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Historic house of famous historian Sir William Dugdale opening to public for first time in 400 years

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Full Story on page 6



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This is an upsetting scenario... and unfortunately, it could happen to any of us without the right protection.

The sad truth is that around 200,000 family homes are sold every year to pay for care fees. Estates are drastically reduced- sometimes to nothing at all- to pay for care, leaving beneficiaries with little to no inheritance. The lower limit for care fee means testing is currently set at £14,250. However, your loved ones' inheritance could be even less than this simply because the home and other assets were not protected in the right way.

Don't leave your home open to any risks.

All of this can be avoided- with careful planning and professional advice, you can protect your home and savings so that your children can benefit as much as possible. Putting yourself in control means you'll prevent government authorities and other parties getting their hands on your assets.



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necessary. The capital share you have in the property will also be protected. The property is also safeguarded from local authority means testing.

The ideal scenario is that half the property is protected from loss, and the other half is disregarded by local authorities. What this means for inheritance is that at least half of the property's shares will be passed down to your children.

This plan of action is applicable even if you have a mortgage!

Future stress and heartache for your family and beneficiaries can be avoided, but you must act sooner rather than later. If you fall ill and require permanent care, or if you unfortunately lose mental capacity for any reason, it will be too late to protect your home and assets.

Act now!

Sadly, many people put off planning for the future until its too late, leaving children and loved ones devastated to realise that the situation could have been easily avoided. The sooner planning is put into effect, the more effectively we can help you ensure that your assets go to those you love ... not those you don't!

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Heart of England Singers Summer Concert at Digbeth in the Field

By Stephen Record

On a chilly but dry summers evening we were treated to an archetypal British concert by the renowned Heart of England Singers conducted by Michelle Norton and accompanied by Ruth Low to an appreciative audience.

The programme started with 'Songs and Sonnets' by William Shakespeare where seven sonnets from an eclectic mix such as The Twelfth Night, As You Like It, Love's Labour Lost, Merry Wives of Windsor etc. with music by Sir George Gershwin set the tone for a relaxed listening evening.

We were soon all humming along to what followed next which was variously In the Still of the Night by Cole Porter, Isn't This A Lovely Day by Irving Berlin, Moon River By Joe Mercer and the nostalgic The Way You Look Tonight by Jerome Kern. Ruth Low on piano was joined by Frederick Dal on drums from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire giving a gorgeous laid back brush syncopation to the pieces.

Karen Moulton and Michelle Norton stunned us with a marvellous rendition of The Flower Duet by Leo Delibes to rapturous applause before a quartet of the men's section made up of Dave Abbot, Paul Ellender, Derek Davis and Bill Russel had us all rolling in the aisles with a take on the Fishermen's Friends rendition of Sloop John B and John Kanaka complete with props.



As Long As I have Music and Flying Free, both by Don Besig highlighted the verbal and musical dexterity of the choir to fine affect.

Ruth Low, the accompanist, treated to audience to a beautiful rendition of Summertime on the Piano which was perfect for the long summers night we enjoyed.

The programme finished with the hauntingly beautiful I Am A Small Part Of The World by Sally Albrecht and Jay Althouse featuring Melanie Coton singing the solo parts which brought a tear to everyone's eye.

The choir president, Margaret Croucher, made a brief speech and presentation of a lovely bouquet of flowers to Karen Moulton – Secretary, on behalf of the choir for all

her hard work and dedication to the choir.

Two further presentations of flowers were made by Stephen and Sheila Record to both Michelle (Chelle) Norton and Ruth Low for their superb performances.

The audience were then treated to Pimms, Sparkling wine and delicious homemade cakes.

The Choir are always looking for new members. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings at the Baptist Free Church, Marston Green B37 7DE, no auditions required and just a love of singing is the requirement.

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Historic house of famous historian Sir William Dugdale opening to public for first time in 400 years



Aerial shot of Blyth Hall

By Sally Jones

Sir William Dugdale, the 17th century scholar and landowner from Shustoke, near Birmingham, is arguably the greatest historian of his era. His 1656 classic 'Antiquities of Warwickshire' is widely regarded as the model for the birth of modern history writing.

Now a member of the current generation, the latest in a long line of William Dugdales, has inherited his namesake's old estate, Blyth Hall on the River Blythe near Coleshill and is opening it, for the first time in its history, as a gracious venue for events, conferences, house parties, meetings and historical tours to help fund its upkeep.

The latest William, 31, widely known as Will, is the twelfth generation of the family to live there. He studied history at Manchester University and is fascinated by his family's distinguished legacy and their four centuries at Blyth. The elder son of Sir (William) Matthew Dugdale and grandson of the colourful war hero, businessman and Aston Villa Chairman who was officially Sir William Dugdale but always known as Bill, Will grew up at the family's other estate Merevale Hall near Atherstone – unkindly voted the second-ugliest Victorian house in England in a poll for the BBC show 'Blot on the Landscape'. However he spent some of his childhood at Blyth where Sir Bill, the longstanding chairman of the Severn Trent Water Authority, and his second wife Cylla, neé Mount, David Cameron's aunt, lived throughout their marriage.

"I grew up living at Merevale which was Gothic, loud and full of estate business," remembered Will. "Blyth was totally serene and relaxing, by comparison, the historic heart of the estate, set in lush parkland by the dreamy river. I always loved the hearty, fattening Christmasses there, sitting next to my "Pa" (Grandpa) at his end of the long dining table as he joked with me in his gravelly voice. Aston Villa was and

is an obsession of ours and there were mementos around the house from his time as Club Chairman. He would take me to Villa games, which was a real thrill.

His second wife, Cylla, kept a beautiful garden which I'm now slowly restoring. As kids we loved playing Pooh-sticks on the river and watching the family of swans which nest there year after year, like my father and his sisters did when they were kids."

Since Cylla's death five years ago, the house has been refurbished sympathetically in colourful but traditional style by Will's aunt Tilly, wife of the renowned country house artist Marcus May. A 17th century portrait of the original owner dominates the dining room, with pictures of other prominent family members in the drawing room.

"My historian ancestor William Dugdale bought Blyth Hall in 1625 so next year marks the 400th anniversary of our family's ownership," explained Will showing me into the bright, reception rooms, "In those days it was little more than a farmhouse with land around it, but he remodelled it and added a new wing. A red sandstone chimney stack facing the river shows the date 1629 - when the chimney was built to heat the new wing. Then William's son John made more changes in the 1690s, making the hall lighter and more welcoming.

William's father, also called John, lived in Shustoke opposite the church and he'd tutored a member of the local gentry, William was bright and well-educated which helped to develop his interest in history and antiquities. He became a well-known historian and during the English Civil War in the 1660s, as part of Charles I's court in Oxford, he used the Bodleian Library to study history and antiquities. He was made a junior herald in the College of Arms, working on genealogy and heraldic coats of arms. Even under Oliver Cromwell after Charles's execution in 1646, William's research was considered so important he was allowed to keep working while under

house arrest and living quietly at Blyth. He later became the highest-ranked herald in the land, the Garter Principal King of Arms and was knighted for his loyalty.

Our family has always got involved in local activities – business, politics, charities, sport, you name it. In 1832, another ancestor also William Dugdale, stood for Parliament as a Tory and appeared at the rowdy hustings in Coleshill where a mob was gathering to rough him up. He wrote funnily in his diary about how 'an immense number of persons of the lower order was marched in from Birmingham and Nuneaton in order to crush poor me – however in vain. By quietness and composure I at length obtained a hearing at the day of nomination and parted upon very good terms with the assembled multitude.' He was elected and served as MP for North Warwickshire for the next 15 years.

The family owned Baddesley Colliery in North Warwickshire and my great-grandfather – also William Dugdale – was made a baronet in 1936 for his service as Chairman of Warwickshire County Council. He expanded the colliery, even though his own father had been horribly burned in a terrible mine explosion there in 1882. He'd bravely gone down the shaft with the mine overseer to try to rescue dozens of miners

trapped underground in the first blast but he was caught in a second explosion and died of his burns nine days later. My great-grandfather inherited the estate when he was only 9 and said he never forgot the screams.

"So what now? My job is to bring Blyth into the 21st century and make it pay its way. We're just a few miles from the airport, the NEC and Birmingham City Centre but in the heart of the country. It's perfect for weekend house parties, conferences, meetings, dinners, or wedding parties from venues like Shustoke Barn close to Blyth. Guests can use it like their own house and some say it feels like living in a Jane Austen novel – though with nice bathrooms and plumbing that works!

We recently hosted my aunt Laura's 70th birthday party here – in a big marquee in the park with a converted double decker bus inside as a quirky bar beside the dancefloor. I enjoy living on the estate but I don't yet have a family of my own, so I'd rather rattle around the house on my own.

That's why opening Blyth up makes sense, so many more people can experience it – and I really love seeing the place full of people enjoying themselves."

For more information on Blyth Hall and estate, its history and details of events there: www.blyth-hall.co.uk/



Engraving of the historian and antiquarian Sir William Dugdale – mid-17th century



The new heir Will Dugdale in the newly-decorated reception rooms



Sir Bill Dugdale with his grandchildren around 2007. Will Dugdale is the little boy, far right on the front row



Blyth Hall from the River Blythe

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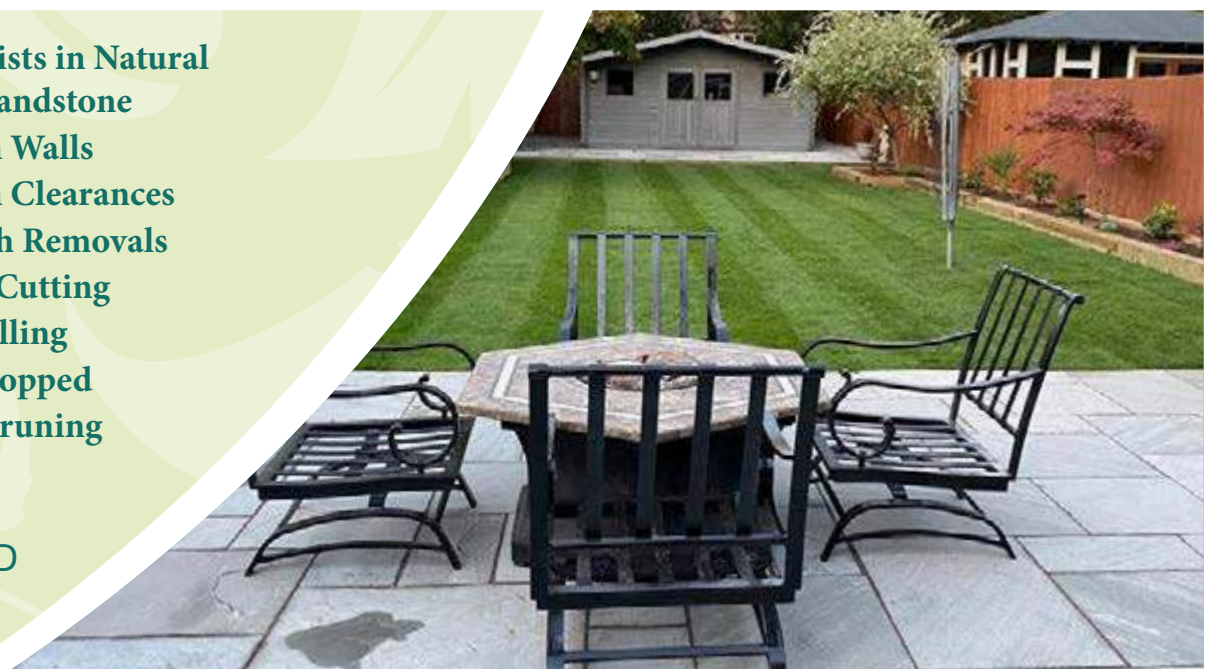
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2024 The Coleshill School results A Level, Level 3 BTEC and Technical qualification



On August 15th we welcomed back our Year 13 students to celebrate their achievements as they collected their A Level, Level 3 BTEC and Cambridge Technical qualifications.

We are really pleased for our students as they will receive the grades which they have achieved through demonstrating high levels of determination, perseverance, and resilience. We couldn't be prouder of our students who have worked hard, been kind and taken responsibility for their academic achievements and are now moving onto their next steps. These results will now inspire our next cohort of students to achieve, be ambitious and fulfil their potential.

Rebecca Brindley (Head of School) said "we are absolutely thrilled to see our students and staff in school today, opening and sharing their results. We are happy that the students' efforts have enabled them to achieve their results and get what they needed to get onto the next steps of their journey, which is the most important factor"

Natasha Blunt, Head of Sixth Form, said "the results this year from our year 13 Coleshill Students is a representation of the continued progress in the Sixth Form. For these students it's been 2 years of hard work, and they have achieved a great set of results across all qualifications. The students are now in a good position to be able to move on in their journey, whether that is university, an apprenticeship or employment. We would like to thank all the parents, carers and staff who have been on this journey, supporting the students."

Ian Smith-Childs (Strategic Secondary Lead) said "It has been a real privilege to watch these young people flourish through their education journey, which has had many challenges. The buzz in school today, as students opened their results, has been a real magic moment and the culmination of seven years of hard work and determination to succeed. I will be forever proud of these students and their achievements and wish them every success for their futures."

Today we celebrate the hard work, determination and resilience of our Year 13 students. We are incredibly proud of all of our students, both for their hard work academically, but also for the amazing young adults they have become. Our Year 13 students have developed their SPIRIT skills, which will enable them to go on and be successful, whichever path they chose. We now wish our students well in the next steps of their journey, whether onto university/ further education, an apprenticeship, employment or to a gap year.

On behalf of all the staff here at the Coleshill School, we are incredibly proud, and we wish all our students the very best for their future.



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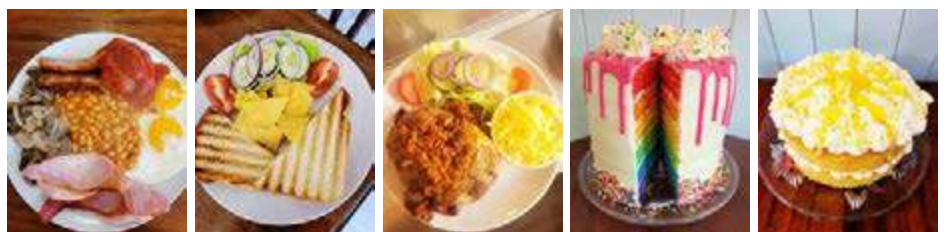
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Castle Bromwich Singers are looking forward to presenting their new show in a new venue this October. After 50 years in a familiar hall, we are excited to be trying new things, and our new place is Curdworth Village Hall, where we have been made very welcome.

Our show, "Weather" – is an evening of song to which we invite you to enjoy, join in with and be entertained. We sing a mixture of tunes from different eras and tempos and our show is full of well-known songs.

Our three performances are:

Thursday 24th to Saturday 26th October.

Doors open 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

Tickets cost £9.00 (under 16's: £5.00)

available via TicketSource.

www.ticketsource.co.uk

Refreshments are available but there is no bar so please bring your own.

Our show this year is in aid of Matt's Mission, a local charity whose aim is to 'Make Smiles Glow' and wishes come true by providing gifts to children in hospitals, special schools and hospices.

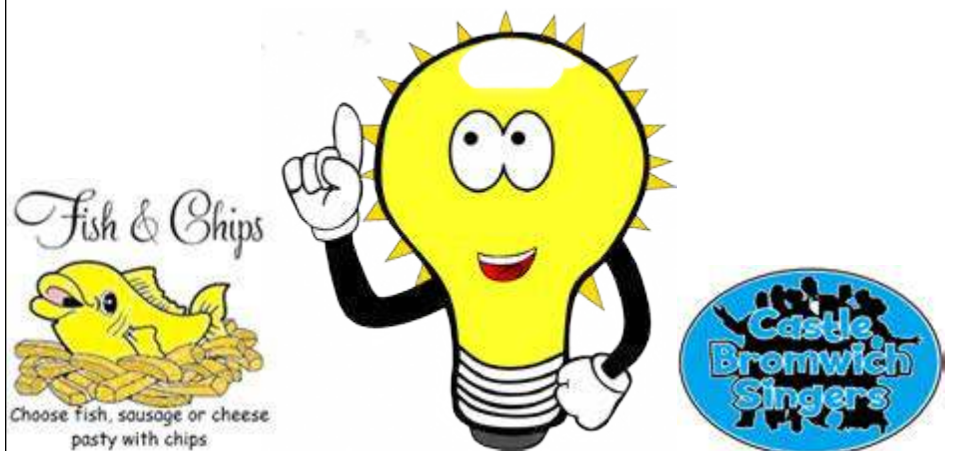
Please join us at Curdworth Village Hall, Coleshill Road, Curdworth, B76 9HH.

All other details are in the poster.

Also shown is a poster with details of our forthcoming quiz. Please ring Stella or Greg to order tickets and order your fish and chip supers.

Castle Bromwich Singers look forward to welcoming you to our events.

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Castle Bromwich Singers Present



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Water Orton Parish Church

As a parish we look to be welcoming to new people and there is little in the way of expectations. So whether you have been to church before or never you are welcome. You will be made to feel welcome. You don't even have to be a Christian, though it would be helpful if you had an enquiring mind and wanted to know more.

On the 4th August we held a baptism service, for three people. One of them commented that she wished to follow Jesus and another that she had come to understand that she is loved by God.



We have two Services on a Sunday to cater for people's preferences. At 9 a.m. every Sunday we have a more formal sung Service of Holy Communion (for approximately one hour) and later at 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship led by the Worship Group, with clergy involved. (N.B. contemporary Worship songs are sung with drums and guitars etc).

There will always be someone at the door to welcome you.



The Coleshill Hub and Warm/Community Room kindly had a visit from our local MP Rachel Taylor. Here are her thoughts from her Facebook page.





'I had the privilege of visiting the Warm Room in Coleshill Town Hall today. Meeting with the local community and finding out how much this group has helped them socialise and bring them together. Such amazing volunteers who help keep this group running even organising trips for everyone, to get them out and about. Groups like these are so important for many people especially those living on their own. If you would like to go along or volunteer, they are open Tuesday to Thursday 10am to 1pm at the Coleshill Town Hall. Alternatively call Coleshill Town Council on 01675 463326 or email helen@coleshilltowncouncil.gov.uk and they can guide you to them.

It was great to chat with the Warwickshire Fire Service who were at the Warm Room providing advice on Fire Safety.

I was also able to pop in to thank the volunteers at the Coleshill Hub 01675 462517 for the work they do providing information and assistance.

I'm looking forward to my surgery in Coleshill on 27th September.'






Cllr Rachel Taylor, North Warwickshire and Bedworth

My first few weeks as your MP

It's been a whirlwind first few weeks since I found out I had won the election to be your new Labour MP for North Warwickshire and Bedworth at around 4am on the 5 July. I feel a huge weight of responsibility to everyone in our constituency – whether you voted for me or not – and I am honoured that so many put their trust in me and in this new Labour government. Thank you to everyone who has already written to me, and for your patience while I recruit staff and set up my constituency office.

I know from the many conversations I had with voters during the election campaign just how difficult the last fourteen years have been for people, whether that's the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, the difficulty of getting an NHS or dentist appointment, or not knowing if the police or an ambulance will turn up when they are called.

Those are all challenges I and my new Labour colleagues in parliament were elected to fix, and I have been struck in my first few weeks as an MP by the sense of determination we all have to make things better for our constituents. That's why – straight away – Labour have launched our plans to crack down on the water companies, turbocharged the rollout of cheap green energy to bring down bills, and tabled a new law to bring our broken railways back into public ownership. The last fourteen years have seen people lose trust in our politicians and MPs deprioritise constituents – that's why we've made sure MPs can't have second jobs and are raising standards of service with our independent ethics and integrity commission.

I want to be a local champion for our constituency – I grew up here and it's been my home again for the last twenty years. That's why one of the first things I did was meet with other West Midlands MPs to raise with the new Transport Secretary the state

of transport infrastructure across the region, including the need to invest in the A5, dealing with the disruption caused by HS2, and getting bus routes reinstated and back under local control.

I am also delighted that I will be involved in the cross-party grouping of MPs on Freight and Logistics, where I'll be championing the action needed to protect such a vital industry for our constituency, including by improving supply chains, addressing skills shortages, and tackling freight crime.

Since parliament entered its summer recess, I've continued to work hard in the constituency, attending many fantastic community events like Nuneaton and Warwickshire Pride and watching the first Atherstone Adders game of the season. I've met with local police to raise residents' concerns about antisocial behaviour, rural crime, car theft, and fly tipping. I've also been to the Coleshill Warm Room to meet the wonderful residents and volunteers there, and talked to Coleshill Town Council about how we can support the work they are doing in the Hub.

I want to be accessible to everyone, and I've been busy in recent weeks recruiting my constituency team and organising my first constituency surgeries. I'll be in Water Orton for a constituency surgery on the 20th of September and my first surgery in Coleshill will be on the 27 September, so if you do have an issue that you'd like my help with please do get in touch by emailing rachel.taylor.mp@parliament.uk and I can arrange you an appointment.

This community is so important to me, and I don't know whether I will ever stop pinching myself that I now have the immense privilege of being your voice in Westminster and your local champion. If there is anything you want to raise with me, please don't hesitate to get in touch, and if you see me out and about, do come up and say hello.



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WARM HUB

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INFORMATION

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Signposting to many groups, partner services and agencies – see some examples in boxes below

GROUPS

Parkinson's Cafe
Memory Cafes (Coleshill/ Water Orton)
Young at Heart
Stitch Club

SIGNPOSTING

Carers Trust
CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau)
MIND
Vision Support
Wellbeing

GROUPS

Walking Tours
Keep Fit & Natter
Walking Sports
Art & Crafts
U3A
Parent & Toddler

COLESHILL CIVIC SOCIETY

Missing Buildings and Spaces 16

By John Hoyle



The arches is a rather unique building. I has had a chequered career with the building forming 3 dwellings. The white building was connected to an antique shop run by Mrs Leeson, it was bought and redeveloped, becoming very posh, about the time Wood Close was built. In the redevelopment the shop was significantly enlarged. They have rear access to the antiques shop and use Wood Close, sometimes with large HGV's to deliver goods.



Pictured in the second photo is the Cole End Farmhouse once owned by the Townshends family of Gilson Hall. All the buildings from the old antique shop to the bottom of the hill were demolished in the redevelopment. The resulting building gave us Orchard Close, presumably on the site of the farmhouse orchard. Old Mill Road which backs onto Cole End Park and would be named after Cole End Mill and of course a group of shops, similar to those at the top of the High Street.



The farm house is fairly typical of many which may be seen round the area and was the house for quite a large farm as may be seen from the photo of the farm and buildings taken from the other side. The farm fields extended from the High Street down to the A446.



I will not bore you with photos of the shops at the corner of the High Street and Old Mill Road but end with photos of shops which have gone over the years. BoneAparts, Classic Inspirations, a Recruitment services and Christos a Hairdressers. There was a greengrocers and I think a chemist.

All the articles I have written for the Post have been taken from the Civic Society archives. The items in the Archives are currently catalogued and held in an Access database. However since covid little work has taken place and they need a good 'spring-clean'. If anyone out there would like to become involved with this work please contact me.

If anyone has any corrections to this or suggestions about future articles please contact me through the Coleshill Post Editor or Colin Lewis at House and Home on the High Street or email me johnhoyle707@gmail.com.



Twin Rivers WI Coleshill Winners at Whitacres & Shustoke Horticultural Show



TRWI Trophy Winners

On the 20 July, Twin Rivers Coleshill Women's Institute Group (TRWI) entered themselves into the Whitacres and Shustoke Horticultural show to highlight their member's crafting abilities. And what a day it was for them!

The day began with setting up their table to enter the Inter WI Team Competition. This category is designed to pitch local WI's against one another with seven makes on each table plus a complimentary flower arrangement. This time, TRWI were using their new blue staging which made a real difference visually as to how everything presented. It was a great improvement on the year before!

The table included a painting of a highland cow by Di, a hand-crafted crochet bag by Chris, an intricately embroidered baby's bonnet by Trisha, a festive beaded bauble by Dee, a joyfully colourful flower wreath by Tina, hand knitted socks by Amanda (which she generously gifted to someone afterwards), and an Elizabethan inspired jointed teddy bear made by Dawn. The colourful flowers particularly glued the whole ensemble together, beautifully arranged by Jane.

Your local WI walked away with the first place trophy for the table display, but also the rose bowl as overall points winner for their individual entries. And talking about individual entries...

Twin Rivers members' also entered individually in a number of categories in the main show winning a plethora of further first, second and third prizes in categories such as baking, photography, gardening, gin making, crocheting, flower arranging and sewing.

Arguably the highlight of the day was the overall best in show winner who also came from the TRWI ranks. Dawn Denham entered her Great Uncle Bulgaria wobble primarily to see how her work would stand up next to other stuffed toy makers. Not only did she win first prize for the soft toy category, but she also won the entire handicraft section and then the Best in Horticultural Show!

Dawn was utterly flabbergasted and delighted to have won the prestigious trophy (lots of air punching). What apparently swung it was not only the build quality of the toy, but the tiny Times newspaper that she recreated for Great Uncle Bulgaria to carry which included an advert for the show, a tiny crossword, a sports page, and articles all dedicated to the Wombles. In Dawn's words: "I beat everyone, including onions, boiled eggs and curly carrots. How did THAT happen?"

Everyone was thrilled with the outcome of this year's show, they could not have performed any better. Plans are already afoot for what the crafty team at Twin River's will create for next year's show. Fingers crossed they will continue their silverware winning streak!



TRWI Craft Table Display



Wobble Overall Winner



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Coleshill Ladies Probus

We held our meeting on Tuesday 30th July at the Coleshill Hotel. After lunch, our guest speaker was Peter Beale the local Police Community Support Officer.

Peter gave a fantastic, informative and interesting talk on his role as a PCSO. He gave us many tips and lots of advice.

One of his roles is to give talks to local schools and clubs.

He explained the type of issues he gets involved in i.e. assists with helping to find missing vulnerable people, thefts, neighbour disputes, burglaries, assists with any rural problems, just to name a few.

The ladies asked Peter a lot of questions which Peter answered with humour and gave excellent information and advice.

Some of the questions asked were about, dogs barking, house alarms, how to report a crime and neighbourhood disputes. But unfortunately for us ladies and luckily for Peter, we ran out of time.

To end the session, Peter gave us the chance to listen to him sing and play his guitar. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this, and we even sang along.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 27th August at the Coleshill Hotel, when our guest speaker will be Martin Cross and the topic will be Nature in Autumn.

If you would like to join us, we meet on the last Tuesday of every month and you would be very welcome.

If you would like to know more about Coleshill ladies Probus, please contact

Sue on 01675 238037 or Verenda on 01675 463806



**Cllr Steve Stuart, Water Orton North
Warwickshire Borough Council**

Dear Fellow Villagers

The Summer supposedly is a time when very little happens in the political sphere. However, the General Election and recent incidents of civil unrest cut across these perceptions.

As a village I have long advocated for a focus on deciding what kind of village we want to be in the future and work towards those aims, not ignoring the issues that occur day to day.

Annual Report

In the last month I have delivered (figuratively and literally) on my election pledge of providing an annual report to all the households in the village. I think that accessibility and transparency amongst those that have the privilege to represent us is critical to our democracy and I hope you found the report useful.

Spud Club!

With the annual report I was delighted to be able to include invitations to Water Orton's "Spud Club!" I was able to write a successful bid for the Parish Council and engage with the Methodist Church to deliver this community event.

All are welcome every Monday between 12.30 and 6pm to come and meet new friends and old and have a jacket potato with a variety of toppings including a weekly home cooked special. With games and Lego for any budding engineers feedback has been fantastic. The first week we had folks aged under 3 months and over 90! Over 70 potatoes were dished out last week and there is no charge – although any donation is very welcome.

With this new community hub there will be pop up visits from various services in the coming weeks – keep your eyes peeled! Or just come along, you'll be very welcome.

Training plans

Our noticeboards in the village provide lots of useful information. New information will be posted shortly about training available for residents in the village to assist with day to day living and learning new skills to support work and voluntary activities - including supporting any ambitions you may have to being a parish councillor or school governor.

The latest offering is for introductory computer skills, very useful when Doctors are now asking for appointments to be made online!

Transport

From training to trains. I have recently attended a meeting, convened by the Borough Council at my behest, to continue to push for increased train services into Water Orton. A positive meeting was attended by representatives from Network Rail, the West Midlands Rail Executive and Warwickshire County Council.

There are now realistic plans that will us being able to see positive benefits from a proposed redevelopment of Moor Street Station and an increase to hourly services.

In the interim I'll be lobbying for further increases within existing timetabling arrangements.

Invitation

Whilst future rail service improvements are very welcome ongoing issues relating to Roads, Pavements and Footpaths are felt every day within the Village.

I have invited Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Transport to visit the village, and I am hopeful he will be making the rarely traversed trip from County Hall in Warwick to Water Orton soon. Ideally it will be on a Monday, and then he can visit Spud Club and you can tell him your particular issues and priorities. I'll keep you informed.

Leisure Centre

Whilst Highways are outside the remit of a humble Borough Councillor like me, Leisure Services are very much in scope.

I recently attended a meeting relating to proposals to updating Leisure facilities in Atherstone and Polesworth.

With our geographic location usage of these facilities is reduced for villagers in preference to other outlets, however I saw the opportunity for any development to use social value aspects of any construction tender to provide hyper local leisure provision to villages like ours.

Whilst I got some encouraging nods from the officers present the response from the meeting chair was...errrr... "less than progressive". I won't give in in this regard. Water Orton won't be a forgotten village – after all it isn't forgotten when it comes to collecting our council tax!

New Committees / Community Engagement

At their Annual Meeting in May the Parish Council updated its committee structure to enable better working and outcomes for the benefits of the village.

The first meeting of the Community Engagement Committee has recently taken place and explored ideas to increase connectivity and communication in the village. There are plenty of opportunities coming up for interested residents to get involved and play their part in the coming months. Please think about getting involved, it can be very rewarding.

What the above report demonstrates is that if we want to see improvements in our village it will require us to start to make changes happen ourselves. Still, we are also seeing how these changes can deliver very real positives for all in Water Orton and beyond.

See you around the Village

Contact Steve by email at stevestuart@northwarks.gov.uk on Twitter / X @waterortonsteve at his website at WaterOrtonSteve.co.uk or on 07999777345 Steve holds regular surgeries – see village noticeboards for details.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Gasrec Ltd

Application for Hazardous Substances Consent

The Planning (Hazardous Substances) Act 1990
The Planning (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2015

Notice is hereby given that Gasrec is applying to North Warwickshire Borough Council for Hazardous Substances Consent for the construction of a new Natural Gas (Biomethane) Refuelling Station at Rowan Way, Hams Hall, Coleshill, B46 1AL. The application is submitted in respect of this new construction.

Members of the public may inspect a copy of the application at North Warwickshire Borough Council, The Council House, South Street, Atherstone, CV9 1DE during office hours from the 2nd September to the 11th October 2024.

The Hazardous Substances Authority (from which relevant information can be obtained) will decide whether or not to grant consent and will decide under what conditions to grant consent.

Anyone who wishes to make representations (including comments or questions) about this application should write to the Hazardous Substances Authority at: North Warwickshire Borough Council, The Council House, South Street, Atherstone, CV9 1DE or email planningcontrol@northwarks.gov.uk by the 11th October 2024.

Gasrec Limited
Email: info@gasrec.co.uk

Warwickshire Historian Dr Andrew Watkins helps launch Coleshill mayor's record fifth term at historic Blyth Hall

Susan Wallace is launching her record fifth term as Coleshill Town Mayor with a unique event - a gracious reception on Friday 18th October at one of the Midlands' most historic houses, Blyth Hall. And renowned historian of this part of the Warwickshire Arden Dr Andrew Watkins from Packington Lane, Coleshill will be lending his expertise with an atmospheric talk on the Hall itself, home to the Dugdale family for the past 400 years.

Dr Watkins, who specialises in the Medieval period in North Warwickshire, taught History at Coleshill School and Lichfield Cathedral School. He is now a Visiting Fellow at the University of Leicester's Centre for Local History, as well as organist at Shustoke Church.

He is fascinated by the impact of the family's most distinguished scion, the great historian Sir William Dugdale from Shustoke, who wrote the iconic work 'Antiquities of Warwickshire' and became a central part of King Charles I's court. Having bought Blyth Hall, then a glorified farmhouse, in 1625, Sir William and later his son John each updated and extended the house, adding a wing and making it more comfortable and spacious.

The current owner, 31-year-old Will Dugdale, grandson of former Aston Villa Chairman Sir Bill Dugdale, is the 12th generation of his family to live there. To help fund its upkeep, Will is opening the Grade I Listed Hall for the

first time, for events, conferences, house parties, meetings and historical tours, plus community gatherings like the mayoral reception. Having studied History at Manchester University, he is keen to find out more about the background to his own heritage and was intrigued during a recent tour of the Hall with Dr Watkins, to learn that in the later middle ages a village called Blyth stood on the edge of what is now the park, near the river. This was later depopulated in the first half of the 17th century.

Dr Watkins also explained how the first Sir William and then his son John introduced controversial changes in farming to boost the profits of their growing estates, allegedly driving off many of the locals and grubbing up numerous hedges. They replaced labour-intensive crop farming with sheep and cattle rearing, employing just a few herdsman, grazing their animals on the lush, marshy meadowland beyond the existing fishponds beside the house, known as the Stews.

Want to find out more? A few tickets at £25 are still available for the **Cheese and Wine Reception from Gascoignes of Coleshill, Coleshill Library and the Town Council Hub**. All proceeds will go to **Father Hudson's Care** and the Reception will be held at 7.30pm on **October 18th at Blyth Hall, Blythe Road, B46 2AF**.

www.blyth-hall.co.uk/



SHARE A STORY

contact:

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The Town Mayor of Coleshill

Cllr Sue Wallace

Invites you to a

Cheese and Wine Evening

at

Blyth Hall

by kind permission of William Dugdale

on

Friday 18th October 2024

at 7:30pm

*With a talk by Coleshill Historian, Dr Andrew Watkins
There will be a raffle with all proceeds to Father Hudson's Care*

Tickets £25 per person

Dress is smart casual

Tickets available from Gascoignes of Coleshill, Coleshill Library and Coleshill Hub

Garden party to celebrate Coleshill Day Services' sensory garden



An article in the Coleshill Post sparked off a sequence of events that led to our sensory garden being completely transformed. It mentioned HS2 support for local organisations with a meeting at the Coleshill Hub and was seen by Julia, who works at Coleshill Day Services. She brought it into Day Services and we followed up and found out we were eligible for it.

Our day service team have long dreamed of introducing a sensory garden and at last, with the help of our supporters, it is now a reality.

Through the HS2 support the main contractor Balfour Beatty Vinci came in, levelled the ground and re-laid tarmac. Before, the space had been uneven, broken and waterlogged which meant it was unsafe for many of our clients who use wheelchairs. We had been fundraising for years through table top sales and Christmas Fayres,

but the cost of this meant it would have taken us many years to achieve without the support of Balfour Beatty Vinci.

Our local community really got behind fundraising for the garden, with Twin Rivers WI choosing us as their Charity of the Year in 2023. They hosted a quiz in the packed Coleshill Town Hall and had a cake stand at our Summer Fair, raising £1843 towards the garden. We have been boosted by generous donations from local people, and those who have booked stands or attended our sales at the centre.

On our opening day we were joined by many of those who had contributed, as well as family, friends and staff. We celebrated with a buffet lunch and cake, with Reza Farrell from Lily's Tea Parlour singing for us and encouraging Damian and others to sing and dance with her. Reza knew many of our clients as she used to come

in and lead exercise sessions with them and she said it was a joy to come back and see our sensory garden now. We also had Savannah walking around on stilts, dressed to match the garden as a bee or butterfly. Savannah is the sister of one of our clients and she brightened the day! It was a wonderful chance to get together, see how the garden had changed and explore the new garden.

Our clients will now be able to enjoy the outside space, engaging their senses to enjoy the garden and relax in nature. Karen McPherson, centre manager said, "All of us at day service would like to say thank you to everyone that has been involved in helping our team to fundraise, so thank you to the volunteers, to those who have donated raffle prizes for us and have purchased tables to Balfour Beatty and Tarmac for giving us a space our service users are free and safe to explore no matter their ability. Your generosity has enabled our dream to come true. You have all made a huge difference, thank you."



Sensory garden



Damian and Reza



Beth and Callum



Hannah and Kirsty



Karen on bike



Balfour Beatty Vinci team



Butterfly with Alex and Callum



SHARE A STORY

contact:

serena.postgroup@outlook.com

Footwear related foot issues

As we move into the wetter, cooler months our footwear begins to change from sandals to closed in shoes. It is important to ensure that we are wearing the correct footwear to prevent problems with our feet.

We always recommend a shoe with a small heel (no more than an inch) as well a shoe with a strap or a lace. A small heel will prevent painful cramping and aching in your feet and legs by taking some of the strain away from the muscles in your feet and in your legs. A strap or a lace will allow more support so that when you walk your foot is not moving around in the shoe possibly leading to rubbing or soft tissue strain. We can measure you for footwear and help you pick the correct shoe for you during your appointment with us. We can then order this in and ensure that it fits you correctly.



A shoe with a thick sole will help to insulate your feet, keeping them warming and protecting them from the cold weather. This can help to protect against conditions called chilblains. Chilblains are caused by the cold affecting the blood vessels in the skin closing them down so that the blood is diverted deeper. This causes the skin to become even colder and the waste products produced by our cells build up. This can lead to a red, painful, shiny toe which may split open.

A wide, rounded shoe with a deep toe box is important at prevent issues on the sides of your foot as well as in between your toes. Corns are hard plugs of skin which arise because of pressure. Any corns on the top of your toes can only be

caused by footwear as there is no other pressure which touches this area. By wearing a wide, rounded shoe with a deep toe box it prevents pressure on the sides of your foot but also pressure from your toes being squeezed together in your shoe which over time may lead to painful corns in between your toes.



If you think you may be suffering with any of the conditions we have mentioned, or you are unsure if your current footwear is suitable, you can give us a call on 0121 749 6313 and book in to see one of our HCPC registered Podiatrists.



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GCSE and BTEC/Vocational Results at The Coleshill School, 2024



We are incredibly proud of our year 11 students who sat their exams and have completed their GCSEs and vocational qualifications at the Coleshill School.

In line with our school ethos, our year 11 students have worked hard and taken responsibility, developing and demonstrating high levels of determination, a commitment to their subjects and desire to achieve positive academic results.

Head of School Rebecca Brindley commented:

Today we welcome back and celebrate with our year 11 students today who are collecting their results which is the result of staff, students, parents and carers working together over 5 years.

It is a privilege to work with young people to support them both academically and personally and in developing and growing into the young people that they are today. We want to wish all our student the best for their next steps into further education, apprenticeships or employment.

Deputy Headteacher Sarah Cardwell commented:

As a school we always advocate so much more than just examination outcomes, our school values of Work Hard, Be Kind and Take Responsibility are showcased through our wider curriculum offer that we continue to promote.

We are of every student who picked up their results today, many will continue their education journey with us in our Sixth Form where we will continue to nurture and advance.

Strategic Secondary Lead Ian Smith-Childs commented:

We are all incredibly proud of all of the young people who are collecting their results today. These results represent five years of hard work. This cohort of students have had to overcoming multiple challenges and have demonstrated both academic and personal growth. We wish all of our students the very best in their next destination and remind them that The Coleshill School will always be their school.



Platinum Update - Using Whites and Light Shades in Interior Painting and Decorating

In the realm of interior design, colour plays a pivotal role in shaping the **ambiance and functionality of a space**. Whites and light shades, often perceived as simplistic, offer a versatile and sophisticated palette that can transform interiors in subtle yet impactful ways. This article delves into the benefits of incorporating whites and light shades into your interior painting and decorating, offering insights into their practical applications, psychological effects, and design principles.

The Appeal of Whites and Light Shades

Whites and light shades, ranging from crisp whites to soft pastels, are often favoured for their ability to create a sense of openness and tranquillity. Their understated elegance allows them to blend seamlessly with a variety of styles and furnishings, making them a popular choice for many homeowners and designers.

1. Creating a Sense of Space

One of the most celebrated advantages of using whites and light shades is their capacity to make rooms appear larger and more open. This effect is particularly beneficial in smaller spaces or rooms with limited natural light. Light colours reflect more light than darker shades, which enhances the perception of space and brightness. This principle is especially useful in compact areas such as hallways, bathrooms, and small living rooms.

2. Enhancing Natural Light

In spaces that benefit from abundant natural light, whites and light shades can amplify this asset. By reflecting natural light, these colours help to maximise the brightness of a room, contributing to a lively and airy atmosphere. In contrast, darker hues can absorb light, potentially making a room feel more enclosed and less inviting.

Psychological and Aesthetic Impact

The choice of colour in interior spaces extends beyond mere aesthetics; it also affects mood and perception. Whites and light shades bring a unique set of psychological benefits.

1. Promoting Calm and Serenity

White and light shades are often associated with calmness and serenity. These colours evoke a sense of peace and tranquillity, making them ideal for bedrooms, bathrooms, and relaxation areas. The soothing quality of these shades can help reduce stress and promote a restful environment.

2. Offering a Timeless Appeal

White and light shades possess a timeless quality that ensures their relevance across various design trends. Unlike bold or trendy colours that may date quickly, whites and light shades provide a classic backdrop that can be easily updated with changing decor elements. This versatility allows homeowners to experiment with different accents and accessories without committing to a permanent colour scheme.

Practical Applications and Tips

Implementing whites and light shades effectively requires careful consideration of various factors, including lighting, furnishings, and design goals.

1. Choosing the Right Shade

Not all whites are created equal. There is a broad spectrum of whites and light shades, ranging from stark whites to warm off-whites and cool greys. When selecting a white or light shade, consider the room's lighting conditions and the desired mood. For example, a warm white with subtle undertones of beige or cream can create a cosy, inviting atmosphere, while a cooler white with hints of blue or grey may lend a more contemporary, crisp feel.

2. Pairing with Other Colours

Whites and light shades serve as an excellent base for incorporating other colours. They act as a neutral canvas that can be complemented with bolder hues or patterns. For a balanced look, pair light shades with contrasting dark elements, such as dark wood furniture or bold accent pieces. Alternatively, create a cohesive scheme by using various shades of white and light colours throughout the space.

3. Considering Texture and Finish

The finish of the paint can significantly impact the final appearance of whites and light shades. Matte finishes offer a soft, subtle look, while gloss finishes reflect more light, enhancing brightness and creating a polished effect. For high-traffic areas or rooms prone to wear and tear, a semi-gloss or satin finish may be more practical due to its durability and ease of cleaning.

4. Incorporating Accents and Accessories

While whites and light shades provide a versatile foundation, incorporating accents and accessories can add depth and interest. Consider adding texture through textiles, such as cushions, rugs, or curtains, in varying shades and materials. Decorative elements like artwork, mirrors, and plants can also inject personality and vibrancy into a space dominated by lighter hues.

Challenges and Considerations

Despite their many advantages, whites and light shades are not without their challenges. One common issue is their tendency to show dirt, fingerprints, and imperfections more readily than darker colours. To mitigate this, choose high-quality paints with durable finishes and consider using washable paints in high-traffic areas.

Another consideration is the potential for whites and light shades to appear stark or clinical if not paired thoughtfully with other design elements. To avoid this, incorporate a range of textures, patterns, and warm accents to create a balanced and inviting environment.

Whites and light shades offer a myriad of benefits in interior painting and decorating, from enhancing spatial perception to promoting a serene and timeless atmosphere. Their versatility and elegance make them a popular choice for many design schemes, providing a flexible backdrop for various styles and furnishings. By understanding the principles of colour reflection, texture, and pairing, homeowners and designers can effectively utilise whites and light shades to create beautifully balanced and functional living spaces.



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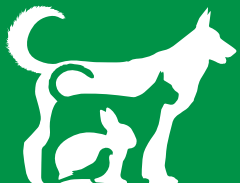
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Pet Page

Cars vs Canines and the Evolution of Language

When you are immersed in the dog world as much as I am, you see the changes, and this one is coming and is ramping up speed. The word owners is going out of fashion fast. Many dog trainers & pet professionals are choosing the words pet guardian, pet parent or family to describe what used to be owners.

The shift started coming a while ago. Many people stopped seeing dogs as possessions, as something you owned, and said that these animals are sentient beings. They have emotions, and they feel things; they have a legal right to be cared for. The rest of the things we own are inanimate objects. This is different.



This month we had a scenario where we had our car breakdown on holiday. Now, I'll be honest: our car means a lot to me, and I have quite a strong emotional attachment to it. Many people's dream car is a sports car. My dream car as a child was a 4x4 full of dogs. (See image, I got to live my dream!) Also, we paid for some of it with money my grandad left us, who I adored, and he loved his cars. We had also recently lost Jim's Stepdad, who loved his four by fours. It felt very special. Fast forward to now, our car broke down on holiday, and after looking at lots of options, the best was to leave it in Wales to be fixed and hire a car so at least we could get Izzy and ourselves home.

The conversation Jim and I had coming home was, well, this is a massive pain, but we will take this 100 times over to when we had to leave Oscar at the vet, driving home without him after a holiday.

Several years ago we were on holiday with Oscar, Louis and Belle, when Oscar

had a horrible accident and ended up with a broken leg. He ended up in the Cave which is like the Willows but in Devon. They told us he'd be in for 3 days and then back out. He had some awful complications and a dodgy immune system, and they were doing their best, but he was in their intensive care touch and go for several days. Even now, I feel sick writing about it; it was just horrid. We extended the 'holiday' (by then, it really wasn't feeling like one) to be near and visited him when we were allowed, but he was still in and not well enough to be discharged. Unfortunately, it got to the point where we had to come home with Louis and Belle, with Oscar still there. That journey, the emotions I can't describe. It was tough. Fortunately, on day 12, he was finally well enough to come home. We headed back to Devon and brought our beautiful boy home.

I think dogs are becoming more important and the norm as part of our families. I heard about a study recently saying a top consideration for millennials buying houses is the suitability for their dogs. I know several Insight Hounds members who have bought new cars because of their dogs or because they got a second dog.

I'm not here to judge. If people want to call themselves owners or other people owners, they can; it's been around a long time. My prediction is that fast-forward a few more years, owners will be one of those words you add to the list to spend time over Christmas trying to explain to a relative why it's not appropriate for them to be saying it anymore.

For me, having left a broken car on holiday and having left a poorly dog, there are undoubtedly similarities. Both had an impact on the holiday, both we had to travel back to the holiday locations, and both cost a fortune. However, when I think about the emotions between the two, they are, without doubt, worlds apart. Even with an emotional attachment to our car, I'm certain, more than ever, that while we own our car, our dog is part of our family!



Birmingham Dogs Home - Forever homes



Ramsey

Breed: Staffordshire

Bull Terrier Cross

Gender: Male (N)

Meet Ramsey, a charming Staffordshire Bull Terrier cross who is looking for a home to call his own.

Ramsey arrived at our centre as a stray, with his skin in poor condition, but with time and care, he's made great improvements here.

Ramsey is a friendly and happy boy, though he

can be a bit boisterous at times. He walks well on lead, showing potential for adventures with the right companion. While he hasn't shown much interest in toys during his stay with us, we believe that could change once he settles into a home environment.

Ramsey would thrive in a home with experienced adopters who are patient and willing to provide him with the training and attention he needs. Due to his past reactivity to other dogs, he would do best as the only dog in the home. Although he has shown significant improvement in this area such as his watch me training and being called away with treats and toys, we have started muzzle trained as a precaution, this will need to be continued by new adopters.

Ramsey's exuberant nature makes him better suited for a family with older children ages 16 and above. He's a big boy with an even bigger heart, but his size and energy might be overwhelming for younger children.

Ramsey is eager to learn and is in need of basic manners training to curb behaviours like jumping up and humping. He also requires guidance in basic obedience. With the right guidance and consistency, Ramsey has the potential to become an obedient and well-mannered companion.

If you are interested in adopting, please contact the centre on 0121 643 5211 to enquire.

Ward End Cat Rescue

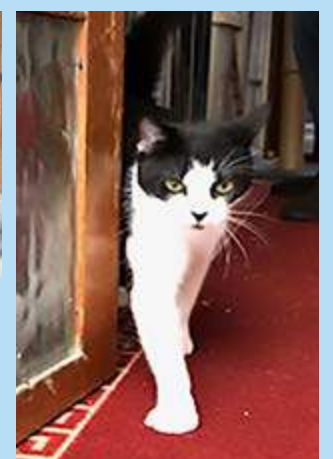
We are a small but very busy home based rescue, run solely by volunteers. We are continually overrun with cats needing our help. We have lots of cats in the rescue but many of them are not ready for their forever homes as yet for various reasons including needing veterinary treatment such as neutering, ongoing health issues or being semi feral. If you are interested in rehoming a cat or want more information please email us with a contact number, address and who lives in your household. We can then contact you and inform you of any cats that may be suitable.



Smidge is a very shy cat who needs a nice quiet home to call her own.



Luna and her handsome son Felix need their forever home.



Jenny needs a forever home

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Chamber reveals shortlist for Greater Birmingham Young Professional of the Year Awards 2024



The winners of the Greater Birmingham Young Professional of the Year Awards 2023. Photo credit: Mr Ladd Media

The Future Faces division of the Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce has announced the shortlist for the Greater Birmingham Young Professional of the Year awards.

The winners will be announced at the annual dinner and awards, taking place on Friday, 18 October at the ICC Birmingham. Sophie Poduval-Morrell, manager of Future Faces, said: "This year, we are proud to have shortlisted a record number of exceptional young professionals, each showcasing incredible talent, dedication, commitment and passion to the Greater Birmingham region. They are a testament to the bright future of our region's business."

Over 80 young professionals across wider Birmingham have been shortlisted for this year's awards, spanning across a wide range of sectors and professions.

The shortlist for this year's 13 categories is as follows:

Greater Birmingham Apprentice of the Year

Emily Berridge- Browne Jacobson LLP
 Bradley Bolton- DP Building Systems
 Santana Bunting- Arup
 Mike Fahy- Claritas Tax Limited
 Roshan Hamesh Paul- Claritas Tax Limited
 Hannah Wright- Digital Innovators

GBYPY- Creative Arts & Culture

Sunjay Kohli- AAA Media
 Updesh Singh- Deutsche Bank
 Lucy Tranter- Birmingham Royal Ballet
 Dan Wharton- Ark Media Group

GBYPY- Digital, Technology & Innovation

Fay Elmi- Intercity Technology
 Grace Macwilliam- Mills & Reeve LLP
 Ileana Lupsa- TechUK
 Lewis Lydiard- Techcare
 Kiranjit Kaur Shergill- Barclays

Charlotte Stanyer- Entec Si

GBYPY- Environmental, Social & Governance

Blu Hardy- Hardy Signs
 Charles Hughes- Canal & River Trust
 Alex Peart- KPMG LLP
 Katherine Stanfield- Jacobs

GBYPY- Events, Retail & Hospitality

Sarah Chin- Blackberry Events
 Money Chopra- Malmaison and Hotel Du Vin
 Christie Gaskin- Hilton Birmingham Metropole

Emma Jones- AllinAll Events Ltd
 Sophie Paolini- Albert's Schloss
 Sigita Pjampite- Unique Venues Birmingham

Charlotte Wheeler- City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
 Elise White- Aston University

GBYPY- Finance- sponsored by mfg Solicitors LLP

Jack Clews- Unity Trust Bank
 Jay Dhaliwal- Chase de Vere
 Faye Jacklin- Claritas Tax Limited
 Nadia Johnstone-Smith- Quilter Cheviot Financial Planning

Ash Karra- Forvis Mazars LLP
 Katrania Lowers- Colmore Partners
 Mark Pallet- City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
 Chris Ronan- EFG Harris Allday

GBYPY- Legal

Joel Blake- Wilkes LLP
 Sarah Gale- Mills & Reeve LLP
 Rebecca Horley- Shoosmiths LLP
 Shereen Johal- Shoosmiths LLP
 Kavita Mehey- Lawrence Kurt Solicitors
 Grace Mullis- Irwin Mitchell LLP
 Christie Nelson- Wilkes LLP
 Vyara Yordanova- Mills & Reeve LLP

GBYPY- Property, Construction & Engineering- sponsored by Birmingham Metropolitan College

Aysha Bateman- West Midlands Combined Authority
 Max Bambury- Tyto Contracting Ltd
 Ruby Dennis- Crown Highways
 Kaan Geundogdou- Ramboll
 Ben Stubbs- Crown Highways
 Natalie Wride- Mott MacDonald

GBYPY- People & Wellbeing- sponsored by PI-KEM

Ellie Dalton- Soteria Self Defence
 Hollie Dunster- City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

Lakshman Ganatra- Evolving Families
 Charlie Pendlebury- Mills & Reeve LLP
 Amat Saeed- Canal & River Trust
 Iona Wolvers- Mitchells & Butlers

GBYPY- Sales, Marketing & Communication

Hope Adie- Colonel Duck
 Sophie Allen- Serrano Media
 Graham Allsopp- Ark Media Group
 Clare Genner- Liquid
 Thomas Newbold- Eleven Views
 Rory Pickin- Rohlig UK Ltd
 Katrina Raipuri- New Vine Marketing
 Beth Sheldrick- Switch Management Ltd

GBYPY- Start-Up, Enterprise & Entrepreneurship- sponsored by Birmingham City University

Rosie Billington- Rosie Billington
 Alex Kyte- Build an Experience Ltd
 Aldi Mehmeti- Pawionic
 Shubham Parikh- Webosis Limited
 Harry Pegg- Helixx Industries Ltd
 Iveta Pudilova- Happy Autistic Lady

GBYPY- Not for Profit

Francesca Bagley- United by 2022 Charity
 Natasha Ceres Chanda Johnson- St Basils
 Amaan Dad- Our Community Foundation
 Kerrie Henry-Edge- Birmingham Mind
 Gracefilled Okeke- Feedo Needo
 Zachariah Okusi- Sport 4 Life UK
 Natalie Pursall- Birmingham Dogs Home
 Maria Elena Roselli- YMCA- Heart of England

GBYPY- Training & Education

Rachel Arnold- Solihull College & University Centre
 Carolyn Burton- City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra
 Paul Carbery- Arden Academy
 Shuai Qin- Aston University
 Jat Sidhu- Solihull College & University Centre
 Samantha Strong- Aston University

The overall winner from the sector categories will be crowned the Greater Birmingham Young Professional of the Year 2024.

There is also a bonus category: Future Faces President's Award, chosen by the Future Faces division's President, Kasim Choudhry.

Interviews for the shortlisted individuals will be taking place at the Library of Birmingham across the month of September.

www.greaterbirminghamchambers.com/event-calendar/greater-bypy-awards-2024.html

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Local Sports



Doyle sets 18 mountain bike challenge distances aiming for the 900th



It's been a tough twenty four days for former Paratrooper and ex RAF/Army reservist Paddy Doyle. Backed by his support team Doyle achieved five hard mountain bike distances carrying mountain bike instructor expedition kit weighing 46 lbs over the Pooley Park mountain bike course and footpaths North Warwickshire, his results were: 10 km 48 min 08 sec, 11 km 53 min 05 sec, 12 km 59 min 51 sec, 13 km 1 hr 06 min 33 sec, 16 km 1 hr 52 min 43 sec.

The next venue was Rowington Village Warwickshire, where we set a further thirteen mountain bike distances over a low technical course carrying 20 lbs of expedition kit finishing in the following times:

6 km 17 min 26.59 sec,
7 km 20 min 42.24 sec,
8 km 28 min 45.22 sec,
9 km 34 min 27 sec,
9.5 km 38 min 20 sec,

19 km 1 hr 08 min 03 sec,
23 km 1 hr 18 min 32 sec,
25 km 1 hr 22 min 56 sec,
27 km 1 hr 35 min 36 sec,
28 km 1 hr 40 min 30 sec,
29 km 1 hr 47 min 22 sec,
30 km 1 hr 54 min 30 sec.

On each of the marked permanent courses he had to lift the mountain bike over gates and stiles including short steep muddy bridleway inclines. "It was extra hard as I was

carrying injuries from one challenge to the next, but I blocked out the pain listened to my support team regarding changing gears and eating plenty of protein along the routes."

Doyle's overall total of career fitness endurance challenges and World Records is now 881, he hopes to reach the milestone of 900 sporting feats by the end of November.

Water Orton Bowling Club

All of our teams continue to have a successful season to date, Our B team in the Erdington Over 55's league are currently top of division three. In the East Birmingham Tuesday league our A team are currently top of division two and the A and B teams are both through to the cup final and will play each other in early September. In the East Birmingham Over 60's our A team are currently second in Division Two and a point behind the leaders. In the Thursday Sutton Benevolent league the B team have qualified for the cup Semi-Final and await the draw to find out their opponents.

On Sunday 21st July the club held a county game against a South Yorkshire side with representatives from our own club taking part in the match.

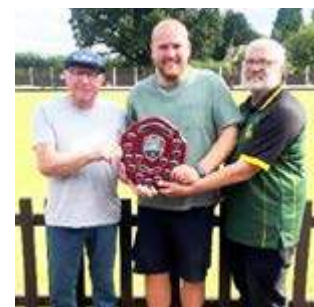
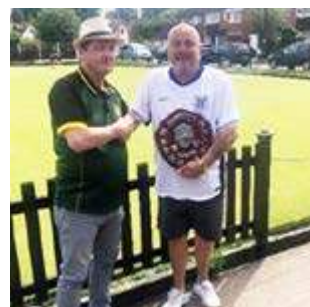
A large crowd was in attendance to witness some tremendous bowling which produced some challenging matches. Compliments were received from the league and all the bowlers on the excellent condition of the green and facilities provided on the day.

Internal club competitions continue to be run and on Sunday 14th July the club held its Handicap competition, the winner on the day was Mark Duxbury being presented with his trophy by Club Chairman Kevin Hackett.

The next competition on Sunday 4th August was a triples handicap competition, the winners were Keith Ford, Chris Baker and Phil Yate.

On Sunday 11th August the Ladies competition was held with Val Groves the winner on the day.

The next competition will be the Men's championship on Sunday 25th August.



During the season all leagues run Merit competitions for both single players or Pairs. This year in the East Birmingham Over 60's Pairs competition, three pairs from Water Orton qualified for finals that this year was held at Erdington Conservatives Club. Keith Hanley & Andrew Barnett, Paul Johnson & Gary Smith, and Richard Smith & Keith Price. Gary & Paul managed to get through to the final, but they unfortunately lost to the local pair from the Bradford Arms Steve Green & Mark Galvin (seen below). This year the Warwickshire Parks Veterans Merit Final was held at the Queslett PH in Streetly. Water Orton were represented by 2 players Kevin Hackett and Paul Johnson. Paul having played four matches on the day to reach the Final beating Kevin in the quarterfinals in a very tight game eventually winning 21-20. In the Final Paul was a convincing winner with a 21-3 win to lift the trophy, Paul is seen below with the trophy which he has retained this season, a feat which is rarely achieved.



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We are always looking for new members, those who would like to play in a team or anyone that would like to take up social bowling so if you would like to try the game, we have equipment available for you to use during our free coaching sessions on a Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 PM.

If you're interested, please just call in or contact: Club captain - Paul Johnson (paul.wobc@gmail.com)



Water Orton Cricket Club Social Events



We have now finalised our social calendar for 2024 and we have some excellent entertainment booked for all our members, supporters and friends here at our village sports club. We hope you will be able to come and enjoy these fabulous nights with us, there's something for everyone.

Tickets are available about six weeks before these events from Pete Coles at the cricket club (07812 241046) Paul Messenger at the tennis club in Vicarage Lane (07538 601246) or from behind the bar in the cricket club.

Saturday 28th September Lionel Richie Tribute

With the fabulous Hamilton Browne. All the hits of The Commodores and Lionel Richie in a fantastic show.

Saturday 12th October The Rod Stewart Experience

With the great Garry Pease, back by popular request. Looks like him, dresses like him and sounds just like him.

Friday 18th October

The Aston Villa Night

A question and answer evening with two Aston Villa Legends Des Bremner & Gary Shaw.

Saturday 19th October

Quiz Night

Teams of 4/5/6 players. Come and get your teams registered by 7.45pm for an 8.00pm start.

Saturday 16th November

Tina Turner Tribute

With the fabulous Millie Munroe. Great show, this lady is simply the best.

Saturday 30th November

ABBA Tribute Show

This is a fabulous duo who are great to listen to and dance to. First time at our club, we have waited a long time to get these for a visit. Well worth waiting for.

Details of our special New Years Eve night will be announced very soon.

Water Orton & District Tennis Club



Our season is going well so far and we have had some really good league results to date.

Our Ladies team are doing very well and could yet win promotion into the Metropolitan First Division covering the Birmingham and Warwickshire areas. Some really good wins against clubs who have been around for a very long time.

Our Men's Team's are doing well considering this is only the second year some of the lads have experienced league tennis. It looks like we are well set up for the future which is looking good.

Our Juniors have some of the best young players we have had to date. We will be entering our junior/youth players into more open matches for all local clubs in the area, and first indications show that

we are well equipped to get some good results.

If anyone reading this would like to give tennis a try we still have some vacancies in our membership groups for Ladies and Juniors. Maybe you have played before but not for a few years in which case our qualified coaches would be happy to help you get you back into it. We also have an adult beginners group on a Monday night with a few vacancies. Its a fun session run by a qualified LTA Coach and would soon get you into tennis.

Come and give it a try, get yourself fit and make new friends, you would be very welcome.

For more details ring 07538 601246 and we can give you all the information you need.



Coleshill Town F.C.

FIXTURES: Pitching in Northern Premier League Midland Division

3.00pm kick off unless stated.

Saturday 24th August

Away to Walsall Wood.

Monday 26th August

Home to Sutton Coldfield Town.

Saturday 31st August

Away Mickleover. FA Cup. Game v Bedworth United to be rearranged.

Saturday 14th September

Home to Darlestone Town

Saturday 21st September

Away to Hinckley LR

Saturday 28th September

Home to Wellingborough Town.

Saturday 5th October

Away to Grantham Town.

CTFC Match Reports

Saturday 3rd August

F.A. Cup Extra Preliminary Round

Coleshill Town 0 v 0 Eastwood Community FC

Coleshill just couldn't break down a stubborn and well organised Eastwood team. The Coleman had the most of the few chances but it just wasn't their day and the contest had to go to a Replay.

Tuesday 6th August

F.A. Cup Extra Preliminary Round Replay

Eastwood CFC 1 v 3 Coleshill Town - After Extra Time

Another struggle as Eastwood once again restricted Coleshill to few chances. Captain Taylor Carter-Byrne headed Coleshill in front but they couldn't get a second goal that would have killed the game. Eastwood kept going and got their reward with a well taken free kick on 94 minutes, and so to Extra Time! Coleshill flew out of the box in the first half of Extra Time and goals from Josh Hesson and Maxwell Ngbeken quickly put them 3-1 up. Although Eastwood tried hard Coleshill saw out the game and progressed to the next round of the F.A. Cup.

Saturday 10th August

Midland Football League Midland Division

Coleshill Town 2 v 1 Loughborough Students

The young Students are always a very fit and well organised side and they showed this against Coleshill. The Students took the lead early in the second half with a soft penalty but Coleshill fought back and equalised through Josh Hesson and then went in front with their own penalty scored by Ben Billingham. The Coleman held on for a well earned three points.

Tuesday 13th August

Midland Football League

Midland Division

Racing Club Warwick 1 v 0 Coleshill Town

Coleshill couldn't get into their stride and struggled to carve out chances. While Racing Club had few chances themselves they did take the lead on 10 minutes and did enough from that point to secure the win.

Saturday 17th August

F.A. Cup Preliminary Round

Brocton 0 v 1 Coleshill Town

Brocton can consider themselves unlucky as they played really well and had the better of the few chances that appeared during the 90 minutes. In the 94th minute Coleshill were awarded a free kick just outside the box and Sam Fitzgerald stepped up and hit an almost perfect effort into the top corner of the net giving the home keeper no chance, and so secured a place in the next round for the Coleman.

Monday 19th August

Midland Football League Midland Division

Coleshill Town 3 v 2 Long Eaton United

A very entertaining game as two good sides went all out for the win. Ben Billingham scored a cracking solo goal on 14 minutes but on 34 mins the visitors scored a very impressive equaliser, a team effort. It looked like the teams would go to the break level but right at the end of the first half, that man, Sam Fitzgerald hit a fabulous volley into the top of the net. Coleshill made it 3-1 on the hour mark with Ben Billingham's second but Long Eaton scored to make it 3-2. It was end to end stuff but Coleshill held on for a very hard fought three points.

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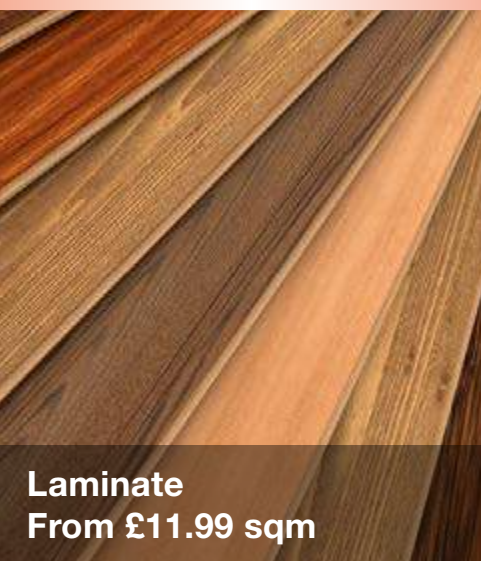
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