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■ Joel Sharley with his artwork.



■ Ysgol Acrefair hold student artwork exhibition for parents to buy. (cc280617C) Pictures by CRAIG COLVILLE

Pupils' art show helps to raise money for school

PUPILS in Acrefair held an art exhibition to raise money for their school.

Children at Ysgol Acrefair, in Tower View, created a range of different paintings which were framed by a company named Images.

The paintings were then displayed in an exhibition on Wednesday for parents to buy,

with proceeds going towards the school fund.

Headteacher Rebecca Turner told the *Leader*: "They loved it, they were so proud."

"It was lovely to see all the parents coming in to see the paintings, it was just beautiful."

"We had a lot of different types of pictures – there were some very nice rainforest pictures.

The nursery class did mini beasts like ladybirds, year two did some beautiful fish and year four children painted some amazing African sunsets.

"It was really nice to see them using their artistic and creative skills."

She added the event is expected to have raised a total of more than £100 for the school.



■ Lilly Sharley with her artwork.

Suspended sentence man found with drug

A MAN was found in possession of drugs while on a suspended sentence.

Police executed a search warrant at the home of Anthony Mark White, 28, in Pont Wen, Wrexham on June 15.

Justin Espie, prosecuting at Wrexham Magistrates Court, said White pointed to a plastic tub which had a small amount of cannabis consistent with personal use.

White received a prison sentence of 60 days, suspended for a year, on June 2 for driving while disqualified.

Catherine Jagger, defending, said White had been out of custody for 18 months, which

was a very long time for him.

He was ordered to complete unpaid work, Miss Jagger added, but was unfit due to health reasons and was in the process of having the order altered.

District Judge Gwyn Jones revoked the unpaid work order and imposed a curfew for 10 weeks, where White must stay at home from 6.30pm-7.30am. He was fined £120, and must pay £83 in prosecution costs and a £30 surcharge.

Mr Jones extended the suspended sentence period by four months. His licence was endorsed and a forfeiture and destruction order was made for the cannabis.

Councillor raises concerns over number of dog attacks on postal delivery staff

CONCERNS have been raised about the number of dog attacks on postal workers in Wrexham.

Grosvenor councillor Marc Jones, whose ward includes the town's sorting office, says that in the last fortnight he has had four reports of postal workers being attacked by dogs while delivering mail.

In the most recent incident a postman received a severe bite from an Alsatian and Cllr Jones added that he "shudders" to think what might have happened had it been a child.

He said: "Disappointing to hear about another dog attack on one of our Wrexham postal workers."

"As he was trying to deliver an item to an address he knocked on the door and the customer heard him and came from the side gate, they opened the gate and the dog ran out ahead of them and bit him on the forearm."

"The dog was an Alsatian and



Four attacks in fortnight is unacceptable

the postie received a severe bite despite having a coat on.

"Dog owners need to control their dogs and make sure visitors to their homes are safe. I dread to think what would have happened if this was a child."

"As it was, someone doing their job got a nasty bite and it could have been much worse."

"Four attacks in a fortnight is unacceptable."

"My ward includes Wrexham sorting office and I fully support our postal workers."

A Royal Mail spokesman confirmed there has been four dog attacks on postal workers in

the last fortnight alone, and more than 20 in the last two years, as well as many "near misses".

And deliveries could be suspended if postal service bosses feel it is unsafe for their delivery staff.

Royal Mail spokesman Sally Hopkins said: "We know that the overwhelming majority of dogs are friendly most of the time, however, even the most placid animal will defend itself if it feels its territory is being threatened."

"Our first priority as an employer is to ensure the welfare and safety of our people who provide a valuable service to our customers."

"Dog attacks or the threat of attack are a serious issue, with seven postmen and women on average being attacked every day across the UK, and when it is unsafe for our postmen and women to deliver we will, and do, suspend deliveries."

Kronospan consultation

A PUBLIC consultation is to be held this week on a factory's planning proposals.

Kronospan is seeking planning permission for a number of projects on its Chirk site.

A public exhibition on the plans will be held on Thursday at Chirk Parish Hall, from 1pm until 8pm, where company representatives will be available.

Fundraising music festival

A MUSIC festival has been arranged to raise money for school children in Wrexham with extreme learning and movement disabilities.

"Rock On The Range", nine hours of live music will take place from 2pm to 11pm on Saturday, August 19, at Clays Golf Club in Wrexham.

Funds raised will be for pupils at Y Canol and St Christopher's School, supporting young people to get the best start in life.

There will be hot food, drinks and a fully licensed bar with live performances from Tranquil Sea, Bermusa, Mostly Blues, 5past40, Columbians, Break the Record, Mandola Hangover, Euphoria, Green Night and Josh Evans.

Tickets are available to purchase from the bar and restaurant at Clays Golf, Bryn Estyn Road, Wrexham.

Pre booked tickets are; adults £8 (£8.92 online), £10 on the day.

Please buy tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Under 12s are free but must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Man stole pasties so he could eat

A MAN has admitted a series of low value thefts.

Neil Young, 30, of Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, pleaded guilty to two thefts when he appeared at Wrexham Magistrates Court.

On May 19, he had entered the Nisa store on the High Street in Ruabon and stole pasties worth £4, where he was seen by a staff member who recognised him from their school days.

Young stole £10 worth of items from the Co-op store on Poplar Road, Wrexham town centre on June 4, caught on CCTV concealing them in his clothes.

In an interview with the police he admitted he had intended to steal, had a drug habit, and tested positive for cocaine.

Justine McVitie, defending, said: "These were low value unsophisticated thefts. He is struggling."

"The address he has given the court today is a 'care of' address as essentially he is sofa-surfing."

"He stole the pasties to eat." Magistrates handed Young a six month community order to undergo drug rehabilitation and he remains subject to a conditional discharge.

He will pay £85 court costs, and an £85 victim surcharge.

Young will also pay £4 compensation to the Co-op and £10 compensation to the Nisa store.

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Lucy earns and learns for business degree

A BUSINESS student has put safety first in her new role at a top training centre.

Having just completed the first year of the new applied business degree at Wrexham Glyndwr University, Lucy Belk can look back on a job well done.

The course blends paid work experience with taught lectures and interactive sessions, so the student can earn for three days and learn for two each week.

Lucy, 19, had worked in retail having left school without A-levels, and was unsure whether her qualifications would be enough to secure a higher education.

But after meeting with North Wales Business School staff she was reassured and signed up immediately for the degree, which is run in partnership with Delyn Safety UK.

She is now balancing her studies with a business administrator position at the Mold firm.

"I'm loving the job, particularly the marketing aspect and getting my teeth into different parts of day-to-day operations," said Lucy, from Wrexham.

"I've had the opportunity to grow in the position and the team here have been very supportive in helping me to develop in line with my lectures.

"It's a challenge, but one that I'm really enjoying - I would definitely recommend the degree to other people."

Mike Joy, managing director of Delyn Safety UK, said the company's collaboration with Wrexham Glyndwr University has had a positive effect, even leading to several awards.

"As a small firm, being involved with the applied business degree has been fantastic," said Mike.

"The placement has just the right balance of support in both the workplace and university and is able to integrate projects related to elements of the course.

"This mix has enabled us to develop new business schemes and even led to us achieving public health awards."

He added: "Lucy is now a key member



It's a challenge, but one that I'm really enjoying

■ Glyndwr University business student Lucy Belk.

of our team and I would advise anyone looking to take on a graduate to consider this degree first."

The university is currently recruiting for the next intake of applied business students.

They will gain employment at Kronospan, a global company producing and distributing wood-based panels from its base in Chirk.

Undergraduates on the course become permanent members of staff, receiving full employee benefits, as well as learning fresh skills and leaving after three years with the BA (Hons) qualification.

Programme leader Claire Blanchard said: "Kronospan saw the vision we had

for this degree and want to support it, as well as giving students and their own staff opportunities to progress and develop in their roles.

"This is an exciting and ground-breaking way to study which we believe will appeal to people from all backgrounds and sectors.

"It gives them an edge on other people looking to enter into the same industries as they are, given that they will already have vital work experience and be earning a wage as well."

For more information, call 01978 293439 or enquiries@glyndwr.ac.uk.

Visit the university's open day on Saturday, August 19 from 10am-2pm.

Countess stroke patient is first to trial pioneering high-speed drug treatment

A STROKE patient at the Countess of Chester Hospital has become the first to take part in a global study of a pioneering new treatment.

The procedure, called magnetically enhanced diffusion for acute ischaemic stroke (MEDIS), can potentially push life-saving drugs through the bloodstream 30 times faster than they travel normally and significantly decrease the risk of long-term disability.

Stroke consultant Kausik Chatterjee said: "In research we need to keep an open mind, but MEDIS is a very simple idea and that's the beauty of it. It can work and if it does work it will change the whole treatment pathway for strokes."

MEDIS involves microscopic iron beads being injected via the arm, before a rotating magnet causes them to spin in the blood vessel and force clot-busting drugs through the circulatory

system more quickly.

Speed is vital for the treatment of acute ischaemic strokes, with clots in the brain preventing blood flow and causing damage by starving cells of oxygen.

Current thrombectomy treatments involve blood-thinning drugs being injected into the arm without the magnetised iron beads acting as a propellant.

The Countess is one of four research centres in the UK taking part in the trial, but the Chester hospital was the first in the world to recruit a patient to take part.

Mr Chatterjee, who is also the stroke lead for the Clinical Research Network, Northwest Coast, said: "This is a rare event and a great achievement for my team. Our record for research, although we are a small centre, is really good and that's why we were chosen to take part in this ground-breaking study."

He added: "The support we get from our radiology

Magnetised iron beads are used as a propellant

department here is unique. Our studies are very dependent on radiology helping us and they are very much part of our extended family, but I'd like to thank everyone at the Countess for their support."

Jacqui Pirmohamed, chief operating officer for Clinical Research Network, Northwest Coast, part of the National Institute for Health Research said: "We are delighted to see another clinical research global first taking place in our region.

"We congratulate Mr Chatterjee and his team for this ground-breaking research into stroke and look forward to how results from

the MEDIS trial can be translated into patient benefit."

Sean Morris, chief executive of Pulse Therapeutics added: "We are delighted to have started the MEDIS trial with Mr Chatterjee and the excellent team at Countess Of Chester Hospital with the recruitment of the first patient.

"This institution, along with many other stroke research centres around the UK, are excellent partners in which to conduct this ground-breaking study. We have a long way to go but are hopeful that the magnetically enhanced diffusion (MED) system from Pulse Therapeutics and under the excellent leadership of Professor Keith Muir [Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow, Scotland] as Global PI, can prove beneficial to the many patients presenting with acute ischaemic stroke."