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# Life

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**February 2018**

**Issue: 227**



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**LYMM  
PARISH  
COUNCIL**

Approved by Lymm Parish  
Council as the official  
magazine for Lymm

**Heritage centre  
is a success**

**Page 3**

**Regular news updates at [www.lymmmlife.co.uk](http://www.lymmmlife.co.uk)**



# Editor's Comment



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## LYMM had the honour of having two local residents honoured in the New Year honours - local councillor Ian Marks and solicitor Norman Banner.

While Ian has been active in various capacities in the local community for nearly 40 years, Norman has often been an unsung hero in his various roles, most notably as Chairman at St Rocco's Hospice.

I can't say I am always a big fan of the honours system, especially involving politicians being honoured for doing their job but while Ian has been active as a councillor for many years, he certainly has done lots more for the community, above and beyond politics.

His endeavours with the Lymm Festival have helped create a community event which has gone from strength to strength and now

plays a key role in what helps make Lymm such a special place.

I have worked closely with both Ian and Norman over many years and would like to congratulate them both on their honours, which are well deserved.

Keep up the good work and be proud of what you have both achieved.

Meanwhile after the joy of attending the carol service on Lymm Cross on Christmas Eve it was very disappointing to have to report on the police placing a Dispersal Order in the village centre on New Year's Eve due to the behaviour of unruly youths.

Could I remind all parents to keep tabs on their youngsters when

they are out and about and ensure they are behaving themselves.

We seem to have an issue with some youngsters who believe they own the roads and footpaths at night on their bikes, riding around without lights and wearing dark clothing and doing wheelies.

It won't be long before we are reporting on a tragedy if this kind of behaviour continues.

**Deadline for the March issue of Lymm Life is January 30**

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# Heritage centre attracts 6,000 visitors in first six months

**LYMM Heritage centre is providing to be a huge success attracting over 6,000 visitors in the first six months.**

It proved to be a great attraction on Dickensian Day, providing a new venue this year helping to celebrate the history of the village.

The Heritage Centre opened its doors for the first time in June in time for the festival and by the end of Dickensian Day the visitor count since opening had nudged past the 6,000 mark.

At the end of the day there were many pages of positive comments in the visitors book including "Brilliant work you have done," "We'll be back", "wonderful exhibition" and "what a brilliant achievement, great place".

"This kind of feedback means such a lot to our volunteer team" explained Alan Taylor one of the volunteer team whose photographs feature prominently in the exhibition "and it is great to know the pictures that I took sixty years ago are valued today".

The group are now looking forward to transferring all these images and many more into the Lymm Digital Archive (already known affectionately as LyDiA) from where they will be accessible all around the world.

"The key word in everything we do is 'sharing'" said Glynis Allen, who is managing this part of the project.

"We have facebook followers in

over thirty countries round the world now, most of whom would never have the chance otherwise to enjoy these pictures. They send us more stories and pictures too".

Schools will be among the other major beneficiaries, with the archive offering "off the shelf" resources for local history studies. A group of fifteen local teachers visited recently to see what was on offer.

Statham teacher Jon Leatherbarrow commented: "This is a great resource on our doorstep. We look forward to taking full advantage of it."

Alan Williams, the group's chair summed it up adding: "After only six months we are beginning to wonder how we ever managed without a centre like this, demand and interest

has been so strong.

"It's good for business, a positive asset for visitors and great for community."

The group still need more financial support to help ensure a sustainable future. Just £1 a month is all it takes to become a friend of the centre [www.lymmhc.co.uk/donate](http://www.lymmhc.co.uk/donate).

[www.lymmhc.co.uk/donate](http://www.lymmhc.co.uk/donate).

Business sponsorship is very welcome too. There are also plenty of opportunities to learn new skills, top up your CV or simply make new friends and contacts by volunteering in a range of roles via [www.lymmhc.co.uk/theteam](http://www.lymmhc.co.uk/theteam)



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## What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



**February 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 LUNCHEAS

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.  
cath@stones.co.uk



**LYMM  
PARISH  
COUNCIL**

Next meeting February 13  
Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

# All set for Winter Warmers as new festival events announced

**NEW events have been announced for this year's Lymm Festival.**

But before then the Winter Warmers are looming as Festival favourite John Watterson (aka Fake Thackray) will be performing on Saturday, February 17, in The Spread Eagle Hotel.

"The Resurrection of Frederic Debreu" will be an entertaining evening of new songs in the style of Jake Thackray and Georges Brassens which will be taken from the back catalogue of the legendary (and entirely fictional) Frederic Debreu. Tickets are £10 and are available from [lymmfestival.org.uk](http://lymmfestival.org.uk)

In the meantime, an album of the songs has been produced by John Watterson and his friends Paul Thompson and Alex Marsh, recorded in the spare bedroom at Paul's home in Lymm. It can be obtained from [www.fakethackray.com](http://www.fakethackray.com) or Amazon.

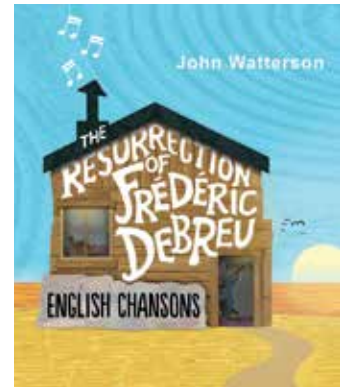
Before then, don't miss "I Remember Things: An Amazing Evening of Mystery and Magic" on Saturday, January 20 and "Merry Hell - Energised Folk-Rock for a Winter's Evening" on Friday, January 26 (both at Lymm Golf Club).

Tickets are available from [lymmfestival.org.uk](http://lymmfestival.org.uk)

Meanwhile the first acts for the 20th summer line-up have also just

been announced. Tim Brooke-Taylor, John Suchet, the Kyla Brox Band and Morgan and West (time travelling magicians) will join the Festival Bake-Off Birthday Party and David Walliams' play, The Midnight Gang. There will also be returning favourites in the Festival Comedy Club and the Scarecrow Trail.

For further details as they are released, join the festival newsletter at [lymmfestival.org.uk](http://lymmfestival.org.uk) and follow Lymm Festival on Facebook.



*The Resurrection of Frederic Debreu album cover.*

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# Former council leader and local solicitor receive New Year honours

**FORMER leader of Warrington Borough Council Ian Marks, who helped spearhead the popular Lymm Festival, and local solicitor Norman Banner both received New Year Honours.**

Ian, who has received an MBE, said: "I was completely taken back when the letter arrived from the Cabinet Office. It is a great honour to be recognised and not something I was expecting."

Ian moved to Lymm in 1971 with his wife Pam, soon after joining St Helens based glass manufacturer Pilkington as a graduate trainee. He soon became involved in the community by joining the local Round Table, founding a Community Action Group in Lymm and becoming Chairman of the Warrington Shelter Group.

In 1979 he was elected to Lymm Parish Council and has been a member ever since. In 1983 Ian was elected as one of Lymm's representatives on Warrington Borough Council. From 2006 to 2011 he was Leader of this Council.

During this period he became the first Chairman of the Cheshire and Warrington Leadership Board, formed as a result of local

government reorganisation in Cheshire following the winding up of the County Council. For a while he served on the Board of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership having been involved in its formation. Ian also served for a time as the Deputy Chairman of the North West Leaders' Board.

Twenty years ago he had the idea of starting up a community and arts festival in Lymm. This has gone from strength to strength and puts on around fifty events over an eleven-day period. For most of this time, Ian has chaired the Festival Committee.

For over thirty years he was a member of the Board of Warrington Housing Association. He is currently a Governor at a primary school in Lymm and a Trustee of Warrington Citizens Advice.

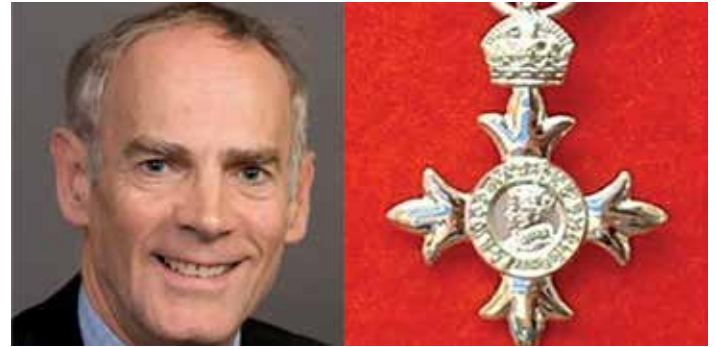
Also receiving an MBE for public

and charitable services is local solicitor Norman Banner, a former Chairman at Warrington Hospital, who retired as Chairman at St Rocco's Hospice after a 10 year stint earlier this year.

Norman, who is married with two sons and lives in Lymm, is also a Deputy Lord Lieutenant and continues to work as consultant at FDR Law where he had previously been a partner for many years.

Commenting on his honour Norman said: "I am delighted to receive this honour from Her Majesty and I am proud to join the others from St Rocco's Hospice who have been given awards in the past. It is not only in recognition of what I may have done but also of the strenuous efforts of all staff and trustees at St Rocco's."

"My sons are looking forward to a visiting the Palace already!"



Cllr Ian Marks.



Norman Banner at his St Rocco's retirement.

## MP slams government over "archaic" toll bridges

WARRINGTON North MP Helen Jones has slammed the government's response to questions about toll bridges as "totally inadequate."

The MP tabled a number of questions following complaints from constituents about congestion caused by the Warburton toll bridge near Lymm.

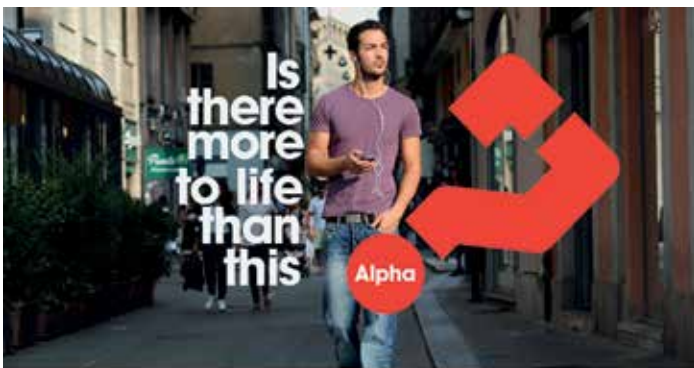
The toll was established by an Act of Parliament in 1863 which means that, although the law is archaic, it can only be repealed by a further Act of Parliament.

Warburton bridge is one of around seven bridges in the country covered by such an Act of Parliament.

Ms Jones said: "The answers from the minister responsible show that the government is totally unaware of these problems."

"They told me that there are no plans to carry out a further review into the bridges and the volume of traffic passing over them and, in a response to my request for what information they hold, have commented only on applications to vary tolls, which I didn't ask about."

"The Department of Transport needs to get a grip and carry out a proper review of the bridges operating under nineteenth century Acts of Parliament and the problems they cause."



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**20** YEARS | 21 JUNE - 01 JULY 2018  
**Lymm Festival**

Look who's coming to the Lymm Festival Summer 2018

**Tim Brooke-Taylor**

**John Suchet**

**Kyla Brox Band**

**Time Travelling Magicians**

**The Midnight Gang - David Walliams' play**

**Festival Bake-Off Birthday Party**

**Festival Comedy Club**

**Scarecrow Trail**

Plus lots more to be confirmed.  
 Follow us on Facebook or see our website  
 for details as they are announced.

lymmfestival.org.uk

**Will YOU be there?**

Connect with us on Facebook Search: **LymmFestival**



# High School sta performance of

**LYMM High school students enthralled the audience of parents, friends and teachers with a "Mesmerising and simply brilliant" performance of the Victor Hugo's epic Les Misérables.**

Many tried, and failed, to hold back tears as the curtain fell on the school edition of the hit musical. The final sold-out performance ended in a standing ovation for the impressive sixty-four strong cast of students aged twelve to eighteen.

Set in early 19th-century France, *Les Misérables* is the longest-running musical in the West End. Along with the twists and turns of the French revolution it tells a gripping story of broken dreams and unrequited love, passion, sacrifice and redemption.

Performances from the cast were faultless; the key emotions of the story made all the more powerful by the sheer youth of the cast.

Zac Green, played the long suffering protagonist Jean Val Jean with intensity. Tom McFarland, in the role of young student Marius, was passionate, yet poised and convincing in his performance, playing superbly alongside his stage love, perfectly-pitched voice of Eve Shaw, in the role of Cosette.

Providing the emotional torment of unrequited love, Eponine,

## Great news for Lymm's problem feet!

ANKLE injuries, arthritic toes or just plain old corns and calluses, whatever the complaint, foot, ankle and lower leg disorders can be both uncomfortable and debilitating.

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At Lymm Osteopathic Practice they take foot health extremely seriously and are constantly aware of the importance of the legs and feet in someone's overall health.

Now due to increased demand, their Podiatrist, Caroline Moss will be extending her home visit service. This is in addition to running her current Wednesday afternoon clinic.

Caroline has worked for over 30 years in the NHS and in private practice dealing with all aspects of foot ailments, particularly corn and callus removal. She offers treatment and advice on nail conditions and verrucae and, with a diploma in the management of diabetes, also has many years' experience in treating foot wounds.

The other expert member of their Podiatry team is Neale Brown. Retired from his position as senior lecturer at the University of Salford, he is now concentrating

on his private practice. Neale has several specialist interests which encompass podiatric management of neurological conditions and sport related injuries. They also include bio-mechanical foot problems, gait assessment and the manufacture of bespoke foot orthotics.

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# ges spectacular Les Misérables

played by Ella Worsley and Suzie Underwood, both delivered heart rendering performances of 'On my own'. As did Fantine, played by Aphra Proudfoot and Tabitha Ashcroft whose emotional renditions of 'I dreamed a dream' brought the audience to tears. Sam Anderson's gripping performance of the ruthless policeman Javert created a powerful and sinister air to the tragic tale. And rousing the troops with passion was student Reece Connell as Gavroche.

Madame and Monsieur Thenardier, played by students Carla Samsa and Imogen Walsh, entered the stage evoking rapturous laughter with their larger than life characters. The couple expertly embraced the roles with a bit of cheek, allowing the audience a moment of humour before returning to the bleaker yet poignant moments within the story.

The chorus was superb and sang with confidence and ease; from the rousing 'Do you hear the people sing?', and 'One day more', to the mood-changing and melancholic 'Drink with me'.

The orchestra was well led by Head of Music, Mr Dominic Starkey whose interpretations of the familiar, haunting, often spine-tingling and stirring pieces merely enhanced the sheer drama of the show.

Gwyn Williams, Headteacher, said: "I have been amazed by the talent in our school at taking on such a complex production. The staff and pupils, have produced a brilliant show that would be fit for the West End!"

"This has been a great team effort, with over 100 pupils and staff involved, and will be a production to remember."



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# Quiz book provides boost for local charities

**WHEN regulars arrive at the Lymm Youth and Community Centre's monthly Senior Social the first thing they are looking out for is "Mike's Quiz".**

The ingenious picture quizzes, set by Warrington based Mike Cadwallader have proven enormously popular over the past two years.

So last month for the first time visitors had the opportunity to buy a collection of the quizzes in book form.

The book was the idea of Mike's daughter Estelle and Su Williams from the Community Centre team.

Estelle said: "The quizzes are so clever and so enjoyable that it seemed a shame that they were only used once, especially as I know just how much work goes into devising

each one."

Mike produced the first of the quizzes to entertain his own family when he retired from his job in the architecture profession but what started as an occasional scribble has turned into something of a production line.

"I start with a theme, maybe towns and villages of Cheshire," explained Mike "and then I let my imagination run riot to come up with all the ideas I need. I have found that best way to do that is to hop on a bus and take a trip round town".

All the profits from the book, which is priced at £5 will be

divided between two charities - Lymm Heritage Centre and Care UK Charity which helps those in need wherever they are.

This charity, run by Nora Carlin has already sent over 30 containers of aid to Greece and Syria in the last 20 months.

The book can be purchased at Lymm Heritage Centre which is open Thursday to Sunday 12 till 4, at the Star Inn in Statham or at the newly opened gift shop "Ruby and Harry" on Whitesands/Albany Road.

It can also be obtained via the Heritage Centre website [www.lymmhlc.co.uk/quiz](http://www.lymmhlc.co.uk/quiz) where you can download and try a Lymm Themed quiz for free.



## History society writes its own little bit of history

LYMM and District Local History Society celebrated its 50th anniversary with a special lunch attended more some 50 members at Statham Lodge Hotel.

Some of its founder members, still active after 50 years, were present, headed by president Eileen Mundy as was one of the society's earliest supporters, the eminent medieval Cheshire history Dr Paul Booth who, in a short talk, illustrated his belief that history is the produce of the interaction of people, as much as of economic and political systems.

The society originally sprang

from a tutorial class run by the University of Manchester and over the years it has accumulated an extensive knowledge of Lymm and the surrounding district.

Working groups have researched parish records, domestic architecture, local industries, local families and personal reminiscences and their work has been summarised in a series of booklets.

The society has also been a keen supporter of events such as the May Queen festival, the Dickensian Day and the Rushbearing ceremony.

Talks and guided walks are given

to local societies and visiting parties.

There are well-attended monthly meetings throughout the year, other than the three summer months, and recent speakers have been on topics ranging from the construction of the Manchester Ship Canal, to the history of Warburton and the story of a cow-keeping family in Liverpool.

The society prides itself on its comprehensive programme of speakers, the opportunity for individuals to discover or pursue a new interest in local history.

It offers a chance to meet others with similar interests and offers a

warm welcome to newcomers.

More details can be obtained from the secretary, Lynn Smith, on 01925 756776

Speakers lined up for the coming year so far are: February 12: Marlene Nolan: Crime at Kenyon Junction, Culcheth; March 12: Dr Mike Nevell: Warburton, the Village and its church; April 9: Trevor Williams: Logically it should not be standing up - The history of Moreton House; May 14: Mary Jeeves, The History of Marbury Hall and Parkland.

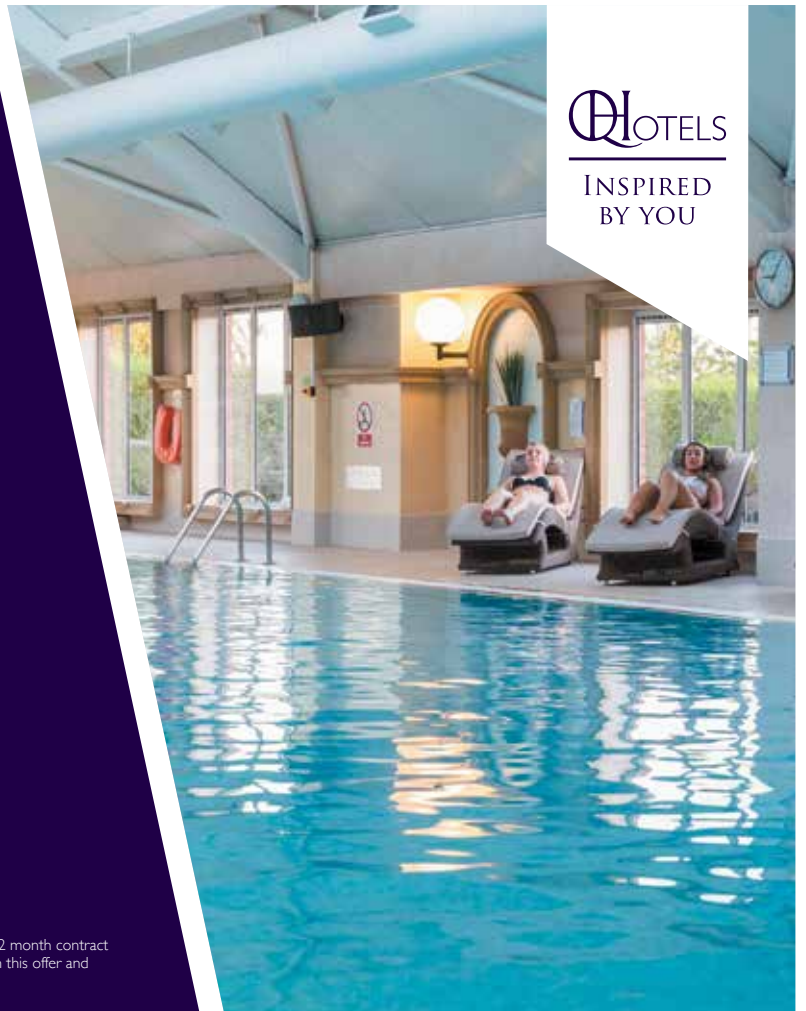
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## Are you thinking about care for a loved one this winter?

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# Lymm Runners run for River Reeves

**Lymm Runners chose to dedicate the first day of their popular 12 Days of Christmas series of events to raise funds for the River Reeves Foundation.**

River was a member of Viola Beach, the local band tragically killed in Sodertalje Sweden, in February 2016 while on their first

European tour. The event challenged club members and guests to push themselves to run a mile further in an hour than their



usual distance with a choice of 4-7+ mile options. The suggested entry fee was £5.00 and runners' efforts were rewarded with a special River Reeves medal and a goodie bag.

A large and enthusiastic turnout braved the cold and dark for this challenge on December 21st which took place one week after what would have been River's 21st birthday.

Members of the Foundation came along to support and the evening raised £375.00 for the Foundation. They thanked Lymm Runner Chris Lees for organising the run, which was their final event for 2017.

The Foundation was set up in River's memory to help young people realise their dreams as actors, artists, writers and musicians through

grants and other payments. Further information, including news of events in 2018, can be found at [www.riverreevesfoundation.org](http://www.riverreevesfoundation.org)

Meanwhile Lymm Runners meet outside Lymm Leisure Centre on Thursdays at 7pm, and outside the Library on Sundays at 8.30 am and Wednesdays at 9.15am.

On Tuesdays in Winter there is a choice of meeting outside the Leisure Centre at 7.00pm for the Social Whistle Run or at Victoria Park, Warrington at 7.00pm for the Track Training Session

The Club was formed in 2010 and now has over 240 members. It is the only running club in the village.

For more information visit [www.lymmrunners.org.uk](http://www.lymmrunners.org.uk)

## Lymm becoming a 'Transport Heritage Village'

Lymm seems to be rapidly gaining a reputation as the "Transport Heritage Village."

As well as the hugely successful Historic Transport Day each June, the Tom Barlow Boxing Day Rally has become an increasingly popular event on the local calendar.

The rally started as an opportunity for traction engine owners to meet up and blow away those Christmas Day cobwebs.

But over the years the event has also drawn in other vehicle owners including tractors and fire engines as well as classic cars and motor

bikes. Bruce Thomas is pictured at the wheel arriving at the Jolly Thresher laden with eight passengers at the start of the 2017 event.

Meanwhile exhibitor and trader booking for this year's Historic Transport Day opened at the beginning of January and if last year is anything to go by the event will be close to full by now so if you own a classic vehicle of any type or want to trade on the day don't delay and go to [www.lymmtransport.org.uk](http://www.lymmtransport.org.uk) today to book.



Picture: David Bloor

## Flooding closes road



Pictures Chris East

A local road which has suffered from flooding problems was closed over the New Year period due to deep flooding which resulted in one car being stranded.

Warrington Lane at Agden is a well known blackspot for flooding at times of heavy rain.

Access was still available to local businesses including the Barn Owl pub.

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