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May 2017
Issue: 218

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**Candice
embarks on
charity trail**

Page 3



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Editor's Comment



It WOULD appear that some businesses in Lymm are facing huge rate increases this year which seems totally unfair – when I am aware some businesses in Warrington town centre are becoming zero rated!

I am unsure what the criteria is when rates are being worked out but a special meeting has been called at Lymm Village Hall on

Tuesday May 16, when expert advice will be on hand.

I would recommend any trader unsure of their rates attends this meeting.

Exemptions and rate reliefs are certainly available so it is important you find out if you qualify. It could make a huge difference as to whether a business can survive or not.

Meanwhile on a positive note Lymm Village now has its free one hour parking back, although this victory for common sense, will see charges implemented in the evenings instead.

Congratulations to local councillor Anna Fradgley on her endeavours – I know she has put a lot of hard work into the campaign to get the free one hour back.

A lot of hard work is also going into setting up the Keep Lymm Klean group, with the aim of encouraging volunteers to take responsibility for some of the litter which blight our village.

If you have a spare couple of hours a week I would recommend joining this group, as it can be very rewarding being involved in community projects.

— LYMM VILLAGE —

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Candice embarks on charity trail

LYMM beauty Candice Hedges is embarking on the charity trail after winning through to the Grand Finals of the UK Power Pageant for the title of Miss International UK.

The 26 year old is the title holder of Miss Warrington International which she won earlier this year, beating off the challenge of hundreds of other hopefuls. The Grand Final is taking place in June in Preston where seven titles will be awarded with the prize of an all expenses trip to Japan for the World finals.

There are several criteria on which the contestants are judged,

firstly it is for their fundraising efforts, then their personality is put to the test in an onstage interview. Next follows a swimwear section, evening wear and finally another interview. Any appearances and publicity count towards the final total so it will be a busy few months for Candice.

To help raise funds for charity Candice is taking part in The Three Peaks Challenge to raise money for the Christie and the Prostate Cancer Research Centre.

The challenge involves climbing three mountains in two days, Snowdon, the highest peak in Wales, Cadair Idris and Pen y Fan.

Meanwhile Candice is also hosting her own garden party and BBQ to raise money for the Christie. Also on the cards are several appearances at charity fundraisers, sponsored walks, good causes and voluntary work in a local charity

shop.

As well as her main job as a skincare specialist Candice is also a singer and actress attending the Stage Pro School and recently appeared in a music video for an up and coming Manchester band.

Speaking at her home in Lymm she said "Being chosen as a finalist in such a prestigious event is such a big achievement for me and I hope it is just the beginning."

Anyone who would like Miss Warrington International to support a charity event or good cause contact Candice.scarlet@hotmail.com

Donation sites have been set up at the following sites for the two main charities:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/candice-hedges for the Christie

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/CandiceHedges> for the Prostate Cancer Research Centre



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What's On

in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



May 8

LYMM HISTORY SOCIETY

Geoff Scargill
Edward Watkin – The Last Laugh Of the
Railway King
More info Lynn Smith 01925 756776

May 9

LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

LYMM THURSDAY EVENING

BRIDGE CLUB

Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm

MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP

Meet each Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm
Oughtrington Community Centre, Lymm
Details: 01925 755126

ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM

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

LOVING HEARTS & HANDS

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

MARKET LUNCHES

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

LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY

DANCE CLUB

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

GARDENING CLUB

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

LYMM FLORAL ART GROUP

Lymm Village Hall
Third Monday of the month (except August)
at 7.30pm

LYMM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday
(ex July & Aug), 7.30pm
Spread Eagle pub, Eagle Brow.
Details: www.lymmphotosoc.org.uk

LYMM WINE AND BEER CIRCLE

3rd Wednesday of the month, 8pm
The Spread Eagle Hotel
Details: 01925 604400

LYMM CONCERT BAND

Rehearsals every Thursday evening
United Reformed Church, 8pm.
Details: 01925 752934

THE VENUE, LYMM

Chess Club every Monday from 6pm,
Open Mic Night every Tuesday from 9pm,
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LYMM WI

Every second Wednesday, 2-4pm at Lymm
Youth and Community Centre. Visitors
welcome.

LYMM BOOK CLUB

Second Thursday of the month 7.30pm,
Spread Eagle, Eagle Brow. Details 01925
752371

LOW CARBON LYMM

Every second Monday of the month. 7.30pm,
Spread Eagle. 07786 074741 all welcome

4LYMM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION

Meet every 2nd Monday at 7.30pm in the
Bridgewater Club, Whitbarrow Road.
All welcome. Tel 01925 756378 for details.

LYMM AND DISTRICT MIXED VOICE CHOIR

Every Wednesday 7.30 Lymm Methodist
Church. Contact 01925 601664.
cath@stones.co.uk



LYMM
PARISH
COUNCIL

Next meeting May 9
Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm



Local Singers raise £300 for Macmillan Cancer Support

DID you see these ladies last Dickensian Day?

They are Serenade (Serenade-Lymm.com) who were dressed in Dickensian Day outfits and singing carols in 4-part acapella around Lymm that Saturday afternoon and with the support of The Wine Kitchen and visitors to Lymm village, raised a magnificent £300 for Macmillan cancer support.

Probus Club to admit women members

THE Probus Club of Lymm is, for the first time since it was founded in 1974, inviting women members.

Retired professional and business people interested in making new friends are being invited to join the club, which meets fortnightly at the Lymm Hotel.

Each meeting is addressed by a guest speaker or by one of its own members and also organises several visits and holidays throughout the year.

The meetings start at 2.15pm at the Lymm Hotel on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, excluding August and December.

Anyone interested in joining should call secretary John Ross on 01925 754315 or chairman Ray Banton on 07831 271847.

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Traders face 'huge' increases in rates

A MEETING has been called to discuss 'huge' increases in business rates which are threatening to force some shops in South Warrington to close.

The meeting has been arranged by Lymm parish councillor Graham Gowland and will take place at Lymm Village Hall, Pepper Street, Lymm on Tuesday, May 16 at 7.30

Among the speakers will be Andy Carson, revaluation and market analysis team leader of the Valuation Office Agency and Mark Watkins, exchequer manager of Warrington Borough Council on Non Domestic Rates.

Cllr Gowland said: "A lot of businesses in Lymm and Stockton Heath have seen huge increases in their business rates.

"The meeting will cover valuations, exemptions and rates relief and how to appeal rateable values.

"By the date of the meeting the borough council should have in place its policy on rates relief - or how they are helping local businesses survive the increases.

"For some businesses, this could be the final straw - I know of one small shop that is seeing a sudden increase of £8,000 pa that could be the end for them."

The open meeting will not be discussing individual valuations.

Lymm takes 'best place to live' tag in its stride

THE people of Lymm took a rather blasé attitude to the news that the village had - once again - figured in the annual Sunday Times "best places to live" list.

There was a "oh, that again" response from many residents - and a touch of indignation from one long-standing villager who commented: "The Sunday Times seems to think we are a town."

Lymm did not come top of the North West list - that honour fell to Knutsford. But the newspaper regarded Lymm highly for its proximity to the M6 and the M56, ease of commuting to Manchester and Liverpool, its variety of shops, the Bridgewater Canal and its general "prettiness."

One person who did not take the success lightly was local councillor Ian Marks.

He said: "I am delighted that Lymm has once again been selected to appear in the 'Best Places to Live' list. This comes as no surprise to those of us who are fortunate to live here. There is a tremendous community spirit and a wide variety of organisations and groups catering for all interests."



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Let's get Lymm blooming!

MEMBERS of the award winning Lymm in Bloom group are looking for more volunteers to help brighten up the village.

Although John and Wendy Connolly have not attended the working groups for Lymm in Bloom they have produced a lovely floral area underneath the sign for Lymmington Avenue in Statham.

Lymm in Bloom member Su Williams said: "It would be so good for the village to have others supporting the Lymm in Bloom group by decorating the area around the road signs for their location in the village."

"When the In Bloom judges drive into the village and travel around to view the areas where the gardening group have been

working, they would see these floral installations, which would be a real help for when the judging takes place," added Su.

On the last Sunday of each month the Lymm in Bloom group members meet up with co-ordinator Ben Selwood and work on areas in the village.

Only seven people attended the last session and it would be a real help if more villagers came to the Sunken Garden to help.

To help out or for more information call Su on 01925 754080 or Email: suwilliams@gmail.com

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Care home team's Charity Challenge

STAFF from the Lymm Care Home, Keate House, have launched an appeal for sponsorship and support for their Keate House Ghost Busters Challenge.

The team will spend the night, in one of the most haunted buildings in the region to raise money and awareness for two worthy causes – the Alzheimer's Society and Ronald McDonald House in Liverpool.

The Care workers will visit and stay, on June 2, at the now abandoned Newsham Park Hospital, in Liverpool. The vast grade II listed building, constructed in 1870, is reputed by ghost hunters to be an extremely haunted and terrifying location.

Jill Brown, Activities Co-ordinator at Keate House and organiser of the said "We wanted to create a team challenge that would take us all totally out of our comfort zone whilst raising money and awareness for two amazing charities. Newsham Park was picked as the haunted venue that would really test our resilience - it also has a link with Keate House, as the two buildings were designed and built by renowned architect of the

time Alfred Waterhouse.

"Our residents have chosen to support the Alzheimer's Society who offer support for people and families suffering with dementia; as well as Ronald McDonald House who are based within the grounds of Alder Hey children's hospital and provide much needed free accommodation for families whilst their children are receiving treatment in the hospital.

"Our target is set at raising £1,000 for the two organisations and we urge everyone to get behind and support us as we build up to the event; I'm sure that the charities as well as our team will gain a great deal from this 'challenge with a difference'.

To find out more, or to offer sponsorship, contact: Lorna at Keate House Care Home on: enquiries@keatehouse.com

Or to donate visit: Just giving page - www.justgiving.com/teams/KeateHouse



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Arley Hall Garden Festival

THERE is something for everyone to enjoy at this year's Arley Hall Garden Festival which takes place on the weekend of June 24-25 from 10am - 5pm.

As well as spectacular floral displays in the magnificent Floral Marquee and specialist plant nurseries and garden accessories, there are Gardener's Question Time sessions on both days and guided tours of the gardens with Lord Ashbrook and Head Gardener Gordon Baillie – all included in your ticket!

There is a delicious Food Fair in the cruck barn and down to the hall as well as students in Olympia giving demonstrations and offering mouth watering cakes and pastries. There is a Creative Crafts marquee with over 50 traders, live jazz music in the morning and concert band in the afternoon.

Local schools take part in a Flowerbed Challenge by creating outstanding 8ft x 4ft flowerbeds using plants, the majority of which, they have grown in school since Easter and each one has a different

imaginative theme decided on by the children. These flowerbeds are part of a public vote so while you are deliberating on which is your favourite there are childrens rides, face painting and Stockley Farm Park will be bringing some of their petting animals on Sunday.

With an audience of over 5000, there is plenty to enjoy, classic cars are on display in front of the Hall and the countryside marquee hosts The Cheshire Wildlife Trust, stick making and coppice fencing demonstrations as well as the dry stone wall association.

And don't forget that entry to the Hall & Gardens is included in your ticket price, so if you want time away from the crowds and entertainment you can stroll in the peace of the gardens. Tickets booked online can be used on either day.

Parking is FREE and there is FREE a buggy service running throughout the day and a plant creche.

For Group bookings (15+) contact Margaret Rowland-Jones on 01565 777 353 Ext 30, £9 pp.

Book your pre-booked discount by visiting www.arleyhallandgardens.com/event/arley-garden-festival/ or call Sue on 01565 777 353 Ext 20.



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£88,000 lottery boost for heritage centre

THE covers have come off at the refurbished building on Legh Street, Lymm that is set to become the new Lymm Heritage Centre in June.

And on the very day that the almost completed building was revealed, news came through of an award of £88,200 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), which will enable the volunteer-led group to create a series of exhibitions and activities over the two year duration of the initial project.

The funding will also provide the means to create a series of learning resources and activities for schools and other local groups as well as develop an on-line digital archive accessible to all.

The project was initially made possible by local businessman Howard Platt who has personally purchased and funded the renovation of the building before handing it over to the Heritage Group for an initial three year period at zero rent.

The building is ideally located in the village centre close to the historic Bridgewater Canal on the site of former fustian workers' and boatmen's cottages. It will give the opportunity to tell Lymm's story through the three main themes of trades, transport and tradition as well providing a great focal point where visitors can pick up information before exploring the rest of the village.

The project has already generated huge interest locally and more than 50 people have come forward to volunteer in a variety of capacities.

Group chairman Alan Williams said: "We will be aiming to illustrate

Lymm's rich heritage, by celebrating the stories of the people who have made their lives here, particularly over the past 250 years as Lymm experienced the changes brought by the Transport and Industrial Revolutions."

Local schools are looking forward to taking advantage of the new resource.

Jane Rooney, head at Statham Primary School said: "The location of the centre is ideal as it is at the heart of the village and within walking

distance. Having the flexibility for our pupils to attend the centre and for centre resources to come to us will be a great way to explore local history topics which are so important to us."

The centre is already planning its first exhibition to coincide with Lymm Historic Transport Day in June. The Quiet Revolution will explore 150 years of cycling history and what it has meant to Lymm from the early visiting pioneers on penny farthings to present day tourism via the Trans-Pennine Trail.

Would-be volunteers can call Trish Cockayne, another member of the team, on 01925 751646.



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Free one-hour parking to be re-instated

FREE one-hour parking is to be re-instated on all Lymm's car parks from the middle of May – and the change is being seen as at least a partial victory for local people.

The borough council has decided to revert to a full-hour of free parking instead of the 15-minute free period introduced in December which was regarded by most people as "useless."

After the free hour, parking will cost £1 for one hour and £2 for more than two hours.

All-day parking on the Davies Way and Henry Street car parks will cost £3.

Free afternoon parking will end – and a flat £1 charge will be introduced for evening parking, after 5pm which will last until 9am the following morning.

Sunday and Bank Holiday parking will remain free.

The borough council has also agreed to provide parking permits for residents who live near Pepper Street car park but have no off-street parking. There will also be a long awaited traffic management review in Lymm.

Parish councillor Anna Fradgley, who had campaigned vigorously against the original changes said: "It was a long and arduous challenge, but with the support from residents and businesses in Lymm and with advice and guidance from solicitors, we have managed to re-instate the one hour free."

"I would like to thank Warrington Borough Council for handling the case so sensitively and allowing common sense to prevail."

Some Lymm residents have welcomed the decision, with one commenting: "It's good news for the daytime shoppers, and although they are charging all day now, there's a flat charge after 5pm to avoid hitting the evening restaurants too badly, even though we would have preferred no charge at all."

Cllr Fradgley added: "Now Lymm will begin the process of recovery. The village centre has suffered as a result of the loss of free parking and businesses have really struggled. Parish Councillors are urging residents to come back to Lymm village and support local traders. Parking is still free after 3pm every day until the revised charges come in."

The next challenge is a steep rise in business rates.

Parish Councillor Graham Gowland said: "We are working hard to help traders who are facing a huge increase in business rates. A meeting is being set up between Warrington Council and business owners to see what can be done to lessen the burden."

Borough councillor Ian Marks said: "We are not out of the woods yet. We still need to ensure Lymm Library remains open and that a Post Office returns to the village centre."

"But the re-introduction of the one hour free is a tremendous start to Lymm's recovery."



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Plenty of live music at Lymm Festival this summer

LIVE music is always an important part of Lymm Festival and the line up for Summer 2017, running from June 22 to July 2, shows that this year is no exception.

The music gets under way on Thursday, June 22 with the ever-popular 60s tribute night from David John Dee at Lymm Hotel. "Not Fade Away" is 'side 2' of last year's show and will feature hits from the biggest groups of the decade including The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, Yardbirds, Cliff Richard and many more.

On Saturday 24th, LymmFest brings a variety of music around the village, all for the cost of a single wristband that gains you entrance to all four venues throughout the evening. With rock, blues, folk and indie bands playing there's bound to be something for all tastes.

On Tuesday 27th, Lymm's own Big Sing Choir will be "Live at The Lodge" at the Statham Lodge Hotel with guest Ian Shaw, award-winning singer/pianist with the Great American Songbook at the heart of his repertoire.

Festival Blues Night is on Saturday, July 1, featuring Mat Walklate and Paolo Fuschì at Lymm Golf Club. They play a diverse, dynamic set illustrating all shades of blues and all styles from the

1950s onwards. Promises to be a great night for all Blues fans!

If classical music is more your style, then there is still a wide selection of events to choose from. On Friday 30th, baritone Jacob Phillips and his guests will treat you to an evening recital of opera favourites and more at St Peter's Church and there will be more choral evenings from local societies including The Lydian Singers, Lymm & District Chorus, The Bridgewater Singers and the Altèri Chamber Choir.

And finally, for something a little different, there is humour in the music of the late Jake Thackray in a tribute evening "The Lost Songs" at the Spread Eagle on Sunday, July 2.

For full details of all the music to be heard at this year's Lymm Festival, and all the other events as well, visit their website at lymmfestival.org.uk. Tickets will be on sale from mid-May so put the dates in your diary now then you can be at the front of the queue to make sure of yours.

Inaugural meeting of U3A

THE inaugural meeting of Lymm and Thelwall U3A will be held at Thelwall Parish Hall on Friday, April 28 at 10am.

It will follow on from the launch meeting in February, since when the steering committee has been working hard to get things off the ground.

Organisers were delighted by the response to the launch meeting and believe even more people could turn up for the inaugural meeting.

People thinking of attending can help by emailing secretary Lynn Bryant at lynnbryantu3a@outlook.com, giving their name and the number of people in their party, to give the organisers an idea of how many to expect.



Nominations sought for Rotary club's top award

Lymm Rotary Club is again seeking nominations for its annual Cyril Bell Award.

The Award is made in recognition of outstanding service by an individual to the community of Lymm or Thelwall, either as an individual or member of a deserving group. It is made only if a suitable nomination can be found. Previous winners are ineligible.

Nominations must be received by May 15.

The Award will be made at the Rotary Club's Ladies evening at Statham Lodge Hotel on Wednesday, June 14.

The "Cyril Bell Memorial" trophy is held for one year, a personal certificate will be presented to the successful nominee, together with a cheque for £500 made out in favour of their chosen charity.

Last year's winner was Town Crier Peter Powell.

Nomination forms are available from John Beard by calling 01925 758398.

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Warrington has thrown its hat into the ring to become the UK's City of Culture 2021 – and needs your help to win!

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New
heritage hub
planned

The competition, which happens every four years, was started after Liverpool's successful European Capital of Culture and is designed to build on the successful regeneration that Liverpool achieved. Despite the title, you don't have to be a city to enter.

Warrington-based, award-winning TV Producer, Ken Horn said: "Whatever you think of culture in Warrington right now, this is a great opportunity to accelerate existing cultural plans and to put Warrington on the map for the right reasons."

Win or lose, there will be a benefit to Warrington by just being part of the process. I'm proud to be backing the bid and the support so far has been brilliant."

Hull is the UK City of Culture for 2017 and has already brought in more than £32m of additional investment as a result, with an overall economic impact of more than £60m being projected by the end of the year. If Warrington was to be successful it could expect to see similar benefits.

Town centre
investment
of more than
£100m by
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Lymm road safety campaign now spreading worldwide

A road safety campaign which was founded in Lymm by local resident Rod King is now going global - in partnership with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Whilst campaigning for 20mph speed limits in Lymm and Warrington, 20's Plenty for Us was set up in 2007 and now 10 years later is being used by the World Health Organization in UN Global Road Safety Week 2017.

WHO have chosen Lymm-based 20's Plenty for Us to work on a campaign whose tagline is Save Lives #Slow Down.

It is international recognition of the success 20's Plenty for Us has enjoyed in supporting volunteers taking practical steps to slow down drivers on their community roads. 20's Plenty for Us already has nearly 400 community campaigns in the UK, Canada, US and Ireland.

Events will run from May 8-14

across the world for the Fourth UN Global Road Safety Week, with the theme of speed management.

20's Plenty for Us have written a toolkit to encourage local people to get involved with effective, grassroots direct actions on their streets and run Slow Down Days.

A Slow Down Day is a street-based occasion calling for slower speeds. The format is up to the local organiser/s. They choose the place, time and activities. Options include decorating a street with slow down messages, a walkabout with decision makers, asking for a speed survey, enforcement or the loan of a speed gun and collecting petition signatures or pledges from drivers to slow down.

Supporting resources include a website, toolkit, activity list, trouble shooting advice, downloadable posters, online pledges and videos etc. see www.unroadsafetyweek.org/en/get-involved and www.20splenty.org/ungrsw

Rod King MBE, Director of 20's Plenty for Us, has already presented the toolkit on behalf of WHO at the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration conference in Bangkok.

He said: "It's a great honour to be chosen as a partner by the WHO. Our Slow Down Day toolkit will be translated into multiple languages and offered as a worldwide guide on successful community activism. We have welcomed the chance to write campaigning templates for others to follow. Since 2007 we've learned a lot from working

with nearly 400 20's Plenty groups in the UK, Ireland, USA and Canada. Now that knowledge will be disseminated globally! What started in Lymm, Warrington is now saving and enhancing lives around the world."



Keep Lymm Kleen needs you!

If you have noticed a difference in how tidy the village centre and surrounding areas of Lymm are now it is because of the fantastic efforts of the newly formed group of litter pickers who have joined the Keep Lymm Kleen campaign.

The new group is being co-ordinated by Brian Harman, who is creating splinter groups of volunteers to work specific areas and on different days of the week.

A group is being formed specifically for the Duke of Edinburgh

award scheme which is perfect for the volunteering requirement. This group is already working closely together with adults and each other, co-ordinated by Brian.

Another team is tackling the village centre which is always in need of litter picking to keep it tidy and another along the Trans-Pennine Trail.

Brian said: "We are in need of more volunteers as we are looking to grow the team. So I would welcome anyone to contact me. Pickers, bags and gloves are provided by the Parish Council which I can give to you."

"We had a first major litter pick over the Keep Britain Tidy weekend of 4th March and then another over the Mothering Sunday weekend. But it is the individual picks that people do day in and day out that help a great deal."

Parish Councillor Anna Fradgley, who first set up the campaign

explains, "We all need to do our bit. It is great that we have this official team, but I encourage everyone to pick up a piece of litter if they see it and put it into the bin. You would do it at home, so why not in the village where you live?"

"Now that the good weather is coming, we get a lot of tourists coming into the village and this is what helps support the local economy. If we keep Lymm clean and tidy then it reflects well on us. Also, aren't we all proud to live in a wonderful village?"

"Please encourage your children and young adults not to drop litter and maybe join in with the young team of Duke of Edinburgh pickers as volunteers to Keep Lymm Kleen"

If you would like to join one of the teams or just pick on your own, please email Brian Harman on ruinbruin@talktalk.net

Blind law student to run the London Marathon

A 20-year-old member of Lymm Runners who is registered blind is to achieve an ambition on April 23 - taking part in the London Marathon.

Only a year ago, law student Francesca Balon had only run 5k distances - and most of them on a treadmill.

She then made the bold decision to start running outdoors and to aim for not just any marathon but the big one - the London Marathon.

The Running Guide by her side for the whole race will be Lymm Runner Sarah McDermott.

Francesca was paired with licensed guide Sarah by UK Athletics who had been running courses locally and which several Lymm Runners had attended.

Club co-chairman Lynn Mosely said: "Having Guide Runners in the club means that we can make running even more inclusive so it's good development at many levels. As individual runners we benefit from

understanding the challenges faced by some other runners; and the club benefits by increasing the diversity of our membership and enabling Guide Runners to run safely".

Francesca and Sarah have both been following a tough winter schedule of training runs and races including muddy, stony tracks, large puddles and uneven pavements, often accompanied by wind and torrential rain.

Notable milestones have been completing the High Legh 10K in just over one hour and the Wilmslow Half Marathon a couple of weeks later, in two hours 17 minutes.

When she tackles the London Marathon Francesca will be running for Guide Dogs for the Blind. She can be supported on her fundraising page on m.virginmoneygiving.com

For more details about UK Athletics and Guide Running go to www.Englandathletics.org/guide-runners.



Francesca and Sarah finish the High Legh 10K.



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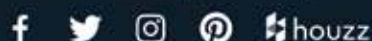
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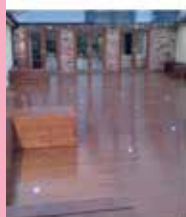
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Tennis duo make it a double

TWO members of Lymm Tennis Club have successfully defended their title in the Cheshire LTA Senior Championships held recently at David Lloyd Cheshire Oaks.

Peter Wilkinson (left) and Richard Barbera (right) have won the men's 45+ doubles competition for the second year running. They beat the number one seeds on the way to the final.

Richard said: "This is only the second time we've played in the tournament so we're really pleased to have won it again and we now hope to be able to return next year to go for the treble!"

Obituaries

Charles Ian McNorton

THE funeral has taken place of Charles Ian McNorton, aged 80, of Bollin Drive, Lymm, who died in hospital on December 30.

Mr McNorton was formerly a local builder. He is survived by his wife, Meg.

The funeral took place at Altrincham Crematorium on January 13.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

John Grace

THE funeral has taken place of John Grace, aged 78, of Dingle Bank Close, Lymm, who died in Warrington Hospital on February 2.

Mr Grace, who had previously lived in Dane Bank Road, Lymm, was formerly head of the Sixth Form at Penketh High School and a former head of Lymm Adult Education.

In his younger days he was an accomplished cricketer and hockey player and a supporter of Everton FC.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Beppie) son John, daughter Jenny and grandchildren Jamie and Meg.

The funeral took place at Altrincham Crematorium and funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

Donald Smith



THE funeral has taken place of Donald Smith, aged 81, of Lymm who died in Warrington Hospital after a short illness on November 10.

Mr Smith had lived in Lymm since the 1950s and worked as an engineer for BT until retiring more than 20 years ago.

In his younger days he was a local scout master and a keen footballer.

An active member of Lymm Rotary Club and a committee member of Lymm Youth and Community Centre, he has two daughters and a son.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

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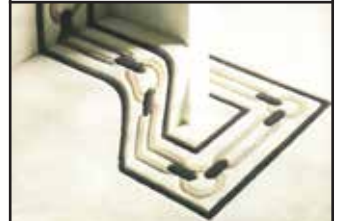
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