

Lymm Life

Magazine

ISSUE 272 | MARCH 2022

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Spirit of Historic Transport Day

Page 4

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FOOTPRINT

Picture: Mike Taylor



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Approved by Lymm Parish
Council as the official
magazine for Lymm

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Editor's Comment



WHILE it is fantastic to see that the spirit of Historic Transport Day will live on with a scaled down Lymm Boat and Steam Gathering event - it is sad no one has come forward to take on the full event.

Despite a well publicised appeal seeking a new event co-ordinator, following the decision by event founder Alan Williams to step down after many years hard work, no one has come forward willing to make the commitment.

Lymm Historic Day had become one of the key events of the year, attracting many thousands of people into the village. Seeing the parade of historic vehicles travelling through the village centre was one of the highlights of the year.

It also brought joy to many thousands of people taking a trip down memory lane, as they wandered around the May Queen Field seeing old classic cars and vehicles lined up and gleaming in the sunshine.

I have many fond memories of the event and truly hope it can be revived.

Surely there must be a classic car or steam enthusiast out there who can come forward and help bring the event back next year?

I'm sure Alan and his current team of volunteers will be more than willing to provide a guiding hand making a handover as seamless as possible.

Could any of our fantastic community groups consider taking it on as project? It is certainly a

great income generator and a great opportunity to support the local community, while also raising funds for local good causes.

May be our elected parish councillors could work together to help deliver the project? Many hands can make light work.

Meanwhile, while we wait in hope that a volunteer or group of volunteers will step forward, the village centre will still be buzzing with the sights, sounds and smells of boats and traction engines this summer, as enthusiasts gather for the Lymm Boat & Steam Gathering on the first weekend of Lymm Festival (June 25-26th).

The free event is being organised

by local steam enthusiast, Bruce Thomas and boat owner, Lynnette Crossley, both of whom were previously involved with Historic Transport Day.

See full details on page 4.

Finally I would like to thank all the local businesses and organisations who have supported us throughout the pandemic to ensure we could carry on producing Lymm Life in print and online. Hopefully normal service has now been resumed!

Deadline for the April issue of Lymm Life is March 8

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History enthusiast reunited with childhood gas mask

LIFELONG Lymm resident, Alan Taylor has always been keenly interested in local history.

Now in his eighties he is still actively involved, researching and applying his photography skills to co-authoring books about Lymm's heritage.

But a recent telephone call, out of the blue, turned the process on its head as history came to find him!

A former Lymm resident, June Crosby, now living in St Helens was clearing out her loft and stumbled across a child's gasmask, still in its box.

On the outside of the box it was still just possible to make out the words "Alan Taylor, Canal Bank".

The name immediately rang a bell as June had read a couple of Alan's books. She tracked down his number via Lymm Heritage Centre and within a week was able to reunite Alan with his gasmask after almost eighty years!

"It was a strange experience to be holding the mask again after nearly eight decades" said Alan, "and I was immediately struck by how small it was".

Quite how it ended up in that St Helen's loft remains a mystery but the visit provided a trigger for some great reminiscing with June's

mother, Ruth Boyd, who grew up on Egerton farm on the site of what is now Egerton Road.

Gas masks were issued to all children during World War two as a precaution against attack by gas bombs.

The masks came in cardboard boxes, with a strap for carrying them on the shoulder.

Children were instructed to keep their masks with them at all times and were regularly used in gas mask drills in schools. Thankfully they were never needed.



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What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday March 8th, 7:30pm
Lymm Parish Hall
Check www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk for details.

LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB

Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm

MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP

Meet each Wednesday 9.00am - 11.30pm
Oughtrington Community Centre, Lymm
Details: 01925 755126

ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM

Meets at Warburtons Parish Rooms on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month at 8pm
Contact 01925 919053

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 756444

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

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.
cah@stones.co.uk

PROBUS CLUB OF LYMM

A small, friendly social club for retired people. Meets on second and fourth Tuesdays at 2:15pm.
Details: www.lymmprobus.club

LYMM DINGLE PROBUS CLUB

A friendly busy social club for retired men. Meets on alternate Thursday afternoons at Lymm Baptist Church.
Details: www.lymmdingleprobus.club
Club secretary 01925 759995

FRIENDS OF LYMM LIBRARY CRAFT GROUP

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**LYMM
PARISH
COUNCIL**

Tuesday March 8th, 7:30pm
See parish council website for details.

Spirit of Historic Transport Day to be kept alive!

THERE may not be a full-blown Lymm Historic Transport Day this year but the village centre will still be buzzing with the sights, sounds and smells of boats and traction engines as enthusiasts gather for the Lymm Boat & Steam Gathering on the first weekend of Lymm Festival (June 25-26th).

The free event is being organised by local steam enthusiast, Bruce Thomas and boat owner, Lynnette Crossley both of whom were previously involved with Historic Transport Day.

"That event has frequently been described by boaters as the best in the North of England," says Lynnette "so we are really keen to keep it going in some form."

Bruce tells pretty much the same story saying: "Traction engine owners love the venue next to the canal and right in the heart of the village, rather than stuck out on a farmer's field".

The organisers are hoping that after the gathering some-one may yet come forward to take on the running of a larger scale event again for 2023. More at lymmtransport.org.uk.

This year also marks the 50th

anniversary of the National Waterways Rally being held in Lymm for the first and only time.

The Heritage Centre will be mounting an exhibition to mark the occasion. "The rally was quite possibly the biggest event ever staged in the village yet there is very little record of it," explains Centre Manager Alan Williams.

"We are keen to see any photographs but also to collect people's memories of the four day festival".

The Heritage Centre will also be staging several days of free canal education activities for local schools in conjunction with Saturn, The Shropshire flyboat and volunteers from the Boat Museum at Ellesmere Port.

Contact the Heritage Centre via www.lymmhc.co.uk

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Contact Andy

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- andy.carter.mp@parliament.uk
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Advertiser's announcement

Don't let your health go up in smoke

Smoking has some of the most harmful impacts on health and wellbeing – and people choose to inflict this harm by taking up smoking. People can choose not to smoke – it is hard to achieve but it can provide immediate and long term benefits. For National No Smoking Day on 9 March 2023 we outline seven ways your health will improve when you stop smoking.

Quit smoking to live longer

Half of all long-term smokers die early from smoking-related diseases, including heart disease, lung cancer and chronic bronchitis.

Men who quit smoking by the age of 30 add 10 years to their life. People who kick the habit at 60 add 3 years to their life.

In other words, it's never too late to benefit from stopping. Being smoke-free not only adds years to your life, but also greatly improves your chances of a disease-free, mobile, happier old age.

Stopping smoking lets you breathe more easily

People breathe more easily and cough less when they give up smoking because their lung capacity improves by up to 10% within 9 months.

In later years, having maximum lung capacity can mean the difference between having an active, healthy old age and wheezing when you go for a walk or climb the stairs.

Ditch the cigarettes and feel less stressed

The withdrawal from nicotine between cigarettes can heighten feelings of stress.

As the stress of withdrawal feels the same as other stresses, it's easy to confuse normal stress with nicotine withdrawal, so it can seem like smoking is reducing other stresses.

But this is not the case. In fact, scientific studies show people's stress levels are lower after they stop smoking.

If you find that you're prone to stress, replacing smoking with a

healthier, better way of dealing with stress can give you some real benefits.

Stopping smoking gives you more energy

Within 2 to 12 weeks of stopping smoking, your blood circulation improves. This makes all physical activity, including walking and running, much easier.

You'll also give a boost to your immune system, making it easier to fight off colds and flu. The increase in oxygen in the body can also reduce tiredness and the likelihood of headaches.

Stop smoking for younger-looking skin

Stopping smoking has been found to slow facial ageing and delay the appearance of wrinkles.

The skin of a non-smoker gets more nutrients, including oxygen, and stopping smoking can reverse the sallow, lined complexion smokers often have.

Ex-smokers are also less likely than smokers to get gum disease and prematurely lose their teeth.

NHS
Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals
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A smoke-free home protects your loved ones

By stopping smoking, you'll be protecting the health of your non-smoking friends and family, too.

Breathing in secondhand smoke increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and stroke.

In children, it doubles the risk of getting chest illnesses, including pneumonia, ear infections, wheezing and asthma.

They also have 3 times the risk of getting lung cancer in later life compared with children who live with non-smokers.

If you want to achieve these benefits by stopping smoking your GP can refer you to an NHS stop smoking adviser, or you can phone your local stop smoking service to make an appointment with an adviser. The Smokefree National Helpline is 0300 123 1044.

Quit Smoking Start Saving

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Plan to remove popular free parking bay in village centre

HIGHWAY planners are proposing to remove a popular free short stay car parking bay in Lymm village centre, on the grounds of pedestrian safety.

Warrington Borough Council's highway players say it is felt necessary to improve pedestrian safety by providing an extended footway area outside the shops adjacent to the carriageway on The Cross.

This scheme proposal follows the temporary social distancing measures installed as part of the covid pandemic. It is therefore deemed necessary to remove the limited waiting bay and replace it with double yellow lines.

The council says it has a statutory duty to maintain access along the public highway for all users as that is its primary purpose. Therefore, the council is now formally proposing to implement double yellow lines on this short section of carriageway.

There is currently a short stay (20 minutes) car parking bay in place, within walking distance of two local chemists, which is used regularly by people making a short visit to the village.

The proposal involves The Cross (unclassified) (North East Side) From its junction with A6144 and The Cross in a southerly and

easterly direction to a point 10 metres west of its junction with Pepper Street.

Deposited documents may be viewed on-line at www.warrington.gov.uk/permanent-traffic-regulation-orders or Town Hall Reception, Town Hall, Sankey Street, Warrington, WA1 1UH between 9am & 5pm, Monday to Friday.

All representations both in support or objecting to the

proposals must be in writing either by post to Rebecca Lee of Legal Services or delivered by hand to the address above or emailed to ree@warrington.gov.uk by 24th February 2022 and all objections must specify the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that all representations received may be considered in public by the Council and that the substance of any representation together with the name and address of the person making it could become available for public inspection.



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 **LYMM** PARISH COUNCIL



Historic Lymm in Colour on the big screen

A chance to see "Historic Lymm in Colour" is coming to a big screen near you - over twenty years since local history enthusiast Alan Williams produced the first Lymm Film.

"It was a very different time" explained Alan who with co-author Alan Taylor is set to stage a free big screen showing of pictures from the book at Lymm Heritage Centre.

Reflecting on his first Lymm film Alan Williams said: "It was all put together with the help of a cine-film enthusiast and was produced on VHS for video players. The success took us all by surprise. We sold well over 1,000 copies as well as showing it to large audiences on at least six occasions. It was all a first indication to me of people's

appetite for learning more about Lymm's story."

The world has certainly moved on since then. Technology has advanced so quickly that the software to create films is now within everyone's reach. And in Lymm's case the village has its own Heritage Centre where film can be watched on demand, as well as having a heritage website, www.lymmhc.co.uk and photoarchive, www.thelymmarchive.co.uk.

As a result the team behind the new and highly successful



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Colour coming to a near you!

book, "Historic Lymm in Colour" have gone one step further and translated it into a movie that can be shown on the 100 inch video wall in the Heritage Centre.

The film will be the focal point of a temporary "Historic Lymm in Colour" exhibition that will also feature large and even supersize images, a digital kiosk and themed collages.

In one case a ninety year old black and white post card has been transformed into an eight-foot wide full colour image that feels as if it was taken yesterday.

"We couldn't possibly include all the photos in a single film" explained co-author of the book, Alan Taylor.

"But using the many colourised images we had produced for the book we have been able to create

a virtual walk through the village centre as it would have looked 100 years ago before heading up the Dingle to the Dam.

"The ability to zoom in and see the faces up close, in colour, is particularly poignant."

The film also explores Booths Hill at a time when it was the centre of Lymm industry before dipping into the huge collection of images of Lymm's traditional annual events like May Queen. It concludes with a wistful look at some of the key sites that have been lost to demolition in an age of constant change.

The new temporary "Historic Lymm in Colour" exhibition, which is FREE, opens at Lymm Heritage Centre on Thursday February 24th. The centre is open from Thursday to Sunday 12-4 every week.

Lymm Duck Race is back after absence of two years!

VILLAGERS will be going quackers for the return of the Lymm Duck Race which is set to return after an absence of two years due to the pandemic, on Easter Monday, April 18.

With activity in the village from 10.30 am excitement builds for the race organised by Lymm & District Roundtable at 12.30pm and will include a variety of stalls and rides in Lymm Village Centre all raising money for good causes.

Tickets are available online until midday, or on the day in the village 10:30 am until 12:30 pm.

If you're a business and would like to sponsor a duck please visit www.lymmduckrace.co.uk/sponsors/

How does it work? Members of the public can buy a ticket for £2 and you'll get a duck number. Then 1,000 plastic ducks are launched down the dingle in Lymm village which are then caught at the finish line at the Lower Dam in the village centre.

If your duck number comes first you get £150, second place gets £75, and third place gets £50.

More details from www.lymmduckrace.co.uk

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By Anthony Josephson

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Also for the month of March, bespoke or not, if you buy one pair of glasses you get a 2nd set of frames and lenses for half-price. As the seasons start to change now may be a perfect chance to restyle your eyewear and get some new sunglasses whilst at it!

Below: The 3DNA software gives total control over the build of your frame, as seen here featuring our very attractive model.



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Rotary present £4,860 to Christmas Float supporters



THE Rotary Club of Lymm organised a special Presentation Evening at Grappenhall & Thelwall Royal British Legion to present monies earned by local groups and organisations who helped with the annual Christmas Float collection.

The speakers were Liz McGrath for the Cheshire Agricultural Society Chaplaincy, Nicola Henshaw for St Rocco's Hospice and Julie Barnes from Sainsburys about their Music and Memory and Pancreatic Cancer Charities.

Entertainment was Cesca who sang beautifully during the evening when she was also recruited by Julie to sing for the Dementia attendees at her Music and Memory group. This was in addition to being asked to sing for the residents at Brookfield House.

Several of the groups represented liaised on the evening and will be working together for Lymm's youth.

The float collection raised a total of £8,463, of which £4,860 was handed out to those who helped out.

Statham PTA 6 nights @ £45 = £270 Vicky Kelly

Kabuki Research CMMC 4 nights @ £45 = £180 Ann & Paul Scales

Cherry Tree PTA 17 nights @ £45 = £765 Jacqui Robinson/Mark Swettenham

Cherry Blossom Pre School 5 nights @ £45 = £225

Claire Caton

Gendai Karate Club 24 nights @ £45 = £1080 Dave Shipton/Kay Fletcher

3rd Lymm Scouts 19 nights @ £45 = £855 Richard Storey/Ed Gough Includes John Ellis driver 2 nights

Statham Little Foxes Pre-School & Link Club 4 nights @ £45 = £180 Julia Leigh

Lymm Oughtington Park Cricket Club 11 nights @ £45 = £495 Steve Gladwin

Cheshire Agriculture Society Chaplaincy 3 nights @ £45 = 135 Roger Thomason (driver)

Lymm Cancer Research 11 nights @ £45 = £495 Alison & Geoff Hawley Includes David & Richard Priestner 3 nights

St Rocco's Hospice 4 nights @ £45 = £180 Nicola Henshaw Includes Martin Dunkley 4 nights

Music & Memory/ Pancreatic Cancer £750 Julie/Lee/Ray (Sainsbury's)

Total Collectors Nights = 108 = £4860

The overall total collected was £8463



Your pet questions answered

By Dr Diane Wilshaw
Lymm Veterinary Surgery

Q: How long do kittens need to stay with their mother?

A: No kitten should be adopted and taken from the mother before 8-9 weeks, at a minimum, but 12 weeks is much better, as long as they are getting plenty of attention and socialization with people.

Kittens will be able to begin eating some solid food at about 4 weeks of age, but that does not mean they can be taken from their mother. They will continue to nurse up to 12 weeks, and occasionally even longer. Kittens which are taken from their mother sooner sometimes develop a behavior called "wool sucking": they will suck and chew on fabric, your neck or hand, clothing, and pillows.

Q: Do cats or dogs make better pets?

A: It all depends on your life style, personality and what role you want a pet to play in your life.

A pet is just like having a child. If you are a working individual that won't have the time to exercise a dog morning and night and ideally have somebody to at least let them out at lunchtime then a cat may be better. Dogs are usually more interactive and social animals and are a great reason to get out and keep fit too.

Some cats like Siamese are more 'people' orientated and can be more dog-like in their desire to interact with people like dogs do. To bring another species into it: It's horses for courses!

Q: Are dogs colorblind?

A: Dogs are not colour blind but their chromatic acuity is significantly less than humans which means that the colours they see are pale or



faded, it is thought to be like red/green colour blindness.

Dogs are, however, much more sensitive to lower light conditions and therefore have better night vision than people.

Q: How do I know if my rabbit is the right weight?

A: The correct weight for an individual rabbit is difficult to say because the different breeds vary so much in size. I usually assess them on how they 'feel'. You should be able to feel their ribs and the vertebrae of the spine down their back, although these should not be visible. Rabbits usually look 'fat' around their abdomen, but that is their natural shape.

Q: My dog has been sneezing a lot recently - will it be a cold?

A: Usually a sneeze only lasts a couple of days. It may be nothing to worry about but I suggest you do get him checked out by your vet. Sometimes dogs can get something lodged in their nose and this can be quite uncomfortable. It would be worthwhile checking whether there is any discharge and whether it is only one nostril or both.

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WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to support the following. Many of these groups have actually helped us with our Christmas Float collections and without them we would not be able to fulfil our Father Christmas visits.

ALL MONEY COLLECTED ON OUR FLOAT GOES TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

In the past three years, we have supported the following Lymm based organisations:

3 care Homes (Brookfield, Keate House, Cheshire Grange).
Senior Citizens at home (party, afternoon teas, Christmas chocolates).
Pre-school & Playgroups (Statham, Oughtrington, St Mary's).
Primary Schools (Statham, Oughtrington, Cherry Tree, Thelwall & Little Bollington).
This year we liaised with the schools to make Christmas cards for the Care Home residents.
Lymm Youth & Community Centre. Gendai Karate Club
Lymm District Guides. Lymm District Scouts. Kabuki Research
Lymm High School (Young Musician, Youth Speaks, Afritwin).
Lymm Sanctuary Café, Lymm Memory Club, Lymm Heritage Centre, Lymm May Queen.
Lymm Dickensian Day. Lymm Children in Need. Lymm Royal British Legion. Lymm Cancer Research.
St Mary's and St Peter's Churches, and Lymm Oughtrington Park Cricket Club.

We must not forget the smiles spread, photos taken and waves, which are priceless

Sainsbury's, Warrington kindly allow us to collect at their store and from part of these proceeds, we have supported the following Warrington based organisations.

St Rocco's Hospice • Warrington Foodbank • Room at the Inn • Salvation Army
WODAC (Warrington Open Door At Christmas) • Warrington Wolves Charity
Warrington Disability Partnership • Merseyside & Cheshire Blood Bikes • Warrington Life Time Trust
Clatterbridge Cancer Clinic • Brainwave • Tree of Hope • Petty Pool Trust • Disaster Aid • The Christie

Over many years, Lymm Rotarians have been involved individually with helping our Community. Members helped build Lymm Youth and Community Centre, Lymm Grammar School swimming pool, Built the Royal British Legion Club (now the Heritage Centre), Constructed the disabled fishing access at Lymm Dam, Planted trees around Lymm Dam, Secured the building for Lymm Youth & Community Centre to continue to use, helped decorate the Children's Adventure Farm Trust when it started, ensured Lymm Rotary Club was not disbanded recently.

We have supported the North West Air Ambulance

Members also serve on other local voluntary groups, like Low Carbon Lymm, Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, School Governors, Visit residents of Care homes and Housebound, Lymm Dickensian, Litter Picking and removal of Toxic weeds from the roadside around our Village. We donated and maintain the Notice Board in the Village.

We supplied and erected the first Christmas Tree at Lymm Cross in 1952.



If anyone wishes to join Lymm Rotary Club, support us or know an organisation worthy of our support, please contact Neville Davies 07710 240508 email: kathandnev@btinternet.com

We meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 8pm at Warburton Parish Rooms.

Up to 16 weeks of road and footpath closures for Trans Pennine Trail improvements

WORK is set to start on a £320,000 project for footway and cycleway improvements on the Trans Pennine Trail at Lymm which will involve road and footpath closures for up to 16 weeks.

Warrington Borough Council has given notice that it intends to make an Order under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The effect of which will be as follows: –

Prohibition of Driving: Lymmhay Lane from its junction with Brooklyn Drive for a distance of approximately 60 metres in a northerly direction; Footpath Closure: Trans Pennine Trail from Whitbarrow Road to Reddish Crescent.

The Order will be effective from 21st February 2022 for 16 weeks.

The works will be carried out in phases as follows:

Phase 1: Trans Pennine Trail footpath from Whitbarrow Road to Lymmhay Lane; Phase 2: Trans Pennine Trail footpath from Lymmhay Lane to Reddish Crescent; Phase 3: Lymmhay Lane carriageway.

Works are weather dependent so the restrictions will be in place as and when signed on site.

Access will be under the control of the relevant Contractor for the duration of the works. The alternative routes are: Phase 1 will be via Whitbarrow Road, Dane Bank Road, Lymmhay Lane and vice versa; Phase 2 will be via

Lymmhay Lane, Dane Bank Road East, New Road, Rushgreen Road, Reddish Crescent and vice versa; Phase 3 not applicable, access to be maintained where required.

The restrictions are required for footway/cycleway improvement scheme.

The council has been successful in obtaining £320k funding to upgrade part of the Trans Pennine Trail between Whitbarrow Road and Reddish Crescent in Lymm.

The funding is being provided by Sustrans, a walking and cycling charity that obtained the funding from the government. This funding must be spent by March 2022 and a bid for funding for other sections of the TPT is in hand for delivery in later years.

At the time of a public consultation on the project last November Warrington Borough Council's Cabinet Member for transportation, highways and public realm, Cllr Hans Mundry, said: "This section of the Trans Pennine Trail has been in need of refurbishment for many years – so it's great news that we now have the funding in place to carry out these improvements. However, we haven't forgotten the other parts of the TPT which are also in need of

improvement. We will continue to seek external funding to improve all of the TPT in Warrington.

"This investment will give this area a new lease of life, providing a wider, higher quality surface for cyclists and pedestrians and improving accessibility for people with disabilities."

The aim of the project is to

provide a 3.0m wide all weather surface which will allow for all year round use. As well as pedestrians and cyclists, the new path will allow easier access for people in wheelchairs, mobility scooters and families using pushchairs and prams. Better provision for horse riders will also be provided.

Library returns to pre-Covid opening hours

LYMM Library has returned to its pre-Covid opening hours after months of offering restricted service.

The library is now opening six days a week again.

Opening times now are as follows: Monday and Tuesday, 10am-5pm; Wednesday 1-5pm; Thursday, 10am-6pm; Friday, 1-5pm; Saturday, 10am-1pm.

In addition, there is a Quiet Hour every Friday from 1-2pm and a Story Hour every Friday from 2-3pm (term time only).

Lymm Sanctuary Hub has also restarted many of its events including:

Mondays – Cheshire Wellness and Mental Fitness (7-9pm): A mixed peer support group helping men and women with their mental wellbeing.

Wednesdays – Memory Café (1-3pm): a fortnightly support group for

those affected by dementia and their family, friends and carers

Thursdays – U3A Photography Group (2-4pm): Every third Thursday of the month. A support group for photography enthusiasts.

Lymm Sewcials (10am-2pm): Every first Thursday of the month. A monthly sewing meet-up.

Fridays – Friends Craft Group (1-3pm): A crafting and friendship weekly event

Ongoing: Affordable Counselling Service; Bookable private counselling sessions available to all.

IT4All: Ongoing IT drop-in sessions to support older people with the use of IT plus device loan and activity groups.

LEAF: A program of events that tackle environmental issues.



Digital Cafe

Every Thursday
2.30-5.30pm
Lymm Library

A free service for people aged 55+ who wish to learn basic computer skills or gain access to technology

For more information you can find us on Facebook/ Twitter:

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Work progressing well on new £15m care facility



BUILDING work is progressing well on a new £15m care facility on the site of the former Lymm Hotel on Whitbarrow Road in the village.

Altrincham-based development care home operator New Care started work on the state-of-the-art 66-bed care centre close to the centre of Lymm in April and is now halfway through the build programme with practical completion on track for November.

With the main structure and roof trusses in place, the next action is to commence installation of the windows and doors and also the internal mechanics and electricals with build continuing at pace over the next 10 months to ensure the home is ready to welcome its first residents before the end of the year.

The expertly designed, impressive new care facility is the latest for New Care, one of the UK's fastest-growing care home operators and part of the award-winning McGoff Group.

When complete, it will cater for the aspiring needs of local residents providing the highest standards of person-centred care and an exceptional clinical offering, including residential, nursing and dementia care in a safe, stimulating and comfortable environment.

Specifically designed to suit the plot, the care facility will be arranged over three floors. Ensuring a welcoming home-from-home environment, each of the well-appointed and restful bedrooms will feature a private en-suite wet room. There will also be several stylish communal lounges, elegant dining rooms and spa assisted bathrooms, as well as beautifully landscaped gardens.

Further enhancing the level of care provided, a number of

advanced care services including acoustic monitoring and silent call bells have been incorporated into the build and the facility will benefit from a hair salon, nail bar and its own dedicated hospitality team providing high end, hotel-style services that ensure continued quality of life and enjoyment for residents, including fine dining, concierge services and a busy and varied programme of activities and events.

Commissioning director at New Care, Dawn Collett, commented: "We are making great progress in Lymm; the structure is in place, the roof trusses are in and in the next week or two, the roof coverings will go on. Over the coming months, the development will really take shape with the construction team working closely with our operational team to create an unrivalled care facility in which the highest standards of care can be provided for residents in the heart of a wonderful community where they would like to live. We're delighted to be bringing one of our award winning facilities to Lymm and look forward to opening before the end of the year."

Principal contractor, McGoff Construction (New Care's sister company), is managing the build programme.

Part of the McGoff Group, New Care is one of the UK's leading care home providers. Its portfolio of purpose-built 'new generation' care centres is fast gaining an enviable reputation for outstanding care that is second to none. For further information visit www.newcarehomes.com

Junior Spring Open Day

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Lottery funding helps swimming club carry on during pandemic

Pictures: Neil Foxall

LYMM Swimming Club has received over £4,400 funding from the National Lottery to help carry on teaching children how to swim during the pandemic.

Lymm Parish Council Chair Cllr Bob Barr presented Lymm Swimming Club with a cheque for £4,472 from the National Lottery Funding at the Cross in Lymm village to mark the occasion.

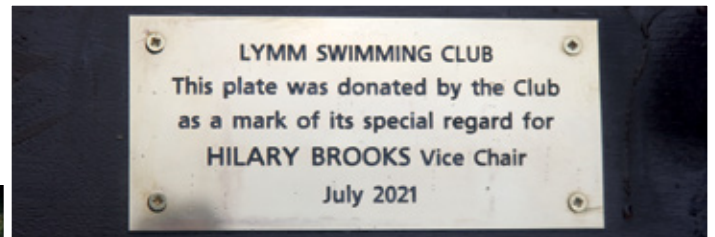
This enabled the club to respond to changes imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic in continuing to deliver swimming lessons for local children.

The swimming club based at Lymm High School pool, has been running since 1977 and to date has given over 4000 young children the life skill of swimming, with tailored lessons to meet their individual needs.

Secretary Pam Pollard said: "We are delighted that the National Lottery Community Fund has recognised our work in this way. Thank you #NationalLottery players!"

Meanwhile Cllr. Barr also unveiled a plaque to commemorate

Mrs Hilary Brooks, who sadly passed away last year, as a mark of respect for her great work as the Vice-Chair of the club. Her family, friends and club members were there to celebrate the unveiling.



Samoan International Johnny Leota joins Lymm RFC

FORMER Samoan international rugby union player Johnny Leota, who was in the squads for the 2011 and 2015 Rugby World Cups, has joined Lymm RFC, having played centre for Sale Sharks in the Aviva Premiership.

Leota, aged 37 was born in Palmerston North, New Zealand and made his international debut for Samoa in 2011, winning 20 caps.

He previously played for Manawatu Turbos in New Zealand and had a breakthrough season with Dunedin-based Highlanders Super 14 squad after a stunning 2007 season.

Leota was then one of 25 players selected in the squad for the Samoan national team's 2011 Pacific Nations Cup campaign, in the lead-up to the 2011 Rugby World Cup. He made his international debut against Tonga but Samoa went out of the RWC in the quarter-final, losing to Wales 17-10.

In August 2011, Leota moved to England when he signed for Sale Sharks, after the Rugby World Cup. After a successful spell he left Sharks at the conclusion of the 2018-19 season and then played for Sale FC

for a couple of seasons.

"His link to Lymm was initially through Curtis Langdon, Lymm's forwards coach, when they played together at Sharks. They both now coach at Sale Academy, which is where he also met Lymm centre Ben Stansfield," commented Lymm Head Coach Adam Fletcher.

"Johnny got the bug back for playing and wanted to play for a local amateur club.

"He's made a great impression both off and on the pitch at Lymm," said Adam. "We feel very grateful to have someone of Johnny's quality and experience at the club. All the boys are excited to be on the pitch with him and the backs are already benefiting from being around him at training.

"Unfortunately, he broke his hand recently so will be out of action for a few weeks," commented Fletcher. "But we are delighted to have him and have welcomed him with open arms."



Obituary

Joyce Wilson

THE funeral has taken place of Joyce Wilson, nee Pierce, of Bridge Meadow, Lymm, who died suddenly in her sleep at her daughter's home in Yeovil.

Father Michael Burgess conducted the service which was followed by cremation at Altrincham Crematorium and a gathering of family, friends and neighbours at Lymm Golf Club.

Joyce is survived by her husband, Jim, her daughter Hazel (married to Martin), her son James (married to Caroline) and her grandchildren Charlie, Annie, JD, Carys and Sam.

She spent the majority of her working life as a maths teacher, latterly as the head of maths at Aquinas College, Stockport.

For eleven years Joyce was a magistrate in the Greater Manchester area.

On moving to Lymm, she joined two art groups, the Lymm Chorus and Oughtlington Bowling Club as well as attending St Peter's Church.

She will be sadly missed by her family, neighbours and many friends.

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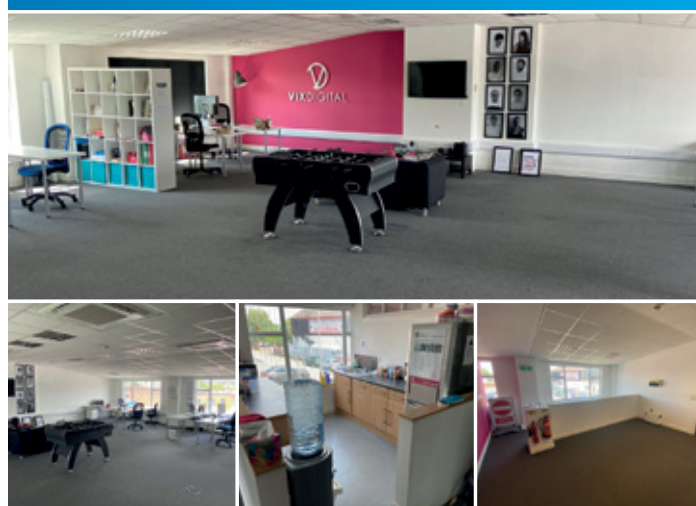
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