



Neighbourhoods



Decision
Making



People



Services



Voluntary, Community
and Faith

Welcome

Are you connected to your community? Do you want to know more about what is happening locally?

If you do, follow Connected Communities on [Twitter](#) and like them on [Facebook](#) for up-to-date information on events, consultations, photos and videos of community activity and more Connected Communities Centre launches.

The latest Connected Communities Centres to have been launched are at Bromley Farm in Congleton and the Green in the Corner Community Café on the Hursfield Estate in Macclesfield.

[For more information visit the Connected Communities website](#)

Contents

Page 2 Local Area News

Page 6 Partner News

Page 9 For your Notice Board

Page 9 Conferences and Events

Page 11 Consultations

Page 12 Funding



Local Area News

Congleton and Surrounding Towns and Villages

Sandbach Clean Team benefit from the NCS

Sandbach Clean Team were recently assisted by a group of young people who spent two days working hard on Scotch Common, cutting back the sprouting lime trees and cleaning out the tree enclosures. The students from Sandbach School, participating in the [National Citizenship Scheme](#), were supervised by two volunteer university students. The Clean Team organiser, Councillor Keith Haines, was full of praise for the volunteers' efforts and sheer hard physical work, stating that not only did they tackle a tough task with great energy, they did a really competent and thorough job of cutting back the excess growth and lugging all the branches and dead plants across to a trailer on Sandbach Park.



[For more information visit the Sandbach Clean Team website](#)

The Congleton Partnership supports Congleton in Bloom



Over the last few years [The Congleton Partnership](#) has played its part in supporting the In Bloom effort in and around Congleton. The latest project to be completed is the "greening" of Mountbatten Way by sponsoring 17 wooden planters and 17 Rowan Trees. Not only does it improve the physical appearance of the dual carriageway it will, over time, help environmentally by absorbing some of the carbon emissions from vehicles travelling along this stretch of road. 5 years previously The Partnership planted 5 pear trees in the carpark adjacent to Mountbatten Way which have now matured and are playing their part in improving the environment around there too.

[For more information contact Mike Smith](#) on 01260 270350 Ext 7

BAT goes live in Alsager

Alsager Partnership has waited a long time to take delivery of their very own therapy table tennis table which is specially designed for people living with early stage Alzheimer's and other kinds of dementia. The table, which has been funded by the community, was recently introduced to an enthusiastic group of invited guests. Andrew Battley, from the [BAT Foundation](#) was on hand to demonstrate how players can get the most benefit from using the table and introduced a number of useful bat and ball exercises. The Partnership was pleased to welcome sponsors, councillors from Alsager Town Council and Cheshire East Council along with a number of interested parties and regular visitors to their dementia friendly events.



Table tennis will now be part of a new activities session at the [Community Church Hall](#) on every third Wednesday beginning 19th September from 2.00pm to 3.30pm.

[For more information contact Kath Reader](#) on 01270 873975



Crewe and Surrounding Towns and Villages

St Paul's Centre



Earlier in the year a film crew descended upon St Paul's Centre and were told they were looking at creating a programme about small local charities. As the filming progressed all was not as it seemed with a surprise appearance by Jane McDonald. It turned out that Rob Wykes, the Chief Executive Officer, had been nominated for the Channel 5 Jane McDonald and Friends show. On Friday 10th August the show was aired and featured St Paul's Centre which gave an excellent insight into the work of the charity; and although the nomination was for Rob he explained that without staff, volunteers and the people of Crewe in particular, the charity wouldn't be what it is today. St Paul's Centre would like to give a huge thank you and acknowledgement to everyone who has both given and received over the years.

[For more information visit the St Paul's Centre website](#)

Storage King support for Crewe Clean Team

Storage Boost had provided Crewe Clean Team with a unit and insurance for their equipment since 2013. They were recently taken over by [Storage King](#) and they have, very generously, agreed to continue the arrangement. Having somewhere to keep their kit in one place has been a huge advantage over the years. They have lent equipment to several groups and built up a store that allows them to invite businesses and other groups to join them. In short, they would be much less effective without the support of the company.



The Clean Team continue to blitz areas across the town and recently met with a number of other groups to clean up Tipkinder Park and the brook that runs alongside it. Represented were; [Nantwich and Weaver Rotary Club](#), [CleanIt Crewe](#), [Crewe Residents Against Flytipping and Grot Spots](#), Cheshire East Council, Crewe Town Council and [CVS](#). Laura Smith MP also joined the volunteers. During their time there they filled 68 bags with rubbish. Several tyres and a trolley were also retrieved from the water.

For more information you can [follow Crewe Clean Team on Twitter](#) or like them on [Facebook](#)

New partnership exchange project

Cheshire East Council has teamed up with the Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Trust to exchange best practice. The project will enable Cheshire East Partnerships Team to reach a wider audience of those in need and have scoped out a co-produced package of workshops for Recovery College clients all with a self-care focus. Workshops include a slow cooker demonstration and taster session, making self-care plans, healthy eating, poetry for relaxation and a diabetes essentials workshop. Partners include [Central Cheshire Integrated Care Partnership](#), Crewe and Nantwich Senior Forum and [One You](#). In return staff at [Delamere Resource Centre](#) agreed to deliver free community-based mental health awareness workshops to benefit Connected Communities Centre staff and volunteers and any front line staff working across the communities of Crewe.

[For dates and to register your interest contact Deb Lindop](#)



Knutsford and Surrounding Towns and Villages

Kids Eat Free success



Following the successful pilot over the May half term [The Welcome](#) in Knutsford ran their Kids Eat Free promotion again over the summer holidays with funding and marketing support from [Great Places](#). Any adult purchasing a meal from The Welcome could claim up to 2 free children's meals including a drink and a piece of fruit. Over the 6 weeks 250 free children's meals were claimed making it a very popular and

much needed project. Alongside the offer, The Welcome and Great Places also ran a summer activity programme for families including day trips, messy play sessions and pamper parties as well as promoting the services on offer at the centre including the CAB and Jobcentre Plus drop-in sessions.

Local resident Katy Watson said: "Myself and 2 children attended The Welcome café in the school holidays for a great session called Curious Critters. We all had such a great time. It was brilliant that they were able to put on such a fantastic free event. We also went back the same week to have some lunch there. We had a lovely meal, such good value for money. We will definitely be back."

Volunteer Coordinator at The Welcome, Sarah Pownall, said: "As a single mum of a growing five-year-old boy I know how hard and stressful the summer holidays can be, trying to keep the kids fed. No sooner have you filled the cupboards up, the kids have raided them and eaten you out of house and home. This is why our holiday hunger scheme can make a difference. We have lots of families in the area who struggle to make ends meet or feel the financial pressure in the summer holidays. It's been great that families can come into The Welcome and feed the whole family for a couple of pounds."

[For more information contact Sarah Pownall](#) at The Welcome on 01565 750905

Macclesfield and Surrounding Towns and Villages

Macclesfield Lifestyle Group Get Growin'

[Macclesfield Lifestyle Group](#), based within [Macclesfield Leisure Centre](#), received funding from [Tesco Bags of Help](#) and has worked alongside the leisure centre and [Food4Macc](#), who built some planters at the front of the leisure centre. Through their Get Growin' project they have grown fresh herbs and vegetables for the public to pick themselves. This coordinates with the leisure centre's ethos of being fit and healthy and has been a fantastic project that both their staff and the customers they support have worked extremely hard to get up and running. The groundwork around the planters is going to be made wheelchair-accessible for group members by construction students from [Macclesfield College](#) as part of their course.



The project has been successful by connecting local people together and creating a fantastic community garden that is free for local people to access and take home some fresh organic produce. As people may not always feel comfortable picking the produce there is also a basket in the reception area of the leisure centre, with pre-picked herbs and other produce with a sign for people to help themselves. This is restocked every day throughout the week.

[For more information contact Leonie Wroe](#) on 01625 374788 / 01625 383995



The Centre in Poynton

Poynton Community Centre, now called The Centre in Poynton, was erected in 1835 by Lord Vernon as a school for the children of the mining community. It was extended by the Vernon family in 1855 and 1899. In 1950 the building and land was placed in trust for the residents of Poynton with Worth. The Centre had many ups and downs, but in its heyday, in the 1970's, was famous nationally as The Folk Club, with many famous names appearing. The 1980s saw a steady decline with many attempts to bring it back into regular use. In the late 1990s an annex was added and classes were run by Macclesfield Education Department for a short period. In the early 2000s the original building went into further decline through lack of investment. In 2014 a new team of trustees was appointed, and more recently local MP David Rutley became Honorary President. In May 2015 it was closed on health and safety grounds pending new funding to make the premises safe. The annex was unaffected and was kept open to bring in much needed income.



Major restoration work that upgraded the building to comply with modern standards took place, and it is now home to a wide range of classes and functions.

[For more information visit The Centre in Poynton website](#)

Partner News

Connected Communities Centres – reaching the half way milestone



Cheshire East Council is now half way through the programme to recognise community venues across the Borough as [Connected Communities Centres](#). St Andrew's Church Hall, Bedford Street, Crewe became the 15th with a fantastic celebration event on 8th September. Despite the rain, over 300 people from the local community came to support the event, sharing food, fun, music, friendship and laughter. For many visitors, it was the first time that they had been into the church hall despite living in the area for a number of years.

For details of future events and the latest photos visit the [Communities Team Facebook page](#)

Know your numbers

Community venues across Cheshire East recently took part in [Know your Numbers Week](#), a national annual campaign run by Blood Pressure UK which increases public awareness of the dangers of high blood pressure, the importance of having a free check and offers free blood pressure checks to members of the public. Locally the campaign was supported by a number of partners including Cheshire East Council, Eastern Cheshire CCG, South Cheshire CCG, East Cheshire NHS Trust, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Everybody Sport and Recreation, Peaks and Plains Housing Trust, Plus Dane Housing Trust and CVS.



For more information visit the [Blood Pressure UK](#) website



Everyone Remembered



In 2014, [The Royal British Legion](#) were inspired by the words of a school child visiting a war cemetery in Belgium, she wrote and said: "I know that not everyone can be remembered as individuals, but I felt it was a shame for some people to have dozens of poppies and crosses while others had no one left to remember them." Everyone Remembered is that place, where all 1.1million Commonwealth Service men and women who fell during World War One will be individually remembered, including any who died from war related injuries up to two years after the conflict ended.

You can leave your own unique commemoration on their website to one of the fallen. Individuals like Private John Edward Thompson, who died on 15th September 1914 aged just 18 years old, Private Charles Saxby Davies of the Canadian Infantry who fell aged 23 or Rifleman Bal Sing Gurung of the Gurkha 4th Rifles whose age remains unknown. You can remember a family member, someone from your local area or any of the many still left to be remembered. You'll be helping to create a lasting legacy and ensure that none who fell are forgotten.

[To create a lasting legacy visit the Everyone Remembered website](#)

Twice as many boys learn about health careers and wellbeing at Primary College 2018

The Career Hub aims to inspire people to consider careers in health and care and also to consider their own wellbeing. 12 months ago only 6 boys out of 70 primary-school-aged children chose to take part in the health careers and wellbeing sessions at Primary College. But why? Research showed that children as young as 7 years or less were already discounting career options based on gender yet the majority of career engagement was being offered to young people aged 14 years or above.

To test this out 6 primary school Christmas careers and crafts sessions were conducted in 2017 which showed that 100% of children did not know about the wide range of careers available in the NHS. 93 out of 159 children thought that men and women couldn't do the same job in the NHS, and 86 children out of 159 didn't know how much exercise they needed each day. Through fun and interactive sessions, primary age children were introduced to 350 jobs in the NHS, along with self-care and healthy living tips, and were encouraged to be what they wanted to be by exploring jobs and pictures of men and women in a variety of non-traditional roles. 99% of children enjoyed taking part in the sessions which also increased their knowledge as a result. This year twice as many boys chose to attend the Hub's health careers and wellbeing sessions at Primary College. In addition, the self-care message was shared with over 800 children and the Hub almost tripled their primary engagement from last year.

[For more information visit the Cheshire Career Hub website](#)

Highly Commended: Cheshire East Council Trading Standards

Cheshire East Council Trading Standards' Investigation Team has had another busy year resulting in a number of intellectual property investigations and significant seizures. This includes the execution of warrants and inspections resulting in illicit tobacco being seized, with a retail value of £60,933. More than 3,000 counterfeit products have been seized by the team, worth £61,582 and with assistance from the Digital Forensics Officer, they have evidenced the sale of 10,509 suspected counterfeit products sold through eBay, worth around £345,000.



For more information on consumer safety, trading standards and to report suspicious or fraudulent activity, [visit Cheshire East Council's website](#) or ring the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 040506.



Are you thinking of taking over your local pub for the community?



[More than a Pub](#) is a unique three-year programme established to help support community ownership of pubs in both rural and urban communities in England and grow the range of services they offer to help local people. Over the last 10 years the UK has lost nearly 8,000 pubs, around a fifth of all pubs nationally. For many communities, pubs are not just a place to eat and drink; they are central to people's sense of place and identity and they foster belonging and community cohesion. In rural areas pub closures can represent the loss of the last community meeting space and trading facility. The programme offers funding and support to community groups who wish to take ownership of their local pub and who need help to develop their ideas and plans. The Plunkett Foundation would specifically like to work with groups committed to delivering a pub for the benefit of the wider community.

[For more information visit the Plunkett Foundation website](#)

Taking Action on Cancer to local communities

Cancer is the biggest cause of death across Cheshire and Merseyside, but the [Action on Cancer](#) team is on a mission to bring these figures down in South Cheshire and Vale Royal. The team has been busy visiting local libraries, workzones and leisure centres as well as attending community events and running workshops.



Ann Jones is Macmillan Lead Cancer Project Officer for [NHS South Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group](#) (CCG) and [NHS Vale Royal CCG](#). She said: "Cancer can still be such a difficult subject but it is likely to affect most of us in some way or other, whether we have a diagnosis ourselves or it's someone we know and care about. So talking is very important, sharing experiences or concerns as well as highlighting the many positive cancer messages." Ann explained that just one conversation could make such a difference: "There's lots to talk about, how healthier lifestyle choices can reduce our risk of developing cancer, the importance of screening and spotting early signs and how to ensure everyone with cancer gets an earlier diagnosis that could lead to effective treatment." Although the campaign has only been running in South Cheshire and Vale Royal for the past two years, improved screening figures and other statistics show that the awareness activities are already making a difference.

[For more information contact Ann Jones](#) on 07880 026207. Alternatively, follow the team on social media @AoCCheshire #JustOneConversation #PositiveCancerMessages.

Plans unveiled for community stroke service

Hospital stays for patients who have had a stroke are set to fall by up to six days after a new community service is launched next April. The integrated community stroke rehabilitation service will provide care closer to home. Doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and social care staff will work together to meet patients' physical, psychological and social needs.

Dr Sarah Oliver, a local GP and clinical lead for stroke care, said: "The new service will provide a comprehensive package of community-based care that will enable patients to return home from hospital between six and eight days earlier. This is good news for patients, who have told us they don't want to be in hospital unless it's absolutely necessary. It will also free up vital beds for other patients whilst cutting costs arising from prolonged hospital stays."

[For more information visit the Eastern Cheshire CCG website](#)



For Your Notice Board

- * [Living with Type 2 Diabetes](#)
- * [Congleton Health and Wellbeing Fayre](#)
- * [Modern Slavery awareness event](#)
- * [The Inside Story - Knutsford Heritage Centre](#)
- * [Adoption Counts](#)
- * [Nantwich Book Shop Events](#)
- * [Choices Then and Now](#)
- * [Sandbach Art Club](#)

Conferences and Events

National Adoption Week 15th - 21st October 2018

**adoption
counts** 

Supporting
families
through
adoption

Have you ever thought about becoming an adopter? Adoption Counts is the regional adoption agency which has brought together the professional expertise and specialist skills of five local authorities: Cheshire East, Manchester, Salford, Stockport, and Trafford, in order to deliver adoption services of the highest quality. The scale of their organisation means that they are able to forge better matches between parents and children, to create relationships that last.

They are currently looking for adopters for children of all ages and are always very keen to hear from people who will consider children aged four and above, sibling groups, children of a BME background and children with complex needs. They understand that adoption is life changing and are there for adopters, every step of the way. From the first phone call, their dedicated team will be there to support and guide people through the adoption process with compassion, honesty and respect.

[For more information visit the Adoption Counts website](#)

or social media outlets, www.facebook.com/AdoptionCounts & www.twitter.com/Adoption_Counts

Health and Wellness Event

17th October 2018, 9.30am - 12.30pm
Crossville Social Club, Chester Street, Crewe CW1 2LB



This year's health and wellness event, hosted by Crewe and Nantwich Senior Forum and partners the Salvation Army, will be a little bit different. The event is for older people and those that are vulnerable and homeless and aims to not only connect them to local services and support but to educate in self-care and winter wellness. There will be a lot happening on the day including COPD awareness, flu care, falls prevention and free health screenings including blood pressure and vision, plus a Fire Service mobile canteen offering a breakfast treat.

[If your organisation would like to contact Adrian Lindop](#)

End of Life Partnership Annual Conference

18th October 2018, 9.20am – 4.20pm
Wychwood Park Hotel, Crewe CW2 5GP



This year's annual End of Life Partnership conference will be themed on Diversity in End of Life Care: The Way Forward. With speakers from Keele University, London School of Economics and NHS England, along with a range of workshops looking at diversity this is a conference not to be missed.

[For more information and to book a place visit the End of Life Partnership website](#)



Halloween Spooktacular

31st October 2018, 6.00pm
Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square, Crewe CW1 2BB

If you work with young people and have a message of hope and support for their wellbeing, or want to improve your engagement and reach a wider audience within a fun atmosphere, then the Halloween Spooktacular could be the event for you. A themed night will unfold to improve communication and relationships and help to tackle antisocial behaviour in the town centre. There will be opportunities to speak about caring for young people's mental health and opportunities for young people to shape the event.

To be a part of the event or become a member of the
Crewe Young Peoples Engagement Group [contact Lisa Alcock](#)

Choices Then & Now

Monday 5th November – Saturday 10th November 2018
Macclesfield Library Gallery during opening hours

To coincide with the Armistice of World War One, this exhibition focuses on Macclesfield men and women whose conscience would not allow them to take up arms or serve in the military. Through posters, photographs, original testimonies and first-hand accounts the exhibition is a stark reminder of the impact of World War 1. One hundred years on, the theme of the exhibition is as true today for the choices the next generation will face. Organised by [East Cheshire Quakers](#) as part of Building the Peace in Macclesfield.

[For more information visit the St Peter's Church website](#)

Modern Day Slavery Awareness Event

19th November 2018, 12.30pm – 3.00pm
Nantwich Civic Hall, 4 Market Street, Nantwich CW5 5NH



Nantwich Town Council is joining forces with the [South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce](#) and [Libre Solutions Limited](#), a not for profit company, to raise awareness of modern day slavery and the exploitation of vulnerable people. Slavery is the fastest growing organised-crime in the world, hidden in plain sight. Unfortunately, many are unaware that it exists within our communities and businesses and all local stakeholders need to work together to help eradicate modern slavery. At the awareness event speakers will explain how to recognise the signs of modern slavery and if it is found, how both residents and local businesses should deal with it.

Mayor of Nantwich, Councillor David Marren said: "Figures released by the [National Crime Agency](#) in 2017 stated that 116 different nationalities were victims of modern slavery here in the UK and, whilst no exact number is known, the estimated figure of modern slavery and labour abuse victims in the UK runs into hundreds of thousands. I am appalled that in 2017 slavery abuse was reported in every county in the UK, including Cheshire."

For more information and to help raise awareness of this event download the poster in the For Your Notice Board section of this newsletter. [To register for the event contact Jacqui Morris](#), International Trade Manager at the South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce.



Nominations for the Everybody Junior Awards are open

Saturday 24th November, 12.00 – 4.00pm
Wilmslow Leisure Centre, Station Road, Rectory Fields, SK9 1BU



The Everybody Junior Awards is an annual event to recognise and celebrate the contributions of local sporting superstars aged 5-11 years. Award categories include:

- ★ **Junior Helper Of The Year 5-11yrs** - A young person who has shown dedication to helping others in a sport, health or wellbeing setting regularly within the past 12 months.
- ★ **Junior Sports Personality Of The Year 5-8yrs** - A young person who has competed at a local, regional or national level in a sport or several sports within the past 12 months.
- ★ **Junior Sports Personality Of The Year 9-11yrs** - A young person who has competed at a local, regional or national level in a sport or several sports in the past 12 months.
- ★ **Everybody Family Of The Year** - A family who has shown immense dedication to remaining healthy and active together within the past 12 months.
- ★ **Junior Achiever Of The Year 5-11yrs** - A young person who has made remarkable achievements in a sport or several sports within the past 12 months.

[For more information visit the Everybody website](#)

Consultations

Local plan consultations



Following the adoption of the Local Plan Strategy last year, Cheshire East Council is preparing a number of additional planning documents and consultation is underway between 11th September and 22nd October 2018:

- ★ The **Site Allocations and Development Policies Document (SADPD)** will contain detailed planning policies and site allocations. Once adopted, its policies will be used alongside the Local Plan Strategy and neighbourhood plans to help determine planning applications. This consultation is on the first draft of the SADPD and is an important opportunity to help shape its policies and proposals. The document will provide an up-to-date planning framework to support the ambition of making the Borough an even better place to live, work and visit;
- ★ The draft supplementary planning document for **The Garden Village at Handforth**, which includes a masterplan and design guide to inform development on this important site;
- ★ A revised and updated **Statement of Community Involvement** which sets out how the Council will engage with stakeholders and the wider public when preparing planning policies and considering planning applications; and
- ★ A 'call for sites' that may be suitable for **Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation**.

[For more information visit the Cheshire East Council website](#)

Sexual Health Survey

Cheshire East Council is responsible for ensuring that certain sexual health services are available in Cheshire East. To ensure these services suit individuals' needs, they are conducting a short survey. Sexual health services include things like contraception, and testing / treatment for sexually transmitted infections. It would be appreciated if you could share this survey with your networks.

[To complete the survey visit the Cheshire East Council website](#)



Funding

Early Help and Community Grants

The final deadline in 2018 for applications to the Early Help and Community Grant Scheme is 28th December 2018. If you are wishing to apply to this final round you are advised to submit your application ahead of the deadline, due to the Christmas break. The Council is looking to support projects which will improve the quality of life for local communities.

[For more information visit the Cheshire East Council website](#)

Magic Little Grants Fund

The Magic Little Grants Fund provides local charities and community groups the opportunity to access funding of up to £500 to deliver engaging physical activities, which help to overcome barriers to participation. The aim of the fund is to support the work of organisations that are engaging hard-to-reach individuals, encouraging them to take part in some form of physical activity to help improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing. As part of the grant, recipients will also be awarded 12 months' membership with Localgiving to support them with fundraising online throughout the year. Applications are reviewed on a monthly basis and will be accepted until 31st October 2018.

MAGIC ★ ★ ★
LITTLE GRANTS

[For more information visit the Localgiving website](#)

Funding to connect people with others in their local communities

The Barchester's Charitable Foundation aims to make a difference to the lives of older people and other adults aged 18+ years with a physical, learning or mental disability; supporting practical solutions that lead to increased personal independence, self-sufficiency and dignity. For 2018, the focus is on connecting or re-connecting people with others in their local community. Applications that combat loneliness and enable people to be active and engaged will receive highest priority. Although most funding is awarded to individuals, small community groups and small local charities based in England can also apply. Applications may be submitted at any time and grants range from £100 to £5,000.

[For more information visit the Barchester Charitable Foundation website](#)

Submit an article

The next edition of this Newsletter will be circulated at the end of November, the deadline for submission of articles, of no more than 200 words, is 16th November 2018.

To promote an event, conference or consultation, ask for help with a project, let people know of changes taking place in your organisation or share information which is of interest to our wide and diverse network of partners contact [Tina Jones](#).

Previous copies of the newsletter, along with how to subscribe / unsubscribe to our mailing list, are available on the [Cheshire East website](#)