

Hermitage School Sensory Project Donation

Kind hearted shoppers at the Co op Petrol Station Holmes Chapel have donated £210 to the Sensory Room Project at the Hermitage School. Oliver Timms proudly received the cheque (and a donation of tablets) from Duncan Edwards, the Petrol Station Manager last week.



Nanny Ness Appeal

Holmes Chapel residents have donated cards, toiletries, chocolates and other gifts to fill 120 gift bags and 20 hampers for the patients and staff on the Covid wards at Leighton and Macclesfield Hospitals. The Co op have donated the gifts bags, and local nurses Lucy and Diane help by delivering these to the wards.

Tech4Kids Project

Residents in Holmes Chapel, Congleton and Wolstanton have worked together with local Co op Member Pioneers, Alison Wright and Gemma Bosson to provide over 30 laptops and tablets to families in the area to help them engage more fully with home schooling. ITFace in Newcastle have been so generous in offering their time and expertise to refurbish all the donated equipment to make it ready for schools to issue.



Acts of Kindness

The Co op has kindly donated Bags of Goodness for key workers. Recipients include the staff working in the Key Workers Children's Clubs at Goostrey Primary School (Infants and Juniors) and at the Cedars Care Home in Holmes Chapel.



Soupa Soups Goosrey

Before Christmas, the Rev Heather Buckley had an inspirational idea to visit some of her more isolated parishioners with a weekly soup delivery. This provided her an opportunity to 'check in' with everyone. Volunteers made different soups every week and with the help and support of Alison Wright, Co op Member Pioneer, over 400 cups of soup were delivered together with a roll and a serviette.

Because of the popularity of this service, Rev Heather Buckley has re-started the deliveries with over 40 people on the list to receive soup. Bidlea Dairy have very kindly provided bottles and a bottle washing service to ease the logistics of distributing the soup.

Rev Heather said "it's so lovely to see so many smiling faces, and to see people face to face (or mask to mask) on their doorsteps".

Alison Wright said "It's such a simple, innovative idea to reach those members of our community who are suffering the most because of their isolation, I am so pleased to be able to help with this project and I echo what Heather said, it's just lovely to see the smiling faces as they receive their soup".

The final Soupa Soup run before Christmas was accompanied by Father Christmas in his sleigh.



Bags of happiness

The team at Ruby's Fund have been busy during the pandemic delivering lots of bags of happiness to families across Cheshire East. Ruby's Fund support children with special educational needs and disabilities, their families and carers. The team have been supported by volunteers who hand delivered these goody bags with a smile and a wave. The bags have included sensory play activities, pizza making kits, pamper packs for parent carers and even a games night bag! The bags have all been thoughtfully created to improve the recipients emotional wellbeing. For more information about Ruby's Fund visit the website: www.rubysfund.co.uk



Big Heart Lunch Club Australia Link!

Congleton has a long established 'Big Lunch Club' serving meals to socially isolated people by volunteers providing lunch at 2 locations – United Reform Church and St John's Community Centre.

During the pandemic these meals have been provided via a 'meals on wheels' service, up to 80 meals per week, and 96 Christmas Lunches delivered on Christmas Eve. The food is prepared by The Old Saw Mill on Back River Street.

Participants pay £4 per meal for a main and pud delivered chilled with cooking and allergen information. Congleton Town Council support the scheme by delivering the chilled food on Friday mornings.

We always look for ways to extend this service to as many socially isolated people in the town as we can find, but we never expected this kind of communication via Australia!

One of the scheme organisers, Alison Wright, told us: 'I spoke to a Congleton lady last night. Do you know how she found out about the meals?

Her granddaughter in Australia saw details on Facebook and spoke to her mum in Bristol who then put the lady in touch with the Town Council.'

How about that as a demonstration of the positive power of social media!

If you know of someone that you think would benefit from such a meal each week, then ring 01260 270350, ext 1 to apply, we would love to serve you!

Peter Aston commented 'provision of healthy food is top of health and social agendas currently and the Old Saw Mill is proud to play its part by providing this extension to the town's Big Lunch Club that delivers a small but significant step towards providing people with one healthy meal per week.'



Congleton Cenotaph New Build

Congleton now has a new cenotaph that it can be proud of. This joint project between The Congleton Partnership and Congleton Town Council has been 7 years in the making. The old cenotaph built in the late 20's and added to after the second world war, was looking tired and in need of some repair but more than that 250+ names were missing from the plaques. After sterling research work carried out by Sheila Dutton (she has published these and some of their stories in her book " For our Tomorrow" which is available from The Tourist information centre) the cenotaph now bears 583 names of those that served our country so that we had a better tomorrow, they surely are due our gratitude and respect. Hopefully the new Cenotaph delivers that.

A dedication event is being planned for September 2021, details will come out as we work up that project, it should be a real highlight of next year and again mark the esteem and respect we hold all of those who served and made the greatest sacrifice for us.





Tailored 1-2-1 support for young people and adults across Cheshire and Warrington.

The dedicated **Journey First team** can offer you tailored support and advice to help you to reach your goals, whether that be employment, access to education or training.

Take the first step of your journey by emailing our team and asking for more information.

JourneyFirst@cheshireeast.gov.uk



European Union
European
Social Fund

The Journey First project is supported by the European Social Fund

**DO YOU LIVE OR CARE FOR SOMEONE WITH A LONG TERM
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and an internet connection.

To book a place or find out more information
please contact **01625 505647**.



Helping people to be
the best they can be

Health Visiting Service

If you need to contact your local health visiting service please find their up to date telephone number at -

livewellservices.cheshireeast.gov.uk/Services/1165

Information about weaning is available at -

www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/



Cheshire East Health Visitors



Early Start Service

To book any of the courses in this booklet or to enquire about any additional support you may need, please email your nearest Children's Centre;

Macclesfield - AshGroveChildrensCentreAdmin@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Wilmslow - OakenclooughChildrensCentreAdmin@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Congleton - CongCCAdmin@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Crewe - OakTreeCCAdmin@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Crewe - mcccadmin@cheshireeast.gov.uk

If you would like to talk to someone contact -

Family Information Service on 0300 123 5033

Virtual Sessions will be delivered through Microsoft Teams.

Instructions will be made available to support you.

We cannot guarantee a place, therefore, we will be operating a waiting list



Supporting you and your baby during Covid 19

This booklet shows the programmes of support which are available for you and your baby. These include both individual and group support. We are really looking forward to meeting you and your family. *Please contact us by emailing us at the address on the back of this leaflet.*



Use this free NHS app for information relevant to your baby's age and stage of development. You will also receive reminders such as immunisations.



Cheshire East Parenting Journey

www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/parentingjourney

New Leaf/Women's Turnaround supports women across Warrington, Cheshire East and Cheshire West to move into education, training and /or employment.

Working alongside a whole host of other local partners, we provide women with opportunities to start on a new, more positive path. We offer targeted support to:

- Improve their confidence
- Give women advice to support their family
- Support women to learn new skills and access training
- Find opportunities to unlock their potential
- Support women to take control of their finances; including maximising their benefits and managing a budget

Who can access New Leaf/Women's Turnaround?

Any female can be referred or self refer to New Leaf/Women's Turnaround, they just need to meet the following criteria:

- Aged 18+
- Living in Warrington, Cheshire East or Cheshire West with a right to work in the UK
- Unemployed
- Economically inactive

new leaf
Motivating Cheshire



New Leaf is led by Torus Foundation and is part of the Building Better Opportunities Programme, funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and The National Lottery Community Fund.

For more information about New Leaf/Women's Turnaround, please get in touch with team leader, Donna Hall: 07918 691078

Or drop us an email: TurnaroundCheshire@pss.org.uk

Lockdown Fun

Just after the Christmas festivities were dying down this snowwoman appears in St John's Churchyard. The suspicion is that she was looking for a quiet place to recover from a lively party and many of us do find solace in the churchyard. Although enquiries were made in the neighbourhood no-one seems to know where she came from or her name.

A number of people have passed unkind comments on the fact one of her eyelashes seemed to have slipped and perhaps she may have been in an altercation, as she also appears to have lost one eye. Personally, we should not judge people by their appearances but by how they treat their neighbours and we have had no written complaints from anyone in the churchyard!

She has behaved herself during her short stay with us, was not at all noisy, left no litter or caused any damage to the area. I believe that she has now recovered, as she has not been seen since last Tuesday. People do come and go...perhaps she is now looking for a snowman!





Pennysmart
holistic money advice

**expert money,
debt, benefits advice
& training services**

Who we are:

Pennysmart Community Interest Company is a social enterprise that supports community facing organisations to tackle poverty, debt and financial exclusion. Our vision is to be recognised as a provider of high quality money advice services for the UK, whilst bringing real long term jobs, skills and training for local people.

Our services:

Pennysmart provides professional money advice and casework support to the clients of other organisations. Organisations whose main focus may not be money advice, but benefit indirectly because their service users struggle to access benefit entitlements, manage their money, deal with debt problems, or make sure all statutory provision is explored before grant assistance can be given.

Organisations we work with:

- charitable trusts • grant-giving bodies • social landlord's • employers
- local authorities • churches • foodbanks • energy suppliers
- any disadvantaged community facing organisations.

For further details, or for a free service quotation and specification:



01244 651211



www.pennysmart.org.uk



enquiries@pennysmart.org.uk



Domestic Abuse

Carers/ individuals with caring responsibilities
& those living with Dementia



Domestic abuse includes physical, emotional and sexual abuse in couple relationships or between family members. Domestic abuse can happen against anyone

Anybody, including carers*, can be a victim of domestic abuse

People may have the idea that domestic abuse affects younger people or women with young children, and that it doesn't really affect people over 65 – this is incorrect, **it can happen to anyone, male or female**, this includes individuals such as **carers and those living with dementia**

**Unsure as to whether you are a carer? An unpaid carer is described as someone who provides their time and support, without payment, to family or friends who couldn't manage without help*

Carers, and those living with Dementia, may not recognise or want to report incidents of Domestic Abuse but help and support is available



If domestic abuse is **happening in your life** or if you **see something**, are **told something** or something **doesn't feel right** you need to **report it**



If you are a carer for a partner or family member and are feeling afraid or being hurt this may be domestic abuse.



If you are being cared for by a partner or family member who makes you feel afraid or hurts you there is help

Please ring Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Hub at any time on **0300 123 5101** (Always ring 999 if in immediate danger)

www.openthedoorcheshire.org.uk
email - cedah@cheshireeast.gov.uk

