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Life

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January 2019

Issue: 238

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**Rain fails to dampen
spirits at Lymm Dickensian**

Centre Pages

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monthly by Orbit News Ltd.*

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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

Editor's Comment



CONGRATULATIONS to everyone who braved the elements at the annual Lymm Dickensian Festival parade.

Not just those who actually took part but also all those who turned out in force to watch the parade and pack the village centre.

I don't know what is going on these days but Lymm events certainly seem to attract their unfair share of wet weather, with Lymm May Queen now moved to May to avoid "Flaming June!"

One wonders whether it is actually down to global warming!

Any way despite the wet conditions everyone seemed to have a great time and the village certainly looked as busy as ever.

Hopefully people visiting for the first time will return more often and support local businesses.

The New Year will be a special one for Lymm Life as we prepare to celebrate our 20th anniversary in April.

A lot has changed over the past 20 years as we have nearly all become more digital in our lives, spending more and more time on the internet.

While Lymm life has moved with the times online and with our own popular social media platforms, many of our advertisers still find traditional print media generates the best quality responses.

Whereas many people shop online looking for a bargain, those reading local quality magazines tend to want a local service.

One of our classified advertisers recently got a £3,500 order from their first £15 advert! Not a bad return on investment!

I'm also delighted to report that some of those local businesses who supported us in our very first issue way back in April 1999 are still advertising with us now!

While this is our January issue it is out in time for Christmas so I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all our readers and advertisers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Lymm Life is
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School colleagues team up to publish book

LYMM based teacher Jane Woodcock teamed up with one of her colleagues at Sir Thomas Boteler CE High School to publish a children's picture book.

"The Boy Who Dug" has been written by Jane, who lives in Oughtrington.

English Teacher Jane has written the story in rhyme, about a young lad leaving home to work on the construction of the Manchester Ship Canal.

She enlisted her school colleague Graphic Designer Alice Roberts to produce all the illustrations and artwork.

While this is Alice's fourth children's book to be published, it is a first for Jane and the book aims to present a real celebration of some key northern history.

The Amazon description reads: "This is a story that is 36 miles long and took six years to create. The ordinary people who built the North of England feature in these colourful pages.

"Rooted in a desire to provide for family, Davy experiences friendship, hardship, disaster and joy in the pursuit of his dream to build something big.

"A tale embedded in the earth, this story celebrates the engineering majesty of the industrial revolution and upraises the unknown champions who enabled it."



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What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



**January 8
LYMM PARISH COUNCIL**

**January 14
LYMM & DISTRICT LOCAL
HISTORY SOCIETY**
Speaker: Joe Griffiths
Old Lymm, Part 4
Village Hall, 8pm

LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB

Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm

MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP

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

ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM

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

LOVING HEARTS & HANDS

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

MARKET LUNCHEAS

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

LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

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

GARDENING CLUB

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

LYMM FLORAL ART GROUP

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

LYMM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

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

LYMM WINE AND BEER CIRCLE

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

LYMM CONCERT BAND

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

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.
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Church. Contact 01925 601664.
cath@stones.co.uk

HEARTSTART LYMM

Tuesday monthly sessions.
11th Dec. 7pm.
Tour of Safety Central, 7.30pm Heartstart
'Essentials First Aid' course.
Free tickets to be booked on the link www.
tinyurl.com/Heartstartlymm which will be kept
up to date with the ongoing dates.
Open to all, not just Lymm residents!



**LYMM
PARISH
COUNCIL**

**Next meeting:
January 8
at Lymm Village Hall**

Winter Warmer season gets off to flying start

THE Lymm Festival Winter Warmers season has got off to a flying start with the impressive memory tricks from Chris Rawlins and a stunning, sell-out concert from Stephen Hough.

It was great to see so many people at those events and there will be many more to delight every taste in the New Year as organisers continue with a bumper series of Winter Warmers.

Firstly, if you want some easy entertainment for the children at half term, don't miss the children's film event at Lymm Youth and Community Centre on Saturday, February, 23.

Save the date now as more details will be coming very soon.

Then on Saturday, March 9 why not become a super trouper for the evening and join an unmissable Abba Night at Lymm Village Hall.

You'll be thanking Lymm Festival for the music! For the final Winter Warmer, please join a family fun day Eggstravaganza on Saturday April 13.

There will be crafts, stalls and plenty more Easter Fun at Lymm Village Hall.

For more details as soon as they are released, please follow Lymm Festival on Facebook and Twitter and sign up to their newsletter at lymmfestival.org.uk.

Book sales raise £80 for charity

MEMBERS of Heatley WI raised £80 for the Motor Neurone Disease Association from the sale of books at their monthly meetings last year.

The monthly competitions also attracted plenty of entrants and Jean Rowland was the overall winner, with Ursula Gunn coming second.

Plans are already well advanced for events in the New Year, with a visit to Safety Central at the Lymm Fire Station on January 16 and a provisional booking made for "Ferry 'Cross the Mersey" on July 16.

Suggestions are welcome for the WI's annual birthday party in April.

Heatley's meeting in March will be brought forward a week to March 7 to avoid a clash with the Spring Council Meeting on March 14.



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Former soccer star unveils village's outdoor gym

AN Outdoor Gym in Lymm's Ridgway Grundy Park has been officially opened by former international footballer and local resident David Weir.

The gym – funded by a number of organisations and groups – has nine pieces of equipment designed for use by adults and over-16s.

Parish council chairman, Cllr Anna Fradgley, welcomed guests to the ceremony and invited local resident Denis McAllister whose idea it was, to talk about the background to the project.

Investigate

He said: "A few years ago when on holiday I used a fitness area in a nearby wood and thought we should have something similar in Lymm. I approached the parish council for support and a small team was set up to investigate the idea and look at possible locations."

"It is well established that exercise is beneficial to both physical and mental health. Most of the funding came from WREN, a not-for-profit organisation whose source of money is landfill tax."

Cllr Ian Marks who also worked on the project added: "We are very grateful for the additional

funding support from Lymm Round Table, the parish council, Active Cheshire and crowd-funders. We are also grateful for the letters of support from various local sporting organisations and the two doctors' surgeries and for those people who gave a positive response to our public consultation survey. Lastly I would like to thank Warrington Borough Council for filling in the WREN grant application form and for managing the installation for us."

Opening ceremony

David Weir a former professional footballer with a career spanning two decades performed the opening ceremony. He played for Everton and Rangers among others and had 69 appearances for Scotland.

He said: "I have used this park for 20 years and my son used the equipment yesterday. I am a firm believer that a healthy body leads to a healthy mind. I hope the equipment is put to good use."



Active Cheshire mascot Archie, Denis McAllister, Cllr Ian Marks, David Weir and Cllr Anna Fradgley



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New War Memorial unveiled

A NEW memorial to commemorate the end of the First World War, 100 years ago, has been unveiled at Lymm.

It consists of a plaque which has been placed alongside a memorial stone in Limefield Avenue which remembers 11 students of the former Lymm Grammar School who gave their lives in the war.

It stands at the start of an avenue of lime trees which were planted at the end of the war to commemorate the students.

A service of dedication was held at the site, led by Father Michael Burgess from St Peter's Church, Oughtrington assisted by the Rev Beverley Jameson, from St Mary's Church Lymm.

Among others present were parish council chairman Cllr Anna Fradgley, other parish councillors, and nearby residents.

Tony Bone, president of Lymm Royal British Legion, read out the names of the 11 students and Dennis Thomason laid a wreath on behalf of the Grammar School Old Students' Association.

Cllr Fradgley said: "Parish councils like ours were encouraged by central government to commemorate this occasion in some way and we obtained a grant via Warrington Borough Council for this. The parish council also provided some funding.

"We will be planting poppy seeds around the stone and the plaque and we want to set up a small 'Friends' group of local residents who will work with our environment team to keep the area tidy."

The avenue of trees now consists of only 10 as one was lost some years ago.



Poppy Appeal raised more than 20,000

MORE than £20,000 was raised by the Poppy Appeal at Lymm this year.

The Poppy Appeal team have issued a big "Thank You" to all the people who gave generously to the appeal during this year's special World War 1 centenary year.

Local shops, supermarkets, schools, churches, pubs and various other outlets gave the appeal massive support, along with outlets at the M6 Lymm Services.

Volunteer collectors, including cadets from Lymm Squadron ATC, members of Lymm Rotary Club and the Inner Wheel Club were also thanks for their hard work.

The team said: "Most of all, we would like to thank you, the communities of Lymm, High Legh and Little Bollington. Your generosity and kindness has been outstanding. Today, the Royal British Legion is as relevant as it ever was, supporting those who serve their country and being there for them for the rest of their lives when need arises.

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Crowds pack into the village.

Rain f dampen Lymm Dick

RAIN failed to dampen spirits at the annual Lymm Dickensian Festival as thousands packed into the village centre for the annual event.

The Santa Dash by Lymm Runners helped kick start the event as local school children and community groups paraded from the Lymm Hotel into the village centre, which was packed with onlookers.

Torrential rain greeted the build up to the event but thankfully eased as the procession headed off – and despite more rain it failed to deter villagers and visitors turning out in force to support the event which has been going for more than twenty years.

Organised by Festival Chairman Steve Harper and volunteers, the event is staged each year to help boost trade in the village in the run up to Christmas.

Steve was joined by Town Crier Peter Powell and Parish Council Chairman Anna Fradgley, Lymm May Queen Jasmine Clews and the Mayor of Warrington Cllr Karen Mundry.



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Organiser Steve Harper and Town Crier Peter Powell



Lymm May Queen Jasmine Clews



Parish councillor Anna Fradgley



Lymm runners prepare for the Santa dash.



Lymm Morrismen

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Heritage centre marks important milestone

LYMM Heritage Centre marked an important milestone recently as they welcomed their 10,000th visitors through the door since opening in June 2017.

First in were Peter Leach with 4 year old daughter Charlotte. The family have lived in Lymm for just three years but Peter himself is also already involved in community events as one of the organisers of Lymm Beer Festival. So it was particularly fitting that he should be presented with a copy of "The Pubs, Inns and Alehouses of Lymm" by co-authors Alan Williams and Alan Taylor.

The idea for the book was partly generated by this year's beer festival and it has been an all-out effort by the authors to have it in the shops and pubs in time for Christmas.

Next through the door were Helen Benn and her partner Alan Bailey who now live in Leicestershire.

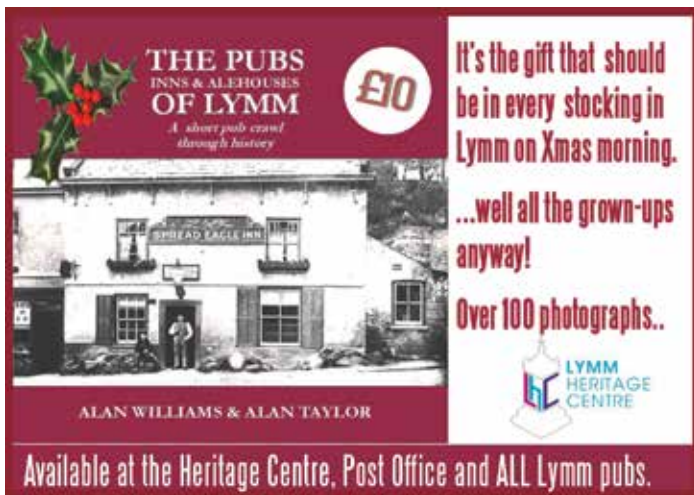
"We originally intended to have just one 10,000th visitor" explained the Centre's chair Alan Williams. "But when I heard Helen explaining to one of our volunteers that her Lymm family roots went back at least three generations, that she was a keen follower of Lymm Heritage Centre on facebook and that she had been looking forward to visiting the centre on one of her rare trips home we were keen to include them too."

Apart from counting visitors

the centre's team have been busy developing new exhibits, providing education sessions for local schools, hosting visits and special events and developing LyDia - the Lymm Digital Archive which will be officially launched in the New Year.

"The Pubs, Inns and Alehouses of Lymm" is available across the village at the Heritage Centre, The Post Office and ALL pubs and Statham Lodge hotel.

All profits from the book go toward creating a sustainable future for the village's own Heritage Centre which also receives vital Heritage Lottery Funding for its varied activities.



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Round Table bonfire lit up Lymm

LYMM and District Round Table's annual bonfire raised another hugely impressive amount for charity - some £8,000 in total.

The popular event - sponsored by Kids Planet Nursery and held at Lymm Rugby Club - featured two fireworks displays, a range of food, refreshments and fairground rides. Lymm Ladies Circle also raised more than £900 for charity by serving up warming beverages and treacle toffee.

Bonfire organiser and Round Table member Andy Guthrie said: "We had a fantastic turnout and we are grateful to everyone who came along to support the event."

"We have a great group of hard-working lads who volunteer their free time to help out. Their commitment to the cause means a lot of charities and community groups will be getting a much-needed boost this Christmas."

Recent good causes to benefit from funding include Families United Warrington, Camlsey Grange Riding School for the Disabled, and the North West Air Ambulance. Anyone who would like to nominate a charity to be considered for a donation email charity@lymmroundtable.co.uk

A PLAN to build 17 "affordable" houses on land adjoining the Star Inn at Lymm has been deferred by members of Warrington's development management committee.

They put off a decision on the proposals after hearing of concerns from local councillors and residents about the scheme put forward by the Clarion Housing Group.

Main opposition to the scheme involved access to the site from Star Lane which, it was claimed, could lead to highway safety problems.

But there was also concern that too many properties were being squeezed onto the site leading to a loss of light and privacy for the occupants of existing bungalows in Turnberry Close.

Cllr Anna Fradgley said she and other members of the parish council supported the principle of affordable housing on the site.

But they had two major concerns. Plot 1 would be modern in design, compared to the historical cottages adjacent and would be higher than the existing bungalow which was to be demolished. It would have an impact on a bungalow in Turnberry Close in that it would deprive it of light and sunlight.

However, the main concern was the exit from the site which was only a few meters from Albany Road and was on the tail end of a



blind bend in Star Lane.

While Star Lane had a 20mph speed limit it was rarely adhered to. Cars also parked in the road near the Star Inn, making it difficult for drivers to come out of the development safely.

"Whilst we need housing in Lymm, my concern is the safety of the existing residents and I would ask, on behalf of Lymm Parish Council, that plot 1 be taken out of the plans and the entrance located further up to enable safe exit from the site."

The committee agreed to her suggestion that the application be deferred until amended plans had been submitted.

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Georgina celebrates passing Propertymark



LYMM based Georgina Solan is celebrating after passing her ARLA Propertymark examinations, enabling local Sales and Lettings agency, Banner & Co to offer a higher than industry standard of service to all their tenants and landlords.

Georgina has over 20 years' experience and is responsible for negotiating and managing all tenancies and has proved to have excellent rapport with landlords and tenants.

Regular training ensures that Banner & Co are up to date with best practice and all the ever changing complex legislation, enabling them to offer the best advice and protection.

Banner & Co, being an ARLA Propertymark Agent, are backed by a Client Money Protection scheme which guarantees your money is protected and in safe hands. Not all companies currently offer this, but at Banner & Co they are constantly looking to be better than their competition and give peace of mind.

Georgina and the team successfully rent property throughout the South Manchester area along with Grappenhall, Thelwall, Stockton Heath, Warrington, Knutsford and of course Lymm.

Contact Banner & Co today for all your rental requirements on 01925 753636 or email at lettings@bannerandco.com. Visit their website www.bannerandco.co.uk.

Lymm man joins award winning builder

A LYMM man has been appointed land director for an award-winning house builder based in North Wales.

Alex Wigfield will join Anwyll Homes at their Flintshire head office.

He is tasked with acquiring land and securing residential planning permission to enable the development of high quality new build homes in desirable locations across Wales and the North West, ensuring the company has a suitable land supply to enable it to grow.

He said "Joining a privately owned and progressive family company with ambitious aspirations is such a privilege and I am looking forward to furthering my career at Anwyll Homes."

Phil Dolan, Operations Director at Anwyll Homes, said: "As the company continues to expand we are committed to supporting this growth by carefully selecting our new recruits, ensuring we have the very best person for every role."

"Alex has extensive experience and knowledge of the property industry and brings valuable qualities and skill sets to the business. I'd like to welcome him - it is great to have him as part of the team, and I am confident he will excel in his new role."



Veteran runner Steve picks up a gold



LYMM Athlete Steve Watmough picked up a gold medal as part of the England V55 team in the British and Irish Masters International Cross Country at Singleton Park, Swansea.

In the 50-64 men's race, which was over an extremely undulated four-lap 8km course, Steve ran excellently to finish 42nd overall and 11th in the Over 55 age group with a time of 30 minutes 33 seconds.

Steve is a member of Warrington Athletics Club.

Erik takes on cross country challenge

LYMM High School pupil Erik Marshall turned in an excellent performance in the British Athletics Cross Challenge at Sefton Park, Liverpool.

Erik ran in the Under 13 boys race over a 3km course and finished in 13th place with a time of 10 minutes 52 seconds.

He is a member of Warrington Athletics Club.

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Anger over tree felling

A STORM has broken over the felling of a row of trees to make way for the development of Europe's largest truck wash facility on green belt land at Lymm.

Developers have put in an application for permission to remove the trees – but nearby residents claim the trees have already been felled.

Claim

Controversial plans for the truck wash on land off Cliff Lane, Lymm have already been approved by Warrington Borough Council, but residents claim the developers originally said that a number of trees – 11 Leyland Cypress and two Scots Pines – would be retained to screen a group of seven houses at Cherry Corner.

The proposed truck wash will replace one at Lymm Services at the intersection of the M6 and M56. It was granted planning consent earlier this year despite strenuous opposition from residents.

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, who last year built a new multi million £ fire station on adjoining land, also opposed the scheme.

Resident Diane Hoskinson said she believed planning consent for the truck wash had only been granted because misleading information was given to the council.

However, it had been stipulated that trees which screened nearby houses should be retained.

"However, the trees were felled in advance of an application for permission to remove them. I used

to see trees when I looked out of my window but now they have gone and I have a view of the nearby fire station and the site where the truck wash is to be built.

"Firefighters training at high levels are now able to see into our bathroom and bedroom windows.

"In the original application, it was stated that the new truck wash would be smaller than the existing one but they have now put up a sign saying it will be the biggest in Europe."

But Matt Marsden, spokesman for the site owners, denied the company had done anything wrong.

He said: "We have just been carrying out good housekeeping – tidying the site up after it being neglected for more than 20 years. We have done nothing wrong."

"We consulted the resident who lives nearest to the site and he approved our proposals. We will be carrying out landscaping and replacing the trees we have removed with a good quality fence. The trees were well passed their best and should have been removed years ago."

A council spokesperson said: "The matter is under investigation by the public protection team in relation to the works on site and we are responding to the issues raised in terms of both the air quality and noise assessments. It would therefore be inappropriate for us to comment further at this stage."

Obituaries

Jean Hewitt

THE funeral has taken place at St Peter's Church, Oughtrington, of Jean Hewitt, aged 88, of Ladyacre Close, Lymm, who died on October 31.

Mrs Hewitt, nee Newton, died in the Summerville Care Home.

She loved dancing and travel and is survived by her only daughter, Jane and two grandchildren Jessica and Joshua.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

Ada Sproats

THE funeral has taken place of Ada Sproats, aged 86, of Rushgreen Road, Lymm who died in hospital on November 8.

Mrs Sproats, nee Leigh, enjoyed sequence dancing, knitting and socialising with friends.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Peter and by her daughters Sharon, Ann-Marie and Elizabeth.

The funeral service was at Altrincham Crematorium and funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

Judith Summerfield

THE funeral has taken place of Judith Barbara Summerfield, aged 75, of High Leigh Road, Lymm who died at home on October 22.

Mrs Summerfield, nee Nichols, who was affectionately known as Judy, died after a short illness.

She is sadly missed by her husband, John, son and daughter Stephen and Sally and grandchildren Kayleigh, Ben, John and great grandson Alfie.

The funeral service was at Walton Lea Crematorium and funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons, of Lymm.



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