

Lymm

Life

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August 2017

Issue: 221



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Dinosaurs turnout for Transport Day!

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Picture: Alan Taylor



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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

Editor's Comment



FREE one hour parking is back on the village car parks!

Congratulations in particular to local councillor Anna Fradgley who campaigned tirelessly, supported by other members of Lymm Parish council and local traders for the free car parking to be re-introduced.

Having worked alongside Anna at the start of the campaign, when we both nearly got knocked down taking pictures of the double parking issues in the village, I know first hand how much work went into this - and most importantly it shows that being vocal on local issues, can make a difference with the powers that be.

It became clear that many people boycotted the village car parks on a point of principle and I know some traders suffered a dramatic down turn in business.

Sexton's Village Bakery turned to Sunday opening to boost trade - which has been a great success and has created an added attraction in the village centre at weekends.

Now I would urge everyone to get down into the village and support our local businesses.

Some say they have never known the village so quiet. It is vital we support the local economy as much as we can - as money spent in the village is often re-invested back into the village.

But as one battle has been won we now face another - the threat of 500 new homes being built on green belt land in the village as part of the Warrington Borough Council Local plan.

We have already lost lots of

green spaces in recent years and I am far from convinced that there is a need to build on even more green open spaces and indeed if the local infrastructure can cope with many more new homes.

I know local councillors will be campaigning against this - watch this space!

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September issue
of Lymm Life is
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Lymm loses last bank as Lloyd's close doors for last time

LYMM'S last remaining bank has closed its doors despite a successful campaign to have it listed as an Asset of Community Value.

Representatives from Lymm Parish Council, who have been campaigning to keep the bank open, met with representatives from Lloyd's Bank but failed to persuade them to keep it open.

The bank has now officially closed for business leaving an uncertain future for the building, which will now require planning permission before any changes can be implemented.

It also means the owners have to give six months notice before they can sell it.

The Parish council are still hopeful that the cash machine will be retained along with a deposit facility and possibly a mobile bank of some kind moving forward.

Local councillor Graham Gowland, who has been helping lead the campaign to keep the bank open said: "We met representatives from the bank following some last

minute engagement they offered.

"But it was clear it was just a PR exercise from Lloyd's and they had no intention to listen to any community aspects, although they have agreed to go away and look at our requests to keep the branch open, or to provide an ATM with cash banking facility, maybe supported by a mobile bank and we await the outcome with bated breath.

"It's not a surprising result, but it is disappointing. Lloyd's commented that with 200 branch closures, there has been no occasion where community engagement has influenced their decision to close a single branch.

"Banking practices have changed and they have gone through one of the biggest closure programmes of branches and Lymm will suffer from this commercial decision.

"Assessing the profitability of a single branch is difficult, but in a 'honeypot' village like Lymm – a village with close to 13,000 residents – it must have a level of viability not seen elsewhere. We will wait for their reply, but are also working with other banks to try and ensure the community retains a vital service."

Cllr Gowland said there had been a case of the Nationwide already taking over a former Lloyd's Bank elsewhere in the country. He added that fellow local councillor Ed Gough had worked for Barclays Bank and was exploring the feasibility of some kind of community bank.

If Lloyd's decided to close their cash machine the parish council would look at the feasibility of

having one placed in the village.

"The campaign is not yet entirely dead in the water but it has not exactly been a victory either," added Cllr. Gowland.

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Art bridges the generation gap

RESIDENTS of three Lymm care homes have had their artwork on display in Lymm Youth and Community Centre.

Brookfield House, Cheshire Grange and Keate House residents got together to create the community artwork.

A collage, measuring eight feet square, showed a tree designed by Helena Edwards, with leaves made up of local children's handprints.

Much of the work was created in workshops, with children from Kids Planet and Holly Grange working alongside care home residents.

The youngest artist was under two and the oldest more than 90!

Comments from visitors included: "Lovely colours. I love the mix of different textiles and different styles."

"You can really tell that it's a joint effort and that everyone had lots of fun doing it."



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What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



No meeting in August
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

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LYMM WI

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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

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Spread Eagle. 07786 074741 all welcome

4LYMM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION

Meet every 2nd Monday at 7.30pm in the
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**LYMM
PARISH
COUNCIL**

No meeting in August
Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

A feast of fun kicks off Lymm Festival

by Paul Jackson

A FEAST of fun ensured a delicious start to the annual Lymm Festival.

A lovely, warm summer evening heralded the traditional opening event of the annual Lymm Festival, which saw the main street of Lymm closed to traffic and hundreds of people from the local community coming together to have fun, watch the entertainment, listen to the music and sample the delights of all that was on offer – and what an offering there was.

There was a vast and multicultural selection of culinary experiences from the 'street café' style stalls lining the roads, supplied by the local restaurants and bars, bakery and food outlets, an amazingly wide selection including Turkish, Mediterranean, Italian, Indian, Chinese, Burgers, wild

game, Sausages, Pizza, ice creams and more. There was something for everyone children, teenagers and adults.

Entertaining the crowds were Mr Dinosaur/Wonderslide World, The Adivas Dancers, Accordion Spice, a group of four local ladies who got together to form a quartet of accordions and the local pubs and bars laid on musical entertainments too.

On hand to make sure everything ran smoothly were members of the Lymm Festival committee, the local Police, St. Johns ambulance service and the Lymm Air Cadets did an amazing job of collecting litter and keeping the village beautiful.



**More pictures and video online
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Harry Lipson
Partner Solicitor

Harry joined BPS in 1973 and became a partner three years later and Senior Partner in 2001.

Harry practises in Matrimonial Finance and has detailed knowledge of complex and high net financial settlements, including matters relating to businesses, pensions, trusts, the hiding and disposition of assets and money held overseas. Harry has represented many high profile clients and brings a commercial approach to achieving settlements.

Harry's experience of the law and practical knowledge of business and finance allows him to provide clear and concise advice and develop successful solutions for cases other lawyers would shy away from.

harry.lipson@bpsfamilylaw.co.uk



Caroline Swain
Partner Solicitor

Caroline is widely renowned as one of the most sought after divorce and matrimonial finance lawyers in the UK and has become the 'solicitor of choice' for representing ultra-high net worth and complex disputes both in the North and South of the country.

Caroline's experience in highly complex cases means she has become the 'go to' Solicitor for clients seeking a robust and knowledgeable divorce lawyer. She has in depth knowledge of dealing with multi-national companies, Trusts, inheritance disputes, overseas properties and inter-family financial structures within a separation.

Clients are very quickly reassured on meeting Caroline that they are in the best possible hands.

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Caroline is an exceptional individual with an excellent grasp of her subject but not afraid to ask for technical help from other professionals if something is outside of her field. That said, it would need to be non-legal!

She is an assiduous player and clearly experienced and confident in the advice she gives and the explanations she provides. Her technical knowledge and execution are inspiring, reassuring and exemplary.

Her commercial awareness reflects her years of experience."

St. Rocco's 2017 COLOUR RUN



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New look, new location for St Rocco's in Lymm

EVEN though the rain returned after all the hot sunny weather there was no dampening the spirits of St. Rocco's volunteers as the charity's new Lymm shop opened.

Chairman of the board of trustees at St. Rocco's and Lymm resident Norman Banner was on hand to cut the ribbon and declare the shop open officially and raise a toast to its success with volunteers.

St. Rocco's had a presence in the village before the first hospice was even open, with volunteers doing everything they could to fundraise so that hospice care would be available to the people of Warrington. They are delighted to be moving into the new premises which are bigger, brighter and far

more welcoming for customers.

"We're really thrilled," said volunteer link manager Betty Hughes, "We have been waiting for this for a long time. In the other shop there were steep stairs both at the entrance and inside. This shop is lovely and much more accessible for everyone. There are even a couple of parking spaces outside so it should be much easier for all our supporters to drop off items for us to sell."

The new stock reflects the upmarket layout of the shop, with

designer clothing and high end items on display.

"Staff and volunteers have worked really hard to get the shop ready in quite a short space of time. We've tried to ensure that everything is displayed well and we're sure that customers will have a much better shopping experience in our new shop," explained Helen Murray, retail operations manager who has overseen the project.

"We'd like to say a really big thank you to all the volunteers and

all the members of staff who have pulled out all the stops to get the shop ready for opening in time for the Lymm Festival. Our shops make a significant contribution to supporting patient care at St. Rocco's and we hope that our Lymm shop, a well-established retail fixture in the village, will go from strength to strength in its new location," said Eric Russell, St. Rocco's retail manager.

The shop's opening hours are 10am-4pm, Monday to Saturday.



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Lymm May Queen has her crowning glory thanks to Lymm Festival

LYMM'S May Queen and Rose Bud eventually had their crowning glory thanks to Lymm Festival.

May Queen Lauren Cooke aged 12, from Lymm High School and Rose Bud, six-year-old Aimee Pickles who is a pupil at Statham primary school, were both crowned in glorious sunshine at Lymm Festival's garden party at Lymm Hall.

It helped make up for the disappointment after the May Queen parade had to be cancelled due to bad weather.

Meanwhile the Festival was once again a fantastic success which brought fun and entertainment to thousands of people and has drawn

to a close far too quickly.

Packed with music, comedy, art, children's and outdoor events, there really was something for everyone in this year's eleven-day Festival – and the weather was kind in all the right places, too.

Lymm Festival Chairman, Ian Marks, said, "We are very pleased with the way this year's Festival has gone and delighted with the feedback we have received from people. We have tried to put on a varied programme with something that appeals to everyone.

"Next year is the 20th Lymm Festival and we would love to hear from anyone with suggestions about something special we could put on to mark the occasion. Please contact me on chair@lymmfestival.org.uk with your ideas.

"We would also like to hear from anyone who enjoyed this year and is interested in joining the team and becoming more involved with the running of next year's Festival. We are especially keen to hear from people with marketing skills."

Keep an eye on the Festival website at www.lymmfestival.org.uk for news of the Winter Warmers programme in the coming months.



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"Having moved away for university, I always felt a natural desire to return to the area where I grew up. With its variety of local restaurants, shops and events, Lymm has a vibrant and strong community atmosphere which gives me everything I need on my doorstep."

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Record turnout of Transport

by Paul Jackson

A record number of attractions were on show for the annual Lymm Historic Transport Day which included a flyover by a WWII Spitfire.

The usually quiet and peaceful village streets of Lymm were throbbing with the noise and splendour of a huge array of historic cars, bicycles, motorbikes, scooters and steam traction engines making their way to the May Queen field to mark the opening of this year's annual vintage transport extravaganza.

Despite early rain, spirits were not dampened and large crowds turned out to welcome the wheeled visitors. Over 400 classic cars and bikes were also on display.

Now in its 5th year the show boasted its biggest ever range of attractions which included not one but two iconic Spitfire aircraft. Due to the weather the much anticipated flyover was slightly delayed but was more than worth the wait as the World War 2 fighter made several passes over the field before tipping its wings and zooming off into the grey sky.

As well as the hundreds of fabulous vehicles there were many other attractions to keep the many

hundreds of visitors entertained with a narrow gauge steam train ride proving very popular with both children and grown ups alike.

Many exhibitors were wearing period costume including military personnel and nurses. Alongside a beautiful Spitfire was an extremely popular aircraft cockpit at the Air Training Corps stand.

Children of all ages loved taking the controls of actual diggers and the Batmobile proved to be a big hit whilst raising money and awareness for the "Prevent Breast Cancer" charity.

Live music from several 40's and 50's style bands and singers entertained folk whilst a vast choice of foods and drinks ensured that the locals had plenty to choose from.

The Lymm weekend is also now recognised as one of the most popular events in the calendar for historic working boats which made a very colourful and interesting spectacle as they crammed the canal in the village centre.



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at Lymm Historic Port Day



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Students perform at the National Theatre

LYMM High School has performed at the National Theatre, in London, for the first time in its history.

Their production of *The Snow Dragons*, by Lizzie Nunnery, was part of the National Theatre Connections festival and was performed at the National Theatre's Dorfman Theatre.

An all-student cast performed the play which was directed by James Allen, a student who left Lymm High last year to do a gap year before taking a place at the renowned Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

During his gap year, James took on the task of casting, directing and producing the play, as well as composing and writing the musical score.

The play tells the story of Raggi and her friends who spend their free

time in the woods and mountains around their sleepy fjord town, playing games of Vikings, dragons and war.

When soldiers occupy the town, they watch from their hut in the mountains as their friends and families are beaten, silenced and



abducted.

Let down by the adult world they form *The Snow Dragons*, "the last line of resistance" carrying out sabotage missions.

But it is no game - and true courage requires great sacrifice.

Lymm High was selected from 500 companies to take part in the festival and the performance has won widespread praise.

500 new homes could be built at Lymm

ABOUT 500 new homes could be built on Green Belt land at Lymm, the borough council's Local Plan Preferred Development option suggests.

The plan - a blueprint for the development of the borough over the next 20 years - indicates that altogether, Warrington will need to provide land for about 24,000 new homes, 9,000 of which will have to be in the Green Belt.

Land will also be required to provide employment - and about

252 hectares of that will need to be in the Green Belt.

An open residents' meeting is to be held at Lymm Village Hall on Tuesday, August 22, as part of a consultation exercise on the proposals. It will be open for residents to drop in between 3pm and 8pm when there will be an opportunity to talk to planners.

Leader of the borough council Terry O'Neill says the proposals are the result of months of careful and considered planning, with a

focus on delivering a sustainable future for Warrington.

He says the vast majority of sites put forward by developers are in the Green Belt, but the council has worked hard to ensure most sites to be developed are in urban areas. The vast majority of the Green Belt will be saved and maintained for the next 30 years, he says.

Specific sites for the proposed homes will be identified as part of the next stage of the process.

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Lymm Heritage centre officially opened by Terry Waite CBE

FORMER Beirut hostage Terry Waite CBE, patron of Lymm's new Heritage Centre was the special guest at the official opening of the lottery funded project.

He was joined by the Mayor of Warrington, Cllr Les Morgan as well as heads of local schools, including Gwyn Williams Head of Lymm High School and many of the team who have brought this remarkable project to fruition.

For Terry, who was in the village as a guest speaker at the Lymm Festival, it was an opportunity to reminisce about his own time in Lymm, nearly sixty years ago when he worked alongside Alan Taylor, one of the Centre's team at Henry Millings the Grocer (now Rolando's).

He went on to talk about the vital role that a centre like Lymm's can play in strengthening a sense of community and how an awareness of the past enriches our understanding of the place where we live.

Alan Williams chair of the group spoke about the pride of the team who had turned an idea into a reality with the help of Heritage Lottery Fund and other local supporters. He went on to describe how the opening was an important milestone but that there is still a long and exciting journey ahead as the centre starts to develop learning resources for local schools, as well as creating a digital archive that

will preserve and share Lymm's Heritage for all to share and enjoy.

The Mayor congratulated the team on the local energy and commitment that had been channelled into creating a fantastic new resource for the whole community and visitors.

The centre had already got off to a roaring start with nearly 2,000 visitors since its actual opening which was timed to coincide with the start of Lymm Festival.

The opening exhibition "A Quiet Revolution" explores the local social history of the golden age of cycling at the start of the 20th century and beyond.

As well as a stunning collection of rare and historic bicycles, on loan from Walton Cycle Museum the exhibition uncovers many fascinating stories related specifically to Lymm.

This exhibition is planned to run until the end of September. In the meantime the team are starting to develop a broader exhibition that will tell Lymm's story through Trades, Transport and Traditions.

With other exhibitions planned as well as the learning and digitisation projects there are exciting times ahead and an opportunity for all to be involved in this Heritage Lottery

funded project.

If you would like to know more and maybe sign up for any one of a range of voluntary roles visit the website at www.lymmhic.co.uk or

come along and see for yourself from 1-5pm Thursday to Sunday at Legh Street, next to The Community Centre, just off Bridgewater St.



Wendy Platt, representing her husband Howard Platt, owner of the building whose commitment and generosity made the project possible, Alan Williams, Chair of the Heritage Centre Group, Cllr Les Morgan, Mayor of Warrington, Paul Adams, who provided almost all the bicycles for the centre's opening exhibition and Terry Waite CBE Patron of the Centre.

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Chair of Governors is a star!

RAVENBANK School was delighted to nominate Chair of Governors Anne Cleminson for a Star Award.

This is an annual event organised by Warrington BC and Warrington Voluntary Action Group.

Anne was nominated in the category of 'Inspirational Volunteers' - For volunteers that have inspired or motivated fellow volunteers, or who have acted as ambassadors for volunteering.

The nomination was in recognition of Anne's role as Chair of Governors and also her leadership of the school deep clean project.

Anne and Headteacher Mrs Sweeney attended the celebration event at Orford Jubilee Hub.

Over 100 volunteers were nominated across seven different categories and the school was delighted that Anne was the overall winner of her category and received a certificate and trophy from the Mayor Cllr Les Morgan.



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Finn's 107km cycle challenge

FINN Oakley, aged 12, a pupil at Lymm High School, completed the Hoy 100 cycle challenge with his father, Tim – and had the added thrill of meeting Olympic cycle legend Sir Chris Hoy on the day.

Finn was one of only a few children who took part in the event, among hundreds of adults.

He actually did 107 kilometres, starting at Arley Hall, and covering a wide area of Cheshire – and completing the ride with his Dad made it an emotional occasion for both of them.

Congratulating the youngster afterwards, Sir Chris said: "I could never have done such a distance at Finn's age."



Rick follows first lady as new President

THE new President of Lymm Rotary Club is Rick Condo, who took over the chain of office from retiring President, Sue Tupman, the club's first lady President in its 80-year history.

Rick was educated at Penn State University, Pennsylvania, a research-intensive university, and retired from a career in Oil and Pipeline and Nuclear industries in the USA and UK.

He has been a Lymm resident for over 40 years, during which time he attended the Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts and been involved with Lymm Youth Club and Lymm Rugby Club.

When advised by his Rotarian father that he should join a Rotary Club in England, Rick asked, "Why?" "Join and you will find out!" replied his father.

Rick believes that Rotary can make a difference by promoting

interaction with the local community groups and individuals in Lymm, the UK and the World by engaging in fund-raising activities for charitable objectives.

Meanwhile in her end-of-term speech, Sue Tupman thanked every member for the support she had received during her year, which she had enjoyed immensely.

"I had a momentous time", she said.



Obituary

Vincent Jones



VINCENT Jones, formerly of Heathlands Farm Warburton, passed away peacefully on Fathers' Day aged 76 years.

Vin was born in Rushgreen Rd, Lymm in 1940 and grew up at Orchard Avenue, Lymm. He farmed in Warburton for more than 60 years.

After retiring, Vin spent his time shooting, walking his gun dog and spending time with his family. He enjoyed all aspects of local agriculture.

He will be greatly missed by his 4 children Shirley, Mark, Stephen & Amanda, his stepdaughter, 10 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

The funeral took place at St Werburgh's Church, Warburton, followed by burial at St Werburgh's Old Church.

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