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THE Boundary Commission's proposals for Lymm have caused a few raised eyebrows locally – and this is hardly surprising.

Splitting the parish in two, with the northern part taking in most of Thelwall and part of Grappenhall is a radical proposal and, quite frankly, seems to make little sense.

It takes no account of local communities and would result in the village being served by two parish councils. There would be five borough councillors with an interest in Lymm instead of three as at present.

The Boundary Commission is an independent body set up by Parliament and consists of six members and a chief executive with a fair scattering of professors, doctors, knights of the realm and people with letters to their name among them. So far we can ascertain, none have any local knowledge.

Their recommendations seek to

achieve electoral fairness, based on the average number of electors per councillor across the whole borough. Thus, they are concerned with the mathematics rather than local communities, geographical boundaries, etc., although they do claim to take these matters into account.

Party politics are not supposed to enter into the equation although there will always be the suspicion that they could. But in this case, it appears that all our local politicians are of a similar view. None of them like the proposals!

The Commission says it is satisfied it has achieved good levels of electoral fairness across Warrington, with none of the proposed wards having an electoral variance of greater than

10 per cent from the average for the borough by the year 2020.

This may be so, but as far as Lymm is concerned – and probably Thelwall as well – there have been no suggestions of unfairness anyway. Everyone seems happy with the way things are.

Fortunately the Commission's proposals are not set in concrete. Anyone who wants to make representations can do so provided they do so before October 19. We suggest they do just that.

This can be done on the website www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk or by emailing reviews@lgbce.org.uk or by writing to Review Officer (Warrington), The Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 14th Floor, Millbank Tower, London SW1P 4QP.

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Cotebrook House facing closure threat

ONE of the oldest and best-loved care homes in Cheshire – Lymm’s Cotebrook House - is facing the possibility of closure because of a funding crisis.

Members of the management committee at the Oughtrington Lane home are desperately trying to find ways of keeping the home open for its 30 residents.

Some of the residents have lived there for more than 50 years and, in the event of closure, would have to move elsewhere.

Chairman of the management committee Ann Scales said: "There is really nothing we can say at the moment, except that we are exploring a number of options to keep Cotebrook House open. No decisions have been made.

"The welfare of the residents is paramount. They must come first."

Cotebrook House, formerly the country home of the Dewhurst family, became a home for physically disabled adults in 1946.

It stands in attractive, wooded grounds with accessible pathways to enable wheelchair users and others to use a purpose built summer house and other facilities. All residential accommodation is on the ground floor.

It is understood the home has run at a loss for the last two years. If it is forced to close and the building is sold, the proceeds must go to charity.

A number of suggestions have been put forward, including sale by auction, sale to a private healthcare company on the understanding the residents would stay there,

or a "take over" by Warrington Borough Council.

Many of the highly trained staff have worked at Cotebrook for years.

One said: "A meeting has been held with regard to redundancies, but not one member of staff is interested in the package due to them. The future welfare of the residents is all they are concerned about."

It is understood the home is 72.3 per cent full, but needs to be 93 per cent full to cover costs.

Although no decision has yet been taken, Social Services chiefs at Warrington have been assessing the situation and, in the event of a closure, are trying to ensure that residents who are friends could be kept together.

Ann McCormack, assistant director for quality assurance at Warrington Borough Council, said: "The council is working with the Cotebrook committee regarding their proposals for a planned closure but as yet no decision has been made.

"We appreciate that this can

be an unsettling time and we are working closely with staff, residents, and relevant authorities and will be keeping all interested parties updated. I want to reassure the residents of Cotebrook, their families and friends, that their welfare and wellbeing remains our number one priority at this time."



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What's On

in conjunction with **Lymm Parish Council**



October 13th
LYMM PARISH COUNCIL
 Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB
 Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm

MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP
 Meet each Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm
 Oughtrington Community Centre, Lymm
 Details: 01925 755126

ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM
 Every Wednesday at Statham Lodge Hotel
 7.15pm for 7.30pm
 Contact the secretary 01925 650189

LOVING HEARTS & HANDS
 Knitting for charity at Lymm Methodist Church,
 2nd and 4th Thursday each month.
 1.30pm - 3pm. Details: 01925 753298

MARKET LUNCHES
 Eagle Brow Methodist Church
 3rd Thursday in the month
 Light lunches 12 noon till 2pm. All proceeds to
 Youth For Christ and YMCA Room at The Inn

LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB
 St Mary's Church Hall
 Second and fourth Fridays (Sept - May)
 7.30pm. Details: 753853

GARDENING CLUB
 Meet Third Wednesday of the month
 Lymm Baptist Church, Higher Lane. 7.30pm
 Visitors welcome. £2 includes tea and cake

LYMM FLORAL ART GROUP
 Lymm Village Hall
 Third Monday of the month (except August)
 at 7.30pm

LYMM ORNITHOLOGY GROUP
 Lymm Village Hall, 7.45pm for 8pm,
 Last Friday in the month (ex June & July).
 Guest speaker, Slide Show, Refreshments.
 Visitors welcome. First visit FREE.
 Also field trips. Details: lymmog.co.uk

LYMM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
 Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday
 (ex July & Aug), 7.30pm
 Spread Eagle pub, Eagle Brow.
 Details: www.lymmphotosoc.org.uk

LYMM WINE AND BEER CIRCLE
 3rd Wednesday of the month, 8pm
 The Spread Eagle Hotel
 Details: 01925 604400

LYMM CONCERT BAND
 Rehearsals every Thursday evening
 United Reformed Church, 8pm.
 Details: 01925 752934

THE VENUE, LYMM
 Chess Club every Monday from 6pm,
 Open Mic Night every Tuesday from 9pm,
 free chinese meal and 2-1 cocktails
 every Wednesday, Live Music every
 Thursday and Saturday

LYMM WI
 Every second Wednesday, 2-4pm at Lymm
 Youth and Community Centre. Visitors
 welcome.

LYMM BOOK CLUB
 Second Thursday of the month 7.30pm,
 Spread Eagle, Eagle Brow. Details 01925
 752371

LOW CARBON LYMM
 Every second Monday of the month. 7.30pm,
 Spread Eagle. 07786 074741 all welcome

To feature your event on this page please call our team on 01925 631592



LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Next meeting is
 Tuesday, October 13th
 Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

Jane will take the plunge for NSPCC

MOTHER-of-three Jane Johnson from Lymm is scaling new heights by taking part in The Big Skydive this October.

Jane is taking part in the UK-wide skydiving event to raise much-needed funds for the NSPCC on October 3 and 4 at 20 different sites across the UK.

The mobile hairdresser said: "I decided to support the NSPCC as it is a charity I have supported for about 15 years either raising funds or taking minutes at area meetings and I can't think of a better cause".

NSPCC fundraiser, Georgina Swinbank said: "At NSPCC we want to make a difference to vulnerable children and families, and can't do that without the help of our dedicated fundraising volunteers."

"When a child contacts ChildLine to tell us they're being abused, feeling suicidal or are in danger we take immediate steps to make them safe. But right now we can only help three out of every four children who try to contact us, and that is why we need volunteers to sign up and support us."

"We are so grateful to Jane and all of our Big Skydive fundraisers for their support; by participating they will help keep every child safe."

Static line jumps or tandem skydives are available and participants must be over the age of 16.

No experience is necessary as full training will be given. Registration fee is £50 and the NSPCC will refund this to people able to raise minimum sponsorship of £395.

The NSPCC is now calling on other people to take part in The Big Skydive. For more details or to sign up call the NSPCC on 0844 892 1119 or visit: www.nspcc.org.uk/thebigskydive

To donate to Jane visit www.virginmoneygiving.com/JaneJohnson3



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L-R Ben Hughes, Mrs Rooney and Elliot Southern

School celebrates opening of new £30k wildlife centre

YOUNGSTERS at Statham Primary School in Lymm are returning to nature this term when a brand new wildlife activity centre is put to use for the first time.

Pupils from all year groups will benefit from the purpose-built, outdoor teaching space, which is set within the grounds of the school. It includes a 42m sq environmentally-sustainable cabin, with running water and electricity as well as an outdoor story-telling circle, set under a timber canopy area next to the school's pond. The centre will extend the school's commitment to pupils' learning about the wildlife and the natural environment.

Statham youngsters already

take part in weekly Forest School sessions, held in woodland at the rear of the site. A gardening club also runs on Tuesdays - the school entered its own display into 'Lymm in Bloom' this year.

The £30,000 activity centre was paid for by PTA fundraising, along with funding from a lottery grant. Work was completed in July 2015 ready for the new 2015/16 school year.

Jane Rooney, co-head teacher at Statham Primary said: "The wildlife activity centre has been designed to help our pupils further explore the natural world around them and learn more about the environment.


"It's been a dream for a long time and we've been planning its design for over two years. Now that dream is a reality.

"We feel it's a fantastic use of the outdoor space that the school has. The children will gain so much from it. It will add a new dimension to their outdoor studies. The teaching staff can't wait to start using it this autumn term."

Meet your MP

David Mowat

David Mowat, MP for Warrington South, holds regular surgeries throughout the constituency. If you would like to arrange an appointment to discuss an issue of concern to you please e-mail him at david.mowat.mp@parliament.uk or telephone 01925 231267.



David Mowat
Member of Parliament for Warrington South
www.davidmowat.org

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Wed 11 Nov	5:30pm - 8.00pm



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Outstanding exam results at Withington Girls' School

WITHINGTON Girls' School is celebrating another set of outstanding results at both A Level and GCSE this year, reinforcing the Independent Schools Inspectorate's judgment that the pupils' achievements are 'exceptional'.

All A-level examinations were passed, with an impressive 37% of all subjects achieving the top A* grade, whilst at GCSE, Withington's Year 11 students achieved the highest grade of A*

in an impressive 67% of all entries, ten times higher than the national award of the A* grade to the top 6.6% of entries.

Headmistress, Mrs Sue Marks, praised the students for their self-motivation and hard work, which had helped to produce these outstanding achievements. "We are all so delighted for our girls", she said. "These brilliant results are the just reward for all their hard work, and they also reflect the fantastic support of the girls' own families, as well as the excellent teaching and pastoral care they have received at Withington".

Open days are being held during the Autumn when girls and their families are invited to tour the school. Withington benefits richly from drawing academically able girls from all backgrounds, cultures and faiths. The School strives to improve and develop whilst remaining – as

stipulated by its Founders - 'a small school, and for the new academic year Withington has expanded to offer a purpose-built junior school building, an impressive social 'Hub' area, remodelled chemistry laboratories and a refurbished design technology workshop.



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Festival seek new marketing and publicity director

LYMM Festival is on look-out for a new Marketing and Publicity Director. The vacancy has come about because the current Director, Lauren Sanders, has had to resign due to other commitments.

Chairman Ian Marks says, "We are very sorry to be losing Lauren after just one year. She has done a great job and brought a more professional touch to all our marketing and publicity. She has contributed to making this year's Festival a huge success. She is moving home further away from Lymm but more to the point she is determined to make the British Archery Team for the next Paralympics. She wants to devote all her energy to this and we wish her the very best of luck.

The Director's role is part-time and remunerated. The successful applicant will work closely with our Events' Director, Dave Sawyer to plan and deliver the next Festival. There will be strong support from the Festival Committee and their army of volunteers.

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Lymm to be split in two - and 'take over' Thelwall

LYMM would be split in two under proposals put forward by the Local Government Boundary Commission - and would "take over" most of Thelwall and part of Grappenhall.

A new Lymm North and Thelwall ward would consist of the northern half of Lymm, most of Thelwall and part of Grappenhall.

The ward's northern boundary would be the Manchester Ship Canal, while its western boundary would follow Cross Lane before turning south along Knutsford Road and joining Massey Brook.

This ward would have three councillors on Warrington Borough Council.

But the proposals are being opposed by Lymm councillors and contradict proposals for minimal change put forward by Warrington Borough Council with cross party support.

Under the Commission's proposals, Lymm South would consist of the southern half of Lymm,

with the northern boundary of this ward being the Bridgewater Canal. To the west, the boundary would be Massey Brook. This ward would be represented by two councillors.

The Boundary Commission is an independent body, set up by the Government. It is carrying out an electoral review of Warrington Borough Council because the council currently has high levels of electoral inequality, with some councillors representing many more or many fewer voters than others.

This means the value of each vote in the borough council elections varies, depending where the voter lives.

Overall, 41 per cent of wards across the borough have a variance of more than 10 per cent from the average - the maximum recommended variance.

The Boundary Commission says it has an open mind and wants to hear alternative suggestions from the public by October 19.

The Boundary Commission website has a special consultation area where maps can be explored and proposed boundaries drawn. The web address is www.consultation.lgbce.org

Submissions can also be made by emailing reviews@lgbce.org or by writing to the Review

Officer (Warrington), The Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 14th Floor, Millbank Tower, London SW1P 4QP

Cllr Bob Barr, leader of the Liberal Democrat group on the borough council, said: "I am very surprised by the scale of the changes being proposed."

"Warrington Council put forward a proposal for minimal change. This was the right thing to do because there is huge uncertainty over housing numbers in the Commission's base year of 2021. Any major revision should be delayed until we have more clarity on housing numbers."

"The borough ward proposals affect parish councils too and cause unnecessary complications between borough and parish representation."

Cllr Ian Marks former leader of the borough council and a long term parish councillor at Lymm, added, "The Commission has three criteria for setting boundaries - electoral equality, community identity and effective and convenient local government. We cannot deny that their proposals improve electoral equality but they fail miserably on the other two. Lymm is a distinct community with its own identity and lumping it in with Thelwall makes no sense at all."

"Common sense has gone out the window because it is much better if

borough and parish councillors are representing the same areas.

"Community interests and identities are surely more important than arithmetic equality based on an exercise done by people using maps and population numbers but no real local knowledge."

Cllr Sheila Woodyatt said: "To take a chunk of Thelwall and add it to Lymm is nothing short of criminal. Lymm has been a separate, distinct community since Roman times."

"I have been a councillor for 36 years and have dealt with 41,056 issues - and nobody has every complained about being under-represented."

"Boundaries should respect local communities, not the mathematical calculations of someone in an ivory tower in Westminster."



Cllr Bob Barr



Cllr Ian Marks

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LYMM HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

We are extremely proud of our Sixth Form students who achieved some stunning results this year, with 78% of our students achieving A*-C grades at A Level.

The hard work and commitment our students have shown to their studies has really paid off, as students continue to be accepted onto highly competitive courses in many of the top performing universities in the country. We have had students secure places at Cambridge and over a third continuing to Russell Group Universities.

We are confident that whatever your passion, Lymm High Sixth Form offers the crucial support and guidance needed at Post-16 study to enable you to secure your future.

We have a limited number of places available in our Sixth Form, however we always welcome applications from external students.

Visit us on our Open Evening on

Wednesday 4th November

when our application process for September 2016 will open.

The Sixth Form prospectus and application form is available online at:

www.lymmhigh6thform.org.uk



Lymm

OPEN

Thursday

5:00-7:00

Headteacher

Main Hall at 5:00

Our Open Evening
experience the opportunity
to pupils at Lymm

Come along to tour
our Headteacher and
to hear first-hand from
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OPEN EVENING

Monday 1st October 2015

7:30pm

Headmaster's Speech

5:15pm and 6pm

Openings are a great way to see the opportunities afforded by Lymm High School.

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Jamie returns to his roots at the Lymm Hotel

THE Lymm Hotel's new general manager Jamie McDonald has returned to his roots - at the hotel where he started his working career as a glass collector.

Jamie started his working life at the Lymm Hotel at just 14, in 1988 and has now returned with over 27 years of experience in the hospitality industry having previously managed the Park House Hotel in Shifnal, Shropshire and Newbury Manor Hotel in West Berkshire.

Jamie said: "I am passionate about working in the hospitality sector and I'm delighted and proud to be returning to the Lymm Hotel as the new General Manager. Lymm Hotel has a wonderful history, outstanding character and a passionate team."

He added, "I look forward to restoring the Lymm to the heart of the local and business community."

Jamie grew up in Lymm and is now planning to live back in the village.

The hotel is a historic coaching inn with 62 bedrooms, 4 well-appointed meeting and event suites and is an exceptional wedding venue.

Over the years it has hosted many prestigious events and famous guests including Pele and the Brazilian World Cup football team in 1966.

For more information, visit: www.MacdonaldHotels.co.uk/Lymm



Accountants investing in the future

TAKING on more personnel in management roles and bringing in the finest graduates are essential requirements, as Styles and Co look to continue their expansive growth.

Styles and Co have shown commitment to their longstanding tradition of bringing in the best and brightest new graduates each year and investing in young talent by taking on two new graduates this summer.

The first of these is Mike Hayes who has joined as a Marketing Coordinator, as part of his Master's Degree in Business Consultancy with Marketing, at the University of Chester.

Conor Byrne has also joined as an ACCA Trainee Accountant, after achieving a first class BSc honours degree in Finance and Accounting at the University of Salford.

Several more experienced faces have also been added to the ranks, as Styles and Co look to strengthen their wealth of experience and

knowledge. This will allow Styles and Co to continue to offer the very best in accountancy and taxation advice to clients both present and future.

Amongst the new faces are Alycia Catterall and Jon Knowles, who have joined as a Payroll Manager and Tax Assistant respectively and Andrew Halewood has also been recruited as a Personal Tax Manager. All these people are now in place to enhance the service the firm provides to its personal tax and payroll clients.

Styles and Co Partner: Graeme Hindley said: "These new additions to our already experienced team, and the introduction of new graduates, shows our commitment to investing in the future and the level of service we provide to our clients. At Styles and Co we are delighted that we are again able to take on the best and brightest graduates and 2015 is no exception."



L to R: Jon Knowles, Andrew Halewood, Mike Hayes, Alycia Catterall and Conor Byrne.

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High school celebrates successful exam results

Lymm High School reported another successful set of A level and GCSE results.

With A Levels the school reported a significant improvement in the key measures since last year, with 53 per cent of grades awarded at A*-B and over a quarter at A*-A.

Subjects that have performed especially well include Mathematics, Physics, English Literature and Business Studies.

Large numbers of students have secured places at top universities on highly competitive courses, including two who will be going to Cambridge University.

Of special note were Emma Catlow, Lily Dyble, Matthew Pyman and Joe McManus, all of who secured straight A* grades. Many more achieved A* or A grades in all the subjects they sat.

New head teacher Gwyn Williams, said: "A huge amount of credit must go to the students and staff involved. The improvement in results over the last year is testament to the hard work that has been put in by all concerned."

"I haven't had the chance to get to know many of the Year 13 students in the short time I've been here, but it has been a lovely morning watching the happy faces of so many of them as they realise that all the effort was worth it. I wish every one of them the very best for the future."

The school also reported a "very significant improvement" in the headline figure with 73% of students achieving 5 or more

GCSEs at grades A*-C including English and Mathematics and 56% achieving the Ebacc.

There were some outstanding results for many students, with almost 60% achieving at least 1 A*/A grade.

The students who deserve a special mention for achieving at least 8 A* grades were:

Alix Tavernier (10 A*s, 1 A, 1 A^), Aoife Davenport (10 A*s, 1 A^), Kyra Baird (9 A*s, 2 As)

Grace Rooney (9 A*s, 1 A) Fan Grayson (9 A*s, 1 C) Victoria Ramsbottom (8 A*s, 2 As, 1 A^)

Mark Pyman (8 A*s, 3 As) Abigail Smith (8 A*s, 3 As) Isobel Green (8 A*s, 2 As) Hannah Burton (8 A*s, 2 As) and Jonathan Hughes (8 A*s, 2 As).

Special mention to Grace, who missed the photocall due to being away on holiday- she achieved her 9 A*s and an A after

working extremely hard after being diagnosed with diabetes at the age of 10.

Headteacher, Gwyn Williams said: "We are very pleased with this set of results and delighted for all those students who have done

so well.

"These are a strong set of results in themselves and a big improvement on last year. Overall, and taken with the 'A' level results, they reflect the fact that the school is in very good shape."



Happy A Level students at Lymm High School from left, Kieran Hope 1A star 2A, Matt Pyman 4A stars, Emma Catlow 4A stars, Ella Wyss 3A stars and Lily Dyble 4A stars.



Grace Rooney.



Jumping for joy: from left, Vicky Ramsbottom 9A* 2A, Alix Tavernier 10A* 1A, Adele Gregory 7A* 1A and Kyra Baird 9A* 1A 1 distinction.



Celebrating their GCSE success from left, Lily Bury 7A* 1A** 4A, Isobel Green 8A* 2A 1B, Beth Simms 8A* 4A, Abigail Smith 8A* 3A, Fan Grayson 9A* and Aoife Davenport 10A* 1A**.



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Lymm Adivas reach national dance championships



LYMM'S Morris Dance troupe Lymm Adivas is taking part in the national championships in Prestatyn over the weekend starting 11 September and will be competing for success against a large number of other troupes.

Lymm Adivas was started by local volunteers in October 2013 and now contains over forty dancers ranging in age from 4 to 40.

Troupe leader Kate Pritchard said: "We are a non-profit making organisation run by volunteers and we have progressed rapidly over the last two years.

"Our dancers train hard each week on Wednesday evenings at Lymm Methodist Church Hall in order to compete in competitions around the north west.

"So far this season we have brought home a large number of trophies and medals which has put Lymm well and truly back on the map in the Morris Dancing world.

"We have also performed at a number of events in the village such as May Queen, Dickensian, Lymm Festival and primary school summer fairs.

"We are always on the lookout for new members of any age or ability. For most of our dancers, this style of dancing is new to them so there is no need to worry.

"Our success wouldn't be possible without the support of trainers, parents and sponsors so a big thank you to all of them."

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Lymm crowned cricket champions



LYMM Oughtrington Park were crowned champions of the TACS Partnership Cheshire Cricket League division two - with two games yet to be played.

Ironically, they lost the game in which they claimed the title after taking maximum batting points at Barnton before the home side went on to win the match. Prior to that, they had only lost twice.

Lymm will now be promoted to division one - just one level below the prestigious Vivio Cheshire County League.

It has been Lymm's most successful season for many years.

There was an opportunity for supporters to celebrate with the players when the club held an open day at their Oughtrington Lane ground.

There was family fun cricket - with children and adults invited to play softball cricket - and a Twenty20 match between the Chairman's XI and an Overseas XI led by club captain Travis Scholes. There was also a barbecue and bouncy castle for the children and visitors were invited to try out the club's practice facilities, including a bowling machine.

The event, sponsored by Waitrose, raised funds for the club's ambitious development programme. This year the club has purchased a boundary rope, improved the clubroom with a children's play area and also carried out general improvements to the ground.

Next year it is hoped to acquire an electronic scoreboard and improve fencing on the ground's northern boundary.

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