

## Events to look forward to...

### October

- 7-1 Vicar of Dibley 'The Second Coming' Daneside 7.30pm
- 9 Churches Together- Rode Hall Silver Band - St Stephens Church, 7.30pm
- 10-1 Nov 'Electric Open' Art Exhibition, Electric Picture House
- 12 Artisan Market, Town Centre, 10am to 3pm
- 16 Planning Cttee, 7pm - Town Hall
- 17-18 'A Soldiers Farewell' - Daneside
- 18 The Papa Bears Fundraising Concert - Town Hall - 7.30pm
- 19 Apple Day/ Seed swap 2pm- 4pm - Astbury Mere
- 23 CTC Finance & Policy Cttee, Town Hall, 7pm
- 23 Delia Metcalfe Fashion Show - Town Hall 7.30pm
- 28 National Blood Service, Town Hall, 2pm - 4pm, 5.30pm- 7.30pm
- 28-1 Nov Congleton Musical Theatre "Anything Goes" - Daneside 7.30/2.30pm\*\*
- 30 CTC Full Council- Town Hall - 7pm
- 31 Family Spooktacular, Congleton Leisure Centre, 12.30- 4.30pm

### November

- 1 Rotary Bonfire and Firework Night, Congleton Park
- 2 Museum Walks 'Surprising Trades' P.Aston - 2pm
- 3 National Blood Service, Town Hall, 2pm- 4pm, 5.30pm- 7.30pm
- 6 CTC Town Hall Cttee / Planning - Town Hall -7pm
- 8 Lantern Making Workshop - Electric Picture House 10.30am to 4pm (also 15 & 22 Nov)
- 8 Rotary Young Artist of the Year - Town Hall
- 9 Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service
- 12 Play -Cheshire Rural Touring -Forensic of the Flat - Electric Picture House 7.30pm £8
- 12-15 Congleton Amateur Youth Theatre -Alice- Daneside 7.30/2.30pm \*\*
- 13 CTC Community, Environment & Services Cttee - Town Hall- 7pm
- 14-10 Jan Christmas Arts Fair - Electric Picture House.
- 15 Silent Night - New Life Church, 7.30pm
- 20 CTC Planning Cttee - Town Hall - 7pm
- 21 Soul Night - Town Hall - 7pm
- 21 Benefit Night for Cheshire Hospice -Dave Richmond Band - EPH 7.30pm £5
- 22 Choral Society Concert - Town Hall
- 27 CTC Finance & Policy Cttee - Town Hall - 7pm
- 28 Congleton Christmas Lights Switch-on 4pm-7pm
- 29 Youth Orchestra Autumn Concert, Town Hall - 7.30pm \*\*
- 29 Charity Concert with The Daleian Singers - Daneside\*\*

### December

- 3 National Blood Service, Town Hall, 2 - 4pm, 5.30 - 7.30pm
- 4 CTC Full Council - Town Hall - 7pm
- 6 Silk Brass - Christmas Concert - Daneside - 7.30pm \*\*
- 9 Churches Together-Community Carols - Rode Hall Band - Church House, Buglawton tbc
- 13 Xmas Party Night, Town Hall 7.30pm
- 14 Artisan Market, Town Centre, 10am to 3pm
- 17-24 Clonter Opera Theatre - Cinderella \*\*
- 20 Congleton Choral Society- Christmas Carol Concert - Town Hall -7.30pm \*\*

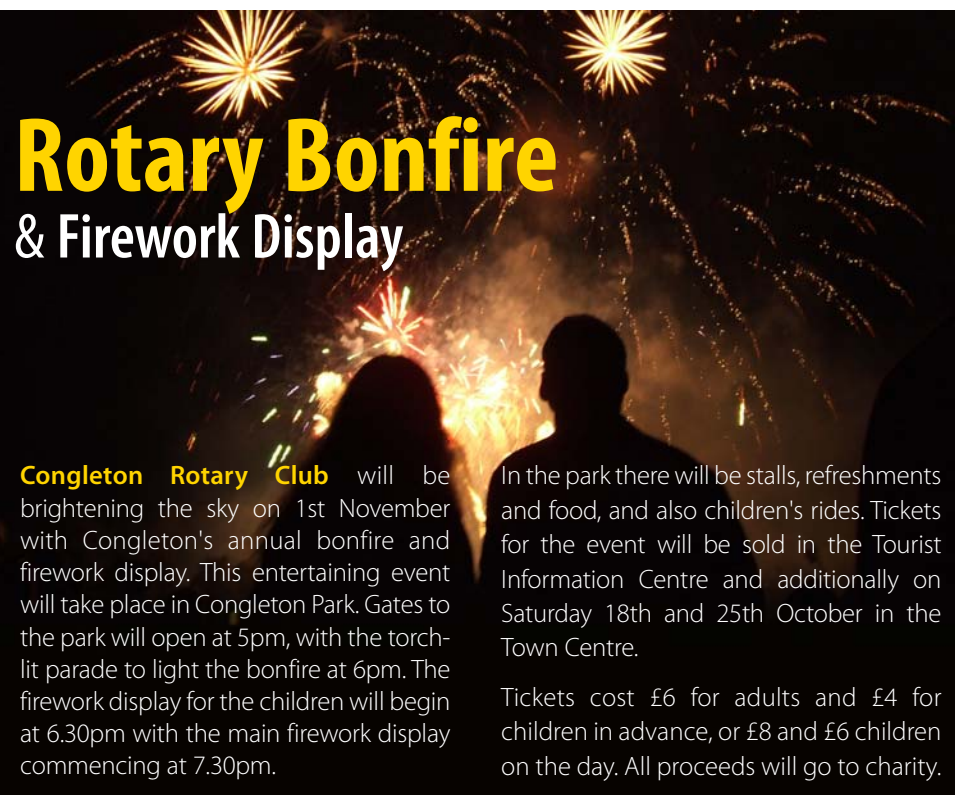
\*\* Tickets/Information from Congleton TIC

Members of the public are welcome to attend Congleton Town Council (CTC) meetings, and may ask a question at full council. To do this you are requested to advise the Town Clerk in writing or by e-mail at least 7 working days before the day of meeting. Please note there could be items towards the end of the meeting, which by law, require the press and public to be excluded.

For Daneside Theatre productions contact Congleton Tourist Information 01260 271095.

For Congleton Town Council (CTC) contact 01260 270350. For more events see [www.congleton-tc.gov.uk](http://www.congleton-tc.gov.uk)

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## Rotary Bonfire & Firework Display

**Congleton Rotary Club** will be brightening the sky on 1st November with Congleton's annual bonfire and firework display. This entertaining event will take place in Congleton Park. Gates to the park will open at 5pm, with the torch-lit parade to light the bonfire at 6pm. The firework display for the children will begin at 6.30pm with the main firework display commencing at 7.30pm.

In the park there will be stalls, refreshments and food, and also children's rides. Tickets for the event will be sold in the Tourist Information Centre and additionally on Saturday 18th and 25th October in the Town Centre.

Tickets cost £6 for adults and £4 for children in advance, or £8 and £6 children on the day. All proceeds will go to charity.

## Lots Happening at the Electric Picture House

Don't miss out on events at the **Electric Picture House in Cross Street** this Autumn including:

**Electric Open:** International Art Exhibition, 10th October until 1st November.

**Lantern Making Workshops:** Saturdays 8th/15th/22nd November from 10.30am - 4.00pm Contact Jo on 01260 270908 for any further information. £1 donation - lanterns to be used at the Christmas parade on Friday 28th November.

**A Gig For Dave:** Friday 21 November blues tribute to the late Dave Hudson, in aid of East Cheshire hospice, featuring Dave Richmond Blues band and Black Dog. Tickets £5 from A&A music tel 299444.

**The Forensics of a Flat (and other stories):** by Francesca Millican-Slater, theatre piece, Wednesday 12th November 7.30pm tickets £8.00 available from EPH or on the door.

**Christmas Art Fair:** Friday 14th November until Saturday 10th January.

For more details, see [www.electricpicturehouse.com](http://www.electricpicturehouse.com)

## It's Panto Time (Oh no it isn't!)

Congleton Pantomime is proud to present **Aladdin** at Daneside Theatre.

The well-known pantomime is suitable for adults and children over the age of three. Aladdin runs from Saturday 10th until Saturday 17th January. The show is filled with lots of colour as well as great songs and jokes and is the latest in a long line of fantastic shows from this local group.

For more information or to book tickets, contact the Congleton Tourist Information Centre on 01260 271095 or visit Congleton Pantomime's Facebook page.



## Silent Night

New Life Church is hosting the play Silent Night, on Saturday 15th November at 7.30pm. The moving play with music, performed by Theatre in the Quarter, tells the incredible story of the events surrounding the truce that took place

on Christmas Eve 1914 in the trenches. Tickets are £7.50 or £3.50 for under 16s, these can be purchased from New Life Church, the Electric Picture House or TIC.

For more information, contact 07833 742200 or email; [jo@congletoncommunityprojects.org](mailto:jo@congletoncommunityprojects.org)

The audience are encouraged to wear costumes of the era.



# Bear Necessities

With News from Congleton Town Council & Community Groups  
Autumn 2014

## Reindeers Lead Santa at the Christmas Lights



**Congleton's Christmas Lights switch on promises to be a return to the traditional - with real reindeers, Santa, elves, Christmas Grotto, Grand Lantern Parade, brass bands, carols and snow, as well as the quality craft and gifts stalls, charity stalls, hot food and drink, and street entertainment.**

The switch-on will take place on Friday 28th November from 4-7pm. The Lantern parade will leave Lawton Street at 4.15pm and lead the six reindeers and Santa to a special Town Centre Grotto, where children can visit him from 4.30 - 6.30pm. There will be

## Lest We Forget

The Royal British Legion is hoping for another record turnout in Congleton at this year's Remembrance Parade on Sunday 9th November. The Parade will meet at Booth Street at 10.15am ready to move off at 10.30am. The route will be via West Street, Antrobus Street, Mill Street, the pedestrian area, Market Square, Bank Street and onto Lawton Street to the Cenotaph. After the two minutes silence at 11am, dignitaries and associations will be called up to lay wreaths. The parade will lead off at 11.15am marching up the High Street and onto Moody Street. The Congleton Artisan and Vintage Market has been cancelled for November as it fell on the same day as the parade. There will be a service of remembrance at St Peter's Church after the parade.

More details about the many events taking place in and around Congleton to mark 100 years since the outbreak of World War One can be found inside this edition of Bear Necessities.



## Developing a 'Neighbourhood Plan' for Congleton

Do you want to influence the future of Congleton? If so Congleton Town Council would like to hear from you! The Town Council needs to work with local people like you to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Congleton. A Neighbourhood Plan is about building neighbourhoods and communities. It addresses key issues such as where and what type of development should occur, protecting areas from types of change, influencing building design, proposing and protecting open spaces and enabling the local community to retain more of the money collected from development to spend on local projects.

Interested people from a range of backgrounds to lead on the production of the plan and shaping the consultation. We need the input of all local people at each stage - Look out for questionnaires, social media, information points, as well as twitter and web updates. Whether you are a resident, worker, business, landowner, local group or organisation your thoughts, vision and needs count. The plan preparation needs to involve local people and must pass the scrutiny of an independent public examination. Once adopted a Neighbourhood Plan MUST be taken into account in all planning decisions. To volunteer to be part of the initial group contact [bh@congletontowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:bh@congletontowncouncil.co.uk) stating why you would like to be part of the team.

Initially we are looking for a team of 20-30

Bear Necessities is produced by Congleton Town Council. The next newsletter will be delivered around 7 January, 2015. All contributions should be sent by 7 December, 2014 to Jackie MacArthur at Congleton Town Hall, High Street Congleton CW12 1BN. Tel 01260 270350 or email [jm@congletontowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:jm@congletontowncouncil.co.uk)



QUALITY TOWN COUNCIL  
Congleton beartown  
where friends are made

# Know Your COUNCILLOR

**Congleton** is divided into two wards, East and West. As a rough guide East Ward covers Buglawton, Bromley Farm, Mossley and Lower Heath. West Ward covers the Town Centre, West Heath and Newcastle Road. Each ward is represented by 10 Councillors.

All Councillors can be contacted through the Town Council and further details can be seen at [www.congleton-tc.gov.uk](http://www.congleton-tc.gov.uk) Your Councillors elected or co-opted to serve until May 2015 are:



Dawn Allen, C



Gordon Baxendale, C



John Saville Crowther, IVC



Robbie Brightwell, C



Louise Bours, UKIP



Amanda Martin, C



Denis Murphy, LD (Mayor)



Jean Parry, C



Neville Price, I



Elizabeth Wardlaw, C (Deputy Mayor)

West Ward Councillors

East Ward Councillors



Larry Barker, C



David Brown, C (Deputy Leader)



Paul Bates, C



Bob Edwards, C (Council Leader)



Guy Brittain, C



George Hayes, C



Sally Ann Holland, C



Douglas Parker, C



Glen Williams, C



Rebecca Williams, C

C= Conservative; LD = Liberal Democrat; I = Independent; IVC = Independent Voice of Congleton; UKIP = UK Independence Party

## Bradshaw Will Bring New Life to Town Museum



Congleton's fantastic museum, currently found in Market Square behind the Town Hall, is anticipating moving to Bradshaw Court in Lawton Street. Now the hard work has begun to raise the millions of pounds needed to turn this important Grade 2 listed-building into a premier visitor attraction for

Congleton. Bradshaw House has historical associations being named after John Bradshaw, who lived in Congleton whilst learning to be a lawyer and who presided over the court which sentenced King Charles 1 to death.

The museum will submit a major bid for Heritage and Lottery funding in the next few months and will need to show public support. You can help by writing letters of support, joining in consultations or coming up with fund-raising ideas! To find out how you can help the museum call in and have a chat! The museum is open on Tuesday to Friday from 12 - 4.30pm, Saturday 10am - 4.30pm and Sunday 12-4.30pm. Entry is free of charge- Donations encouraged.

Alternatively, visit the website: [www.congletonmuseum.co.uk](http://www.congletonmuseum.co.uk)

## Congleton Lifestyle Opportunities – Have Your Say!

Cheshire East Council believes there is the potential to modernise and improve the 'lifestyle' provision in Congleton which could house new all-inclusive leisure facilities, modern family and adult social care provision, health services and community facilities all in one place. This ambitious proposal has taken a leap forward and Cheshire East Council is now seeking the views of Congleton residents on their thoughts for such a centre.

People living or working in Congleton are asked to spend a few minutes completing an online survey about the potential centre. For those who would prefer not to go online, there are paper copies of the survey

available in the library, leisure centre and Tourist Information Centre in the Town Hall.

The results from the survey will inform future decision making by Cheshire East Council. This is the first round of engagement designed to help shape the possibilities. If a new lifestyle opportunity is approved, there will be future rounds of consultation when more detail is known.

For more information, and to access the survey, please go to: [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/congletonlifestyle](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/congletonlifestyle) Surveys need to be completed by the 16th October.

## Town Hall Booking

The Town Hall has three great rooms which are available to hire at very reasonable rates. We can offer a room for small meetings, a medium size room for training and conferences, or a large hall for a concerts, parties or weddings!

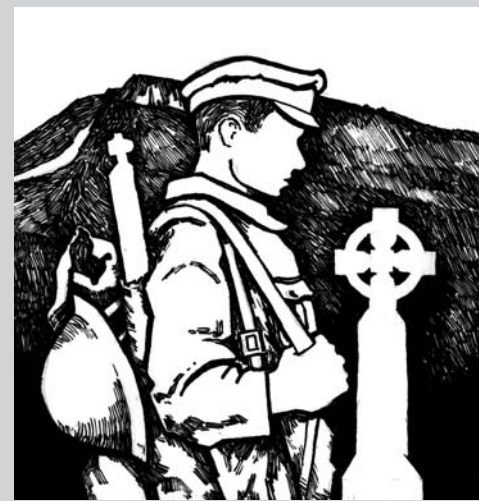
More information is available at [www.congleton-tc.gov.uk](http://www.congleton-tc.gov.uk) or tel 01260 270350, ext 6, and we'll be happy to show you around.

Alternatively, scan this QR code to see a video about hiring the Town Hall.



## Railway Still Blooming

As Congleton awaits the results of this year's Community Pride (9 October), Britain in Bloom (16 October) North West in Bloom Neighbourhood (23 October) and North West in Bloom Awards (24 October), work is on-going to improve the town. The Canal and Railway improvements are continuing thanks to a great team of volunteers that meet up on the fourth Friday of the month. The 'Working Parties' are from 10am - 12.30pm and more members are very welcome. The next 'parties' are on the 24th October and 28th November. The group has ambitious plans to improve the canal tow path from the station to Buglawton as well as continue to improve the look of the station.



## Lest We Forget: CONGLETON REMEMBERS

Congleton like every town and village across the land felt the impact of World War One. To mark the centenary, a voluntary body, the Congleton WW1 Awareness & Engagement Group has developed an educational programme with support of a £8000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant to help us remember and reflect. This funding has been put towards a number of projects including:

- Giving all Congleton school libraries a free copy of Lyndon Murgatroyd's book 'Lest We Forget' to encourage research
- Poetry workshops led by John Linley, a former

Cheshire Poet Laureate, leading to a book to be published in 2015.

- Exhibition and education programme at Congleton Museum early in 2015
- Iconic portraits by Petra Lea of a soldier and nurse capture the essence of the conflict.
- 100 commemorative Rowan trees planted across the town by ATC cadets and others as well as at schools.

Daneside Theatre will be the venue for moving, unique play 'A Soldier's Goodbye', written by local playwright Dave McCaddon, on October 17th and 18th. The Biddulph Male Voice Choir and the Congleton Players will make this a very special event. A matinee performance on October 18th will feature the Congleton Children' Choir. Tickets are on sale at the Information Centre.

The War Memorial site in Lawton Street has serious structural problems and a Cenotaph Restoration Group of volunteers together with the Town Council has submitted a bid to the HLF for the repairs and to re-landscape and improve access for all. The outcome of the bid is expected in January 2015.

The WW1 A&E Group would like to thank the local trusts, organisations and individuals who have kindly given support to the programme which will continue through the next three years.

## Ruby's Fund Sensory Centre Opens



Ruby's Fund has opened its fully inclusive sensory centre and social café in Roe Street, Congleton. The centre is open to everyone but especially children and young people with additional needs. The centre is fitted with a social café area and sofas, a role play and soft play areas as well as book corner. There is also

a sensory room, fitted with coloured lights, bubbles, fibre optics and sound.

After six years of tireless fundraising, the centre was opened in September 2014. It already has a busy timetable of events, activities, and open sessions. Future plans involve raising £15,000 to renovate the upstairs area into a siblings room.

Ruby's Fund relies on volunteers to help run the charity and centre. If you think you could help, call into the centre, email: [info@rubysfund.co.uk](mailto:info@rubysfund.co.uk) or tel: 01260 277666.

[www.rubysfund.co.uk](http://www.rubysfund.co.uk)

## Two More Artisans for 2014

Congleton Artisan and Vintage Market will be back on Sunday, 12th October and Sunday, 14th December. The market organisers have agreed with the British Legion not to hold a market on the second Sunday in November as the pedestrian area forms part of the Remembrance Sunday Parade Route. The markets are spread through the centre of the

pedestrian area and the organisers work hard to ensure a spread of interesting craft and food stalls. To book a stall contact 07739 529225 or see: [www.congletonartisanmarket.co.uk](http://www.congletonartisanmarket.co.uk)



## News In Brief...

### EXCESS APPLES

Donations of apples can be taken to Astbury Mere Visitors Centre until the 1 November. The Apples will be turned into Congleton Apple Juice. There will be an opportunity to try Congleton Apple Juice at the Autumn produce and plant swap at Astbury Mere on October 19th from 2-4pm

### NEW TOWN GUIDE

The 2015-16 Congleton Guide will be distributed to all CW12 householders later this year. The guide is packed with useful information, fascinating facts and news of Congleton past, present and future. Thank you to all the Congleton Businesses that supported the guide and made it possible.

### CAR PARKING CHARGES

Cheshire East is seeking the views of local people and businesses on potential changes to their car parking prices to benefit shoppers and businesses. For details of the consultation, see [www.congleton-tc.gov.uk](http://www.congleton-tc.gov.uk)

Consultation closes 15th October.

### YOUTH INFO POINT

Congleton Youth Council has set up a new web site [www.youthinfo.co.uk](http://www.youthinfo.co.uk) and are encouraging local organisations, groups or businesses with opportunities for young volunteers to register with the site and post their opportunities.

### HANDS UP WORLD RECORD

The Children's Society and Cheshire East Council are asking local organisations to join in a Guinness World Record on 27th November for most hands raised simultaneously in Cheshire East. The record symbolises Hands Up for Children's Rights. Official forms at [www.congleton-tc.gov.uk](http://www.congleton-tc.gov.uk)

### MEET CONGLETON'S CREDIT UNION

Congleton Community Credit Union provides a safe place to save money and access to affordable loans. They are a small, welcoming group that have over 100 members. International Credit Union Day is being marked through a number of events during October including an information point from 10.30am until 1:30pm at Tesco, Barn Road on Saturday 11th and an information point on Thursday 16th at Barclays Bank, Congleton. At both venues you can ask questions and learn more about Credit Unions. Congleton Community Credit Union offers a local service, which contributes to the global good of Credit Unions.