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**June 2017
Issue: 219**

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Regular news updates at www.lymmmlife.co.uk

Editor
Gary Skentelbery

Production
Paul Walker

Advertising
James Balme
Freephone
0800 955 5247

Editorial
01925 623633

Email
info@lymmlife.co.uk

Websites
www.lymmlife.co.uk
www.culchethlife.com
www.frodshamlife.co.uk
www.warrington-
worldwide.co.uk
www.warrington.tv

Address
New Media Centre
Old Road Warrington
WA4 1AT

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Editor's Comment



I was pleased to hear that Lymm Village is competing with hundreds of other villages throughout the UK in a bid to become Village of the Year 2017.

Channel 4 are featuring the competition in programmes to be hosted by "Back to the Manor Born" and "Good Life" star, Penelope Keith, this Summer - and it would be a real feather in the

cap if Lymm was successful.

Lymm Parish Council has been encouraging local residents to help make the best possible application by submitting comments on "Why I love Lymm".

Earlier this year Lymm figured in the Sunday Times "Best Places to Live" list and the village is highly regarded for its proximity to the M6 and the M56, ease of commuting to Manchester and Liverpool, its variety of shops, the Bridgewater Canal and its general "prettiness."

The number of local festivals and events also scored highly for the village, with the annual Duck

Race particularly impressing the newspaper.

We certainly have a village we can be proud of and fingers crossed we can become Village of Year, or at least feature in the programme, which would then see Penelope Keith visit the village, providing more great exposure.

What with Warrington also bidding to be short listed to become City of Culture 2021 there is certainly no lack of ambition in our town.

— LYMM VILLAGE —

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Lymm mum smashes fund-raising goal in London Marathon



LYMM mum of two Vikki Watt successfully finished the London Marathon smashing her fund-raising goal for Asthma UK, raising more than £4,200 for the charity.

She completed the marathon in a respectable time of four hours and 15 minutes having originally set out with the aim of raising £1,800.

Vikki, a 36-year old mother of two (Nell, 6, and Isaac, 3) balanced her training between being a mother, wife, doing a full time job as a Buyer in the nuclear industry, in which she has recently been promoted into a managerial role...and the small matter of completing a fairly significant house extension.

She decided to enter the London Marathon as it has been an aspiration for a number of years

which started when she lived and worked in London.

She ran for Asthma UK having suffered from the disease since the age of 7, with husband Ian also suffering from asthma for the past six years.

Vikki raised the money through donations and running several charity events, including a cake sale at work, charity fair at Lymm Village Hall and a charity curry night at The Cardamon in Stockton Heath.

Donations can still be made online here <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=vikkiwatt>



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What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



June 13
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 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

4LYMM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION

Meet every 2nd Monday at 7.30pm in the
Bridgewater Club, Whitbarrow Road.
All welcome. Tel 01925 756378 for details.

LYMM AND DISTRICT MIXED VOICE CHOIR

Every Wednesday 7.30 Lymm Methodist
Church. Contact 01925 601664.
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**LYMM
PARISH
COUNCIL**

Next meeting June 13
Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

Lymm RFC Sportman's Evening set to be biggest ever

Lymm Rugby Club is set for exciting times as it develops the Beechwood site, building new housing and a state-of-the art clubhouse.

Many fundraising initiatives are underway including a host of summer events in the summer marquee.

Lymm RFC's popular annual Sportsman's Evening will take place on Thursday June 15 in the summer marquee and tables of ten are available and it is set to be bigger than ever.

The black tie evening, including a three course dinner and late bar, will feature speaker David Flatman, the former Bath and England Prop and current TV pundit. He will be accompanied by Yorkshire's finest comedian, back by popular demand, Mike Farrell.

Tables of ten can be booked, or individual tickets, and are available at £55 each from Malcolm Pritchard on 07855 322248 or by emailing malcolm@hammondtaggett.co.uk



David Flatman, Former Bath and England rugby international and TV pundit.

Excitement grows for Vaudeville Show

The Lymm Panto troupes are heavily into rehearsals for the Vaudeville Show in Lymm Rugby Club's summer marquee on Friday June 16.

Producer and MC Simon Plumb said: "It is great fun putting all the songs and sketches together for this exciting summer show. We enjoy it so much that really it's a labour of love. The audience can look forward to a superb night of laughter and entertainment. If you enjoy a live variety show this is not to be missed!"

Tickets, at £20, are available from Fiona Osbourne on 01925 755590, fiona@spa-group.co.uk, the Terrace Restaurant in Lymm, or from behind the bar at Lymm Rugby Club.

All proceeds go towards the Lymm Grass Roots Clubhouse Appeal, for which full planning approval has been awarded.



Left to right: Vaudeville Show stars Sara Worton, Simon Plumb and Sophie Worton.

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Emily flying the flag for Cheshire at Power Pageant

FORMER Lymm high School pupil Emily Hannon, has won a place in the prestigious UK Power Pageant Grand Final!

The current Miss Cheshire international is representing her county in the Power Pageant Grand Final.

"I am so excited to have made it to the final, it is a great achievement and I cannot wait to meet all of the other girls!" said 18-year-old Emily.

The grand final will be held on June 11 at the Park Hall Hotel, Chorley. Young women from across the country will fight it out for the title!

In total, there will be seven winners crowned at the event: Miss International UK, Miss Intercontinental England, Scotland and Wales and Miss Grand England, Scotland and Wales. The winners will go on to represent their countries in the international finals, where they will meet women from all over the world and have an experience of a life-time!

Emily is currently Volunteering with the John Holt cancer charity, helped out at the recent Lymm Duck Race, the Salvation Army and also donated Easter eggs to Warrington hospital and food to the Warrington

Food Bank.

She also will be appearing at Pretty Muddy for cancer research, visiting an adolescent mental health unit and helped to support Warrington's City of Culture bid by attending the public opening of the Paint it Black exhibition and film showing at Warrington Library on May 4.



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Isabella's "big swim" raises £1,350 for starving people

AN eight-year-old girl from Lymm has raised more than £1,350 to help people on the brink of starvation in East Africa – by swimming her heart out.

Isabella Burton took the plunge at Lymm Leisure Centre and swam 46 lengths in an hour – cheered on by friends and family.

She originally hoped to raise £750, but has almost doubled that – with the amount still rising.

Proud Mum Melissa said: "Isabella came up with the idea herself after seeing Matt Baker on television appealing on behalf of the Disasters Emergency Committee's East Africa Crisis Appeal.

"She said she wanted to do something and thought of a sponsored swim. We set up a Just Giving page called Isabella's Big Swim at www.justgiving.com/Isabella-Burton which is where most people donated.

"Anyone who wants to help can still donate there."

Isabella, a pupil at Bowdon Prep School, attends swimming lessons at Lymm Leisure Centre and has just received her Stage 5 ASA award.

She also attends the Enid Wrigley School of Dance at Oughtrington where she does ballet and tap and is currently preparing for a show at the Brindley Theatre in Runcorn. She is also a Brownie at Maple

Lodge, Lymm.

Her Mum added: "Isabella has been incredibly motivated to spread the word. She gets excited every time another donation comes in. For every £5 she says: 'That will help a malnourished child for a week'.

"She is hoping her effort will encourage others to do something similar."

Isabella is the 4th highest

individual who has fundraised for the Disasters Emergency Committee through Just Giving.

"It has made her realise the difference one person can make with the support of friends, family and the public.

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A big thank you to the Co-op

IT would be hard to find a better example of community involvement by business than the Co-op who recently handed over a cheque for £2,142 to the new Lymm Heritage Centre.

They had similar cheques for the Community Centre and Lymm Festival. It was all part of a nationwide scheme that has involved the Co-op giving around four million pounds to local charities all over the country. The money came from contributions by the Co-op based on every Co-op member's purchases of own-brand goods.

"We were delighted with this gesture by our local Co-op" said Heritage centre trustee Su Williams. "It will make a real difference to our ability to deliver a first rate resource for the community."

The heritage group, who also

received funding of over £88K from the Heritage Lottery Fund recently are working toward an opening date of June 22 in time for Lymm Festival and Lymm Historic Transport Day.

The opening exhibition – to tie in with Transport Day – will be a fascinating social history of cycling and in particular how the craze for cycling at the turn of the twentieth century had a major impact on the village that is now largely forgotten.

You can find out more about this exciting new venture including how to donate or become a volunteer, at www.lymmhic.co.uk and facebook.com/lymmheritage



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Sam and Dave O'Riordan

Dedicated wedding co-ordinator Liam Marshall has been a part of The Park Royal team since 2015. He said: "I began my journey as part of the reception team. Welcoming guests and meeting

brides and grooms in the lead up to their wedding was always something I enjoyed. When the opportunity to become wedding co-ordinator presented itself, I jumped at the chance. The build up to a wedding is an exciting time and something I love being a part of. Each wedding is a completely individual experience and I cherish the privilege of going on that journey with each couple. We don't mind how big or small your ideas are - we understand no two weddings are the same and we'll work with you to create a day that is completely unique and memorable."

With wedding packages starting from just £3000 The Park Royal caters for everyone. To make your enquiry today call the hotel on 01925 730706 or email parkroyalweddings@qhôtels.co.uk to arrange your appointment with Liam.

Is back pain hurting your working life?

Back pain. It's no respecter of age, status or occupation. Musculoskeletal pain, whether in the back, neck or elsewhere can affect anyone in any job, resulting in a dramatic effect on productivity and absence. Last year, according to the HSE, 8.8 million working days were lost due to work related musculoskeletal disorders.

However, what do you do if you suffer pain, but feel you can't take time off work to rest?

The NHS website advocates painkillers and manual therapies such as osteopathy or physiotherapy, along with exercise. But painkillers don't always alleviate pain whilst NHS referral can take weeks.

This is where specialists like osteopaths, regulated primary care practitioners, come in. Osteopathy is accepted treatment for musculoskeletal conditions by the Department of Health and NICE. You can see an osteopath quickly, without a GP and they will always try to work to your timeframe.

Osteopaths use techniques such as physical manipulation, stretching and massage which helps the body's own healing mechanisms

and results in relief of pain and increased physical mobility and function. Advice on posture and exercise helps prevent symptoms recurring.

A first appointment lasts about 45 to 60 minutes, because an osteopath will take time to listen and ask questions about your problem, general health and medical history. Typically many conditions can be relieved in three or four sessions, with patients being able to work again, play sport and lead a normal life.

If it sounds like osteopathy could benefit you, and your working life, you can talk to someone at Lymm Osteopathic Practice, take a look at the website at www.lymmosteopathicpractice.co.uk, or make an appointment by calling 01925 752264. The osteopaths, Suzette Pulman and Darren Hayward are always happy to help. Both have completed a high standard of professional training and are appropriately registered with the General Osteopathic Council. They are always happy to help find the health solution that's perfect for you.



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Stage all set for Lymm Festival

THE stage is set for this year's Lymm Festival with some great acts focussing on the spoken word - comedy, drama, poetry and author events for all ages - booked for this summer's event.

Headlining the Festival is Gyles Brandreth, broadcaster, author, entertainer and former MP, who will be presenting "Word Play" at Statham Lodge Hotel on Monday, June 26 and this is bound to be a popular event. The show is based on his latest book, full of puns, anagrams and other contortions of the English language to make you laugh and even cry!

Local favourite Terry Waite returns to Lymm Festival at Lymm Hotel on Wednesday, June 28 to talk about his new book "Out of the Silence", a collection of poems linked together by an autobiographical narrative. Terry will take a Q&A session as well as signing copies of his books, available on the night. Other author events include Tara Guha discussing

her debut novel "Untouchable Things" at The Church Green on Saturday, June 24; Matt Goodfellow, a poet and primary teacher from Manchester with a high energy and exciting performance that will entrance children of 6+ at Lymm Baptist Church also on Saturday, June 24; and then there's Philip Caveney, author of the Sebastian Darke adventures and the Alec Devlin mysteries for children 8-12 - he will be at the Baptist Church on Saturday, July 1.

Fancy yourself as Poirot or Miss Marple? Then you can't miss "Murder on the Terrace", an open-air whodunit at Lymm Oughtrington Park Cricket Club on Friday June 23. This interactive murder-mystery play with references to Downton and Agatha Christie is part romp, part farce and a whole lot of fun!

For poetry lovers, there is the Festival regular "Our Favourite Poems" at Lymm Methodist Church on Friday, June 23. Why not submit your request or simply enjoy an evening of varied poems all read by the regular team from the village.

All of this and lots of art, music, foodie and outdoor events are there to enjoy at Lymm Festival Summer 2017. Details of all events can be found on the website www.lymmfestival.org.uk, along with details of tickets, which go on sale on May 25. Make a date in your diary and be sure to book early.



Walking with Lymm's Dinosaur Competition

JUST English Tuition has teamed up with Lymm's Transport Day for a very special creative writing competition.

Anyone, under the age of 16 years, can send in their dinosaur themed story for a chance to win: free family admission to Transport Day on June 25, a walk with a dinosaur and cash prize money.

Need some inspiration to start your story? Take yourself to Lymm's Lower Dam to see the giant fossil foot print of the Chirotherium (or hand beast). Can you imagine Lymm 250 million years ago? Or perhaps your dinosaur story is set in modern times.

"Don't be held back thinking 'my spelling isn't good enough.' We're after fantastic stories that's all!" said Wendy from Just English.

Email your story, of no more than 500 words, to Wendy at wendy@justenglishlymm.co.uk together with your name and age. Closing date for the competition is June 15. Competition rules and further information can be found at www.justenglishlymm.com and lymmtransport.org.uk. Good luck!

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Pick up an Event Guide (from mid-May) at Lymm Library and various shops and bars in the village
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Lymm May Queen and Rose queen elected

FOLLOWING a tradition which can be traced back to 1889 – the incoming Lymm May Queen and Rose Queens were drawn by lot at the Lymm Methodist Church.

The delighted winners of this year's positions are Lauren Cooke aged 12, from Lymm High School who is this year's May Queen and six-year-old Aimee Pickles who is a pupil at Statham primary school and is the new Rose Queen. They will take over from last year's outgoing queens Eva Cope and Eleanor Lawton.

Lauren Cooke has taken part many times as a maid of honour. She is excited and overwhelmed to have been selected as this year's May

Queen elect.

This year's Rose Queen elect, Aimee Pickles, has taken part before as a flower girl. Her uncle Ray Broadsmith MBE is a long-standing May Queen committee member.

This year's event takes place on June 10 at 1pm where there will be a procession followed by stalls, a fair, entertainment and food and refreshments on the May Queen Field.

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Lymm Duck Race raises £6.5k for charity

LYMM and District Round Table's popular Duck Race was once again 'top of the bill' this Easter.

The family event raised over £6,500 for charity, largely thanks to main sponsor Co-operative Food, local businesses, the general public and Lymm Ladies Circle's Easter Food Fest.

"Thankfully the rain held off and everyone seemed to have a good day out," said Adam Devaney,

organiser and Round Table member. "We're extremely grateful to the Co-op, our super duck and corporate duck sponsors and the great British public who bought a duck to enter the race. Our next job is to decide who to donate all the money to!"

The winning ducks were numbers 188 (first), 161 (second) and 85

(third). The super duck winner, Evolution Recruitment Solutions, chose to donate their £1000 to St Rocco's Hospice and corporate duck winner South Cheshire Roofing are donating their £250 to

Macmillan Cancer Support.

Lymm and District Round Table are seeking charities and community groups to donate to – please email charity@lymmroundtable.co.uk with your nominations.



Twin towns celebrate Golden anniversary

THE Twin Towns of Lymm and Meung-sur-Loire in France celebrated 50 years of friendship with a special golden anniversary which will be marked with "home and away legs".

Seventy French visitors arrived in Lymm to mark the first contacts between the two towns, in 1967, when Lymm francophile and French-speaker Peter Dixon happened to meet a French air-force officer on secondment to U.S.A.F. Burtonwood, in the Spread Eagle pub.

After a few pints and lengthy conversation they decided to approach their respective Councils with a view to creating a formal link. The next year, 1968, the Lymm Urban District Council and Meung's Conseil Municipal signed an official Twinning Charter, which will be marked by Lymm's visit to the Loire Valley next May.

The French visitors stayed with host families in and around Lymm, many of whom have been good friends over the entire fifty years.

There will be a "Welcome Apéritif" at Lymm Hall and a Golden Anniversary Dinner on the last evening at the Statham Lodge Hotel, attended by over 120 adults and some 20 children. During the rest of their stay in Lymm the French visitors enjoyed hospitality and a variety of outings with their English hosts, doing their best to communicate in each other's language and to avoid mentioning Brexit or the French Presidential Elections!

Twin Town Society Chairman Peter Birchall, then Head of Modern Languages at Lymm Grammar School, took the first group of students to Meung-sur-Loire in 1969, after which the school ran annual exchange visits with the College in Meung for some 25 years, until Lymm's 11-18 High School outgrew the much smaller 11-16 French school. Many of the contacts forged through the schools' exchanges are still going strong, and there was even one notable marriage between the daughter of the then Rector of St.Mary's, Lymm, Rev. Birch, and the son of the Meung pharmacist and County Councillor, Monsieur Destouches.

Many of the original members of the Twin Town Society are now in their eighties!

To mark the special anniversary John Bamforth, the Vice Chairman of Lymm Parish Council presented to the Deputy Mayor of Meung a decorative glasswork prepared by Helen Davies, the granddaughter of Sir Oswald Davies. Sir Oswald Davies was a member of Lymm Urban District Council at the time of formation of the Twinning. The present represented three generations of life in Lymm.

In return, Meung presented to Lymm a beautiful watercolour by a local artist. Gifts were also exchanged between Peter Birchall the Chairman of Lymm Twin Towns and his opposite number from Meung. Each family also received a 50th anniversary present.



Pictured from left to right, Peter Birchall (Chairman Twin Towns), John Bamforth (Vice Chairman Parish Council), Jean-Claude Vivet (Adjoint du Maire) and Michel Bret (President du Jumelage).



Garden to open for charity

A LYMM garden is to open to the public as part of the National Garden Scheme - which supports a number of charities.

Mike and Gail Porter have been opening their garden at 10 Statham Avenue, Lymm for a number of years.

A beautifully structured, south facing quarter acre plot, it is described as peaceful, with pastel shades in early summer. It is carefully terraced and planted as it rises to the Bridgewater Canal towpath.

There is a formal clay paved courtyard with cordoned peach trees and a working greenhouse.

Rose pillars lead to established herbaceous beds and quiet shaded areas, bordered by azaleas and rhododendrons.

There will be a special opening evening on Friday, May 19, from 6pm to 9pm when the £7 admission charge will include a glass of wine and a light bite. Children will be admitted free and there will be a garden quiz.

The garden will also be open on Saturday and Sunday, July 1-2 from 11am to 5pm, when the admission charge will be £4, children free.

Teas will be served with homemade cakes and meringues with fresh fruit.



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'Good Eggs' raised £800 for pre-school

A "Good Eggs of Lymm" competition raised £800 for the organisers - Lymm Village Pre-school.

The winners were announced at the Lymm Duck Race, with Suzanne Hallam, of Hallam Podiatry, picking up the top prize for a wonderful, bunny-inspired creation.

Second came Ridgeway Residential and third were Red.

The pre-school launched the competition several years ago in the hope that it would become another of Lymm's annual traditions, bringing the whole community together.

The idea is that local traders, businesses, clubs, schools and individuals buy an egg from the pre-school and decorate it in their own colours.

Schools, pre-schools and churches are given free eggs to

ensure the event brings the whole community together.

In the period up to Easter, they are encouraged to display them in their windows.

A trophy is awarded annually for the egg which wins the most votes.

Ruth Harris, fundraiser for the event, said: "We really hope that this will prove to be a great fun event for everyone and will promote all the community spirited 'Good Eggs' of Lymm as well as raise some money for the pre-school.

"We are so grateful for the support that the people of Lymm give us and really hope that this will provide everyone with some fun."



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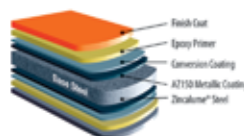
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Warrington 2021 City of Culture



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Warrington has thrown its hat into the ring to become the UK's City of Culture 2021 – and needs your help to win!

The town is one of eleven areas bidding for the title and already hundreds of people have signed up to show their support on Facebook and Twitter.

New
heritage hub
planned

The competition, which happens every four years, was started after Liverpool's successful European Capital of Culture and is designed to build on the successful regeneration that

Liverpool achieved. Despite the title, you don't have to be a city to enter.

Warrington-based, award-winning TV Producer, Ken Horn said: "Whatever you think of culture in Warrington right now, this is a great opportunity to accelerate existing cultural plans and to put Warrington on the map for the right reasons."

Win or lose, there will be a benefit to Warrington by just being part of the process. I'm proud to be backing the bid and the support so far has been brilliant."

Hull is the UK City of Culture for 2017 and has already brought in more than £32m of additional investment as a result, with an overall economic impact of more than £60m being projected by the end of the year. If Warrington was to be successful it could expect to see similar benefits.

Town centre
investment
of more than
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Back the bid!



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Everyone has a story - Let Mother Mountain capture yours



AFTER many years of producing films for the BBC and working with older people, Lymm based Jude Limb has combined her skills to launch a new business helping people capture memories.

Jude, founder of Mother Mountain Ltd, believes passionately that everyone has a story, that story is worth telling and that it needs telling before these precious memories fade as people begin to enter retirement, supported living, nursing or hospice care.

Many of her clients say that they regret not capturing and celebrating the lives of their loved ones when they were still around.

"I learnt a great deal of wisdom sitting at the feet of older relatives, even now I am fascinated by the stories my own father tells of WW2 and this was partly the spur for setting up the company" said Jude.

"His memory for the things of his childhood is still sharp but he struggles with such ill health that I spent time recording some of his most precious memories while he is still able to tell them."

Unlike paper biographies, a video profile allows you to record the real essence of a person, through their words, voice, gestures, expressions, spirit and personality and therefore they are much more poignant.

"The benefits of capturing your family history are immense added Jude. "I want my own grandchildren

and great grandchildren (yet unborn) to know what a wonderful and inspirational man my own father was and now I have that 'memory capture' record of him, I can show them the legacy of what sort of person he was and how he influenced my life."

Jude has a history of film making and also working with older people. She worked for the BBC for many years as a director and producer and then joined the voluntary sector to work as an advocate for disadvantaged people, eventually becoming chief executive of a local Age Concern.

"I wanted to bring those two skill sets together to make sure that everyone's story has a chance of being told. I know through my work with Age Concern that storytelling has an enormously therapeutic effect on people, it helps stimulate their minds and gives them a sense of 'reconnection' to the world, it also gives them a chance to reflect on their own contribution to society whether that be as a brain surgeon or a fantastic mother who raised children she is proud of. No matter what your life circumstances are, you matter and your impact on the world matters- we are here to celebrate that!"

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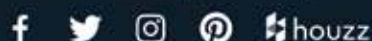
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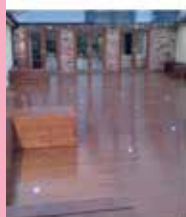
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Fire damaged Bears Paw to re-open soon

WORK has started on the restoration of the historic Bears Paw country inn and restaurant at High Legh following a devastating fire which caused extensive damage to the interior of the building.

Builders will be moving in soon following a complete survey of the building.

Popular hosts Jason and Melanie Craig are hoping they will be able to re-open around mid-June although it is not yet possible to give a precise date.

Traumatic

Jason said: "We would like to thank all our friends and customers for their good wishes. We will be back as soon as possible. It has been a traumatic time for us, but it could have been a lot worse. No-one was in the building when the fire broke out so no-one was hurt."

A fault on a fluorescent lighting tube is believed to have started the fire in the cellar ceiling below the main restaurant.

The fire was spotted by a butcher who called to make a delivery at around 10.15am. He saw smoke coming from the chimney and on closer examination realised the interior of the building was on fire. He raised the alarm and firefighters were on the scene within 10 minutes.

They used two hose reel jets to extinguish the blaze and a ventilation unit to remove smoke from the building.

Since then, the building – originally a 17th century farmhouse – has undergone complete insurance and structural surveys and a salvage company has removed the fire damaged interior fittings, etc., prior to building work commencing.



Obituary

Nell Evans

THE funeral has taken place at St Peter's Church, Oughtlington, of Nell Evans, nee Hind, of Cheshire Grange Nursing Home, Lymm, who died at the home on January 22, aged 89.

Born in Liverpool, Nell initially worked as a fashion buyer and was a Guide captain in her spare time. In the Sixties she moved to the Wirral with her late husband, Tom, where she brought up her family.

She worked for many years at Heswall Children's Hospital until its closure and then became a care assistant at Heswall Nursing Home, working into her Seventies.

Nell moved to Cheshire Grange permanently in 2013 but continued to enjoy trips to High Legh Garden Centre, Dunham Massey and Grundy Park, where she loved to watch children playing. She was well known in Lymm village for her cheerful smile.

She is survived by her daughters, Jeanette, Vivien and Wendy, nine grand children and five great grand children.

Funeral arrangements were by JC Clarke and Son of Helsby

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