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Issue: 127
October 2009

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**Fun at
the farm**

Page 3



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magazine for Lymm

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Editor's Comment



I AM delighted to report that the decision to introduce pay and display car parking on the Pepper Street car park has been a resounding success - although I am sure those of you who may have absent mindedly forgotten to collect a ticket may not think so!

I know myself it is easily done to park up, get distracted and then walk away without getting your free ticket from the machine.

Perhaps a couple of DONT FORGET YOUR TICKET signs strategically placed at the car park exits might resolve this problem.

I am pleased to say I have so far managed to avoid a penalty ticket - but fear it will be only a matter of time.

But on a positive note, as you can read in our centre spread, the new car parking arrangements have proved a huge success for the village traders - with a recent survey showing 100 per cent support.

The survey has also revealed that everyone who reads Lymm Life, does so every month and finds it very informative.

Thank you for your support and lets all make sure we support our local traders who add to the character of our unique village.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Phil Sexton, Chairman of the Traders' Association for all his hard work and enthusiasm in helping breathe new life into an organisation which is vital for the future economic prosperity of the local community.

I would also urge other business people in the village to follow his lead and not take things for granted.

Read and relax

A new reading group is being launched at Lymm Community Library called "Read to Relax."

It is for anyone who is stressed, tired, depressed and looking for an hour's "me-time."

The first session is on October 2 from 10.30-11.30am at the library

It is a free event including refreshments. Anyone interested can contact Donna Love on 01925 754367.



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Fun at the farm

AN Open Day for a local charity – which was re-scheduled last year after 'freak weather' – was held in brilliant sunshine this year.

Visitors to the event at The Children's Adventure Farm Trust, Millington, topped 1,200, breaking the previous attendance record of 800.

More than £6,500 was raised for the charity which provides holidays and day trips to more than 3,000 disabled and disadvantaged children from all over the North West every year.

A spokesperson said: "It was first

time lucky for the children's charity this year when the sun shone on its Open Day.

"Last year's event had to be rescheduled to later in the year due to freak weather conditions. This year's event however was blessed with beautiful sunshine, which brought the crowds flocking for a fun-filled, sun-filled day at the farm."

The day had a Traditional Summer Fayre theme, and included horse and

carriage rides, bouncy castle, climbing wall, face painting and tombola. There were also traditional fairground rides, children's entertainer, The Great Damondo's Family Show and live music from Metropolitan Brass.

Guests enjoyed a hog roast, barbecue, tea and cakes and other refreshments.

Thame Valley Vintage and Classic Car Club displayed their vehicles, alongside classic motorbikes from local clubs. There were tours of the site and a range of side stalls and games including a coconut shy, hook-a-duck and a kiddie corner.

Events fundraiser Pippa Waiton said: "We really couldn't have asked for a better day. The weather was glorious, and our supporters attended in their droves.

"Everyone had a wonderful time. It was lovely to see so many happy, smiling and often slightly sun-burned faces!"



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What's On

in Lymm
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October 12

LYMM HISTORY SOCIETY

Lymm Village Hall, 8pm
"The Vikings in Cheshire" - Dan Robinson
Visitors always welcome
Enquiries: Sue Brooks, chairman 01925 758340

October 13

LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Lymm Parish Hall, 7.30pm
Members of the public welcome

LYMM LIONS GROUP

Meet: Bridgewater Club, Lymm
1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. 8pm
Contact: 0845 833 5729

LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB

Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm

MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP

Meet each Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm
Maple Lodge Guide HQ, Pepper St, Lymm
Details: 01925 755126

ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM

Meet every Wednesday at Statham Lodge Hotel
7.15pm for 7.45pm
Contact the secretary 01925 755757

LOVING HANDS

Knitting for charity at Lymm Methodist Church,
2nd and 4th Thursday each month.
1.30pm - 3pm. Details: 01925 823614.

MARKET LUNCHES

Eagle Brow Methodist Church

3rd Thursday in the month

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LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

St Mary's Church Hall
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Bridgewater Street, Monday 7 - 9.30pm
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LYMM BAPTIST CHURCH DROP LUNCH

Higher Lane, Mondays (during term time).
12 noon to 1.15pm. £2.50

Non-profit making community organisations who
would like to feature in the
What's On Column
should contact Lymm Life on

01925 631592

Housing Association invests £1 million

A SHELTERED housing scheme for the elderly is being completely refurbished and modernised as a result of an injection of £1 million.

Eight apartments at Raven Court, Pepper Street, Lymm, have already been completed, providing homes for existing and new residents and work is underway on another eight.

The newly refurbished scheme will eventually provide 16 contemporary-style one and two bedroomed apartments - the only "affordable" rented retirement homes in Lymm.

Raven Court was transferred to Warrington Housing Association (WHA) from the borough council, following a ballot of existing residents. Previously it consisted of 19 dated bedsits and sub-standard warden accommodation.

The new apartments have stylish modern kitchens, larger bedrooms and bright lounges. A lift has been installed and there are new features such as walk in showers and energy saving heating and ventilation systems.

The scheme will also boast a brand new secure front entrance, conservatory, separate study room, laundry facilities and outdoor landscaped gardens.

The remaining apartments are due for completion by November.

One resident, Vince Ball, who chose to remain in his home while the work was taking place said: "My new

apartment is a delightful place to live and I have settled into my new home - it was well worth the wait."

WHA chief executive Alan Kemp said: "The extensive refurbishment of Raven Court, where some residents remained in their homes, has required a lot of careful attention to detail. The team have managed to deliver a lovely scheme which will provide a great secure place to live for retired residents for many years to come.

"The one and two bedroom apartments suit retired couples and individuals looking for their own home with the added advantages of affordable, worry free accommodation, 24 hour emergency call system and an opportunity to mix and meet new friends."

Councillor Sheila Woodyatt, who has supported the project and was extremely impressed with the improvements and said: "The transformation is unbelievable."

Eight of the 16 apartments already have tenants signed and Warrington Housing Association is currently reviewing applications for the remaining eight.

Further details are available from Warrington Housing Association on 01925 246810 or by visiting www.wha.org.uk

Jazz in church

LYMM-based big band Dr Jazz and the Cheshire Cats are going to church - in concert.

The band, which was one of the hits of this year's Stockton Heath Festival, will be performing live in Stockton Heath Methodist Church on October 10 to help raise money for the church redevelopment fund.

A meal will precede the concert and tickets - £4 for the concert, £6 with the meal - can be obtained from Kit on 01925 268425 or Sue on 01925 261802. The meal is at 6.45pm and the concert starts at 7.30pm.

The 20-strong band was formed in 2002 by musical director Dr Catherine Tackley, currently a lecturer in music at the Open University, and features a number of players from the nationally acclaimed North Cheshire Wind Orchestra. The majority of the members come from the Warrington area.

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High school's best ever A-level results

LYMM High School achieved its best-ever GCSE A-level results.

Ninety seven per cent of pupils achieved five plus A* to C passes and 73 per cent A* to C passes, including English and Mathematics.

This was a record for the school since it went comprehensive in the 1980s.

Headteacher Angela Walsh (pictured) said: "The students and staff worked extremely hard to achieve these outstanding results and clearly our new programme of catering and supporting individual students in an extremely focused way has paid off."

School governor Coun Sheila Woodyatt – the borough council's executive member with responsibility for education – said: "What excellent results! We are very proud to have a new school record for examination achievement. Well done to everyone!"

Top individual performances came from Georges Rouillon, Catherine Edwards, Jessica Howell, Charlie Coughlan, Toby Foster, Richard Goodall, Harry Musson and Louise Pomfret.

Overall pass rates were 99 per cent for A level and 100 per cent for BTEC.

A total of 56 per cent of all A level grades were A and B – 27 per cent at grade A.

Eighteen students achieved straight A grades in three or more subjects.

A total of 122 students of the 153

taking A level exams achieved at least one A grade.

Top individual performances were: Sean Hewitt: Five A grades at A level (Cambridge); Jonathan Edwards: four A grades at A level plus Distinction in History advanced extension award (Oxford, Law); Oliver Layfield: four A grades at A level and Merit in Physics advanced extension award (Cambridge, Natural Sciences); Stephen Legg: four A grades at A level (Manchester); Elisabeth Gellert: four A grades at A level (Oxford).





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Lymm Veterinary Surgery

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Clean teeth for our pets

We all love to take care of our own teeth and are proud of our pearly white smiles but many of our pets' teeth are crying out for a clean up.

The soft pet food that we feed our animals can cause a build up of bacteria rich plaque on the surface of our pets' teeth which leads to inflammation of the gums which can directly affect the attachment between the tooth and the gum. When this attachment becomes weakened by inflammation the affected tooth can become loose and even fall out. Inflammation of the gums can also lead to abscess formation and concurrent blood

borne infection of the kidneys, heart, lungs and liver.

Classic signs of oral problems in our pets are: bad breath, excessive salivation, bleeding gums, in appetite or chewing on one side of the mouth, pawing at the face and sometimes facial swelling.

There are many forms of preventative dental care available for our pets such as tooth brushes and dental chews but most of the time, animals need to be given a short general anaesthetic and have the tartar removed from their teeth. The tartar removal is done with an ultrasonic scaler. The teeth are then polished with



an electric polisher – like a dental hygienist would use.

Lymm Veterinary Surgery has brand new state-of-the-art dental facilities on-site so if you are

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Cheshire ploughing match comes to village

THE annual Cheshire Ploughing and Hedgelaying Match is to be held at Lymm this year -and could attract up to 5,000 people.

It will be held at Tony Cookson's Agden Brook Farm, in Lymm Road, Little Bollington, on September 30 and is expected have about 100 tractors and 10 sets of horse ploughmen and women taking part in the ploughing match, as well as a hedge laying competition.

The Cheshire Ploughing Match has been going for around 100 years and is one of the largest in the country.

Ploughing matches started about 150 years ago when it would have all been horse ploughing. But although there are still many good ploughmen - and women! - around they are only seen at matches and competitions as the tractor has taken over.

Hedgelaying is a craft that has been going on for centuries, the object being to make a stock proof

fence.

The stock is cut about half way through and bent over to make the hedge thicker so livestock cannot go through it. This is very hard work - but the finished result is a hedge that is a work of art.

Along with the competition there will be about 100 exhibitors on the showground which are mainly based in agriculture.

A spokesman said: "It is an almost unique opportunity to see how agriculture has developed over the last 150 years from the horse plough to the large modern day machines which are used today. If anyone wishes to see farming as it really is today then it is well worthwhile having a visit."

There will be many refreshment stalls and a bar as well as all the usual conveniences.

Year of '78 reunion

FORMER pupils of a Lymm school are being invited to a reunion next year.

The Year of 78 reunion for pupils of the former Lymm Secondary Modern School (now Lymm High School) is planned for Saturday June 12, 2010.

One of the organisers, Debbie Brayzier (nee Jennings) hopes many former pupils will attend the event at Lymm Hotel.

Anyone interested in attending can contact her at debbie@brayzier.co.uk or 07716 621862.

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New business offers 'errand service'

BUSY parents can take advantage of a new business offering an 'errand service' - helping with tasks like collecting dry cleaning or queuing to post a parcel.

Pink Spaghetti Home PA Services is teaming up with the new Kids Planet Day Nursery in Eagle Brow, Lymm, to offer parents exclusive use of its Nursery Errand Service.

It aims to offer a cost effective way of getting errands done. After registering parents receive an errand

list that they complete and leave at the nursery.

The errands use suppliers in the Lymm area and range from dropping off and collecting dry cleaning to queuing at the Post Office to post a parcel or pay a bill.

Pink Spaghetti's cofounders, Vicky

Matthews and Caroline Gowing, are both working mums who realised there was not enough help for busy parents.

The two women met at their daughters' swimming classes four years ago and decided to use this link in their company name. The children's favourite food is spaghetti and favourite colour pink - so the company name was born.

Caroline said: "We wanted to bring the benefits of a concierge service to normal people who lead everyday but busy lives which is why we are targeting parents.

"These days it is quite common for people to have help with their

cleaning, ironing or gardening and so we thought we could take that concept one step further and offer a service that could really make parents lives a bit easier."

The service offers help with "mundane" tasks to allow parents to spend more time with their families. Tasks such as organising a birthday party, finding a family holiday or organising a baby sitter for a special night out, can all be delegated.

Anyone interested should contact Vicky or Caroline at enquiries@pinkspaghetti.co.uk or visit their website at www.pinkspaghetti.co.uk

Rotary sponsor student awards



THREE students have been sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lymm for a prestigious award.

Ellis Davies, of Lymm High School, and two students from Broadoak School, Partington, Simon Holt and Jamie Gallagher, were selected for the first ever Rotary Youth Leadership Award to be conducted in District 1280.

Talented youngsters, some related to Rotary members, are chosen from local schools and groups for the scheme.

They attended a series of outdoor activities involving leadership and team building skills over a five day residential course at Petty Pool Trust Outdoor Centre, Sandiway. Students said they gained confidence and developed their leadership skills during the course.

Simon also won the Gold Award for Outstanding Leadership Qualities.

The course will be running next year during the summer holidays and anyone wishing to propose candidates should contact club secretary Neville Davies 01925 755757 or Email: kathandnev@uwclub.net for more information.

Are you a hard working parent wanting more time for you?



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Dam retains Green Flag status

LYMM Dam is one of six local parks to again be awarded a Green Flag – the national standard for parks and green spaces.

The Dam won its flag for the first time last year and has now retained the prestigious honour.

The other five in the borough are Walton Gardens, Fox Covert Cemetery, Risley Moss, Walton Crematorium and Burtonwood Cemetery.

closely with their local communities to manage and maintain these important sites.

"Parks and green spaces are a vital part of community life. They provide

safe places for our children to play and enable us all to get closer to and learn about nature and wildlife. Our parks are as much about economic prosperity, the visitor economy, climate change and healthy living as they are about leisure and recreation."

Broomedge Festival

THE second Broomedge Festival takes place at the Jolly Thresher pub, Lymm when there will be live music and other acts from 12 noon until 10.30pm on Saturday, September 26, in aid of charity.

Advertiser's announcement

Landlords urged to clean up their act

LANDLORDS who are facing increasing competition for tenants from a saturated rental market, are being urged to clean up their act as tenants cite mould and unpleasant smells as being their biggest turn-offs when choosing a property to rent.

In a survey of 2014 adults, conducted by ICM on behalf of professional oven valeters, Ovenu, 77% of respondents said they would be put off by mould in a property. Nearly two-thirds named bad smells, such as smoking or pets and one

in two said a dirty or old bathroom suite. Paul Clark, owner of Ovenu Warrington, said: "We work with lots of landlords and letting agents across Warrington and our survey proves what we have known for years - that dirty is a huge turn-off and can prove very costly, being a deal breaker for many tenants.

When looking to rent a property, mould was highlighted as the one thing most likely to put people off, receiving three times more votes than practical

issues such as small rooms.

The number of privately rented properties in the UK increased to three million at the end of 2008, up from 2.7 million in 2007. This increase is thought mainly to be the result of a rise in "reluctant landlords" - those renting their properties because they are unable to sell.

This oversupply of properties has led to an acceleration in the rate at which rents are now falling, according to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Ovenu provides domestic oven valeting services to householders, landlords and schools via a UK-wide network of technicians. The Ovenu process involves dismantling key components of an oven such as the door, interior panels, fan and shelves and placing them into design-registered equipment, which uses non-caustic products to clean the oven parts.

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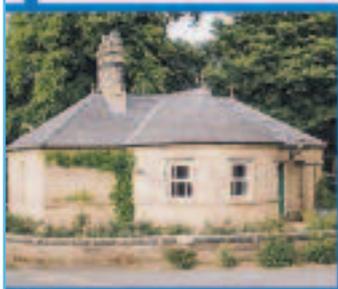
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Charity beach party

CUSTOMERS at the Co-op store in Cherry Lane, Lymm were transported to exotic shores when staff donned their summer best for a Beach Party.

Shoppers were surprised when the store was decorated to look like a holiday resort and staff were dressed in shorts, shades, sombreros and sarongs.

Donations were collected and the

shop raised £261 for the RNID - the charity for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. So far the store chain has already raised £1 million across the UK for RNID.

Store manager Wayne Hill said: "It went really well and we were pleased to raise money for a worthy cause. The store looked fantastic and the staff really enjoyed dressing up."

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Lymm

Left: Various dignitaries.
 Below left: Members of Lymm WI.
 Below: Joe Griffiths and Town Crier Peter Powell.
 Bottom: Lymm Morris Dancers.
 Right: Members of Lymm Jubilee WI.
 Far right: Lymm History Society and garland.
 Bottom right: Lymm Rushbearing procession.



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Rushbearing



Five raise £1440 for charity

FIVE women who took part in the sixth annual Deva Divas women's triathlon at Chester raised more than £1,440 for Breakthrough Breast Cancer.

They all had links with Lymm's Terrace café brasserie - owner Joanne Hopkinson, staff member Sam McCawley and customers Claire Fairhurst, Julie Evans and Melanie Guest.

The triathlon involved a 750m swim in Manley Mere, a 16km cycle ride and a 5k run.

Joanne said: "We would like to thank everyone who supported us - we were really amazed at how generous people were."

Round Table prepare for bonfire

LYMM and District Round Table, who organise the Bonfire Night at the Rugby Club, have a hard act to follow after their successful Duck Race earlier on in the year.

Last year both spirits and fireworks were dampened when earlier than expected torrential rain caused problems lighting the fireworks and shortened the show. This year however several changes to the event including a bigger closer fire, and extra waterproofing measures will ensure everything goes off with a bang.

As usual all proceeds will go to local charities so please put the date in your diary and support Lymm & District Round Table.

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Charley and the 'beanstalk'

A YOUNG Lymm boy has his own 'Jack and the Beanstalk' story after taking part in a seed challenge.

Charley Benson, aged four, (left) and his three-years-old cousins Freya and Jonas Jackson, are members of Lymm Playgroup.

They were given the seeds to grow to see how nature worked, and planted them at their grandad's garden in Woodland Drive, Lymm.

Grandad Peter Brandon said: "They were given the seeds to show how things grow, and grow they did."

"Within three months they had reached the monster height of nine feet six inches. In fact they grew so high that one had to be cut down in case the wind knocked it over."

Charley said it was "like Jack and the Beanstalk."

Next year Granddad has promised to feed the plants to see if they grow any higher, and has suggested a local competition to see who can grow the highest sunflower.



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Shop Lymm

Survey shows village centre is changing



LYMM village centre has seen quite a few changes over the years, some for the better, some not.

But Phil Sexton, Chairman of the local Trader's Association says: "There is absolutely no doubt the introduction of the long overdue two hours free Pay and Display facility has been a change for the better!"

"Visitors driving into the village for a quick shop would be lucky to find a parking space. This has now changed and visitors are almost always guaranteed to find a space no matter what time of day. Just don't forget to display a ticket!"

A recent survey carried out through *Lymm Life* by Sextons Village Bakery highlighted the positive effect the parking initiative has had -

with 100% of shoppers in favour.

All participants also stated they always read *Lymm Life* and find it very informative!

With its picturesque lower dam, flower displays in the village centre, Lymm is the ideal place to visit.

Green Flag

Other attractions include Slitten Gorge, the heritage trail, the Bridgewater Canal and of course the Green Flag rated Lymm Dam.

Add to this the wide selection of dining out establishments offering a variety of culinary delights and welcoming local hosteleries and a traditional market on the Henry Street car park every Thursday, Lymm village centre really does have something for everyone.



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For whom the bell tolls!

RENOVATION works on Oughtrington Community Centre have revealed the original school bell.

Now volunteers on the community centre committee are looking to raise further funds to have the bell replaced to its former glory on top of the building as part of the ongoing works.

The centre started life as a boys school which opened on 30th September 1872.

The bell was rung every school morning through to 1979 when the school closed and the bell was taken down.

Four years later in 1983, the school was bought by the local residents and opened as the Oughtrington Community Centre.

Thirty years later, the Board of the Oughtrington Community Centre, want to link repairs to the roof and belfry to the re-hanging of the bell.

If readers would like to contribute, please contact Andrew Wilson, Chairman Oughtrington Community Centre.



John Newell (left) vice chairman and Andrew Wilson chairman of Oughtrington Community Centre with the bell they hope to be replaced in the Centre Tower.

Sponsors are also being sought to help supply t-shirts for the annual fun run on Sunday September 20.

Any one interested in helping out contact Andrew Wilson on 01925 753098 or 07990 550091 or email: wilsonlymm1961@btinter.net

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James succeeds where Time Team failed

AN amateur archaeologist has succeeded where Time Team failed after unearthing more ancient Roman treasures from a farmer's field.

During his most recent metal detecting activities in the Warburton and Lymm areas James Balme has discovered ancient treasures including Silver Roman Republican coinage dating back to 130BC.

For more 12 years he has been

searching the landscape in his pursuit of evidence left behind from prehistoric through to Roman times.

Not only was there a great Roman presence in the area but James has also recovered evidence from the Prehistoric, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods of

history.

In 2006 the cult archaeological series 'Time Team' joined James for a three day dig in the village to try and locate and explain why so many wonderful ancient treasures had been recovered.

After failing to make any major finds, the programme concluded that there had possibly been a small Roman farm on the fields that could account for the artefacts, which had been unearthed in the area.

Undaunted by their conclusion James was not happy with the results and decided to carry on with his research to try and pinpoint exactly why so many rare treasures had been unearthed and more importantly, find the centre of ancient activity within the village.

Now three years on he has succeeded where Time Team failed, with the discovery of a multitude of rare ancient treasures from the Iron Age and Roman period and all coming from a new area of the village.

James said: "When Time Team left the village I was greatly disappointed that they had not found the reason behind why I had recovered so many treasures from ancient times. After taking a few months off from my research I still believed that an answer to this great mystery still remained out there to be found."

"After another three years work around the village I have unearthed many more unbelievable ancient treasures including Silver Roman Republican coinage dating back to 130BC and almost certainly deposited by the Roman military when they arrived

here circa 60AD."

But as well as the coinage he has started to find material that could indicate an Iron Age settlement in the area including a rare Bronze statue dating to the Iron Age or Early Roman period and a stone carving that was lay deep in sandbeds of the river Bollin. The carving is something exceptional and currently it is believed that it is a ritual carving placed in the river as an offering to the gods, which was common practise during Iron Age and Roman times.

James added: "These latest discoveries are truly amazing and go to prove that Time Team did indeed miss something very special."

"I couldn't be happier that my determination and belief in the research I carry out remains strong and now the results go to show that my theories were correct. I will continue my work and I hope to be able to hold several open days next year to display my discoveries to the people in the area. I would like to thank everyone who has supported me over the years and in particular the landowners who have allowed me to research their fields."



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Bowlers remember Eric

BOUGHTRINGTON Bowling Club held their annual Eric Wright Memorial Trophy mixed pairs competition in pouring rain.

The winners were Olwen Asbury and Brian Lythgoe photographed with Chairman Graham Shrigley who presented the trophy.

Despite the weather, a good time was had by all!

New members are always welcome and should just turn up at the club, on Sandy Lane, any afternoon between 1:30pm and 3:30pm.



Badminton players wanted

EXPERIENCED male and female badminton players are being sought by a group that meets in Lymm.

The Ray Massey PTA Badminton Group, which was started by Ray 21 years ago, meets in the Leisure Centre on Thursdays from 8pm to 10pm.

When the centre was built Ray was on the PTA sports committee and was asked to form the badminton group.

He said: "There are now a few places for competent male and female badminton players."

Anyone interested should ring Ray on 01925 755556. Interested players will be invited for a taster session.

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Tennis star heading for the USA



A YOUNG tennis star from Lymm is heading to the USA to take up a prestigious tennis scholarship.

Michael Ward, 18, is a member of Lymm Tennis Club.

As a result of winning the club President's Award, he attended the world famous Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy in Florida. He received offers of Tennis Scholarships from 25 American universities.

After considering the offers Michael chose Arkansas University and will play in their first team in Division 1, the top tier of US tennis, for the four years of his course.

Michael is part of the Cheshire Tennis Squad which won promotion this year to Division 1, and in spite of being out of action for a few weeks due to Swine Flu has improved his current British Senior Rating to 64.

Michael is a former pupil of Lymm High School, where he studied for A Levels.

Charity aims to expand

THE British Polio Fellowship - one of the oldest caring charities in the county and celebrating its 70th anniversary this year - is seeking to expand its activities in the Lymm area.

BPF offers support for Polio sufferers and their carers through its central office and a network of branches and groups across the county, aiming to reach all "Polio survivors".

The local group for this area is the Chester Group, which meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Salvation Army Hall in Ellesmere Port.

But group secretary Janet Dines is based in Lymm and is anxious to contact any Polio survivors in the Warrington area.

All the current members of the Chester Group were members of BPF before the group was formed some three years ago and now feel it is time to expand.

The monthly meetings have guest speakers, outings, social afternoons and discuss ideas and topics of interest.

Anyone interested in learning more about the BPF is asked to contact the group secretary on 01925 754278

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Dining Out with *Life* at the Jolly Thresher

OVER the years, the Jolly Thresher in Higher Lane at Broomeedge has won many friends for its convivial atmosphere and good food. It has had its highs and not-so-highs but has always been pretty good.

Now, with a well-known local family at the helm, it has reached a new peak and is attracting more and more discerning diners.

Jonathan and Mark Wrigley and their niece, Olivia Holmes make a first class team and, with the pub having undergone a major refurb, the place is really buzzing.

All meats are locally sourced, as are many other items on the menu, so you can be sure your meal has not been shipped in ready-made from afar.

We started our meal with homemade soup, accompanied by Sexton's crusty bread and Creamy Garlic and Stilton Mushrooms. But

there was a wide range of starters to choose from, including aromatic duck spring rolls, prawn and crab cocktail, homemade chicken liver pate and barbecue chicken wings.

For our main course I tackled a gargantuan helping of fish and chips featuring a superb cod fillet and mushy peas, while my lady partner opted for slowly braised lamb shank, served with a mint jus set on creamy mashed potatoes and served with fresh vegetables. Both meals were superb and left us unable to even consider the dessert menu, tempting though it looked.

Other main courses included whole-tail breaded scampi, chicken and garlic mushrooms, fillet of beef stroganoff and crab and prawn linguini, as well as a variety of grilled steaks served with chips, mushroom and tomato and a range of sauces.

At lunch time the Thresher serves a good range of sandwiches and tortilla wraps and also makes a speciality of excellent value Sunday lunches.

The meals are made all the more enjoyable by friendly, helpful staff - but if you want to make sure of getting one, be advised to book in advance!

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Obituaries

Andrew Ward

THE funeral took place at All Saints' Church, Thelwall of Andrew (Andy) Robert Ward, aged 50, of Stanton Road, Thelwall, who died in Warrington Hospital on July 28.



Mr Ward was divisional director at Hall and Kay Fire Engineering, Latchford, where he had worked for the last 10 years. He was a keen footballer and in his younger days played for many teams around Warrington, including Thelwall City, Lockers and Baco. Later he played tennis at Manor Road Tennis Club.

He was also an avid Manchester United fan, travelling to most games, including European matches and was also a keen Warrington Wolves' fan.

He is survived by a wife, son, two daughters, a grandson, mother, father and brother.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons, Lymm.

Vera Warham

THE funeral has taken place at Lymm Baptist Church of Miss Vera Warham, of Princess Road, Lymm, prior to burial at Dunham Massey. Rev Chris Newton officiated.

She died in Warrington Hospital after suffering a long vascular illness, aged 87 on August 12.

Miss Warham is survived by her four cousins Margaret, Sheila, Eileen and Valerie, and their families.

She was a devout Christian attending Lymm Baptist Church. Prior to her illness, she enjoyed gardening, baking, socialising with friends and looking after her beloved cat Phoebe.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons.

Denise Elizabeth Riley

THE Funeral has taken place at St Winefred's Church, Lymm, of Mrs Denise Elizabeth Riley, 78, of Limefield Avenue, Lymm.

She died from cancer peacefully at home with her family on August 19.

Mrs Riley leaves her husband George, six children, seven grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She worked as a Civil Servant for most of her life working for Stockport County Courts. In her spare time she enjoyed travelling, reading, classical music, crosswords and spending time with her family.

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