s lots going on in the group so it’s always lots of fun. My Consultant has been so supportive too, she’s positive and enthusiastic and is always at the end of the phone if I need her."

After joining Slimming World, Kath began following the club’s Food Optimising healthy eating plan and was amazed to discover that she didn’t have to give up her favourite meals: “I actually eat the same things now as before – Chinese, roast dinners, pasta dishes – but they’re all made from scratch and I still eat out too – I just make healthier choices like having pasta with a tomato and vegetable sauce instead of meals that are fried or covered in creamy sauces or dressings.”

“I love to bake but now treat myself to a small slice rather than the whole cake! Before I lost weight I found sociatising and nights out very difficult – I could never find clothes I felt comfortable in and shopping was so stressful I ended up buying things online. Now I love shopping in all the high street stores. This year I’ve been accepting every invitation I receive and instead of hiding in baggy or black clothes, I’ve been showing off my new figure!”

Kath’s Daily Menu
Breakfast: cereal, yoghurt and fruit
Lunch: homemade soup, snack of yoghurt and fruit
Dinner: spaghetti bolognese with lots of veg
Treats: cappuccino and cereal bar. Plus the odd glasses of wine or gin and slimline tonic or small chocolate bar.

So if you want to feel happier and healthier like Kath in 2020, see the advertisement attached for all local group details.
Fencing club members celebrate a year of success and progress

MEMBERS and officials of a West Lancs fencing club are looking forward to a productive 2020 after celebrating a successful year of competition in 2019.

Paul Michell, coach of the Scarisbrick Swords based at Scarisbrick Hall School, said: "We have enjoyed a significant year of competitive success, culminating this month in James Hughes' selection for the Welsh under-15 team for Poland 2020 and the continued selection of Sophia Neophytou and Grace Michell for the North West ladies under-17 team for the Cadet Winton Cup, the annual inter-regional tournament.

"In addition to that trio, strong results have also been posted by the club's up and coming competitors as well. Most notably, Katy Hawthorne's victory at the under-12 Cocks Moors Woods Championship and the excellent performances by Michael and Edward Neophytou of fifth and third in the Elite Épée and Leon Paul Junior Series respectively.

"For me and the club's other coaches, these results are the fruits of several years of patient development with both the club and the individual athletes who train there. They are delighted with this progress but also have their sights firmly set on extending this success and establishing the club's reputation in the fencing world and beyond. "Scarisbrick Swords is a not-for-profit community sports club governed by constitution. It promotes the sport of fencing, particularly for young people in the surrounding area and aims to improve the health and well-being of all its members through fencing.

"Although the club has grown out of Scarisbrick Hall's after-school sports provision, it now has several children and adults who regularly take part from outside the school and membership ranges from raw beginners to experienced national competitors."

For more information about the club email info@scarisbrickswords.co.uk or search for them on Facebook.

Coaches and members of the Scarisbrick Swords are looking forward to another successful year ahead in 2020.

Classic car lovers' £800 boost for animal rescue centre

MEMBERS of a motoring club have shown their love for four legs as well as four wheels by raising £800 for an animal rescue centre!

The West Lancashire MG Owners Club adopted Carla Lane Animals in Need rescue centre in Melling as their chosen charity for 2019 and the money was the result of various fundraising events held throughout the year. Four members of the club - chairman Ralph Greenhalgh, secretary Cam Cunningham and Male Evans and Kim Hague - visited the kennels to hand over the cheque.

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Ex-police press officer is heritage group guest

A FORMER press officer for both Lancashire and Greater Manchester police forces will be guest speaker at the first talk of the new year for the Burscough Heritage Group.

Entitled ‘A Police Spokesperson said...’ Roger Blazell’s talk will discuss his past career at the meeting to be held at the Bull and Dog Inn, Liverpool Road South, Burscough on Monday, January 20. He will also be asking for the audience’s help in exploring actual cases.

The meeting starts at 7.10pm and entry is by a £2 donation.

For more information call Lesley Stopforth on 07745 337510.

History society AGM

MERE Brow Local History Society will hold its annual general meeting on Wednesday, January 15 at Mere Brow Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

All members are invited to attend to help appoint the officers for the forthcoming year. After the business is concluded the evening will end with a hot-pot supper.

For more information call Joan on 01772 814289.

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ACROSS
7. An assistant (6)
8. Waiting to be connected while making a telephone call (2, 4)
9. Opposed to (4)
10. Lose or lack vitality; grow weak (8)
11. Refrain from disliking or enjoying something (7)
13. Confess to be true (5)
15. Long for (5)
16. An anxious awareness of danger (7)
18. Inspiring great affection (8)
19. Period of 40 days that Christians observe from Ash Wednesday to Easter, often marked by giving something up (4)
21. Cause bodily harm to (6)
22. Cite as evidence (6)

DOWN
1. Inert gas used in fluorescent lamps and illuminated advertising signs (4)
2. Small organisation, typically a political party, that has broken away from a larger one (8, 5)
3. A framework of light wooden or metal bars used as a support for fruit trees or climbing plants (7)
4. Unit of weight equal to 1,000 kilograms (5)
5. Common name for the scapula (8, 5)
6. The dried aromatic fruit of a Caribbean tree (8)
12. The mating and production of offspring by animals (8)
14. Forbidden by law (7)
17. Building occupied by a community of monks or nuns (6)
20. Part of a person’s body connecting the head to the rest (4)

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Uplifting musical coming to Empire for first time

ONE of the most celebrated musicals of all time, Once comes to Liverpool for the first time, and Queen 2018 premiere at the New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich.

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The cast also features Daniel Healy as Guy and Emma Lucia as Girl, who return to the roles after receiving the Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Music. Once has a Book by award-winning Irish playwright and screenwriter Enda Walsh, and music and lyrics by Academy Award winning Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová who, for Falling Slowly, won the Oscar for Best Original Song.

Once is Celebrated for its original score including the single Breathe, before taking on the role of Girl in Beautiful, and having won awards across the world including the West End production in 2013 which

received the Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Music.

One has a Book by award-winning Irish playwright and screenwriter Enda Walsh, and music and lyrics by Academy Award winning Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová who, for Falling Slowly, won the Oscar for Best Original Song. It is based on the motion picture written and directed by John Carney. The Original Production Concept is by John Tiffany.
1. **IKEA ARLANCHRUS** Pair of comfy armchairs. Blue and white, pattern with removable headrests. Ideal for reading in bed. Excellent condition. £45 07813 392087

2. **HOTPOINT TUMBLER DRYER** Very dry. Hardly used. Can deliver to Southport area. £70 07711797079

3. **HIGHLAND WAVE CLOCK** 31.5cm wide by 15cm high. Wood and glass. £100 0151 608 7110

4. **HENRY VACUUM** Upright, red motor, hose and tube, model no. VP90260. £45 Southport 01742 508489

5. **HEATED ROLLERS** Large oak desk, 120cm wide £100. £70 07732507225

6. **STYLISH ARMCHAIR** High back, gold fabric. Approx. 60cm H. £85 07756229527

7. **CHILDREN'S CURTAINS** 2 pairs. Red and blue featuring cars. £10 each. 01704 564708

8. **DIMPLEX DEHUMIDIFIER** Large Ruler. Optimus style. Used for 3 years. £90 07756229527

9. **NEWBURY CLOAKROOM CORNER UNIT** Glass £20. Beautiful cream and gold with white basin and stainless steel tap. £50 01704 220356

10. **IKEA ARMCHAIRS (2)** 14 Claro Strong Recliner Chairs. £100 each. 01704 220356

11. **CHILDREN'S BED** In working order. £10 07813 392087

12. **CHILDREN'S FURNITURE** Small range of children's tables and chairs in a range of styles. £5 each. 01704 564708

13. **HEATED ROLLERS** Small fan heat. £20. 07387439004

14. **GOLD CHAIN** Smooth. 18K gold. £400. 07387439004

15. **LOBBY HOLLOW VINTAGE COLLECTION** Plates 10in 1970s barrettes x3. SOLD each 07709731733

16. **CHAIR** Grey upholstered meeting room type chairs. £50 each. 07756229527

17. **CHILDREN'S BED** With changeable mattress. £8. 07709731733

18. **Pendalux armchair** A pair of reproduction wing back chairs. £50 each. 07709731733

19. **OLD VINTAGE GLASS** A pair of mixed glasses. £20 each. 07709731733

20. **EDEN CUSHIONS** Various sizes. £10 each. 07709731733

21. **LUXURY CUSHIONS** 7 duck-egg blue feather cushions 3 @ £25 each. £70 0151 520 1250

22. **DINE SET** 14 new heads, cream buffer. £70 per set. 07790791733

23. **DIMPLEX DEHUMIDIFIER** Large Ruler. Optimus style. Used for 3 years. £90 07756229527

24. **CUTLERY SET**粥 Biscuit colour in very good condition £35 Aughton or Skelmersdale. 01744 22215

25. **CUTLERY SET**粥 Biscuit colour in very good condition £35 Aughton or Skelmersdale. 01744 22215

26. **SCAFFOLDING** A pair of scaffolding poles. £20. 0151 630 5559

27. **REAL WOODEN BASKET** Low fruit basket weave moulded formica inside. £15. 0151 630 5559

28. **REAL WOODEN BASKET** Low fruit basket weave moulded formica inside. £15. 0151 630 5559

29. **REAL WOODEN BASKET** Low fruit basket weave moulded formica inside. £15. 0151 630 5559

30. **REAL WOODEN BASKET** Low fruit basket weave moulded formica inside. £15. 0151 630 5559

31. **REAL WOODEN BASKET** Low fruit basket weave moulded formica inside. £15. 0151 630 5559
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Stapleton Rd, Formby L37 2YN

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Headteacher: Mr M McGarry MA, PGCE, NPQH

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TEMPORARY TEACHING ASSISTANT – LEVEL 2

29 hours per week, term-time only

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Temporary until 31 August 2020, in the first instance, duties will include in-class support to students with special educational needs and providing assistance with personal hygiene needs.

Range High is committed to safeguarding and promoting welfare of children so the successful candidate must be able to obtain a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Disclosure

Further details and an application form can be obtained from the school’s website at www.rangehighschool.org.uk

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

To place a family announcement please call one of our team on 01704 392392 or visit champnews.com

OLIVERSON FRED
10th January
30th Birthday!

Happy 30th Birthday to our very own little Princess! Love you millions from Mum, Ash, Keira, Kalvin, Kristina, Mike, Millie, Grandma, Auntie Nikki & Family xxx

QUINN CAROL
Tony, Andrew, Michael, Helen and their families, would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for all the sympathy cards, messages of condolence, and donations for Cancer Research, received during their recent sad loss of Carol. The attendance at the funeral service and the support of many has been greatly appreciated. Thanks also to Rev. Andrew Houseley for his kind words and prayers and to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements. God Bless You All.

Peden Gladys Frances
2 Years Today
16th January 2018
Our hearts still ache with sadness, and many tears still flow. What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know. We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain. To walk with us throughout our lives Until we meet again. We miss you From your loving Daughters – Cath, Lih, Deb and San, Son-in-laws, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren xxx

Russell Arthur
Jean, Suzanne and Family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all the cards, kind messages of condolence and donations to the North West Ambulance service during their recent very sad loss. Also thanks to Crawn Funeral Directors for the dignified funeral arrangements.

MARTLAND Alice
11th January 2020 Peacefully aged 93 years of Burslem
The dearly loved Wife of the late Bill, loving Sister of Betty (deceased) and Doris (deceased) and Sister-in-law of Fred (deceased) and Gordon (deceased). Alice will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Funeral service at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 23rd January 2020 at 2.40pm. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors. Tel: 01704 722122/720012

JONES GARETH WYNE GRIFFITHS
Formerly Head of Modern Languages at the Language College at Greendall High School. Peacefully at home on 1st January 2020 after a long illness, borne with courage & dignity. Deeply loved Husband of Barbara. Devoted Father of David and Elizabeth. A loving Grandpa of Phoebe, Glyn, Amy and Thomas. GMT will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on 24th January 2020 at 12.00pm. Family flowers only please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust and The Silver Cross Society.

MAGEE ENID
7th January 2020 Peacefully at Elm House Care Home surrounded by her family, aged 88 years of Skelmersdale
A much loved Mum, Nan, Grandma and Sister, now re-united with her husband Bob. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium on Monday 20th January 2020 at 11.30am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired are to be made to WaterAid (www.wateraid.org.uk)

MEADOWS ELSIE (nee BLAGBROUGH)
29th December 2019 Aged 82 years
The funeral will take place at Thornton Crematorium on Friday 31st January at 11.30am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired are to be made to Osteoporosis Society or The Royal Osteoporosis Society.

BEALE BRIAN RICHARD
5th January 2020 Peacefully at Aintree Nursing Home, aged 74 years of Skelmersdale
He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.
Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium on Monday 20th January 2020 at 11.30am.
All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors. Tel: 01704 722122/720012

Burtmore John Edward
29th December 2019 Aged 82 years
Deeley loved Brother of Edna, Brother in Law of Alan, Nieces Janet, Louise and Family. Reunited with dear Mum, Dad and Sister Jean. Funeral to be held at Walton Lea Crematorium on Friday 24th January at 3pm.

Thomas Alan
25th December 2019 Aged 68 years
Died suddenly after a tragic accident in London. Alan will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Sunday 26th January at 12.00pm. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for The Salvation Army, Southport.

Enquiries to Howard’s Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

Rodeo Jean (MARRY)
22nd December 2019 Aged 87 years
Devoided Wife of the late Cecil Pierre, much loved Mother of Angela and Michael.
Service at Southport Crematorium on Wednesday 22nd January at 1:45pm.
Enquiries to Howard’s Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086

Rodds Catherine (Bates)
11/01/1937- 04/2020
Loving and adored Mum of Jacqueline, John and Andrew and Son and Daughters in law Mark, Fay and Eileen. Adored Grandma to Tom, Hannah, Ria, Djin, Jake and Jacey and Great Grandma, will be very sadly missed by all who knew her. Family flowers only by request please, any donations if desired to Wigan Royal Albert Hospital, ASU, Billing Ward Funeral service to be held at St Helen’s Crematorium on Monday 20th January 2020 at 11:30am. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors. Tel: 01704 722122/720012

Clare Rita
The family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all their kind messages of sympathy, cards, flowers and donations received during their recent sad loss. Special thanks to Linda, Kathy and Paul for their care and support over the years. Thanks also to the Beaught Care home for their care of mum, Carol Edwards for a lovely service and to H Hardman & Co., Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements.

Rumford John Edward
Thursday 23rd January 2020 at 11.00am.
Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

Stephen Morgan
10th January

Happy 30th Birthday to our very own little Princess! Love you millions from Mum, Ash, Keira, Kalvin, Kristina, Mike, Millie, Grandma, Auntie Nikki & Family xxx

Mayors End
7th January 2020 Peacefully at Elm House Care Home surrounded by her family, aged 88 years of Skelmersdale
A much loved Mum, Nan, Grandma and Sister, now re-united with her husband Bob. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium on Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 12.00pm. Family flowers only please, but the family are gratefully receiving donations for The Royal Osteoporosis Society or The National Autistic Society.
All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors. Tel: 01704 722122/720012

To place a family announcement please call 01704 392392 or visit champnews.com
ASHCROFT ELIZABETH (BETTY)

31st December 2018
Peacefully in hospital aged 85 years


RIP Betty.

ASHCROFT ELIZABETH VERONICA

29th December 2018
Peacefully in hospital


Mum we little knew the day that God was going to call you home. In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn’t go alone, for part of us went with you the day God called you home.

You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide and though we cannot see you, you are always at our side.

Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

“Goodnight and God Bless.”

Loving Daughter Jackie

XX

ASHCROFT ELIZABETH VERONICA

(NANA MOON)

Our Nana Moon has flown the nest where Angels fly a legends crept, though within our hearts with so much sorrow, to live forever our Nana Moon.

She had her quirks, we’ve seen them all, I was Barry, Harry then after all, as sadness dances with celebration in tune, now a righteous good night for our Nana Moon.

“Goodnight and God Bless Nan”

Love Gary and Paul

XX

ASHCROFT ELIZABETH VERONICA

If roses grow in Heaven Lord please pick a bunch for me, place them in my Mum’s arms and tell her they are from me.

Tell her I love her and miss her and when she turns to smile, place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while.

Because remembering her is easy, I do it every day, but there is an ache within my heart that will never go away.

“Goodnight and God Bless.”

Your devoted Daughter Les

XX

CLARKE TERENCE PATRICK

3rd January 2020, Aged 88 years

Sudden death at his home. Aged 88 years.

Father to James, Husband to The Late Catherine. Father in law to Elaine, Grandfather to Gary and Shaun. Brother to Joan, Kath, Marie and Brian.

Funeral service to take place Tuesday 21st January 2020 at St Benet’s Church at 11:45am.

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FALLS-HAND THELMA

November 2nd 1925 to January 10th 2020

Thelma passed away peacefully by her side and in the wonderful care of Westlodge Manor Nursing Home, at last reunited with her beloved Husband Harry. Thelma was a treasured Mother to Mandy, Tessa, Nigel and Melanie and a wonderful Gabby to her Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren. The funeral service will be held at St John’s Church, St John’s Road, Birkdale, PR8 4JL at 12 noon on Monday 20th January. Family flowers only please. Donations may be sent to Thelma and Harry’s favourite charity: Queenscourt Hospice, Southport. All enquiries about the funeral arrangements should be made to Broadbent and Seddons, 33 Liverpool Road, Birkdale Tel:01704 778143.
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Family Announcement? 01704 392392

GOSLING KEN
1st January 2020
Passed away peacefully at home aged 83 years

Deeply loved Husband of Ann. Devoted Father of Andrew and Jane and much loved Grandad of Jamie, Jennifer, Emily and Henry.
Funeral Service at St. Michael’s Church, Church Lane, Aughton, L39 6SB on Friday 24th January 2020 at 2.00p.m. followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough. Family flowers only by request, donations in aid of Queenscourt Hospice.

PARKER SHEILA MARY
27th December 2019
Aged 89 years

Devoted Wife of the late Michael, much loved Mother to Adrian, Howard and Robert, Mother-in-Law to Liz, Deborah and Jacqueline, dear Grandma to Lauren, Michelle, Hannah, Amy, Sarah, Olivia, Emma, James and Great Grandmama to Polly Joan and Sybil. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.
Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Ormskirk, L40 7SP on Wednesday 22nd January at 1.00 pm.
Enquiries to Howard’s Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 5DR. Telephone: 01704 500066.

DOBSON KEVIN THOMAS
After a long illness passed away peacefully 3rd January 2020 aged 56 years

Dearly loved Son of Rosa Stringman. Much loved Dad of Emma and Sarah. Loving Brother of Paul, Kerry and the late Mark (Dobb). A much loved Uncle of Mark, Richard, Amy, Danielle, Jemma, Beth, Holly, Andrew and Charlotte. Kevin will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.
Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 11am.
Family flowers only by request but the family are gratefully receiving donations for the Thorpe Cancer Foundation.
Further enquiries please to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, Lancashire L40 5SU. Tel 01704 897770.

LEECH NADINE MARGARET Nee Pyne
Passed away peacefully on 14th December 2019
Beloved Wife of Bryan and loving Mother of Clive and Adrian.
Enquiries to: Howard’s Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 5DR.
Telephone: 01704 500066.

PYE WILLIAM DAVID (DAVE)
(DAVE)
7th January 2020
Peacefully in hospital aged 74 years

Devoted Husband of the late Janet. Loving Brother of Dorothy, a dear Uncle of Mark, Helen and Lynn and Great Uncle of Megan, Oliver and Adam. Will be sadly missed by his family and friends.
Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Wednesday 22nd January at 10am. Family flowers only please by request.
Donations if desired for British Heart Foundation.
All enquiries to Skelmersdale Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane, Helmshore, Rossendale.
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PUBLIC NOTICES

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (MEADOW LANE, LATHORN, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC IN C115, C117 & C119 ROAD TRAFFIC LORRY 2019 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1991, as amended, the effect of which will be temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. The order shall cause any motor vehicle or cycle to proceed over that length of Measle Lane, Lathom from Daisy Lane, Lathom to Bleak Lane.

2. Nothing in this order shall apply to persons engaged in the carrying out of the works.

3. The prohibition will be operative from 0630 hours until 0930 hours on Thursday 23rd January 2020 on West of the works until this period.

4. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: Measle Lane, Lathom - Lathom - Wallace Lane, Lynden - Mossly Moss Road, Lynden - Bell Lane - Bell Lane - Bell Lane - Lathom - Daisy Lane, Lathom and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow level crossing service links to be carried out by Lancashire County Council in the interest of road safety.

Authority given for this Order to be Made:
Michael White, Network Regulator Manager, Highways and Transport, 01200 636200 [Ref: H7/E/8/1]

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (446 HOLLODE LANE, PARBOOL, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC IN C149 ROAD TRAFFIC LORRY 2019 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1991, as amended, the effect of which will be temporary prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. The order shall cause any motor vehicle or cycle to proceed over that length of 446 Hollode Lane, Parbool from C363 Lives Lane, Oatton for a distance of 300m in a South Western direction.

2. Nothing in this order shall apply to persons engaged in the carrying out of the works.

3. The prohibition will be operative from 0600 hours on Monday 20th February 2020 until 0930 hours on Wednesday 22nd February 2020 on completion of the works within this period.

4. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: 446 Hollode Lane, Parbool - C149 Hollode Lane, Parbool - Quamby Bridge - C149 Hollode Lane, Parbool - Quamby Bridge - C149 Hollode Lane, Parbool - Quamby Bridge - C149 Hollode Lane, Parbool - Quamby Bridge - C149 Hollode Lane, Parbool - Quamby Bridge - C149 Hollode Lane, Parbool - C149 Hollode Lane, Parbool.

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Authority given for this Order to be Made:
Michael White, Network Regulator Manager, Highways and Transport, 01200 636200 [Ref: H7/E/8/1]

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3. The prohibition will be operative from 0600 hours on Monday 20th February 2020 until 0930 hours on Wednesday 22nd February 2020 on completion of the works within this period.

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Michael White, Network Regulator Manager, Highways and Transport, 01200 636200 [Ref: H7/E/8/1]

WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL VILLAGE SHOP RATE RELIEF SCHEME [Local Government and Rating Act 1997] Under the provisions of the above Act the Council has produced an updated draft Rural Settlement Neighbourhood Plan which designates a rural settlement which is wholly or partly within the designated rural area (as specified by the Secretary of State). The List is available for public inspection, free of charge at the Offices of West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk until, 31/03/2021 on Mondays to Thursdays from 9.00am to 5.00pm, Fridays from 9.00am to 4.45pm. The List will take effect from 1/4/2020

Any qualifying Post Office, General Store, Food Store, Public House or Pettiford Filling Station situated within a rural settlement as identified on the Plan, is entitled to either Mandatory or Discretionary rate relief under this scheme. For application forms rate relief, general information please contact West Business Rates Team at the offices of West Lancashire Borough Council.

Dated: 15 January 2020

Jacqui Simmott-Lacoy
Chief Operating Officer
West Lancashire Borough Council
52 Derby Street, Ormskirk
Lancashire WN6 1DP
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First cars due to land in North West in summer

I loved Tarleton’s show - where a shed-load of nostalgia was enough!

BURNOUTS in brand new McLarens. Gourmet grub from TV chefs, and evening performances from prog rock bands. The Leisure Lakes Steam & Vintage Vehicle Rally had none of these things – and was all the better for it.

I’ve been to plenty of car shows that have had all sorts of clever gimmicks – and the eye-watering ticket prices to go with them – so it was always refreshing to park up at Tarleton’s annual motoring bash and revel in a show delightfully devoid of pretentious add-ons; you got shedloads of nostalgia, some stands from community organisations, a couple of old fairground rides borrowed for the weekend, and that was about it.

It wasn’t, as the name rightly suggests, even a car show – it was the Leisure Lakes Steam & Vintage Vehicle Rally, which meant that you were as likely to see a lovingly maintained steam traction engine or an old David Brown tractor as you were a Ford Focus.

So I was saddened to learn the other day that the organisers have decided to go out on a high after raising more than £330,000 for charity – not bad for a small-ish, volunteer-run event that’s had to contend with date clashes with other events, venue switches, horrendous weather and waterlogged fields along the way.

In a letter put out on the show’s website, the team behind it said that no one had stepped forward with offers to help out with the months of planning needed to organise the two-day show, so the team’s decided to call it a day.

There are, of course, plenty of events going ahead later this summer if you love nothing more than a Sunday of peering wistfully at old Wolseleys – and the eye-watering ticket prices to go with them – so the team’s decided to call it a day.

I’m keeping my fingers crossed that some enterprising car nut decides to hold a vehicle rally of their own to plug the gap, because there’s definitely an appetite in this part of the world for this sort of show, where you’re as likely to hear the toot of a faded fairground organ or the chuff of a steam engine as you are the clatter of an old sidevalve engine.

My one request to whoever does, though – tell the companies hoping to flog overpriced gourmet grub and brand-new McLarens to do one.

We’ve got plenty of shows for them already...
## Used Stock

A selection of our current used stock...

### Was

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>63 BMW X 1 Line 49000 Miles, 18&quot;Alloys, Privacy Glass, Only £44 Per Week</td>
<td>£10,495</td>
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<tr>
<td>64 BMW 318 D Sport 4 Dr, Leather, 1 Owner, Privacy Glass, Only £44 Per Week</td>
<td>£10,495</td>
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<tr>
<td>66 BMW X5 Diesel M Sport Auto, Leather, Sat Nav</td>
<td>£26,995</td>
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<td>10 Citroen Berlingo Multispace 1.6 HDi XTR, Only £19 Per Week</td>
<td>£16,995</td>
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<td>62 Citroen C4 Picasso Platinum Auto, Alloys, Parking Sensors, Priv Glass, E19 Per Week</td>
<td>£5,995</td>
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<td>65 Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Titanium Estate, 1 Owner, Sat Nav Only £44 Per Week</td>
<td>£10,495</td>
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<td>15 Ford Fiesta 1.6 Zetec 5 Dr, Alloys, Air Con</td>
<td>£7,499</td>
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<td>14 Ford Fiesta TDCi Zetec 5 Dr, Alloys, Call Player</td>
<td>£12,499</td>
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<td>12 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5 Dr, 38000 Miles, Alloys, Air Con</td>
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<td>62 Honda CRV SE 2.2i Dc Auto, Alloys, Fsh For Only £32 Per Week</td>
<td>£7,995</td>
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<td>66 Hyundai i30 1.4 SE Nav 5 Dr, 21000 Miles, Alloys, Air Con Only £43 Per Week</td>
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<td>66 Jeep Renegade 1.6 Diesel 5 Dr, Sat Nav, 31000 Miles, 1 Owner</td>
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<td>65 Lexus LS 460 L Luxury, Leather, 50000 Miles, Sat Nav</td>
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<td>66 Nissan Note 1.2 EDCi Premium 5 Dr, Alloys, CD Player</td>
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<td>65 Peugeot 5008 HDi Active 7 Seater, 1 Owner, Alloys, 39000 Miles</td>
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<td>66 Volkswagen Golf 1.6 TDi Cabriolet, 1 Owner, Alloys, Sat Nav</td>
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<td>16 Mini 1.6 Cooper 5 Door, 1 Owner, 22000 Miles, Alloys</td>
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<td>16 Volkswagen Golf 1.6 TDi Cabriolet, 47000 Miles, Alloys, Only £39 Per Week</td>
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<td>16 VW Passat CC 2.0 TDI Auto, Leather, Sat Nav, 1 Owner</td>
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- **68 Monthly Payments**: £295
- **Total Amount Payable**: £254,500
- **Finance Deposit Allowance**: £2,000
- **Excess Mileage**: £0.04p/mile

### **MITSUBISHI ASX 2.0 EXCEED**
- **Price**: £27,540+VAT
- **PDP Duration**: 49 Months
- **68 Monthly Payments**: £305
- **Total Amount Payable**: £284,500
- **Finance Deposit Allowance**: £2,000
- **Excess Mileage**: £0.04p/mile

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- **Finance Deposit Allowance**: £2,000
- **Excess Mileage**: £0.04p/mile

### **BRAND NEW MITSUBISHI SHOGUN SPORT**
- **Price**: £21,999+VAT
- **PDP Duration**: 49 Months
- **68 Monthly Payments**: £229
- **Total Amount Payable**: £257,500
- **Finance Deposit Allowance**: £2,000
- **Excess Mileage**: £0.04p/mile

### **BRAND NEW MITSUBISHI ASX 2.0 DYNAMIC**
- **Price**: £22,999+VAT
- **PDP Duration**: 49 Months
- **68 Monthly Payments**: £235
- **Total Amount Payable**: £263,500
- **Finance Deposit Allowance**: £2,000
- **Excess Mileage**: £0.04p/mile

### **BRAND NEW MITSUBISHI ASX 2.0 PHEV DESIGN AUTO**
- **Price**: £27,540+VAT
- **PDP Duration**: 49 Months
- **68 Monthly Payments**: £305
- **Total Amount Payable**: £284,500
- **Finance Deposit Allowance**: £2,000
- **Excess Mileage**: £0.04p/mile

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- **68 Monthly Payments**: £205
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- **Finance Deposit Allowance**: £2,000
- **Excess Mileage**: £0.04p/mile

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- **Price**: £27,540+VAT
- **PDP Duration**: 49 Months
- **68 Monthly Payments**: £305
- **Total Amount Payable**: £284,500
- **Finance Deposit Allowance**: £2,000
- **Excess Mileage**: £0.04p/mile

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1.5 TDCi
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1.5 TDCi
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Sport Black metallic.

KUGA
2.0 TDCi
Magnet grey metallic.

KUGA 2.0 TDCi
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PCP Duration: 48 Months
47 Monthly Payments: £189.94
Optional Final Payment: £7,033.00
Cash Price: £19,993.80
Cash Deposit: £999.00
Deposit Allowance: £1,250.00
Amount of Credit: £15,644.94
Total Charge for Credit: £3,010.97
APR: 4.9%
Annual Mileage: 5,000
Excess Mileage: £0.09/mile

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Specification includes:
- Multimedia – 7-inch colour touchscreen + AM/FM/DAB digital radio
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- Apple CarPlay™/Android Auto™ + USB audio connection + Air conditioning
- Flat-bottomed leather-covered steering wheel + LED headlights
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- Electrically adjustable/fixed side mirrors + Trip computer
- Lane departure warning with lane assist + Hill start assist
- Automatic emergency city braking + ISOFIX child seat fixings on outer rear seats

BRAND NEW VAUXHALL
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PCP Duration: 48 Months
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Optional Final Payment: £5,966.00
Cash Price: £17,893.94
Cash Deposit: £999.00
Deposit Allowance: £1,250.00
Amount of Credit: £15,644.94
Total Charge for Credit: £3,010.97
APR: 4.9%
Annual Mileage: 5,000
Excess Mileage: £0.09/mile

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BRAND NEW VAUXHALL
ASTRA 1.2 145PS SRI SDR

PCP Duration: 48 Months
47 Monthly Payments: £219.33
Optional Final Payment: £6,305.00
Cash Price: £20,300.00
Cash Deposit: £499.00
Deposit Allowance: £550.00
Amount of Credit: £19,701.00
Total Charge for Credit: £2,023.65
APR: 4.9%
Annual Mileage: 5,000
Excess Mileage: £0.09/mile

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Home comforts could be key for Skem if they want to avoid relegation scrap

McNally won’t want to be dragged into fight for survival

Skelmersdale United and Burscough both have plenty to do to avoid relegation as the sides continue to scrap for vital points in the second half of the season.

Because of structural changes brought about by the FA, only one team will be relegated from the North West Counties Premier Division, but it looks like it could come down to the wire.

Burscough are arguably in a more perilous position than Skelmersdale United, but either could find themselves in trouble by the end of the campaign.

Both made stuttering starts to the season and although they have both improved, they have found achieving consistency a problem.

What has made matters worse is that bottom placed club Litherland Remya are showing signs of improvement and are now on level points with Burscough - and only five points behind Skelmersdale.

Now Skelmersdale United are in their new ground the whole club has received a boost, especially with the big attendance increase they have received.

They also have a string of home games between now and the end of the season and actually have a run of five consecutive home games during March.

Results have also followed and the general feeling is that they should be safe barring a big slump in fortunes.

However, Burscough are under more severe pressure as they have only won twice since November and only have seven home games left, plus they still have to face some of the top teams.

The final big worry is that they have to travel to play Litherland Remya on the last day of the season in what could be a real crunch encounter.

Burscough will have played last night (Tuesday, January 14) away at Ashton Athletic and don’t have another league game scheduled until they entertain Congleton Town on Saturday, January 25, then four out of their next five games are against teams currently placed in the top four places in the league.

It is a tough period for the Linnets and could define their season.

Skelmersdale are away to Squires Gate on Saturday, January 18 then they play runaway league leaders 1874 Northwich at the JMO ground at Blaguegate Lane on Saturday, January 25.

On form they have a fair chance of winning at Squires Gate and could cause problems to 1874 despite starting as underdogs.

Skelmersdale can probably fend off the relegation threat, but Burscough are under some real pressure.

Funds raised for Linnets striker after leg break

A FUNDRAISING bid has been set-up to support Burscough striker George Lomax who suffered a career-threatening injury earlier this month.

The forward broke his leg during the second-half of their recent match against Ashton Athletic.

He could not be moved from the pitch and during the wait for an ambulance it was decided to call the match off.

Losing George Lomax is a big blow for the Linnets, although they haven’t scored many goals this season, the former Widnes player had scored in crucial victories for his team against both Whitchurch Alport and Hanley Town.

An online fundraising page has been set-up to raise £1,000 for Lomax.

A description of the page reads: “George had a career threatening injury fracturing is fibula and ligament damage resulting in surgery and a long lay off from work and football.”

To donate, you should visit the website: www.gofundme.com and search for ‘George Lomax’. 

BURSCOUGH bolster squad with two new forwards

Burscough bolster squad with two new forwards

BURSCOUGH may not have had a lot of matches in recent weeks but they have certainly been busy off the field after signing two new players.

Despite the Linnets suffering from a lack of matches in their fixtures schedule, behind the scenes they have been bolstering their squad with the capture of former Ashton Athletic, St Helens Town and Widnes striker Dale Korie-Butler.

Joining Korie-Butler at the Linnets is fellow-forward Joel Douglas, who has also played for St Helens Town as well as Skelmersdale United.
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