

Lymm Life

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Issue: 120
March 2009

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Editor's Comment



A HIGH school with an outstanding Ofsted report and a village centre plagued with vandalism - these are two contrasting reports of life in our village.

I suppose it goes to show no matter how well educated you are, if it is in your genetic make up to be a mindless moron you will still go out of your way to cause havoc.

I would like to stress that I am not pointing the finger of blame at the young people of Lymm High School, who should be congratulated on yet another outstanding Ofsted inspection, or indeed young people in general. I am well aware that the vast majority of young people are law abiding citizens and a credit to our village. Here at **Lymm Life** we are always keen to highlight the good work of young people.

But the chances are, whoever has been responsible for destroying the new lighting along the banks of the Bridgewater Canal on two occasions, passed through the corridors of our education system at some stage in their sad life.

Whatever possesses these people to carry out such pointless acts of criminal damage is beyond me and one can only presume they are so drunk and intoxicated they don't know what they are doing - but to have done the same act of vandalism twice in quick succession would tend to suggest they do know what they are doing!

While one questions the wisdom of those who installed such easy targets in the first place this is no excuse for

their destruction.

The solution - well I for one would be the first to back a campaign for proper CCTV cameras covering the entire village centre and the canal, so we can catch these idiots on film and then publicly shame them - perhaps a day in the local stocks and a good public flogging would help focus their attention - oh I forget corporal punishment is now outlawed in all schools - and don't the youngsters know it!!!

No fear, no discipline, no respect for people or property - perhaps we should really consider turning back the clock to the good old days when a head teacher could discipline an unruly child and the local bobby could give someone a clip around the ear, knowing full well that when a

parent found out, another clip around the ear would be around the corner.

I can remember waiting outside the head teacher's office fearing the worst - although on the odd occasion I was in line for a good caning I managed to talk my way out of it! It certainly didn't do me any harm and helped keep me the right side of the law.

I am sure if I was a politician seeking election this tough stance would be a vote winner with most law abiding civilised people - although I am sure there will be those out there who believe there are more civilised ways of approaching the problem - well I think we have been trying that for the past two-three decades!

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High school 'outstanding' again

LYMM High School has been judged 'outstanding' by Ofsted inspectors - for the second time.

The school was visited recently by a five-strong team of inspectors who reported it was outstanding because its excellent curriculum meets individual needs and because of the support students receive to enable them to succeed.

Inspectors also said the school offers students an exceptionally wide range of options and opportunities and that the breadth of enrichment activities is 'astounding'.

Teaching and learning in the sixth form is described as 'outstanding'.

New headteacher Miss Angela Walsh, was commended for her 'clear vision' in maintaining the school's excellent standards.

She said: "I feel privileged to have joined this exceptional school, and our fantastic inspection results are thanks to the hard work and commitment of students, staff and parents."

"We are so proud of our students and we are now looking forward to extending our outstanding teaching and learning practices."

The Ofsted team said teaching and learning are good at Lymm with

examples of outstanding lessons across a range of subjects. Teaching and learning are good, and there are examples of outstanding lessons across a range of subjects, according to the inspectors. In the most successful lessons, students respond very well to the high expectations of teachers.

Challenging tasks are set and the praise and encouragement students receive motivates them. In a small number of lessons, however, teaching is less effective and the pace of learning is slow. Students become bored and sometimes go 'off task'.

Some marking of students' work is excellent, but the quality and frequency of marking is inconsistent and does not always show students what they have to do to improve.

However, the inspectors rate the school 'outstanding' in almost every respect and 'good' in the few areas where improvements could still be made.

The school was last inspected in 2005 - when it was also outstanding.

Melinda puts store in the picture

CELEBRITY television presenter Melinda Messenger popped into Smart Furnishings in Stockton Heath to feature a quality business for a Channel Five programme.

She and her team were filming an episode of the makeover show "Cowboy Builders" shown early in February.

The business in Chapel Lane was chosen for the programme as the television company wanted to deal with a family run company that could meet all their flooring needs.

Steve Martin, who runs the advertising and marketing side of the

business, was first contacted by the film crew via the website www.smart-furnishings.co.uk

Melinda spent more than an hour in the store filming and chatting to staff. Director Amanda Smart and laminate and wood flooring consultant Peter Dutton were involved in the filming.

Peter was told at the last minute that Melinda would be asking him about

laminated flooring and carpets, and afterwards said she really put him at ease.

Popular store Smarts is a family business with founder Ken Smart still working in the shop, along with his wife Hazel, daughters Amanda, Cheryl and Jill, and son-in-law Steve.

Next year Smarts celebrate 40 years in business.



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What's On

in Lymm
in association with
LYMM PARISH COUNCIL



March 9, 2009

LYMM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
'Oulton Park and the fall of the House
of Grey Egerton' - Mark Bevan
Village Hall, Pepper Street, 8pm
Visitors £2 - including tea/coffee & biscuits
Further information from the secretary on 753309

March 10, 2009

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

MARKET LUNCHES

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LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

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LYMM YC

Bridgewater Street, Monday 7 - 9.30pm
Details: 754114

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LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

St Mary's Church Hall
First and fourth Saturday (Sept to May), 7.30pm
Details 753853.

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

01925 631592

Red Cross opens local branch

THE Red Cross has set up a new fundraising branch at Lymm and need volunteers to help plan and run events in and around the village.

Lymm resident Katie Baverstock-Hunt is leading the initiative and already has an exciting programme of events lined up.

She said: "Fundraising is fun, rewarding and a great way to meet new people whilst helping those in crisis locally and around the world."

"I fit in my volunteering around

work and being a mum I understand that people have lots of commitments. But even if you are just able to bake a cake for our Spring fair, or collect for a couple of hours during Red Cross week in May, I'd love your help."

The Red Cross is a volunteer-led humanitarian organisation that helps

people in crisis everywhere and currently faces a critical situation in Zimbabwe and southern Africa.

But they also operate locally and from its Cheshire headquarters in Knutsford, provides eight vital services across the county.

Anyone interested can e-mail Karen Jones at kjones@redcross.org.uk or telephone 01565 682312. Donations can be given at www.redcross.org.uk

Musical fund-raisers

LYMM-based female singing group Serenade have had a busy twelve months including performing at several fundraising events.

The group gave two performances at the Flower Festival at Arley Hall and earlier in the year they sang at functions to help raise funds for the North West Air Ambulance and the Alzheimer's Society.

The women, who wear matching costumes for their performances, sing in four-part unaccompanied harmony. They also demonstrate how the parts are put together, and perform choreographed dance moves to each song.

Further information is available from Betty Townsend on 01925 756701.



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Planning matters

Extension approved

PLANS for a two-storey side extension at 6, Woodland Drive, Lymm have been approved by borough council planners.

Home extension

BOROUGH planning chiefs have given the go-ahead for the demolition of a rear extension at 10, Brook Road, Lymm and the construction of a single-storey side and rear extension.

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Seasons Greetings to all our customers

The power of adult panto

LYMM Rugby Club raised more than £20k from their annual panto 'Beauty and Her Beastie' and, at a time when many clubs are feeling the credit crunch, it is heartening to see a club generating serious income whilst engaging everybody within the club and the community.

Lymm RFC has been running its annual Adult Panto since 1986, growing it into an institution, and, in 2008, the club ran eight sell-out performances in front of almost 1,500 people.

Simon Plumb, scriptwriter and Panto impresario, says: "We are a community-based club and it's an inclusive show with high levels of

audience participation. The amateur performers, including members, wives and girlfriends, live band and earthy, music-hall bawdiness combine wonderfully, to give a night of almost constant laughter," he added.

"It's a phenomenon really and has contributed significantly to the Grass Roots Appeal. Now watch out for my summer show. We are working on an exciting idea and I hope to reveal all soon!"

DVD's of 'Beauty and Her Beastie' are now available at £15 each or £30 for the box set of the past three shows, including 'Aladdin' and 'Jack and his Beanstalk'.

For further enquiries please contact Simon Plumb at Comunicado Creative on 01925 755590 M: 07799 403121, or simon@comunicadocreative.com



Panto impresario Simon Plumb with Charlie and Little Jimmy, redefining the term ventriloquism, if only they could say it!

'Wait and see' on postal deliveries

IT'S a matter of 'wait and see' for postal deliveries in Lymm, following the final closure of the sorting office in Bridgewater Street in January.

The closure went ahead despite pleas from the parish council, postal staff and local residents for it to be kept open.

But the general view is that it is too soon to say whether there has been any deterioration in postal deliveries.

Parish councillors will be keeping a close watch on the situation and any developments will be reported at future meetings.

In the first week after the closure deliveries were late – as late as 2pm. But by the third week, mail deliveries appeared to be back to normal.



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very grateful!

Reminder:

If you're thinking of nipping off on a quick holiday over Easter and putting your pet into boarding kennels, don't forget to check that their vaccinations are all up to date. If you need to have them updated, give us a call and we'll book you an appointment.



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WELL-known Lymm author Martin Edwards is one of 26 writers contributing to a crime book to help raise funds for charity.

Independent publisher Crème de la Crime, which specialises in debut crime fiction, is producing a collection of short crime fiction works. A proportion of the proceeds will go to support the National Hereditary Breast Cancer Helpline.

The collection, Criminal Tendencies, features 26 crime stories from writers including Val McDermid, Reginald Hill and Peter James. It will be on sale in April, priced £7.99.

Martin, a solicitor and author of the acclaimed Harry Devlin Mysteries, will have a story included in the book.



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Slimming is a family affair

MOTHERS and daughters are supporting each other to lose weight at a new slimming group in Lymm.

Since joining the group Hannah Naylor, who is getting married in the summer, has lost two stone. She has encouraged her mum, Gina Naylor, to join in and she too is working hard to lose weight for the big day.

Anna Fradgley is the new Slimming World consultant for the area. She runs sessions at 4.30 and 6pm at Lymm Village Hall.

She says she had a 'great response' to her advert in Lymm Life last month and as a result, many people signed up for the sessions.

Anna said: "We have a lot of family members joining - mothers and daughters, and people bringing their

sisters. People are doing brilliantly."

Anna has even recruited her mum, Lulu Gibbs, to join in.

She said: "It really can be easier if family members give each other support. They come together, cheer each other on and stick at it."

Pictured above weighing in at Slimming World at Lymm Village Hall from left, new member Gina Naylor, daughter Hannah Naylor who has lost two stone, Voirrey Crebbin who has lost two and a half stone, mother Georgina Crebbin who lost three and a half stone, consultant Anna Fradgley and her mother new member Lulu Gibbs.

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Vandals put out lights – again!

VANDALS have targeted decorative lighting alongside the Bridgewater Canal for a second time.

Local resident Peter Corbett who lives on the canal questions whether the lights should have ever been installed and fears they are a waste of money.

He said: "The lights were only installed about a year ago and the odd thing is that although they do look very attractive, they are not strictly necessary since it is fairly light along that path - I know because I live directly opposite the path and look at it every day and night - But it was someone's idea to put in these bollard lights which have a bulb at the top that is protected by a plastic "glass" cage strengthened by metal struts. Cosmetically they look great but being the age that I am has made me very cynical and so I was not in the least surprised when one week after they were switched on, they were all "broken". It turns out that this was achieved by someone persistently kicking the pillar so it rocks and the bulbs element is broken. Rather surprisingly, the "Environment and design team" of Warrington council did not see the vandalism coming, (although I did). They eventually did come out and replace all the bulbs but within a couple of weeks, every bulb but one had been kicked out and the posts are now extremely wobbly.

"Now I hate to say "I told you so", but really I could have told them so. The powers that be say that "no street

furniture is entirely resistant to targeted vandalism.

"If the authorities are aware that existing "furniture" is not vandal proof then why not look further afield? I'm sure that someone somewhere has encountered similar problems and come up with a product which makes more sense than a kickable tower.

"But more importantly if the product is now known to be non vandal proof, why bother to install it in the first place if (as is becoming apparent) no-one will take the ongoing responsibility for the repair/replacement/maintenance of the equipment when a vandal strikes?"

"The cost of sorting these lights out has become a real hot potato in Warrington council with departments eager to not be the ones to be held responsible."

Local councillor and leader of the borough council Ian Marks said: "These new lights are a very attractive addition to the look of the canal side in the centre of Lymm.

"They are very useful too because they light an otherwise dark area."

"Senseless vandalism is most regrettable because we have no lights and repairs just cost the taxpayer unnecessary money."

"I know the council is looking at ways of resolving this problem."



Coun Ian Marks with the vandalised lights

'Hidden gem' seeks new members

A 'HIDDEN gem' of a bowling club that has existed for more than 100 years is on the lookout for new members.

Oughtlington Bowling Club in Stage Lane, Lymm, offers a range of bowling and time for people to visit for a quiet game.

Separate sessions are held for women and men. The club has teams that play in leagues - the men play in Urmston and a mixed team plays in Knutsford.

A club spokesman said: "Some weekends we have club competitions, and very enjoyable they are.

"Even with a hundred year history we are always looking for and welcoming new members, so if you are interested, just come on down - there is always a cup of tea on hand."

Further information is available by emailing Gilliansaddress@aol.com or telephoning 01925 753 252.



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Waste Watchers holiday club!

PRIMARY school children are being invited to get involved in a five-day Wastewatchers holiday club.

Lymm and district Churches Together are organising the event at Lymm Baptist Church starting daily at 10am from Monday, February 16 to Friday, February 20.

An Elvis look-alike will be on hand

at an event designed to show how people can care for the world - and hearing about how God brings about transformation in it today.

There will be drama, games, challenges, crafts, singing and much

more.

Theme of the week will be the environment, recycling, looking after the world, etc.

Drama

The main hall at the Baptist Church will resemble a park scene and there will be a drama running throughout the week.

More details are available from Sheila or Sam at the church office on 01925 752805.



Seventies disco raised £2,500

A SEVENTIES disco organised by Lymm resident Joanne Brown raised £2,500 for Leukaemia Research.

Highlight of the night was three employees of Statham Lodge Hotel – Brian Plumbley, Chris Dykes and Mike Dore – raising £600 by having their chests waxed!

After the event at Thelwall Royal British Legion club, Joanne paid tribute to Lymm businesses and individuals who supported the event.

She has now raised about £15,000 for charity with a series of fundraising events over the last four years.

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Golf club celebrates 10th birthday

HIGH Legh Park Golf Club celebrates its 10th birthday this year - with a reduction in green fees that has seen more than 40 new members join in one week.

A annual seven day membership is now available for only £699, including VAT, with no joining fee.

In addition, general manager Derek Vaughan has disclosed that within the next two months the club will be investing in a state of the art golf swing analysis facility inside the club - so the weather will be no excuse for avoiding practicing!

The new facility will be utilised by a team of professionals headed by leading teaching professional Anthony Sprston.

The course was designed by former

Ryder Cup captain Mark James and internationally renowned golf course architect Steve Marnoch.

It is one of the few golf courses in the North West that can boast USGA specification tees and greens, the structure of which help create a reservoir effect during periods of drought yet provide rapid drainage during periods of heavy rain.

This has paid dividends as High Legh Park has never used a temporary green or tee since opening.

Club competitions take place at

least three times a week, giving members the opportunity to make new friends and golfing partners. The club has a very active ladies section which plays competitions every Tuesday.

Seniors play every Monday and there is a thriving junior section that has produced several of the top

amateur golfers in the North West. The extensive practice areas include three practice putting greens, practice bunkers, a pitching area and a driving range...all within 500 yards of the club house.

Another unique feature is weekly competitions which are open to all, including ladies and juniors. The club also has a restaurant, bar, function room and a business centre for corporate events or business meetings.

Advertiser's announcement

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SPRING is the perfect excuse for homeowners to get their house in order and give a hardworking oven a well deserved clean, according to professional oven-valeters Ovenu.

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But for even the most enthusiastic spring cleaners, donning rubber gloves and tackling the oven is still one of the most loathed chores.

Paul Clark from Ovenu Warrington, said: "Taking the time to have a good old clean can be very rewarding, but when it comes to cleaning the oven, most people would rather close the door and put it to the back of their minds!"

"Whether you're cooking for love or necessity, the more you use your oven the more debris and grease can start to build up and this can affect its efficiency. Roast dinners enjoyed over the winter months may be long gone from the dinner plate, but remnants could still be lurking in the oven, hiding behind the panels, behind the fan cover or even dribbling by the heating elements in those hard to reach places.

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Cats get the cream

DECORATED and distinguished former international and Super League referee Karl Kirkpatrick is set for a new role in the 13 aside sport as ambassador of the new Lymm based summer club the Cheshire Cats.

After a glittering career 'in the middle' including Grand Finals and Challenge Cup Finals Karl is delighted with his new role saying: "I am honoured to be asked to be the Cheshire Cats official Ambassador.

"There is a very rich seam of talent in the South Warrington area and this should ensure a bright future for the club.

"I also fully support the concept of Summer rugby for youngsters and the Cats decision to play at this time of year coupled with the playing of fixtures in the Midlands League will - I am sure - act as catalysts for others to follow suit in due course."

Former Super League Referee of the year and Warrington born Karl added: "I intend to assist the Cheshire Cats in a number of ways both on and off the field of play."

Cheshire Cats Chairman Neil Waters is equally thrilled with the appointment -

"Karl will be a tremendous asset to the club both in terms of being a role model for the club's youngsters and with his many business and sporting links."

Training for the new club will commence at Crouchley Lane on Wednesday April 8 at 6.30pm.

The club will start with an under



12s team which will play in the Midlands League starting in May.

For further information contact Chairman Neil Waters 07980 136869 or email neil.waters@cheshirecatsrl.co.uk



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LYMM beat cup favourites

LYMM RFC Under 15's beat County Cup holders and pre-match favourites, Sandbach RFC 10 – 8 to make the semi-final of the Cheshire Cup.

They will now play Anselmians for a place in the final at a date to be fixed, possibly Sunday March 22nd at Lymm.

Coach, Oz Pennington commented, "This side has the potential to be the best side in Cheshire at this age group. They work hard for each other, tackle everything that moves and have a number of exciting strike runners. We are in for a great second half of the season."

Samba band needs more players

LYMM Samba Band, which regularly wows onlookers at the May Queen Festival, Dickensian Day, etc, is on the look-out for new members.

Youngsters aged 16-plus are wanted to swell the ranks of the band, which currently has about 25 members.

Percussionist and performing arts teacher Chris Haynes, who organises the band, said: "What we need most is percussion players.

"We have instruments available and tuition is free. There's no fee for joining.

"But we could also do with dancers and perhaps some brass players - trumpets, trombones...any instrument that can be played on the move.

"If we could get some brass players, or saxophonists, we could expand the band quite a bit.

"We play at festivals all over the place in the summer but we could do with more players."

The band rehearses every Wednesday at Lymm's Bridgewater Club. Anyone interested should contact Chris on 07985 578530.

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Hosts wanted for French twins!

LYMM'S French Twin Town group are looking forward to welcoming 40-50 visitors from Meung-sur-Loire to the village from May 20-24.

Chairman Peter Birchall (pictured) would like to hear from potential Lymm and District hosts who would be interested in providing accommodation for three or four couples who are keen to establish a link with Lymm.

During the visit the official reception and dinner will take place on Saturday May 23 at the Mere Golf & Country Club.

An excellent four-course dinner and a few short speeches will be complemented by music and dancing to the superb local traditional-jazz band, The Chicago Teddy Bears.



Meanwhile the group is organising a fund-raising 'French Evening' dinner at Oughtrington Community Centre on Saturday March 7.

For more information contact Peter on 01928 579164.

Pupils plan special garden

PUPILS at Little Bollington CE Primary School, near Lymm are starting work on a special garden for the RHS Flower Show at Tatton Park, Knutson in July.

The youngsters hope the local community will help with donations of wood, paint, plants and guidance to help them create the work.

Based on the theme 'Take a Closer Look' the garden will promote Kabuki Research, in memory of former pupil Hannah Scales who died after suffering from the condition.

The school was runner-up in the schools section at the show two years ago and received a crystal bowl, certificate and £50 in vouchers.

Head teacher Caroline Johnstone said: "The garden will encourage people to look closer at things and use their senses."

Traders' anger over pay-and-display

SHOPKEEPERS in Lymm are strongly opposed to any 'watering down' of the proposals for pay-and-display parking in the village.

Members of the Lymm Traders Association also believe a consultation exercise carried out by Warrington Borough Council was seriously flawed.

Originally, the plan was to introduce pay-and-display on the village's three car parks at Pepper Street, Henry Street and Davies Way - with the first two hours free.

But now it appears borough traffic chiefs want restrict the scheme to the Pepper Street car park only.

Traders - whose businesses are suffering because people can't

park in the village - claim the plan is being watered down because of objections from a handful of people.

They also believe most of the objections are based on a misunderstanding of the situation caused by the flawed consultation exercise.

The original plan included parking restrictions roads near the village to prevent a nuisance for residents caused by a major increase in on-street parking.

But the traders say the consultation exercise failed to mention the proposals to restrict parking in residential roads - resulting in objections from some residents.

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Healthy start

THE eagerly awaited show home launch at Beechwood in Lymm was a huge success as over 70 visitors made their way to the new Crosby Lend Lease development on Sandy Lane.

The opening gave visitors the opportunity to view the interiors of one of the elegant new homes at Beechwood for the first time. This exclusive development of just 35 Crosby Lend Lease homes, comprises 2 bedroom apartments, 3 bedroom mews homes and 3 and 4 bedroom town houses. The show home and sales suite was launched with a host of healthy New Year promotional activities in and around Lymm. Eye-catching ad-bikes rode around Lymm village to help raise local awareness of Beechwood in an eco-friendly way. Visitors were tempted by refreshing 'smoothies' and wholesome warming soup, whilst they were invited to enter a prize draw to win £1,000 of Center Parcs vouchers, to get 2009 off to a healthy start. A magician and juggler were on hand to keep the children entertained and each child was given a Crosby Lend Lease seed pot to enjoy growing their own vegetables at home.

Clare Noakes, Sales and Marketing Manager for Crosby Lend Lease said: "Our visitors at the launch were impressed by the flexible space and high specification on offer. These stunning town houses feature over 1300sqft of living space with on average, around 200sqft more floor space than the standard family home from other volume house builders. Each home at Beechwood comes with stylish kitchens designed by Nobilia and fitted with integrated brand name appliances, as well as chic contemporary bathrooms with chrome fixtures and beautiful finishing throughout, all included in the price."

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Dismount strategies for dead horses

The tribal wisdom of the North American Dakota Indians passed down from generation to generation says that "when you discover that you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount". This wisdom extends to an understanding of the strategies that do not work. These include:

- Buying a stronger whip.
- Doing nothing: "This is the way we have always ridden dead horses".
- Visiting other countries to see how they ride dead horses.
- Performing a productivity study to see if lighter riders improve the dead horse's performance.
- Modifying existing standards to include dead horses.
- Harnessing several dead horses together in an attempt to increase their speed.
- Re-classifying the dead horse as "living-impaired".
- Rewrite the expected performance requirements for all horses.

Of course a dead horse to the Dakota Indians was one that could no longer perform to the ability required during a battle and was therefore running dead. They would simply dismount at an opportune time and a fresh horse would be delivered to them by a rider who had the sole responsibility of providing fresh horses to the warriors in the front line.

If only business strategy was that easy. However it is amazing how much time, effort and energy business owners will put into trying to breathe life into 'dead horses' instead of committing their valuable resources to more productive pursuits. Most would be able to reflect on specific things that they have poured considerable time and money into, only to achieve poor results.

While there is no doubt that running a business is about taking risks, there needs to be an appreciation that sometimes the only means of achieving the desired results is to adopt new strategies. In a way, persevering with poor strategy is like putting up with a car engine that is steadily going out of tune. It's not until you have it serviced that you truly understand how bad things had been. Perhaps if cars engines or business strategy were like horses the path to non performance would be a lot faster and we would be more ready to make the required changes.

In next month's edition of Styles Files we'll help you to recognise the 'dead horses' in your business and to implement effective ways of 'dismounting' them.



Please note that these ideas are intended to inform rather than advise and you should always obtain professional advice before taking any action

If you would like more information on this or any of the previous subjects we have featured, please contact Les Styles or Ian Lloyd on 01925 761600.

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Speaker told 'put a sock in it'

THE speaker at Heatley WI was politely told to 'put a sock in it' by one of the members.

Mr Alan Hadfield talked about Christmas traditions that are taken for granted.

He then spoke about the origins of everyday sayings. He said that because the country is an island nation many of the sayings are naval based – such as "brass monkeys" and "son of a gun."

His talk ended with one member telling him to "put a sock in it." He was thanked by Jean Higgins.

At the start of the meeting a minute's silence was held in memory of Elizabeth Williams who had recently died.

Ann Oakes introduced the new secretary Ann Malcolm who, she said, carried out the job as 'to the

manor born."

Members agreed to take a plant to June Marshall, who is ill. A surprise bouquet was presented to Zena Morgan to mark her 80th birthday.

Margaret Sharpe had attended a meeting to discuss the selected resolutions for the AGM in June, and was planning to attend the County Annual Meeting in Winsford in March.

Future events include a walk around Lymm Dam and a quiz.

The competition for an old book was won by Christine Syers and Joyce Heald, and the raffle by Dorothy Westby and Beryl Kirkham.

Lymm Lions are holding a

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Dining Out with Lymm Life

at Greenfields

ONCE in a while, as we wander the Warrington area in search of places to dine, we chance upon a gem.

Greenfields, in Barley Road, Thelwall is such a place. If you've not come across it yourself, it's probably because it only opened in late August. But plenty of people have found it and it has been receiving rave reviews on internet restaurant guides.

We went on a cold winter's evening and were immediately impressed by the warm, cosy atmosphere.

Impressive

The menu was equally impressive with a bewildering choice of starters, main courses, salads, platters to share and desserts – complemented by an excellent wine list.

Starters included freshly made soup, breaded goats cheese roulade with blueberry mayonnaise, port and stilton mushrooms with caramelised pears and salami and manchego platter.

The soup was a delicious and welcome starter on a cold night. We followed it with lamp rump on creamy mashed potatoes with tomato and olive compote and pan-fried free-range chicken breast, stuffed with chorizo and manchego on a bed of

crushed new potatoes and slow roasted peppers.

There was a wide range of other main courses ranging from winter vegetable stew with herbed dumplings to blocked seabass with asparagus and prawn to Porterhouse steak with home made chips, roast mushroom and tomato.

A feature of the menu was a quite remarkable range of vegetarian choices.

Desserts included chocolate brownie stack with hot fudge sauce, winterberry soufflé, homemade sticky toffee pudding or homemade ice cream.

Mind-boggling

Greenfields is also a delicatessen so the dessert menu also offers "anything in the deli counter" which extends the choice to mind-boggling proportions.

Our evening was made the more enjoyable by friendly and helpful staff – so we think we will call again – particularly as Greenfields opens from 7.30am (9.30am at weekends) and serves highly acclaimed breakfasts!



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Obituaries

Barbara Bullock



THE funeral has taken place of Mrs Barbara Bullock, of Thelwall Grange Nursing Home, who died on January 2 aged 87.

Mrs Bullock, who suffered a stroke in 2004, was well known in the Lymm area having lived there since 1960. She was the organist at the United Reformed Church for more than 30 years, played the piano for a dance class and sang with Lymm and district choirs.

For many years she was a member of Lymm Women's Institute and the Altrincham Ramblers. She was a founder member of Lymm Ladies Ramblers and also enjoyed bowls, yoga, swimming and volunteering at St Rocco's shop.

She is survived by her husband Norman, brother Frank, two daughters, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

She was cremated at Altrincham and more than 150 family and friends celebrated her life at Lymm URC on January 12. Donations were sent to St Rocco's.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons, Lymm.

Mary Newton



THE funeral has taken place of Mrs Mary Newton, nee Sudall, of Birch Farm, Moss Lane, Warburton, who died peacefully in

Warrington Hospital on October 13.

Mrs Newton, who leaves her husband Geoff and daughter Chris, lived in Lymm before her marriage.

She had been ill for some time and found it extremely difficult to come to terms with losing her daughter Barbara in January.

Before illness she was active on various committees and always busy helping at events. She was a skilled dressmaker and made many fine outfits, she loved gardening and worked on a farm in her younger days.

Her granddaughters Nicola, Joanna and Jessica spoke of their memories of her at the funeral, making the family proud. Her great grandchildren Marcus and Alicia also brought her a lot of joy. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

The funeral was at Warburton Church followed by interment at Warburton Old Church.

The arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons, Lymm.

Ron Thorpe

THE funeral has taken place of Mr Ron Thorpe, of Woodland Avenue, Lymm, who died in Warrington Hospital on December 30, aged 77.

Mr Thorpe was the retired manager of Barclays Bank and was well known in the village. He was a keen bowler at Oughtlington and High Legh.

He leaves a widow Audrey and daughters Lynn and Wendy. The family would like to thank those who gave donation to Myeloma UK in his memory.

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Beatrice Daniels

THE funeral has taken place of Mrs Beatrice A Daniels, of Egerton Road, Lymm, who died on November 25 at Warrington Hospital aged 81.

Mrs Daniels was born in Lymm and lived in the village all her life. She was a member of Oughtlington Bowling Club and Lymm WI.

She leaves three brothers, 11 nieces and three nephews.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

Readers' Letter

Please send your correspondence to:
Lymm Life, New Media Centre, Old Road, Warrington WA4 1AT
or email: info@lymm.life.co.uk

Ongoing debate

Jac

COULD I add to the ongoing debate about parking in Lymm? Along with following the route Stockton Heath has taken in terms of two hours free parking, couldn't we free up a few precious spaces by getting rid of the recycling area near the library.

All residents in Lymm now have regular blue bin collections and doorstep clothing collections at least once a month. Why do we need a recycling area in our centre? Apart from the fact that it isn't needed anymore, it's an eyesore and has been used irresponsibly by people in the past.

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