

# Lymm Life Magazine

ISSUE 273 | APRIL 2022

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## Lymm woman helps build school in Uganda

Page 9

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Approved by Lymm Parish Council as the official magazine for Lymm

Regular news updates at [www.lymmlife.co.uk](http://www.lymmlife.co.uk)



# Editor's Comment



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**I have met and written about some inspirational people in my journalistic career but what Lymm resident Helen Owen has achieved is truly remarkable.**

Helen, who features in this month's issue has worked tirelessly to help build a school and church in a small village in Uganda, while providing housing for qualified teachers and paying them!

This follows on from visiting a small village called Namataba a few miles outside Kampala in Uganda back in 2014, when she came across a village school which was little more than a chalkboard and a few wooden railings.

Now she has officially set up a charity to help secure the future of her outstanding efforts and hopefully others will rally to her cause.

Well done Helen on helping provide a light in the dark through what have been unprecedented times for many with a two year global pandemic and now the atrocities of Russia's invasion of the Ukraine, which now has many fearing a third world war.

I remain thankful that I have a roof over my head and a warm bed to sleep in at night. It truly sickens me when those who have power and wealth use it to inflict suffering on others, when so many people live in poverty on our planet.

I wish Helen every luck with her new charity and hopefully we can publish follow up stories on how things progress.

Meanwhile as we try to work our way out of the pandemic, the atrocities in Russia will certainly not help the economy with inflation and fuel costs going through the roof.

We are working hard to continue to provide a free news service for the area online and in print in the face of rising costs and a smaller team, so apologies if we don't manage to get back to everyone who contacts us.

I recently came in for criticism online and accused of being a "lazy journalist" for reporting on police activity in the village via information provided on social media.

This is the norm now for how local journalists report. There is nothing lazy about it. We have to check out around 15 local police groups

every day to source information as well as liaising with their press office in Chester when we need further details.

As the saying goes, time is money, and with our limited resources we do the best we can – and the reality is the vast majority of people only read a headline and look at a photograph and the first paragraph any way.

Meanwhile, if anyone else would like to call me a "lazy journalist" please pick up the phone and I will arrange for you to shadow me for a couple of days – and you can then see the true definition of lazy!

PS If you do it on facebook – the chances are it will be the last time you see our social media page!

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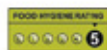


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# Tree surgeons to the rescue as road blocked

**LOCAL tree surgeons from Beechwood Industries Arb team were kept busy during the recent storms including an emergency call to help open a road at Lymm.**

The team received a call about a fallen tree on Crouchley Lane in Lymm.

The twin stem lime tree weakened at the base through disease, had fallen in the high winds of Storm Franklin and was blocking the road.

The Arb team used their forestry tractor with a crane arm to move and dismantle the tree. Within just a few hours, the road was open again.

Beechwood Industries Arb Manager, Josh Calvert, said "It was a busy few days for us in the aftermath of Storm Eunice and Storm Franklin. The clear-up operation was ongoing and the team worked through the weekend to deal with emergency calls as they arose."

Beechwood Industries can be contacted on 01925 860 544 for any tree surgery services.



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## What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



### LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday April 12th, 7:30pm  
Lymm Parish Hall  
Check [www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://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 LUNCHEONS

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](http://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](http://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.  
[cath@stones.co.uk](mailto:cath@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](http://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](http://www.lymmdingleprobus.club)  
Club secretary 01925 759995

### FRIENDS OF LYMM LIBRARY CRAFT GROUP

Lymm Sanctuary Hub  
Fridays 1.30-3.00pm  
Details: 01925 754016



## LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday April 12th, 7:30pm  
See parish council website for details.

# Europe's largest and oldest truck wash celebrates 55 years



## LYMM Truckwash Ltd – the largest and oldest truck wash in Europe – is celebrating 55 years since it first opened in 1967.

It will be hosting a Driver Day event to mark the occasion on Thursday April 28.

Lymm Truckwash washes more than 60,000 trucks a year for customers throughout the UK and across Europe, ranging from owner-drivers to major fleet operators such as DHL, Manfreight, BM Transport, Hoyer, XPO and GXO.

Still family-owned, and managed, Lymm Truckwash was first opened by husband and wife team John and Anne Cardwell in 1967.

In 2014, daughter Laura Cardwell became a director of the firm, later buying the business in 2018 when her parents retired. Laura took the reins at a key turning point in the company's history, as it invested £2.3million in relocating to a new, purpose-built site at Poplar Park, just 100 metres from its previous base at Lymm Services, near Warrington.

The relocation meant Lymm Truckwash could offer an even better experience for drivers – thanks to the installation of state-of-the-art equipment and point of sale system at a more convenient site, as well as secure the long-term future of the company's staff and their families.

As a woman in the male-dominated HGV industry Laura has been determined to help make the sector more accessible. She has also been a vital mouthpiece for the industry helping to raise awareness

around driver issues such as the importance of keeping rest stops open throughout the pandemic and tackling the stigma around mental health.

To celebrate the Truckwash's 55th anniversary, it will be hosting a Driver Day event on Thursday April 28 between 9.30am-3pm (still washing in normal hours – 7am to 4.45pm) The event will include freebie goodie bags, cakes and a charity raffle. Proceeds from the raffle will be split between men's mental health charity, Andy's Man Club and Lymm Truckwash's charity of the year, Nature's Safe, which is safeguarding the future of the natural world by preserving live cells of animals at risk of extinction and supporting biodiversity.

Laura said: "It's a huge milestone for us to reach 55 years in business. My family and team are so proud to be at the forefront of the industry as we continue to be Europe's largest truck wash. I'd like to thank my team for working together and throughout the pandemic, I couldn't have done it without them."

"Our customers have been amazing and shown us great support and encouragement throughout the years so we are really excited to put on an event for them whilst celebrating our anniversary."

"Please come and join us, the event is not just for our drivers but also our office-based customers and all industry professionals."



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## ANDY CARTER MP

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### Here to Help

As your Member of Parliament I am here to help residents with any local or national concerns. I am absolutely committed to providing advice and support to all Warrington South residents. So if you need help, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



**Contact Andy**

- 01925 231 267
- [andy.carter.org.uk](http://andy.carter.org.uk)
- [andy.carter.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:andy.carter.mp@parliament.uk)
- @MrAndy\_Carter
- [AndyCarterWarringtonSouth](https://www.facebook.com/AndyCarterWarringtonSouth)
- Warrington South Constituency Office:  
1 Stafford Road, Warrington WA4 6RP

## Twin Town Society looking forward to new programme of activities

LYMM Twin Town Society is now looking forward to a programme of activities in 2022 which is no longer severely restricted by the pandemic – Hourra (French for Hurrah!).

An evening of French cheese tasting took place recently in the Village Hall. France is of course renowned for the great variety of its cheeses.

Then on Sunday, May 8 is Boules day – the traditional evening pastime in many French towns and village squares, followed by the annual barbecue on Sunday, July 17.

But most notably is the twice-postponed annual exchange now taking place this year – from 1st to 5th June – staying with our friends in Meung sur Loire.

During lockdown the society members kept in touch via Zoom.

Anyone interested in matters French and in mixing with other people who enjoy international exchange and meeting French families, or who would simply like to attend enjoyable social events in good company, is very welcome.

Families, couples and singles are equally welcome. For all enquiries please contact [lymmtwintown@gmail.com](mailto:lymmtwintown@gmail.com)

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# From small beginnings to four million plants a year!

**LYMM based family business E Smith and Son has grown from small beginnings to four million plants a year, specialising in perennials, seasonal bedding and basket plants and Christmas holly wreathes.**

Started by Edwin in 1959 in Statham, they moved to their present site on Booths Lane in 1961 where they grew bedding plants and beautiful cut flowers, and where they continue to grow.

From small beginnings, the family now produce around four million plants annually, from seeds and cuttings.

Over 90% of the seedlings are sown on the nursery, using the latest technology and newest varieties to produce healthy plants for sale to retail, wholesale, landscapers and local authorities. Irrigation is mechanised using collected rainwater through watering booms to minimise waste and as much as possible they use recycled and recyclable plastics in their pots and trays.

Sadly, Edwin and Barbara are no longer with us, but Derek and Sarah continue the work they started, helped by David and Rachel when needed. Business has changed over the years, and they no longer grow cut flowers: they specialise in growing quality bedding plants and making beautiful hanging baskets, bespoke to your own requirements, or straight off the shelf, in summer and winter. Alongside the horticultural produce

they offer a comprehensive range of pots, composts, and fertilisers for those who want to grow their own, and plenty of advice!

The Christmas wreath production continues with greater emphasis

on wreathes for doors and decorations, but still traditionally made using local holly and greenery. The wreath workshops proved to be very popular last year and will be repeated this year.

Keep up to date with latest news and stock by visiting the FaceBook page Esmith and son plant centre or visit [www.lymmplants.co.uk](http://www.lymmplants.co.uk)



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# Lymm woman launches new charity to support village in Uganda



**A LYMM woman who has worked tirelessly to help build a school and church in a small village in Uganda, while providing housing for qualified teachers and paying them, is looking for support for her new charity.**

Back in 2014, long-term Lymm resident, Helen Owen, visited the small village called Namataba a few miles outside Kampala in Uganda. She came across a village school which was little more than a chalkboard and a few wooden railings.

There were no teachers, just a few mothers trying to pass on what education they had to the few children that were able to attend. All around was starvation and abject poverty.

The struggles of the Namataba people stayed in Helen's thoughts after her return to the UK. The children needed her most, many had lost both parents and some had only one; she wanted them all to have a proper education in a proper school. She also wanted them to have at least one nutritious meal a day. It was this goal that led to the beginnings of the Helen Margaret Owen Foundation (HMOF) as a registered charity.

Through huge efforts, mainly by herself, she has funded the building of a school, a church, provided housing for qualified teachers and paid them. She has also bought farmland to grow crops that provide food for the school and the wider community. Inadequate food, disease and death are still common occurrences in Namataba so Helen, in conjunction with the village Pastor, has developed a support system to look after the children that are left



without parents or a home.

Although a lot has been done to try to raise the community above the poverty line, there is still a lot to do and of course as with anything it needs money. The Foundation still needs to finish and furnish the school and build and staff a medical centre.

Helen has taken this project from a single funded mission to a registered charity. There are already a small number of generous people who donate money on a monthly basis, but it is not enough to meet the ongoing costs of running a school. The HMOF desperately needs more people or businesses to donate each month. If you are such a person or work for or own a company that has a charity donation scheme, please consider the amazing people of this tiny village and the goals of this small but significant charity.

For more information, please see the contact details below;

Email: [hmofoundation@gmail.com](mailto:hmofoundation@gmail.com)

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## Get your eyes ready for the Summer



By Anthony Josephson

We're all aware that spending time in the sun is bad for our skin. We can see the damage it does. It has a similar effect on the eyes and the damage caused can be irreversible and very damaging to your sight over time.

It's really important that you protect your eyes from UV. If you don't have a prescription this means getting good quality sunglasses.

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It's worth noting that the best sunglasses are often bigger and more curved than regular glasses to provide more protection so even if you have UV protection in your normal glasses a separate pair of sunglasses may well be even better for you!

We've now restocked with lots of new sunglasses including many designer brands (such as Calvin Klein and Ferragamo) and our number 1 choice, Maui Jim.

This Spring/Summer we're offering 2nd pairs of glasses at half-price and that includes non-prescription sunglasses too. This means that if your normal eye-wear is due a refresh you can get a pair of sunglasses with a big saving. You may just fancy a couple of different choices for sunglasses and the saving will still apply.

There's never been a more important time to protect your eyes and there's never been a more affordable time than now.



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# LYMM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

The Parish Council has had a very full programme of decisions and actions over the last month

As members of the South Warrington Parishes group we campaigned strongly against granting outline planning permission for 5 very large warehouses next to the M6 M56 junction on Grappenhall Lane. Very sadly, the proposal went through on a 5 to 7 vote with all the councillors from the ruling group in Warrington voting in favour. The Secretary of State does have the right to call the application in for another look. We await that decision.

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire has announced a review of local policing and the role of PCSOs. Lymm Parish Council is unusual among Warrington parishes in that we fund an additional PCSO. We, and the PCSOs, welcome comments from residents on the priorities for policing in the village and the style of policing we would like to see given the limited resources available.

We are being asked for greater CCTV coverage in the village and have received quotes for additional cameras to cover Lymm Cross up to Lymm Bridge, and the Davies way access to the village including the recycling point.

We are very grateful to the very successful Lymm in Bloom group for helping to plan the decoration of the village for the Jubilee celebrations in June. They always welcome additional volunteers and meet in the Sunken Garden by the Lower Dam at 10.30 am on the last Sunday of the month.

Lymm has been short-listed for a pilot average speed monitoring system to cover Higher Lane and Church Road. We hope, if successful, that this will reduce the speeding here that concerns many residents. This would add to the recent purchase and installation of sensors around the village to record traffic and speeds in various areas.

Finally, plans for Lymm's Platinum Jubilee celebrations will soon be announced. We hope that you will take part and enjoy the events that the Parish Council and local organisations are planning.

If there are any further issues you would like the Parish Council to consider, please let our clerk know.

Enjoy the coming of spring in our beautiful village.

*Cllr Bob Barr,  
Chairman*



## Contact information:

Clerk to the Council: Kerry Duffin - 07741 877870  
clerk@lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Council Website:

**www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk**

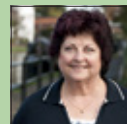
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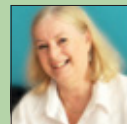
Name: Cllr Bob Barr OBE (Chairman)  
Address: 2A Danebank Road, Lymm WA13 9DH  
Telephone: 01925 750910  
Email: rbarr@lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk



Name: Cllr Graham Gowland (Deputy Chairman)  
Address: 32 Wychwood Avenue, Lymm, WA13 0NE  
Telephone: 01925 751599  
Email: ggowland@lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk



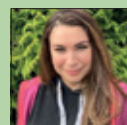
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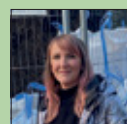
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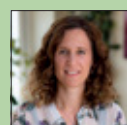
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# Kids Planet surpasses 100 nursery milestone



**LYMM-based Kids Planet has now surpassed more than 100 nurseries across the UK following its latest acquisition.**

The family-owned, award-winning group Kids Planet, is thrilled to have reached the milestone of surpassing 100 settings, having acquired Twinkles Nurseries group of six nurseries in North and West Yorkshire.

CEO Clare Roberts first set up Kids Planet when she was struggling to find childcare in her local area with flexible hours. Working with her father John, and sister Lucy, Kids Planet has grown exponentially since opening, but still remains a family-orientated business.

Since opening in 2008, the group has expanded rapidly, with the current 103 active nurseries responsible for the care of over 11,500 children. Kids Planet even opened a dedicated Training Academy in 2018 for both internal and external employees and has shown no signs of slowing down, even amidst the pandemic.

Clare said: "This is a really impressive milestone when you

think of where the company started almost 14 years ago. It is a true testament to the adaptability and dedication of our wonderful colleagues who have grown and developed alongside the business.

"I am delighted that the core values of Kids Planet have remained consistent and engrained in our daily work and it is truly a privilege to work with colleagues who share the same vision. I am so proud to reach such an incredible milestone of over 100 nurseries in the Kids Planet family.

"Well done to everyone that has been on the journey with us and I look forward to the exciting future we have ahead as a company and more importantly, as a team."

The Head Office and nurseries across the group have been celebrating the momentous milestone, with children from Kids Planet Lymm nursery photographed about to beat their 100 piñata to discover some sweet treats.



## Lymm Parish Council wants to know what you're planning?

ARE you are running an event, a competition or an activity related to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee that is taking place in Lymm?

If so, let the Parish Council know before March 20.

Lymm Parish Council is producing

a souvenir guide for the Platinum Jubilee that will be delivered to every household in Lymm and will include all Jubilee related activities that are taking place in Lymm.

Send all the necessary details to [clerk@lymm.council.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@lymm.council.gov.uk).



**LYMM**  
PARISH COUNCIL

# Your pet questions answered

By Dr Diane Wilshaw  
Lymm Veterinary Surgery



**Q) I have a 9 week old kittens who has just had her first vaccination. I have noticed that she has some fresh bright red blood in her poo. Her poo is soft so I don't think she is constipated. What could be causing this..**

A) The vaccinations given to animals are a small dose of the actual disease that the vaccine is designed to prevent. By injecting the pet with this vaccine it stimulates the immune system to produce antibodies which will help to ward off the disease in the future. Initially when an animal is vaccinated it can cause the animal to be 'poorly' for a couple of days and exhibit the symptoms you describe. If the symptoms continues for more than a couple of days have your pet checked out as it could just be co-incidence that it has occurred following a vaccination.

**Q)My cat has just given birth to kittens. How long should I wait before having her neutered ?**

A) A cat can get pregnant as soon as eight weeks after giving birth so we would recommend having her neutered as soon as she has stopped producing milk.

**Q) I have a 6 month old spaniel who has broken a tooth when he was chewing a stone. At the time it bled a bit but doesn't seem to be causing him any problems now. Is it OK to leave it ?**

A) I would certainly suggest that you have your dog examined by a vet. The dog could have just broken a tip but could have done more significant damage and left an exposed area of the gum. If this gets infected it could lead to an abscess which is quite serious.

**Q) I have a female Lhasa Apso who wees when she gets excited, for example when visitors come to the house and make a fuss of her. I have been told that she will grow out of this - is this right ?**

A) Many puppies will go through a stage of weeing and grow out of it but this sounds like it is behaviour related. Some dogs will wet when they are excited or anxious so the solution is to try to avoid these situations. Ask visitors to ignore her when they first enter the house as fussing her will just compound the problem. Do not chastise your dog when she wets as this could cause more anxiety.

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# Safer Streets campaign to tackle violence against women and girls

## A Safer Streets campaign has been launched in Warrington by Police and Crime Commissioner John Dwyer, helping to tackle violence against women and girls.

The campaign has been launched on the basis that everybody has the right to go about their daily routine without fear or prejudice.

Since the tragic murders of Sarah Everard and Sabina Nessa in London, the debate around how the police and other services should tackle crimes that disproportionately affect women and girls such as stalking, harassment, sexual violence and domestic abuse has featured prominently in the national conversation.

A documentary filmed here in Cheshire, 'Stalkers', hosted by Stacey Dooley, highlighted the dangers faced by women and girls and the work ongoing in Cheshire Constabulary's Harm Reduction Unit (HRU) to protect them. The HRU helps victims to recover through practical support and Special Victims' Advocates.

Mr Dwyer heard first-hand about how the concerns raised across the country were no different here in Cheshire. In his Police and Crime Plan he outlined his commitment to tackling violence against women and girls through continuing to fund the HRU and providing more community-based support for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence through Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) and Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) schemes.

Since taking office, the Commissioner has applied to the Home Office for extra funding to help tackle violence and intimidation against women and girls in Cheshire.

In November 2021, the Commissioner was successful in securing £550,000 for the Warrington Safer Streets project, which sees a number of initiatives being rolled out to help make residents and visitors to the borough feel safe.

Enhanced CCTV and street lighting will be added to the town centre, complementing neighbouring streets which have already been given the same enhancement. There will also be a 'safe taxi' scheme and an awareness and learning package for taxi drivers and other guardians to promote active bystander intervention - encouraging people to challenge inappropriate behaviour when they see it.

Pupils across Warrington will also be educated on how to spot and challenge unacceptable behaviour towards women and girls, and additional training and support will be provided to police officers to enable them to identify perpetrators

at an early stage.

Mr Dwyer said: "Tackling violence and intimidation against women and girls requires a collaborative approach and the Safer Streets funding supplied by the Home Office has helped the police, council and other partners tackle the issue on both sides of the coin.

It's vital that we work to protect women and girls from harmful behaviour, but that cannot happen without resolute action to prevent that behaviour from happening in the first place. We need to educate people that the perpetrator is always responsible for their own behaviour, with no exceptions.

"Using some of the initiatives mentioned above shows how well all the agencies involved have worked together to help tackle and prevent violence against women and girls."

The Safer Streets project in Warrington links in with work being undertaken elsewhere in the county. This includes the £300,000 investment the Commissioner secured as part of the Home Office's Safety of Women at Night (SWaN) fund.

This fund enabled Cheshire Constabulary to invest in technology providing a real time video call link between the call handlers in the Force Control Centre and victims of crime. This technology aims to reduce the fear of sexual offending, improve the confidence that women and girls have in the police and justice system and make Cheshire's night-time economy safer for everyone.

Mr Dwyer concluded: "This technology demonstrates our commitment to making Cheshire as safe as possible. I want to see how it helps us protect women and girls and expand its use to other types of crime, if appropriate.

"It enables call handlers to send a secure link, direct to your phone, allowing them to view the incident instantly and give the caller quick reassurance.

"In the case of sexual assaults, if a victim calls the police immediately after an incident, the call handler can start recording a first account from the victim, enabling evidence collection at a very early stage, and may help to identify an offender if they are still in the area.

"There needs to be a concerted effort from all agencies involved to help improve the feeling of safety for everyone on our streets. As you can see, work is being undertaken but we can't rest on our laurels. I am committed to doing all I can to help and support victims, hold perpetrators accountable for their actions and educate the next generation on acceptable behaviour."

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# Solar panels raise £3,800 for village community benefit projects

**SOLAR panels on the roofs of Lymm's four primary schools have raised £3,800 for the village community this year – as well as cutting energy costs for the schools.**

As a result, community benefit society Lymm Community Energy (LCE) is inviting grant applications from community groups for environment-friendly projects in the village.

The solar photovoltaic installations on the four schools continue to perform exceptionally well, reducing energy use and costs for the schools as well as enabling LCE to pay interest to members and build up a fund to benefit the wider community.

Over the past few years, LCE's Community Benefit Fund has helped fund projects that reduce energy demand and carbon

emissions in Lymm, such as efficient lighting, ventilation and insulation at Maple Lodge and the Youth and Community Centre.

This year's fund is widening the scope of projects eligible for funding to include projects that will support the community to deliver environmental benefits in the Lymm area. The fund is open to any organisation providing services to the community in Lymm, enabling delivery of projects to improve the environment in Lymm and the surrounding area.

LCE chairman Cllr Bob Barr said: "Despite the pandemic, the four solar installations have continued to perform well and we are delighted that the community benefit fund this year totals £3,800. We hope to see applications from community groups that respond to the climate emergency in creative ways."

"By widening the scope of the fund this year, we are keen to see projects that will deliver a really wide range of benefits."

The fund is open for applications immediately – a guidance document and application form are available on the Lymm Community Energy website – with applications being considered on a first-come, first-served basis. The fund will remain

open until all the available budget has been allocated.

LCE is working to bring forward further energy projects in Lymm, in particular developing a proposal for a ground-mounted solar farm that would hugely increase the amount of locally generated renewable energy.

Richard Catchpole, a director of LCE, who is leading the solar farm project development, said: "We are currently undertaking surveys and investigations as part of the next stage of the design for the solar farm. We've already carried

out a wide-ranging community consultation programme and will be doing more over this year as we develop our plans. We've put all the information we have at present on our website and welcome questions or comments at any time."

LCE is entirely run by volunteer members of the community and is always keen to hear from people who would like to get involved or who have ideas for future activities.

More information is available on the website [www.lowcarbonlymm.org.uk/lymm-community-energy/](http://www.lowcarbonlymm.org.uk/lymm-community-energy/)

## Clampdown on motorists who cause parking obstructions

POLICE are clamping down on motorists who cause parking obstructions at Lymm Dam and a local primary school in the village.

Numerous fixed penalty notices for causing an unnecessary obstruction for parking on the zigzags at Lymm Dam have been issued in recent weeks.

A Fixed penalty notice was also issued to a vehicle parked near Oughtrington Primary School after many complaints about parking in the area.

Please are asking motorists to keep pavements clear especially crossings and sensory pavements.

They are also urging drivers not to sit in their vehicle with the engine running. Police warned on social media: "We will continue to work with Oughtrington Primary School to deal with these issues."

Officers have also been involved in several speed enforcement campaigns in the village in recent weeks targeting Higher Lane, Mill Lane, Rushe Green Road, Booths Hill Road, Birchbrook Road and Warrington Road, where the highest activation was 45mph in a 30mph zone.

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