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March 2016
Issue: 204

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Editor's Comment

WE have no doubt the historic villages of Lymm and Thelwall will survive as separate entities despite the insensitive actions of the Local Government Boundary Commission in monkeying around with their boundaries.

People living in the Lymm part of the new electoral ward of Lymm North and Thelwall will still have a Lymm postal address and will be no less a Lymm resident than those living in Lymm South.

We know residents of Thelwall who are just as proud of their local community as any "Lymm Grey" and who will lose little sleep over being torn apart from Grappenhall, with whom they have been paired for more than 100 years.

But this doesn't make the boundary changes, which have now been approved by Parliament, any more sensible. We said last month the changes defied all logic and nothing has happened since to

make us change our view.

However, what is done, is done and everyone living in Lymm and Thelwall (and a significant part of Grappenhall too) will have to put up with it.

The council elections to take place in May will be contested on the new boundaries and some existing councillors will, assuming they are re-elected, find themselves representing different people living in different areas.

We salute the local politicians, of all parties, who did their best to stop the changes coming into force. They had a strong, common sense, argument but it did not impress the Boundary Commission "experts"

who were only interested in the mathematics of the situation

One local politician went so far to describe their conclusions as "stupid" and we would not argue with his choice of word.

Deadline for the April issue of Lynn Life is March 1

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Lymm High regains top spot in schools' league table

STUDENTS and staff at Lymm High School are celebrating after the publication of the official league tables showed that the school has regained top spot in Warrington.

Seventy four per cent of students gained the key benchmark of at least 5 A*-C grades including English and Maths, more than any other school in the borough.

The school also saw the best results at A'level, with 53% gaining A*-B grades and 79% A*-C grades and the highest average grade per



A' level entry in Warrington.

Headteacher, Gwyn Williams, said: "There is no complacency about these results. We recognise that, with the wonderful cohort of able and motivated students we have here, we absolutely should be somewhere near the top of these tables. Nevertheless, the results are a confirmation of the fact that the school is in really good shape and we will use the energy this generates to ensure that we continue to go from strength to strength.

"Exam results matter a huge amount in terms of the opportunities they open up, as well as for the

confidence that a good set of results can give young people. For this reason, we will never shy away from keeping excellent academic performance at the heart of our vision for a great school. There is a real desire in the school to build on these excellent results over the next couple of years and I have every confidence we can achieve that.

"Staff worked incredibly hard last year to help so many students get over the line and they deserve tremendous credit for that – as, of course, do the students and families themselves. I congratulate all of them wholeheartedly."

Lymm has now leap-frogged Bridgewater High School to be top of the School League Table in Warrington.

Percentage achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) including English and maths GCSEs:

Lymm High School	74%
Bridgewater High School	71%
Great Sankey High School	63%
Cardinal Newman Catholic High School	63%
St Gregory's Catholic High School	63%
Culcheth High School Community School	62%
Birchwood Community High School	54%
Penketh High School	51%
Beamont Collegiate	51%
University Academy Warrington	45%
Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School	32%

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March 14th

LYMM HISTORY SOCIETY

Underground Manchester - Keith Warrender
Visitors always welcome
More info Lynne Smith 01925 756776

March 8th

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
Oughtibridge Community Centre, Lymm
Details: 01925 755126

ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM

Every Wednesday at Statham Lodge Hotel
7.15pm for 7.30pm
Contact the secretary 01925 650189

LOVING HEARTS & HANDS

Knitting for charity at Lymm Methodist Church,
2nd and 4th Thursday each month.
1.30pm - 3pm. Details: 01925 753298

MARKET LUNCHES

Eagle Brow Methodist Church
3rd Thursday in the month
Light lunches 12 noon till 2pm. All proceeds to
Youth For Christ and YMCA Room at The Inn

LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY

DANCE CLUB

St Mary's Church Hall
Second and fourth Fridays (Sept - May)
7.30pm. Details: 753853

GARDENING CLUB

Meet Third Wednesday of the month
Lymm Baptist Church, Higher Lane. 7.30pm
Visitors welcome. £2 includes tea and cake

LYMM FLORAL ART GROUP

Lymm Village Hall, 7.45pm for 8pm,
Last Friday in the month (ex June & July).
Guest speaker, Slide Show, Refreshments.
Visitors welcome. First visit FREE.

Also field trips. Details: lymmfla.co.uk

LYMM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday
(ex July & Aug), 7.30pm
Spread Eagle pub, Eagle Brow.

Details: www.lymmphtosoc.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.
cafh@cstones.co.uk



LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Next meeting is
Tuesday, February 9th
Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

Janet receives award from Prince Charles

LYMM resident Janet Guest - an assistant practitioner at University Hospital of South Manchester - received her MBE from Prince Charles at an investiture at Buckingham Palace.

Janet, who has worked at the hospital for 16 years, received the award as part of the Queen's Birthday Honours in recognition of her work to help and support people who have endured domestic, ritual and honour-based abuse.

She is a complex needs facilitator with the Manchester Adult Burns Service, based at UHSM's



Wythenshawe Hospital Burns Unit.

UHSM's chief nurse, Mandy Bailey, said: "Through Janet's work on the Burns Unit at UHSM, she identified a clear need to provide further support to some of our most vulnerable patients.

"She single-handedly began organising conferences to raise awareness of domestic ritual and honour-based abuse amongst multi-agency professional bodies, who will experience dealing with these issues.

"A huge congratulations to Janet on this thoroughly deserved award and I'm delighted her determination and commitment has been recognised in this way."

Janet said: "I am incredibly honoured to be receiving this award."

"To receive such a high accolade for something I feel so passionate about is very humbling and I would like to thank everyone who has supported me in raising awareness of these incredibly important issues."

Janet began organising the roadshows more than five years ago, alongside agencies including Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, Greater Manchester Police and the charity Karma Nirvana.

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World Cup winner will be special guest at Brazil '66

Pictures: Eddie Whitham

THE final piece in the jigsaw for Brazillym '66 is now in place with the announcement that England World Cup winner Roger Hunt will be the event's special guest.

The former England and Liverpool star who still lives Warrington, will be at the opening event at 6pm on Sunday February 21.

"We are thrilled that Roger has accepted our invitation" said event organiser Alan Williams.

"It gives us chance to turn it



into a double fiftieth anniversary celebration – Brazil's visit to Lymm and England's World Cup victory."

Roger Hunt or "Sir Roger" as he is affectionately known in Liverpool is a legend with fans there. He still holds the record as Liverpool's top league scorer of all time. And in the 1966 World Cup it was Roger again who scored three of the four goals that got England safely through the group stages.

Roger himself is delighted to be able to return to the Lymm Hotel where he stayed on many occasions pre-match.

"Bill Shankly used to take us to the Lymm hotel before some of the big games at Anfield," recalled Roger, who started his playing career at Cantilever Park, the home of Warrington Town FC.

Tickets are selling fast for this unique event which will feature a huge collection of 1966 World Cup memorabilia as well as a "never before seen" collection of images of the team during their stay.

The event is being enthusiastically supported by the Lymm Hotel's new manager Jamie McDonald.

Jamie said: "The event is to support the new Heritage Centre and the team there having been doing a great job helping putting this event together to celebrate the most important event in the hotel's own heritage. We hope to see

our connection with Pele become a permanent part of the hotel's attraction."

With music from a live Samba Band, a 60s buffet and a reunion of some of the staff and local people associated with the visit in 1966 it promises to be quite a night.

Tickets (£12.50 or £3 for children 5-15) from the Lymm Hotel or via www.lymmhic.co.uk

The event stays open to visitors for a further three days when school and other groups are also welcome by appointment.



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Youth Club top of the league

SINCE George Hussey and Matt Taylor were presented with Voluntary Celebration Awards by Warrington Voluntary Action in 2014 they have continued to work hard for Lymm Senior Youth Club.

That commitment was recognised again recently when the club's football team were presented with certificates, not just for their consistently good results but their record of fair play.

The team participate every Friday in the "Street League" at Orford Jubilee Hub. The league is

organised by Livewire Warrington with the aim of providing a positive and rewarding activity for teenagers.

Matt and George said: "It's been a great team effort. It isn't always easy for us as we have further to travel than every other group. But there is great team spirit. We just seem to be getting better and better

and are currently top of the league for the second time. And of course we have some laughs too."

Two individuals did get singled out for special mention. Joe Lakin was awarded "most improved player" while the prize for player of the year went to Alex Hudson.

Lymm Senior Youth Club next to the canal of Bridgewater Street is open to 11-18 year olds every Monday. On Friday from 4.45 to 6.15 there is a session for primary school children from 6-11.



Back row: George Hussey (coach), George Harvey, James Jackson, James Johnson, Josh Randles, Alex Hudson, Owen Davies, Joe Lakin, Matt Taylor (manager). Front row: Johnny Kennedy, Theo Stanway, Josh Catherall

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Sounds like Will has a lot to shout about

A STUDENT from Lymm with a talent for making a noise has secured a spot at the UK's top university for those who like to work behind the scenes.

Will Thompson, aged 17, will join the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama – the equivalent of Oxbridge for those interested in production arts – after two years studying at Warrington's Priestley College.

He wowed lecturers with his passion and ability to create sounds to accompany stage productions.

Will said: "It was my first choice and I've had a month of sleepless nights waiting to see if I got in.

"I visited and loved the university environment and the lecturers' attitude towards letting you discover things for yourself."

The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama was founded in 1906 and became part of the University of London in 2005.

Among its alumni are Laurence

Olivier and Harold Pinter.

Will, who has been creating sounds with an array of "instruments" since he was at Lymm High School, set his sights on the university after Priestley tutor Mark Edgington suggested it would be his ideal destination.

In order to impress lecturers and gain more experience, he secured work with director Matthew Gould creating sounds for him at home before helping set the stage for a performance at TESTBED1 in Battersea.

Will, who studies production arts, electronics and music technology at Priestley, is also providing sounds for a performance at the Edinburgh Fringe Film Festival.

If past efforts are anything to go by, he can achieve anything with a

little imagination and creativity.

For when he was asked to create the sound of a telescope being dragged along a theatre floor he found a solution – dragging a bin full of chicken feed across his garage.

"I love the process of having an idea for a sound, putting it together and seeing if it works on stage," said Will.

"It's also fun to see how a cast and audience react to the sounds you have created."



Will, in one of the media suites at Priestley College.

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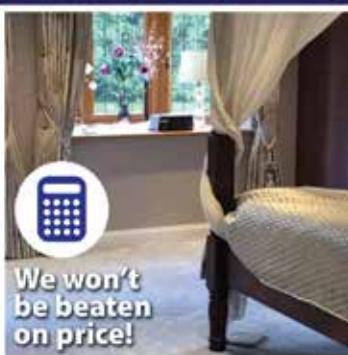
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Folk due start national tour in Lymm

AN award-winning folk duo are touring the country to support the release of their third album – and they are starting in Lymm

Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar are one of the most sought after young acts on the folk music scene today.

Since winning the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award in 2013 they've released two albums, a live DVD and picked up the Radio 2 Horizon Award.

Their third album is entitled "The Silent Majority."

The duo will be at Lymm Festival's "Winter Warmer" folk night at Lymm Golf Club on Friday, March 4.

Tickets at £11 can be bought in advance online at www.lymmfestival.org.uk

Playing a mixture of traditional and contemporary music from the British Isles, Russell (vocal, guitar and bouzouki) and Algar (violin and bouzouki) have built up a strong following and a reputation as an impressive and engaging live act.

They will be supported by Calico and compere Kathy Runswick

Cancer survivor to run London Marathon

A FORMER Lymm man who won a three-year battle with cancer is to take part in the London Marathon in April to raise money for the charity Leukaemia Care.

Alistair "Ali" Harwood aims to not only complete the run, but to do it in a competitive time."

Ali was born and grew up in Lymm and was a pupil at Ravenbank Primary School before moving up to Lymm High School and then Staffordshire University.

He was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2009 – just weeks after starting a new and exciting life in Surrey.

He went through three years of gruelling treatment, including a stem cell transplant, but is now in full remission.

He sees running the marathon as a way of returning some to the wider cancer sufferers' community.

He has set himself a target of raising £2,000 and has already raised 96 per cent of it.

A former Scout, Ali worked as a chef at the Church Green and Jolly Thresher pubs and was a regular at the Golden Fleece.

He is well known around Lymm.

His father, former parish council chairman Tim Harwood, said: "I'm sure his many friends would be more than willing to help him

raise much-needed funds for such a deserving cause.

"Any marathon is a challenge to even the fittest, but for someone who has been through such an ordeal, we are all finding his efforts that much more remarkable."

Now 28, Ali is getting married to Lara at the beginning of April, and is living in Banstead, Surrey, working as an IT Professional in Central London.

Anyone who would like to support Ali can do so through his Justgiving page www.justgiving.com/owner-email/pleasesponsor/ALISTAIR-HARWOOD



'Save the dolphins' campaigner detained in Japan

A Lymm man who volunteers for conservation charity Sea Shepherd was detained and then refused entry to Japan where he had planned to peacefully demonstrate against the slaughter of dolphins.

Builder Tony Land was questioned for more than two hours before being ordered to return home.

Sea Shepherd believe the refusal to allow Mr Land entry to Japan is an attempt to hide the brutal slaughter of dolphins at Taiji, where there is an annual "dolphin drive."

Mr Land is a veteran crew member with Sea Shepherd and has taken part in numerous campaigns, including one previous visit to Taiji.

It is not the first time a Sea Shepherd volunteer has been denied entry to Japan.

No reason has ever been given, although Japan has claimed that volunteers arriving with tourist visas are not tourists.

Bloodshed

Sea Shepherd campaign co-ordinator David Hance said: "We believe that these refusals are desperate attempts by Japan to hide the bloodshed that turns the waters of Taiji's now infamous cove red with the blood of dolphins and

pilot whales, and evidence that Japan knows Sea Shepherd has been effective in exposing these atrocities to the world.

"Anthony Land, like all of our Cove Guardian crew, traveled to Japan to peacefully document and expose the brutal drive hunt in Taiji within the boundaries of Japanese law.

Massacre

"Though carried out by a handful of hunters, this massacre of ocean wildlife brings shame to the entire nation of Japan. As Sea Shepherd founder, Captain Paul Watson, has said, our volunteers are 'armed' with the world's most powerful weapon – the camera.

"I find it very interesting that none of the Sea Shepherd members have broken the law or acted inappropriately while on the ground, and yet they continue to deny our access. It really makes me wonder what they have to hide, if what they are doing is OK."





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High winds bring down tree at Lymm car park

MOTORISTS had a lucky escape when high winds felled a tree at a Lymm car park.

The tree came down at the Davies Way car park near Lymm village centre, just missing parked cars.

The near miss was captured on camera by local dentist Gavin Laidlaw from nearby Dental Solutions.



Obituaries

Granville Gough

THE death occurred at the Walton Centre, Liverpool, on January 21 of architect Robert Granville Gough, formerly of Lymm.

Born in Birmingham in 1945, Granville obtained his degree from the University of Birmingham's School of Architecture in 1967.

He practiced for more than 40 years and considered his house, The Polygons, in Dank Bank Road, Lymm, to be his masterpiece.

It received a Grade 2 Listing from English Heritage in 2014.

Granville is survived his wife, Crystal E Bellinger, two sons in London, and a stepson and stepdaughter both in the United States.

A memorial service to celebrate Granville's life will be held on Sunday, May 6, at The Spread Eagle in Lymm.



Helen Stevenson

THE funeral has taken place of Helen Stevenson, nee Somers, aged 76 of Highfield Road, Lymm, who died suddenly at her allotment in Star Lane, Lymm, on November 20.

The funeral took place at Walton Lea Crematorium on December 4.

Born in Paisley, Scotland, Mrs Stevenson moved to Lymm in 1981. She worked as a laboratory technician at Sir Thomas Boteler High School and the Environment

Agency.

A keen gardener and allotment holder, she was a member of Lymm Jubilee Garden Club and Lymm Jubilee WI and was a volunteer guide in the Japanese Garden at Tatton Park.

She is survived by her daughters Laura and Gill and grandson Joe.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

Christina Dover

THE funeral took place at Altrincham Crematorium on December 3 of Christina Dover, aged 83, who died in hospital at Warrington on November 21.

Known to friends and family as Tina, she had lived the last 12 years of her life in Lymm and then in nursing homes in Warrington.

She is survived by her sons John and Richard and grandchildren Alice, Charlotte, Andrew and Stuart.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

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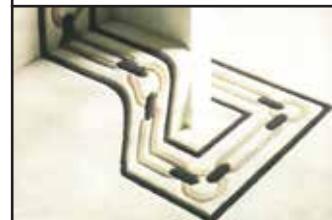
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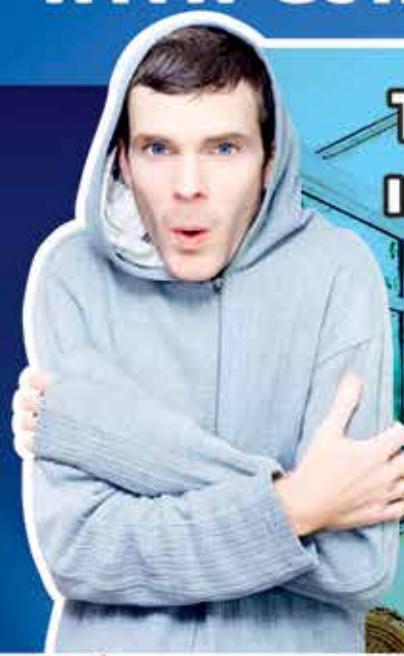
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