

Culcheth Life

Magazine

ISSUE 274 | JUNE 2026
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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

Editor's Opinion



The appointment of Cllr Alicia Edwards as the new chair of the Culcheth & Glazebury Parish Council hopefully marks the dawn of a new era for our villages.

In recent times, local politics has been marred by division, a shortening of public agendas, and internet keyboard wars.

This has only served to alienate the public and stall real community progress.

With Cllr Edwards stepping into the leadership role, let us hope this marks a definitive end of the political squabbling and the true beginning of a new era of elected members working together for the ultimate good of the community.

Parish councils exist to be the voice of the residents, serving as the absolute foundation of local democracy.

When parish councillors get bogged down in partisan point-scoring or hostile communication, it is the community that pays the price.

Cllr Edwards, who has spent three decades living in Glazebury and working locally, hopefully represents exactly the kind of grounded, community-focused leadership we desperately need.

As a familiar face at The Victorian Tea Room, she hopefully brings a healthy dose of real-world pragmatism, genuine local warmth, and accessibility to the council table.

We have already glimpsed what can be accomplished when

community spirit takes priority over political division. The recent, resounding success of the Culcheth & Glazebury Community Day, which Cllr Edwards officially opened on the Village Green, stands as a prime example.

Organised with a vibrant World Cup theme, the event brought thousands of residents together to support local charity stalls, enjoy family activities, and celebrate side-by-side.

As the lead coordinator for this massive undertaking, Cllr Edwards proved that when we focus on shared joy and community pride, the results are nothing short of spectacular, although there was still some unrest in the lead up to the event.

This successful, cohesive energy is exactly what must be brought into the council chambers now.

The challenges facing our villages require a unified front—from local planning reviews and transparency in public spending, to the broader financial hurdles looming across Warrington Borough Council. There is simply no room left for political egos or defensive communication.

Leadership is about building bridges, listening to different views, and ensuring every single resident feels both welcome and valued.

Cllr Edwards' who has told me she wants to build bridges, has a fantastic opportunity to press the reset button.

By leaving party politics at the door and mirroring the collective, joyful spirit seen on Community Day, let's hope our elected members can finally build a transparent, respectful, and highly effective local government.

As always we will try our best to report impartially and promote our community in a positive light and look forward to a brighter, more cooperative chapter for Culcheth and Glazebury.

Meanwhile, I would also like to wish retiring Chair Paul Campbell all the best for the future. He has been at the helm through stormy waters and while communication between the Parish Council and Culcheth Life has not always been the best, I have known Paul long enough to know he always had the best interests of the area at heart.

Now let's ALL work together for the good of the local community - life is too short to hold grudges.

Deadline for the July issue is June 16



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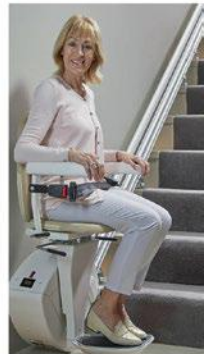
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Football mania to kick-off Croft Carnival

FOOTBALL mania will be the theme for Croft Carnival which is taking place on the Playing Field on Saturday, 4th July, 2026.

This year's theme is celebrating football ahead of the World Cup, so be sure to look out for all the scarecrows when travelling through the village.

The Parade will start from The Plough at 12 noon with floats, bands and participants in fancy dress making their way through Croft to the playing field, where the Carnival will officially open at 1:30pm. There will be a large variety of stalls and activities with something for everybody to enjoy, including terrifying walking dinosaurs, the exhilarating pyrotechnics of Emily Wildfire, live music, rides and much more. The Carnival concludes with the world-famous Egg Throwing Competition (weather permitting).

In 2025, the committee marked their centenary celebration with welcoming past Carnival Queens. As the carnival turns 101, the committee felt it was the perfect opportunity to update the name and format of what was known as the Queen retinue. After consultation

with the local schools, Scouts and Guides groups, it was decided to introduce the Croft Carnival Young Ambassadors.

They are nominated for their wonderful achievements, whether sporting, academic or social and have contributed in some ways to Croft and its community spirit the village is known for.

So please welcome Harriet, Evie and Bertie from Croft Primary school, Ayrton, Reenie and Stephanie from St Lewis Catholic Primary school, Dorethea, Olivia and Alice from Croft Guides, Rainbows and Brownies and Archer and Alfie from Croft Beavers and Cubs.

Entry onto the field is by programme only (£3 each), one per adult and under 16s can enter free of charge. Programmes can be purchased in advance from Croft Primary School, The Horseshoe, The General Elliot and The Plough or on the day at the gate. Organisers say it will provide a fun packed day out for the whole family.



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Controversial plan to convert part of CPS Shopping Centre into 14 apartments approved

CONTROVERSIAL plans to convert part of the former CPS Shopping Centre at Culcheth into 14 residential units have been approved by town planners.

The application by A Faig (Shivat Haminim Capital Ltd) at the CPS Centre, 7 – 9 Common Lane, Culcheth, was submitted under Class MA Permitted Development for the change of use of part of the first and second floors from office (Class E) to residential (Class C3). The decision was approved under delegated powers despite 120 objections.

Local residents had been opposing the plans ever since local traders were evicted from the premises last year.

In response to the news, Gill Stott from Culcheth & Glazebury Residents Association said: "We're disappointed that Warrington Borough Council has granted Prior Approval for the CPS Centre conversion, despite strong objections from residents and the extensive workshops and drop-ins we ran to help the community understand the issues."

"The Council has only approved the scheme with very heavy conditions, which reflect the concerns raised in our sessions. These include:

- Non-openable windows facing the Sainsbury's service yard
- High-spec acoustic glazing and 63dB wall upgrades

- Full mechanical ventilation and purge systems because windows can't be opened
- Strict noise limits and mandatory validation testing before anyone can move in
- Requirements for cycle storage, bin storage, EV charging and a full waste management plan

"These conditions exist because residents spoke up – and because the noise environment is clearly unsuitable without major engineering."

"But the core issue remains: if a building needs sealed windows, specialist ventilation and acoustic walls just to be habitable, it's not the right place for homes."

"We'll continue monitoring the development closely to ensure every condition is met and residents' interests are protected."

Local Councillor Neil Johnson added: "As residents will know, I led the campaign locally to save the CPS Centre when the shops were under threat."

"Since then, I have continued to be a strong advocate for CPS and the generous benefits it provides to our local village economy."

"I was very disappointed to be informed of this decision. Heavy conditions have been imposed



on the development of residential units which show, by themselves, that the building is not suitable for residential use.

"The Council's decision once again flies in the face of local opinion and the strong objections tabled by over 100 residents."

"I will be monitoring this situation closely to ensure that all the conditions are met and that the work to convert the building, when it is carried out, is done so with the local community in mind."

"I'm afraid, in the meantime, it is difficult to see this as anything other than a shameful decision by the Council and a very sad day for the centre of Culcheth. I will continue to hold to my commitment to do all I can to support our village centre, and build a strong local economy that benefits businesses

and residents alike."

Planners say that in the interests of residential amenity, the applicant/agent/developer is strongly advised to adopt the following recommended construction/demolition hours for all works on site. Works audible at or beyond the site boundary should not occur outside of Monday to Friday 08.00hrs to 18.00 hrs, Saturday 08.30hrs to 13.30hrs and at no time on Sundays or Public/Bank Holidays. Noisy or disruptive works carried on outside of these hours are much more likely to raise objections or complaints by local residents (due to disturbance) to the redevelopment of the site, which may, in turn, result in formal action being pursued by Public Protection Services to enforce the recommended hours.



Croft Parish Council News



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At the Annual Meeting of Croft Parish Council held in May, Cllr Stuart Mann was elected as Chair of the Parish Council for 2026/2027 and Cllr Alicia Edwards was elected as Vice Chair.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENTS

Croft Parish Council continues to closely monitor major planning and development proposals affecting both the village and surrounding area.

This includes the proposed Intermodal Logistics Park on land just over the parish boundary in St Helens as part of the wider Parkside Regeneration Scheme. The Parish Council continues to liaise with neighbouring parish councils, Borough Councillors from Warrington, Wigan and St Helens, along with local neighbourhood development groups in Lowton regarding the potential impact on surrounding communities.

The Parish Council has also recently been notified of a new public consultation by Peel Land regarding proposals for up to 200 new homes on land north of Lord Street at Turret Hall Farm, Croft. The consultation runs until 10th June 2026 and further information and updates will follow once the Parish Council has had the opportunity to review the proposals in greater detail. The Parish Council is also continuing to feed back to Warrington Borough Council as part of the process to update Warrington's Local Plan. We would encourage all residents to take part in future consultations and have their say on the future development of the borough and local villages.

SPEEDING & ROAD SAFETY

Thank you to all residents who helped organise, support and take part in the recent Croft Village Traffic & Road Safety Survey. The level of engagement clearly demonstrated the strength of feeling regarding speeding, road safety and traffic concerns across the village.

The survey received 95 responses, with over 77% of respondents stating they were "very concerned" about traffic speed and road safety within the village. More than 85% of respondents also supported the introduction of traffic calming measures.

The most commonly raised concerns included speeding vehicles, difficulty crossing roads, narrow pavements, poor visibility at junctions and bends, and safety concerns around local schools and pedestrian crossings. Residents also highlighted concerns regarding HGVs and increased through traffic using unsuitable village roads.

The survey will remain open for further residents to complete and the Parish Council will continue sharing findings with Warrington Borough Council. We also intend to invite relevant council officers to a future Parish Council meeting to discuss the concerns raised by residents and potential next steps.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Parish Council meetings take place on the third Tuesday of each month, with the exception of August when no meeting is held.

CONTACTING CROFT PARISH COUNCILLORS

Please find included your Parish Councillors and contact details should you wish to raise any local concerns or issues.

Residents may contact Croft Parish Council's Clerk on Email: clerk@croftparishcouncil.gov.uk
The Parish Council issues updates and information on Twitter: [@croftparish](https://twitter.com/croftparish)
Facebook: [@croftparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/croftparishcouncil) Web: www.croftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Private dental practice sold to first-time buyer

Bhawani's Dental Care in Culcheth has sold for an undisclosed sum, says specialist business property adviser, Christie & Co.

Established in 2016, Bhawani's Dental Care is a specialist private dental practice with two well-equipped surgeries and state-of-the-art technology.

The practice has been owned by Dr Santanu Chatterjee since 2016 and was brought to market as they were looking to step back from the day-to-day responsibility of managing the practice, but wanted to remain in a clinical capacity post-sale.

Following a confidential sales process with Cathy Murphy at Christie & Co, it has been purchased by first-time buyer and

qualified Hygienist, Asad Jabbar, who has been looking for a private clinic for some time with his wife, who is a GP.

Cathy Murphy, Senior Business Agent - Dental at Christie & Co, comments, "The practice was a unique opportunity, located in a highly desirable area and presented to an outstanding specification. Buyer activity was significant, with multiple competitive offers received. We were delighted to agree the sale to a first-time buyer who is well placed to grow the site further and build on its strong foundations."



Culcheth's award-winning travel agent

Culcheth travel agent, Go Ben Travel has been named Travel Agency of the Year at a recent awards ceremony.

The team said: "We have won the award for Travel Agency of the Year - Cheshire, with Prestige Awards 2026/27.

"Feeling super proud right now, of the whole team!

"We work extremely hard to make all of your travel dreams, come to life.. and we wouldn't be able to win awards like this without you! Our AMAZING customers!"

Alongside the Prestige award, Go Ben have also been recognised as a Top 5 agency in the North West at the TTG Top 50 awards.

Director Ben Hughes said: "We

have had the best time at the TTG Top 50 Awards. Unfortunately we didn't win this year.. but what a huge

achievement to make it in to the Top 5 in the North West.

"Only bigger and better things

on the horizon, for us! Thank you so much to everyone for their continued support."



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Villages score big with World Cup-themed

THE vibrant spirit of the forthcoming World Cup descended upon Culcheth Village Green on Bank Holiday Monday, as residents gathered for the annual Culcheth & Glazebury Community Day.

Organised by the Culcheth & Glazebury Parish Council, this year's festivities transformed the local landmark into a global festival of sport and community pride.

Despite an overcast sky, the rain held off, providing fine and comfortable weather for the thousands of visitors who attended the Bank Holiday celebration.

Following an invitation from organisers to "embrace the theme," the green was a sea of red, white and blue as attendees arrived sporting their favourite national football shirts.

From classic England jerseys to the iconic yellow of Brazil, the "friendly international spirit" was evident across all ages.

The event was officially opened at 12:00 pm by representatives of the Parish Council, led by Vice Chair Cllr Alicia Edwards, who served as the lead coordinator for the 2026 programme.

"Community Day is all about bringing people together," Cllr Edwards noted during the preparations.

Over 60 stalls lined the

village green, showcasing local businesses, crafts, and community groups. The Friends of Culcheth Linear Park even debuted their own "Squirrels United" team at their stall to match the day's theme.

Visitors enjoyed vintage cars and tractor displays, funfair rides, and a giant inflatable dartboard provided by the Warrington Youth Zone.

A lively food court and licensed bar offered a wide variety of refreshments to keep the "fans" fueled throughout the afternoon.

Beyond the football-themed fun, the day remained a vital fundraiser for local charities. Groups such as the 1st Culcheth Scouts and various wellbeing organisations including Andy's Man's Club were out in force, raising essential funds and awareness for their work within the villages. As the event concluded, the consensus among residents was that the 2026 Community Day had successfully hit the back of the net, reinforcing Culcheth and Glazebury's reputation for hosting one of the region's most anticipated annual traditions.



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Warrington North

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ed Community Day



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Simon Bax,
Plant Area Specialist

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Parish council elects new Chair

CULCHETH & Glazebury Parish Council has elected Cllr. Alicia Edwards as its new Chair.

Cllr Edwards has also become Vice Chair of neighbouring Croft Parish Council.

In becoming Chair at Culcheth & Glazebury, Cllr. Edwards is believed to be one of the youngest serving Parish Council Chair currently sitting in Cheshire.

Alicia, a well-known local resident and owner of local business in Glazebury for more than a decade, takes on the role following a year serving as Vice Chair of the Parish Council.

Outside of her council work, Cllr. Edwards has become a familiar face across the villages through her community volunteering and charitable efforts.

She has led the organisation of Culcheth Community Day for the past two years, serves on the village Christmas lights committee, Culcheth Education Trust, regularly supports local litter picks and charity events, Secretary for 20th Warrington East Glazebury Scouts and has also worked closely with homeless charities in Manchester.

Speaking after her election, Cllr Edwards said: "These villages mean everything to me. I care deeply about our community and I want residents to know that I will always do my very best to put them first."

She added: "I've always believed that the strength of Culcheth and Glazebury comes from the people who live here. When we work

together, support one another and focus on what unites us rather than what divides us, we can achieve amazing things for our community."

Cllr Edwards also expressed her hope that recent disagreements within the Parish Council can now be resolved positively and constructively for the benefit of residents.

"Residents expect their councillors to work together respectfully, to listen and to focus on the bigger picture. I genuinely hope we can move forward together and continue building a strong, caring and effective parish council for everyone."

Looking ahead, Alicia says she would love to explore whether the successful spirit of Culcheth Community Day could also be expanded into Glazebury with a dedicated local event in the future.

Protecting the character and future of the villages will also be one of her key priorities as Chair, particularly with the ongoing review of Warrington's Local Plan.

"The Local Plan process will shape the future of our area for many years to come. As a statutory consultee on planning matters, it's essential the Parish Council fully understands what any proposed changes could mean for our villages and our residents. I want to help people better understand the process and I'll be putting together clear and helpful information to

share with the community very soon."

Cllr Edwards also paid tribute to the outgoing Chair, Cllr Paul Campbell, thanking him for his work and support over the past year.

"Paul has worked incredibly hard for the Parish Council and the wider community and I'd like to sincerely thank him for all of his support and dedication. I hope I can build on the work he has done

and continue moving the council forward in my own way."

Since her election, Cllr. Edwards has already been engaging with experienced parish council representatives and organisations from across the North West, including Jackie Weaver, the Local Government Association, the Cheshire Association of Local Councils and Warrington Borough Council's Monitoring Officer as she prepares for the role ahead.



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Garden Centre helps raise over £34,000 for Warrington Youth Zone

LOCAL garden centre Bents Garden & Home is celebrating a fantastic fundraising achievement, having raised £34,546.55 for Warrington Youth Zone over the past year.

The donation, made possible thanks to the generosity and support of its customers and colleagues, will directly support the Warrington Youth Zone's wide-ranging programme of activities, which provide local young people with safe, engaging spaces to learn, play and develop skills that help them thrive.

Representatives from Warrington Youth Zone, Dave McNicholl and Sarah Brennan, visited Bents to accept the donation. The funds will contribute towards the delivery of WYZ's activities, from educational workshops and sports sessions to mentoring and wellbeing support, helping to create positive experiences and brighter futures for young people across the local community.

Matthew Bent, Managing Director at Bents Garden & Home, said: "We'd like to say a huge thank you to all our customers and colleagues whose support throughout the year has helped us raise this fantastic amount.

"It's incredibly rewarding to know that the funds we've collected will make a real difference locally, supporting young people and providing a safe, supportive environment where they can build confidence, develop new skills and

enjoy new experiences."

Colleagues and customers alike joined in a range of fundraising activities from raffles and colleague challenges to the Bents Annual Ball, Festive Wednesdays and charity fun runs.

Dave McNicholl, CEO at Warrington Youth Zone added "We are incredibly grateful to Bents Garden & Home, and to their customers and colleagues, for this fantastic support. Partnerships like this make a real and lasting difference, enabling us to continue providing a safe, welcoming space where young people can thrive.

"This generous donation will help us deliver vital opportunities and activities that help to build confidence, develop skills, and support the wellbeing of thousands of young people across the borough. We are very proud to work alongside organisations like Bents who are so committed to making a difference to the local community and the young people in it."

Based in the heart of Warrington, Warrington Youth Zone is a purpose-built facility dedicated to supporting young people from across the borough. Anyone aged between 7-19, and up to 25 with additional needs, can access 20

different activities every night.

Open seven days a week, it offers somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to, helping young people to feel inspired, supported and empowered to achieve their full potential.

It also has some amazing fundraising events coming up including a 5-a-side football

tournament (29th May at Rylands FC) and One More Lap, a 12-hour team relay event at Cheshire Polo Club (for runners of all abilities on the 27th September). So why not grab your football boots or running shoes and join in the fundraising fun. For more information, please email sarah.brennan@wyz.org.uk



Independent Voice

by Independent Councillor Neil Johnson



I am pleased to use this page in Culcheth Life to provide all residents with the latest updates on the work I am doing as your Independent Councillor.

In the community

I am out and about across the villages every week of the year, come rain or shine. Recently, I met with some new residents on **Kirkby Road** to discuss the need for tree pruning. I am always mindful that this kind of work needs to be done sensitively to retain the shape of the tree, branches should not just be hacked away as this Council is prone to doing. I also arranged for the Council to replace a broken knee rail on **Culcheth Village Green**. Double yellow lines are to be painted at the junction of **Coronation Avenue** in Glazebury after residents complained about the severe parking problems in this vicinity. A damaged and sunken grid on **Warrington Road** in Glazebury has also been repaired. This was done in a matter of days after residents raised the issue with me.

At the Town Hall

I have continued to liaise with the Council regarding reports of planning breaches at **The Grey Horse in Glazebury**. I have also been in touch with several residents who are concerned about the planned closure of the Woolston Hub by the Labour Council. This is an ongoing matter. I understand the MP has failed to secure any funding from the Government. I will continue to support the campaign to keep this facility open and oppose any attempt to close it.

Weeds - again!

Weeds are starting to appear once again throughout the village. I have begun to liaise with residents on areas where weeds are cropping up and I will be asking the Council to treat these areas promptly so that the villages look clean and inviting. Allowing weeds to grow looks very unsightly.

Since my last report, I have dealt with a further 49 individual cases which residents have brought to my attention. All residents who raise issues with me receive a personal visit or phone call and the issue is followed up in writing. They then receive a written reply when the matter is addressed.

This is just a flavour of the kind of work that I am undertaking on your behalf. As always, if you would like to talk to me about anything locally or at the Town Hall, please just get in touch using the contact details below. Whatever the issue, I am always on your side.

Neil

Cllr Neil Johnson | Independent Councillor for Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft

Get in touch: 07977 825296 | CllrNeil.Johnson@warrington.gov.uk

Neil Johnson – Independent Councillor for Culcheth, Glazebury and Croft

This page is funded and paid for by Cllr. Neil Johnson and does not represent the views of Culcheth Life or its publishers Orbit News Ltd.

Appeal fund launched to help save Wild Wings Birds of Prey

AN appeal fund has been launched to help secure the future of the Wild Wings Birds of Prey based at Risley, which is under threat of losing its home.

Following news that the centre had been given notice to quit the site at Taylor Business Park due to proposed development of green belt land, visitor numbers have increased, all offering support and several "very kind" Paypal donations have also been received.

Now a former volunteer Ethan Greenall, has arranged several fundraising events and set up a gofundme page.

Two offers of land have also been made, which sadly have not been viable.

Based at Taylor's Business Park, Wild Wings Birds of Prey is run by Carole Rose and Ian Middleton and is a dedicated not-for-profit rescue, rehabilitation, and education centre for birds of prey. The centre houses owls, hawks, falcons, and eagles (including Logan, Koda, and Shannara) along with other animals, and offers visitors close-up experiences.

But right now, the beloved local bird of prey sanctuary is facing a devastating reality.

The site that has been home to over 100 incredible animals including owls, hawks, falcons, and eagles is under threat. The landlords want to reclaim the land for commercial development, and without the funds needed to secure and build a new

home, many of these birds may have nowhere left to go.

For some, there are no alternatives.

Many of the sanctuary's residents cannot simply be released into the wild. Some are rescues from abuse and neglect. Some were saved from illegal black-market trade. Others were injured and rehabilitated, surviving only because this sanctuary gave them a second chance at life. Some species are endangered, and others are non-native birds that legally and ethically cannot be released.

Without urgent support, many of these amazing creatures could face euthanasia.

Carole said: "Awareness has definitely increased but there has been no positive resolution yet.

"A lot of us have personally worked with some of these animals, and we can honestly say they are some of the most intelligent, beautiful, and inspiring creatures we have ever encountered. Every bird at this sanctuary has a story. Every one matters."

Now volunteers have launched the Feathered Friends Initiative.

Their mission is simple: Save the birds. Save their home. Save their future.

They are raising funds to help:

- Secure a new site for the sanctuary
- Build safe aviaries and habitats
- Transport and relocate the animals safely
- Provide ongoing care, food, and veterinary support
- Ensure the sanctuary can continue its rescue and rehabilitation work

The sanctuary doesn't just care for animals it educates the community, protects vulnerable species, rehabilitates injured wildlife, and gives rescued birds the life they deserve.

To help raise awareness and support, volunteers will also be hosting:

- Live music events

- DJ nights
- Coffee mornings
- Community fundraisers
- Exclusives At Our Events

Volunteer Ethan, said: "This is more than a fundraiser. This is a community coming together to protect lives that cannot protect themselves.

"If you can donate, share, attend an event, or simply spread the word, you are helping give these birds a future.

"Together, we can make sure these feathered friends are not forgotten."

Donations can be made online via www.gofundme.com/f/wild-wings-birds-of-prey



Call for urgent action to tackle speeding traffic

CONCERNED residents are campaigning for urgent action to tackle speeding traffic on a village road at Glazebrook, before someone is killed.

Frustration is mounting for residents on Glazebrook Road, who have been told by highway officers that nothing can be done as none of the incidents have been serious enough to warrant action.

Tony Whittingham and his wife Janet have lived in their current house on Glazebrook Lane for 38 years and witnessed an increasing number of accidents caused by speeding vehicles.

Tony said: "Whilst there has been a steady increase in traffic volume, as everywhere, we have found that this has been matched by a disproportionate rise in a blatant disregard for the speed limit, along with aggressive and abusive drivers, resulting in eight crashes/incidents outside our house in the last 10 years requiring police attendance.

"These are not small incidents,

so far we have had one lamp post, one street sign, two telephone poles, and our 120-year hedge totally destroyed.

"We have often been met with abuse and aggression from the drivers and their passengers, even when we turn out to help!"

Tony added: "As a consequence of increased frustration at these events, we have canvassed every house on Glazebrook Lane and gained some consolation, rather sadly, that we are not alone in enduring this misery by far.

"We were shocked to discover that there are many residents with similar stories, in fact, pretty well everyone we spoke to had a tale to tell, including cars through the hedge, cars in gardens, parked cars written off, even whilst parked on their own driveway, reports of cars sliding up the road on their roof, walls knocked down etc. etc.

"I decided to conduct a survey of all residents and already 50% of residents have responded,

preliminary results show that there is deep dissatisfaction that nothing is already in place, a general feeling that it will take a serious injury or death before the situation is taken seriously and that every resident that we spoke to does not feel safe on any pavement anywhere in Glazebrook.

"Again there is a deep dissatisfaction and resentment that Glazebrook Lane has a ban on wagons over 7.5 tonnes, which is again blatantly disregarded with heavy goods vehicles routinely travelling through the village well above the speed limit.

"On a personal level, I have requested a list of all reported incidents and requests for traffic calming measures for the last 10 years under a freedom of information request from WBC, and made a similar request to Cheshire Constabulary for incidents they have responded to in the same period.

"We have letters from WBC officials sent to local residents when requests and complaints have been made, suggesting that they will only respond when there have been actual casualties. I was horrified that a local government official, who I imagined should be working to help and protect the residents throughout their district, is suggesting that we should wait until someone has been maimed or killed before they will take our pleas seriously."

A Warrington Borough Council spokesperson said: "We are aware of residents' concerns relating to Glazebrook Lane. We take road safety very seriously and apply a data-led approach to ensure that our

limited resources are targeted where they can have the greatest impact. We have to prioritise interventions at locations with the highest numbers of the most serious collisions.

"Historic casualty data for Glazebrook Lane shows a pattern of slight injury collisions which do not meet the threshold required to prioritise works above other sites with a higher concentration of serious or fatal injuries. As a result, the location is not currently identified as a priority for safety-funded engineering measures. Our primary evidence base is collision data supplied by the Police, which records personal injury road traffic incidents only. Damage-only collisions are not routinely recorded or shared by the Police and are therefore not captured within the official dataset used to justify safety improvements. While we recognise residents' concerns, current resources are fully committed to addressing locations where the most severe injuries occur, meaning damage-only sites cannot be included in our immediate programmes at this time.

"Once the petition is submitted, including any information residents have collated on damage-only incidents, we will review the concerns raised along the length of Glazebrook Lane. This will help inform whether any proportionate and achievable interventions could be considered in the future.

"In relation to speeding, enforcement is a matter of criminal law and sits with the Police. We do not have powers to enforce speed limits and are therefore restricted in what action we can take directly."



The Raven looks to the future

As the Raven Inn at Glazebury approaches its third anniversary in August, it is planning for the immediate and the longer term future.

Work is currently underway to revamp the menus. Keeping some old favourites and introducing some exciting new dishes.

In response to enquiries, consideration is being given to launching a second share offer. To allow those people who may want to become part of the community pub, that option.

Feel good Friday continues to be a huge success, with its very good value fish & chips, accompanied by regular live music.

To complement the new menu's, work is underway on a special promotion for Saturdays.

Spokesperson Peter Sturman says: "It is a fact that all licensed premises have to constantly evolve in a world where a number of factors, over the last two or three years, have had adverse effects on our pubs.

The Raven is not immune to those challenges, we constantly seek to innovate and improve, taking heed of what our customers tell us.

The draft new menu looks really good. Balancing our really popular dishes with some fantastic newcomers.

"We are very pleased with the success of our 'feel good Fridays' Fish & Chips - homemade chips, mushy peas & tartare sauce. All for just £9.99, and served to your table.

"Very often accompanied by live music. It is becoming a real family event."

"Adam and his staff are looking at developing something special for Saturday's. Always looking to develop, improve and offer something new and different."

Peter goes on to say; "We are fast approaching the end of our third year. In response to enquiries we have received, we are considering a secondary share offer.

"There is a little bit of work to be done on this, however we would like to offer the opportunity for people new to the area and people who have become regulars over

our first three years, to become shareholders.

"It is so important that the Raven continues to evolve. That can take many forms."



Former Croft girl honoured with trip to Buckingham Palace Garden Party

FORMER Croft girl Sally Bridge, who attended St. Lewis's Primary School and now lives in Belfast where she works at Queen's University with students, was awarded a BEM in the New Year's honours list.

Last month she was joined by her parents at Holyrood Castle where she received her award and more recently they attended with her at a garden party at Buckingham Palace.

Sally received this honour for services to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, recognising her outstanding contribution in these areas.

Sally works as a Librarian in Queen's University Belfast and is the co-chair of the staff LGBT network, PRISM.



Wild-flower seeds planted outside library

THE Friends of Culcheth Library are hoping to see a beautiful display of wild-flowers outside the library this summer.

Wild-flower seeds were donated by Bent's Home and Garden and Friends' co-vice-chair Janet Evans, assisted by a borough council gardener, spent a morning planting

them. Janet said: "Janet, the gardener, was so knowledgeable and hard-working. We spent about five hours

raking the ground and sprinkling the seeds. Hopefully we will get a good show of wild-flowers as a result of our efforts."



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