

Lymm Life

Magazine

ISSUE 245 | AUGUST 2019
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Printed by TwentyFourSeven

Editor's Comment



IT was a sad day seeing the Lymm Hotel close its doors for the final time at the end of June.

It has been under threat of closure for many years but to see one of the areas most recognised landmark buildings set to be bulldozed will certainly mean the end of an era.

A hotel once graced by the Brazilian World Cup team, including the legendary Pele is set to be no more.

The hotel also played an important role as a venue for community events like Lymm May Queen and Lymm Dickensian Day.

Now it is set to become retirement apartments, a care home and nursery, all on one site, which many believe is far too much for the local highway network to cope with.

I have to say the increased traffic on Whitbarrow Road, especially near the entrance with Lymm Golf

Club, is one of the most dangerous stretches of road in the local area.

It is no fun meeting a large vehicle or a bus head on, on that bend!

We will have to hope that any development work comes along with significant highway improvements to cope with the additional traffic.

Meanwhile while there is a clear need for retirement apartments and care facilities for our ageing population I would question the need for more child care nursery provision in the village.

Those who have been campaigning against this development have argued that it is an over development of the site - well with the controversial approval of the planning permission, the

proof will now be in the pudding.

Together with the proposed Warrington Borough Council Local Plan ear marking more development on Green Belt, we look set for another period of development in the area over the coming years.

Unless of course the borough council take on board the concerns of those who have been actively campaigning against the development of the Green Belt.

Let's hope they do!

Deadline for the September issue of Lymm Life is July 30

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Su's 25 years of service wins her the MBE

TWENTY five years of community service at Lymm has resulted in Su Williams being awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

A familiar face in the village, Su's most recent venture has been as one of the founders of the new Lymm Heritage Centre which, in just four years, has gone from a "pipe dream" to a vibrant centre attracting more than 15,000 visitors since it opened in June, 2017.

But she has been active in the community from her early days as deputy chairman of Lymm High School PTA and a governor at Oughtrington Primary School to being a leading light in the Lymm Festival, one of the team that helped secure the future of Lymm Youth and Community Centre when it looked in doubt in 2012 and a parish councillor for four years.

Su was born and raised in Urmston where she also went on to teach, becoming a head of department at Flixton Girls Secondary School where she had been a pupil.

After 25 years in school teaching she switched to prison education at Risley where her warmth and caring approach made her a role model for many. Her 15 years there culminated in the receipt of an Anne Frank Award for "true commitment to making a difference to others".

Her involvement in the Lymm Festival saw her take responsibility to setting up the popular Foodfest and organising many other one-off

events and exhibitions. Her most lasting contribution was "Art in the Garden" which ran for more than 10 years in the canalside garden of the family home, attracting thousands of visitors and giving a platform to local artists and also Risley inmates and the disadvantaged to show what they could achieve.

At the Youth and Community Centre Su not only set up Sunday teas and manned them herself for a couple of years to raise money and awareness but also established a junior youth club which she ran successfully with the help of others for a number of years. She is still involved at the centre today.

When she was elected to the parish council she was the first Labour member for more than 40

years.

She led a review of the allotments which enabled many more people to get a plot for the first time including Bright Futures School for children with autism.

She went on to volunteer along with husband Alan at Statham School where she also started a gardening club which won an award as part of the Lymm in Bloom group – of which she is also a member.

It was only in the most recent New Year's Honours that her husband, Alan, was awarded a British Empire Medal.

He said: "No-one could be more thrilled than me that the community has sought and been granted this award for Su. I was honoured to receive the BEM but so conscious that Su deserved recognition far more than me. I couldn't even list the very many individuals and

groups that Su has supported over the years from a fistula hospital in Addis Ababa to today's Syrian refugees. I know that she been a role model and inspiration for many – myself included".



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What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



**NO MEETING IN AUGUST
LYMM PARISH COUNCIL**

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

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
and December) at 7.30pm. Visitors most
welcome. Contact: 07876 176501
lymmfloralart.org.uk

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

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Spread Eagle, Eagle Brow. Details 01925
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Bridgewater Club, Whitbarrow Road.
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Church. Contact 01925 601664.
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**No meeting in August.
Next meeting
September 10, 7.30pm
at Lymm Village Hall**

Food Fest kick starts another fantastic Lymm Festival



Lymm Food Fest dished up cuisines from around the globe to successfully launch another fantastic Lymm Festival.

On a lovely summers evening food lovers descended in their thousands on the village to sample the wonderful street food and entertainments laid on as part of this year's event.

On offer for the gourmet visitors was a cornucopia of culinary delights including curries, paella, barbecue, wild boar and venison, Chinese dishes, traditional pies and pasties and for those with a sweeter tooth street vendors offered ice creams and a large choice of cakes.

All the local pubs and restaurants added to the summer savoury spectacular providing drinks and meals to the crowds.

The Lymm Heritage Centre also opened its doors for the new exhibition entitled 'Lymm's Golden Age', a fascinating multi media presentation showing the past history of manufacturing gold leaf within the village which was even used to adorn such illustrious landmarks as Buckingham Palace and St. Paul's Cathedral.

Other highlights included the popular scarecrow trail while Lymm library offered a range of activities including a lovely rhyme time, a hunt around the library (with a code to crack!) and making some very tasty mocktails.

There was also a range of sports and yoga for the kids to sample and hand massages for the adults to relax a little. The Library garden also hosted the first Lymm Festival Rock Drop by Lymm Rocks.

A total of 149 beautiful rocks inspired by the Festival or exploration were contributed and later hidden around the village.

There was also the opening of the new permanent orienteering course at Spud Wood. With a steady flow of 150 people over the afternoon, the new course had a great opening day.

Statham Lodge Hotel was packed to hear Sir Ranulph talk about his life of living dangerously as well as the ever-popular Family Garden Party in Lymm Hall.



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Lymm Vaudeville Show raises £10,000 for Grassroots Appeal

THE annual Lymm Vaudeville Show once again delivered a night of slapstick comedy and entertainment, raising over £10,000 for Lymm Rugby Club's Grassroots Appeal.

A standing ovation, cries of 'more, more, more' and shouts of 'we love it' brought the show created by director Simon Plumb to a close.

A very messy, special guest appearance by former TV star Matthew Corbett, with Sooty, was one of many highlights of an entertaining evening.

Unlike the 2018 show, which

was themed around The Greatest Showman, there was no hook as such for the 2019 edition. What all the show's 23 acts – from the comedy sketches to the big chorus numbers – had in common, however, was the ability to impact the audience.

There were acts that had the audience folded over in laughter. The first of these came early on in

the running order when Paul Rigby came on stage as Tommy Cooper. The rapid fire of one-liners such as 'Exit signs; they're on their way out' and 'I found my wife dead in the washing machine; at least she died in comfort' left some members of the audience struggling to catch their breath between belly laughs.

As did the Geography Teacher sketch, in which Paul Maguire attempted to give the audience a geography lesson by drinking his way through a back bar's worth of spirits from around the world. And the Del and Rodney sketch by Steve Roe and Mark Hesketh.

Then there were those acts that widened the eyes. Of particular note was Shallow – the song from the Lady Gaga film 'A Star is Born' that was sung by Hayley Cornelia and Brian Hope and accompanied by a lyrical contemporary dance performance by Alicia Graham and Sophie Worton. And a rendition of Jeff Buckley's Hallelujah, performed by the whole cast, that saw the audience reaching for their phones in order to wave the flashlights around in the air like lighters at a concert.

Plus, in classic vaudeville spirit, there were those acts that got the audience clapping, whistling and finger-clicking. These included a Rat Pack medley by Keith Broadbent, Brian Hope and Steve Rule; of which Mack the Knife animated the audience especially. And the pre-interval performance of Proud Mary, which got the audience stamping their feet so hard it might have felt like a land tremor to those residents of Lymm who were not attending the show.

No review of the 2019 Vaudeville Show can be complete without a mention of the backstage

crew. The behind the scenes team is the glue that holds any performance together. However, the 2019 Vaudeville might not have been able to carry on this year without their extra effort.

After a scene by Paul Maguire and special guest performer Matthew Corbett – with Sooty – swamped the stage with a little more porridge, treacle, shaving foam and fake blood than had been rehearsed, technical director John Cartwright, backstage coordinator Yvonne Halford, and choreographer Jan Halloran got down on hands and knees for an emergency clean up operation while show director Simon Plumb distracted the crowd with an impromptu audience sing along of Delilah.

The official show line-up ended with a pyrotechnic-infused medley of Queen songs. The ultimate song, We are the Champions, particularly fitting, because it certainly was a champion effort from the cast, crew and everyone involved in bringing Lymm Vaudeville to life for another year.





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Fly-past by RAF's last Dakota C-47 v

A fly-past by the RAF's last Dakota C-47 was the icing on the cake at another fantastic Lymm Historic Transport Day which attracted an estimated 8,000 visitors to the village.



But the fly-past, captured by local photographer Darren Moston was just one of many highlights, too many to mention, at the now annual event which has become one of the top attractions in the annual calendar.

Put on by a dedicated team of the volunteers, co-ordinated by event founder Alan Williams, there was something for everyone.

Traction engines, vintage and classic cars and an iconic E-type Jag with the registration plate 77 RW helped set the pulses racing.

The immaculate 1961 E type Jaguar open two-seater. But this is not just any E type, it is the original testbed vehicle that was historically driven through the night to the

Geneva motor show that year where it caused a sensation.

The E-type's looks were simply stunning while its performance was unbeatable.

Today the car is on permanent loan to the Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust thanks to the generosity of long-term owner Michael Kilgannon.

Just occasionally 77 RW will grace a show or special event including, recently, Pippa Middleton's wedding.

As well as the show opening parade through the village there were old working boats on the Bridgewater Canal, including those from the Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port, who travel for up to three days to take up their position as part of an incredible display of Lymm's unique history.



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The Dakota C-47. Picture by Darren Moston.



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Lymm High School secure over £500,000 funding for new 3G pitch

LYMM High School has been awarded over £500,000 funding for an exciting 3G Football Pitch Project which will provide new facilities for the benefit of the wider community.

The school has received a grant from the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation, to install a brand new third generation (3G) artificial grass pitch (AGP).

The grant will enable Lymm High School to provide state of the art sports facilities for students throughout the school day and the community of Lymm and surrounding areas during evening and weekends.

The new facility will comprise of a full size, FA standard, floodlit, all-weather pitch. On-site changing rooms and toilet facilities will also be modified to meet the needs of the new pitch for its stakeholders.

Lymm High School worked with the Football Foundation and the Cheshire FA to secure a grant of over £500,000 towards the project.

Gwyn Williams, Headteacher at Lymm High School, said: "We are absolutely delighted to be receiving this grant from the Football Foundation. Combined with the additional money raised via generous support from the community for our 'Pitch In' campaign, this means we will now be able to build a new 3G pitch that will benefit thousands of people in

school and grassroots sport in the community for many years to come. We are incredibly excited about the whole project."

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: "Since 2000, the Football Foundation has awarded 372 grants worth £12.3m across Cheshire towards grassroots sports projects worth £23.1m and it is great to hear that Lymm High School will be the latest beneficiary."

"Funding from the Premier League, The FA and Government, delivered by the Foundation, will support the club in developing a brand new 3G sports pitch

for the local community. Made possible by investment from the Premier League, The FA and the Government, via Sport England, the Football Foundation is supporting the grassroots game by improving access to high-quality football facilities across the country."



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Advertiser's announcement

Providing for an Unmarried Partner after Death

In the UK, each year more of us are living together and starting families without marrying or being in a Civil Partnership. In 2017 there were over 3.3 million cohabiting couple families in the UK. Despite becoming more common, the rights of cohabiting couples are not always well understood.

If someone who is married or is in a civil partnership dies without a Will, their assets are distributed in accordance with the intestacy rules. Depending on the value of the assets of the deceased partner, the surviving married/civil partner will inherit all or some of the estate.

Legally speaking, unmarried cohabiting partners don't enjoy the same rights as a married/civil partner. For cohabiting couples, if one dies then the surviving partner has no automatic rights to the deceased partner's property and no automatic entitlement to inherit their estate.

The exception to this is if the cohabiting couple owned any property jointly. Any joint property will automatically pass to the joint

owner on death.

If the cohabiting partner who dies has not made a Will, then any assets that they owned in their own name will be distributed in accordance with the intestacy rules. If they have any children then their estate will pass outright to their children, bypassing their cohabiting partner. If they did not have any children, their estate will pass to their remoter family including grandchildren, parents, siblings, nieces and nephews and so on.

Without a Will in place clearly indicating that the deceased partner's share is to pass to the survivor, it is very possible that the surviving partner may not see any of their partner's estate passing to

them. If the cohabiting partners intend for the survivor to inherit their assets, it is advisable that they look to prepare Wills to that effect.

When preparing a Will care should be taken to make sure that it distributes your assets in the manner that you intended and that it is properly executed.

At FDR Law our Private Client team have the skill and expertise required to ensure that your wishes are met. If you have any questions or are unsure how to prepare your Wills, take advice and let us clarify matters for you.

For more information on Wills, Inheritance Tax, Estates, Trusts, Powers of Attorney or Court of Protection matters, contact Stephen Mackellar on 01925 230000 or email Stephen.Mackellar@fdrlaw.co.uk



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Free safety courses for motor cyclists

FOUR free safety courses for motor cyclists are to be held at Lymm between July and December.

They are being offered as part of Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service's "Biker Down" which, since it was launched five years ago, has been attended by more than 2,150 people.

Biker Down helps to equip attendees with vital information on how to keep themselves and other bikers safe.

People who attend the courses also learn about the science of being seen, how to deal with a casualty at the scene of a crash, how to remove a motorcycle helmet safely as well as how to use a defibrillator.

Biker Down is a free training course for motorcyclists of all ages and experience – and is run by bikers for bikers.

It offers motorcyclists the chance to learn practical skills to help avoid being involved in a crash, as well as essential first-aid training and advice on what to do should they find themselves first on the scene of a crash where someone is injured.

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service's Fire Bike Team have delivered a total of 78 courses and have raised £6,000 for North West Air Ambulance.

Road safety manager Andy Gray said: "Motorcyclists are far more vulnerable than car, van and lorry drivers. One per cent of road traffic is comprised of motorcyclists, yet they are 45 times more likely to be involved in a serious accident.

"This course offers the chance to learn practical skills to lessen the chances of being involved in a crash. We want people to enjoy riding their bikes on our roads but we also want them to be safe. We hope that by educating and informing bikers about the possible dangers on our roads, we can help them be avoided.

"We fully support post-test training as being a key area in improving riders' safety and actively promote and recommend Biker Down and other courses and training such as Bike Safe, Institute of Advanced Motorists, Rospa.

The next Biker Down courses are taking place on:

- * Sunday July 21 at Safety Central in Lymm, 12pm until 4pm
- * Sunday October 13 at Safety Central in Lymm, 12pm until 4pm
- * Sunday November 10 at Safety Central in Lymm, 12pm until 4pm
- * Sunday December 8 at Safety Central in Lymm, 12pm until 4pm

Places are limited, so book a place on the course by emailing bikerdwn@cheshirefire.gov.uk

For more information about Biker Down visit www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/public-safety/road-safety/biker-down



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Junior mixed hockey team's incredible season

LYMM Hockey Club's Under 15 mixed team are celebrating after an incredible season in which they won 21 out of 27 games and only lost twice.

The team made winning look simple in the first-ever Greater Manchester Junior Hockey League seven-a-side tournament.

As a mixed competition the rules stated that a maximum of three boys could be played outfield at any one time and the Lymm team was a good mix of boys and girls aged 13, 14 and 15.

A total of 13 players played in the matches but whatever the combination gelled and played well as a team.

The team spirit was not dampened by bad weather and in between games they sang, danced, discussed physics – yes they really

did – and chatted.

Some players even helped out other teams who were low on numbers, helping smaller clubs to carry on in the competition.

Statistics for the season were: Played 27, Won 21, Drawn 4, Lost 2, Goals For 57, Goals Against 7, Total Points 67.

Most of the players scored in one game or another. In four games they had only six players – and that was when the two defeats occurred.

Anyone interested in joining the club should email lymmjuniorhockey@gmail.com or visit the website www.lymmhockey.com



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Cricketers reflect on what might have been

HALF-way through the season, Lymm Oughttrington Park Cricket Club were lying just below mid-table in the UKFast Cheshire League first division and reflecting on what might have been but for the weather.

Three of their first 11 games had been abandoned to the weather – three opportunities lost for improving their points tally.

They had won two games, drawn two and lost four which gave them 131 points – 27 above the relegation zone.

The 2nd XI with a similar record

– two games won, three drawn, four lost and two abandoned were less comfortably placed just 13 points clear of the relegation zone.



Lymm Oughttrington Park 2nd XI

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Obituaries

Geoff Bancroft

THE funeral took place at Altrincham Crematorium on June 26 of Geoff Bancroft, of Egerton Avenue, Warburton, who died in Salford Royal Hospital on June 6.

Geoff, aged 70, had lived in Lymm and Warburton all his life.

He loved motor bikes, seeing his mates and "putting a bet on."

He was a loving husband to Pam, much loved dad of Matthew and Richard and father in law to Becky, grandad to Olivia, William and Samuel, brother to Keith, Joan and Edna and a loving uncle.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

Peter Williams

THE funeral took place at Altrincham Crematorium on Monday, June 24 of Peter Magnus Williams, aged 88, of Statham Avenue, Lymm, who died on June 12 at Warrington Hospital.

Peter, who was a retired civil engineer, is survived by his son, Alan and stepsons Andrew and Michael.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons, of Lymm.

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