

Lymm Life Magazine

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On track to be 'Outstanding'

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CONGRATULATIONS to everyone at Lymm High School on the recent "Good" Ofsted inspection report – and judging by the latest findings – it won't be too long before the school is rated as "Outstanding."

It has certainly come a long way since the difficult times in 2014 when the school was unfortunately making the headlines for all the wrong reasons.

I have followed the school's progress with great interest and considering the difficult times brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic it is a true testament to the team how the school's fortunes have transformed.

From what was a near non-existent relationship with the school in 2014 we have since enjoyed an excellent working relationship and it is always pleasing to report on the outstanding successes of pupils.

With work also going on behind

the scenes to bring a state-of-the-art Performing Arts Centre to the school, exciting times could be on the horizon. This would provide real added value to the local community – which brings me along nicely to me next subject – local historian Joe Griffiths, following in the footsteps of his late friend Peter Powell, in becoming a Freeman of Lymm.

Just like Peter, Joe is fully deserving of this honour after many years working hard in the community on various fronts – and just like Peter, featured in our very first edition of Lymm Life in April 1999 in a feature about the village's dinosaur footprint.

Joe has been a dedicated

volunteer with Lymm Festivities for as long as I can remember – and probably even longer- and I would personally like to congratulate him on his new honour and thank him for all the great work he has done in the village.

Local residents like Peter and Joe are the backbone of our community – and without volunteers like them we wouldn't benefit from the community life we all enjoy at various events from Lymm Duck Race, which is under starters orders for Easter Monday, Lymm May Queen, Lymm Festival, Lymm Transport Day and Lymm Dickensian to name but a few.

Good luck to everyone involved in all our community events, especially the new volunteers who have been stepping up to ensure their future success – keep up the good work!



Tracey Turton

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Village historian made Honorary Freeman of Lymm



LYMM historian Joe Griffiths has been made an Honorary Freeman of Lymm in recognition of his outstanding voluntary work in the local community.

Joe officially received his honorary title of Freeman of the Parish of Lymm, in a small ceremony in front of family and friends.

His daughter Catherine Griffiths said: "We are all so extremely proud to see his contributions to Lymm recognised and celebrated. Over his 70+ years in Lymm, this has included being Lymm's No.1 telephone engineer, part of the Festivities group, Local History Society, volunteering with the Royal National Institute for the Blind, Independent chair of the Parish Council, a committee member for the Youth & Community Centre and of course, propping up the bar in the Spread!

"Some of you may be aware, Dad has had some health issues last year which have affected his mobility, however, he's building up his strength again with the intention of getting back to work in the village asap.

"Joe would like to express his thanks at receiving this honour and in his own words", said "I've not finished yet!"

Joe served on the parish council as an independent Cllr. alongside his good friend and village Town Crier Peter Powell, who sadly died recently, who was also made a Freeman of Lymm at the Dickensian Festival.

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What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



LYMM PARISH COUNCIL
Tuesday March 14th, 7:30pm
Lymm Parish Hall
Check www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk for details.

LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB
Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm
Details: 07708 172015

MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP
Meet each Wednesday 9.30am - 11.30pm
Oughtrington Community Centre, Lymm
Details: 01925 755926

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

LUNCH AT THE BROW
Eagle Brow Methodist Church
2nd Friday in the month
Light lunches 12 noon till 1.30pm.
All proceeds to The Y Project 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

LYMM AND DISTRICT MIXED VOICE CHOIR
Every Wednesday 7.30 Lymm Methodist Church. Contact 01925 601664.
cath@cstones.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
Lymm Sanctuary Hub
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Details: 01925 754016

HEATLEY WI
Meets the second Thursday of each month at Oughtrington Junior School, 7.30pm
Visitors welcome. Details: 01925 752014

LYMM & THELWALL U3A
Speaker meeting 3rd Thursday of the month (excluding August & December) at Thelwall Parish Hall 10.00am. Prospective members welcome.
www.u3asites.org.uk/lymm-thelwall/home
Contact: enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk

LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday March 14th, 7:30pm
See parish council website for details.

Police step up patrols following anti-social behaviour outside former club premises



POLICE are stepping up patrols outside the former Bridgewater Club at Lymm, following signs of anti-social behaviour.

The building, once the local Conservative Club, prior to becoming a social club around 10 years ago, has been closed since last year and requires major renovation works following a burst pipe.

It has now become one of the latest areas to attract anti-social behaviour involving youths gathering in the village.

Local police say they are now

in communication with the owners to secure the location and in the meantime, they will continue to check this location.

Local officers are also increasing patrols on the May Queen field following reports of ongoing anti-social behaviour.

Meanwhile, the future for the Bridgewater Club premises remains uncertain.

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Traffic calming measures hit a roadblock following opposition

TRAFFIC calming measures in Lymm village have hit a roadblock following opposition during consultation on the works.

While some traffic calming measures have been introduced, including a 20mph limit on Eagle Brow in Lymm, plans to replace a mini-roundabout with a junction have been put on hold.

Warrington Borough Council highway planners had planned to

replace the mini-roundabout with a junction, following a serious accident and a number of near misses.

Highway planners started the works following safety concerns by stakeholders regarding the operation of the existing mini-

roundabout on the route to improve visibility and reduce potential conflicts. But now the work has been put on hold following opposition.

Local Councillor Graham Gowland commented: "It's great to know the officers are listening to local feedback – I had heard a resident raise concerns that the traffic flows could lead to issues with the removal of the roundabout, and now the concerns are being given proper consideration."

"The roundabout was fitted 30 years ago to address concerns at the time, but we do often see issues where people don't use it correctly. Consultations are arranged to allow proper feedback, but I do have concerns over safety at the junction, and hope appropriate improvements can be made soon."

The plans will be reviewed at a Warrington Borough Council traffic committee in the next few months.



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Show apartment development now open

WITH all building work now fully complete, Villafont has unveiled a stunning show apartment at its Minerva Place development on Whitbarrow Road in Lymm.

Potential purchasers are now able to step inside the show apartment and visualise what life could be like at this beautiful development of individually designed new build apartments close to Lymm village centre.

Taking inspiration from its leafy surroundings, the show apartment fuses soft greys and pebble tones with burnished ochres and botanical rich greens to create a calm and sophisticated living space that is both elegant and inviting while still being relaxing and comfortable.

Designed and operated by Villafont (part of The McGoff Group), Minerva Place is a desirable new concept in later living; apartments boast a superior internal specification and enhanced lifestyle package including elements of domestic help or home care providing residents with a luxurious way to continue living independently with the option to ask for a little extra help as and when needed.

Each apartment has been designed to exacting standards to appeal to even the most discerning of purchasers and the first phase of properties has already been reserved by buyers looking to secure their dream retirement home in this beautiful location,

Filled with light, and with well-designed, spacious layouts that feature open-plan kitchen dining and lounge areas with high-quality kitchens and appliances, and with master bedrooms with private en suites, apartments at Minerva Place have been designed with care and attention to detail.

Built to the highest standards, properties are also highly energy efficient and environmentally friendly with all homes benefitting from a car parking space, plus two additional spaces that include electric vehicle charging points, the use of an internal lift and well-maintained communal areas and landscaped gardens.

Minerva Place is nestled in a quiet, leafy corner of the lovely village of Lymm, adjacent to the Trans Pennine Trail and just a short walk from the centre. Boasting an idyllic setting on the banks of the Bridgewater Canal and a charming cobbled centre that combines history and heritage with cosmopolitan modern life, a busy calendar of community events and thriving food and drink scene, Lymm is a highly sought-after place to live for many reasons.

Minerva Place forms part of a wider development that also features an award-winning care

centre and natural child-led day nursery, creating a new concept in multi-generation living that brings young and those in later life together to form a vibrant community with proven health, social and wellbeing benefits for all.

All apartments are ready to view and ready to move into (as of 1 February 2023). Starting price for a one-bedroom apartment is £210,000 and £310,000 for a two-bedroom apartment. For further information, to request a brochure or make an appointment to visit the show apartment, please contact Paul Danks on 07881 636 956 or email paul.danks@mcgoffgroup.com



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Another 'Good' Ofsted shows Lymm High School on right track to be 'Outstanding'

LYMM High School has been celebrating following the release of another 'Good' Ofsted report from an inspection that took place just before Christmas.

It was an ungraded inspection, which means the school's overall grade stays as 'Good'. However, inspectors saw enough evidence that the school could now be outstanding and have recommended another, graded, inspection takes place within a year or two. Most 'good' schools would not be inspected again for at least four years.

The report, which contains no areas for improvement at all, praised leaders for having a "clear and ambitious vision for the quality of education" and "very high expectations of what pupils can achieve".

Inspectors said that "Pupils, and students in the sixth form, achieve exceptionally well", reflecting the fact that the school has had some of the best exam results in the North West in the years since its last inspection in February 2018.

Pupils are described as behaving "exceptionally well across the school", being "exceptionally polite and respectful towards each other, members of staff and visitors to the school" and valuing the "high-quality pastoral support

that is available to them". There is also praise for the quality of the curriculum, teaching and the "ample range" of extra-curricular opportunities available to pupils.

Headteacher, Gwyn Williams, said: "We are delighted with this report. The Ofsted framework is tougher than it has ever been and so to have a team of experienced inspectors suggest that the school could receive an outstanding judgement in a graded inspection is a fantastic achievement. This was the best possible outcome available to us at this stage.

"Staff and governors have worked incredibly hard to improve the school over the past few years and I am so pleased for them that this hard work has been recognised in this way. Above all, I am delighted to see such high praise for Lymm High School students because they truly are an incredible group of young people and it is a privilege to be able to work with them."

Liz Green, Chair of Governors at the school, added: "It has been wonderful to see Lymm High School go from strength to strength over the

last few years as we have worked together to make into a reality the vision of an excellent, inclusive and truly comprehensive school described in our School Charter.

This important recognition by Ofsted of the quality of educational provision at our school reflects the exceptional commitment of staff and young people alike. Congratulations and thanks must go to Mr Williams and his leadership team, together with the entire school community, for all that they have accomplished and all that they are still determined to achieve."



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Mayor opens new Lymm care home

THE Mayor of Warrington, Councillor Jean Flaherty, has officially opened Statham Manor, the new care centre located on Statham Avenue in Lymm.

The latest care facility to be opened by Altrincham-based care home operator, New Care, Statham Manor will provide outstanding residential, 24-hour nursing, dementia and respite care in the centre of Lymm.

Working closely with the local authority, Statham Manor has been expertly designed by both architect and clinical lead to ensure it delivers exceptional care from a state-of-the-art new build property that combines style and function to ensure a safe, secure and comfortable home-from-home for residents.

Featuring 66 fully furnished bedrooms, each with a private ensuite wet room, plus a selection of communal lounges, reading rooms and dining rooms, spa-assisted bathrooms, a nail bar, hair salon, access to landscaped gardens from the first floor and a terrace to the second floor, Statham Manor provides a stunning living environment for its residents who enjoy person-centred individual care, freshly prepared nutritious meals and a daily programme of wellbeing activities.

Cllr Flaherty and her husband were welcomed by the new management team at Statham Manor, registered manager Farai Hanyane and deputy manager Hannah Sparks, for a guided tour of the new care facility and

introductions to the new team before cutting a red ribbon to declare the new home officially open.

Cllr Flaherty commented: "We have watched the development of this home and the wider site with interest so I was delighted to be invited to perform the official opening and take an early look at these superb facilities which will serve the people of Lymm. The

home is impressive both inside and out, with even the smallest details considered to ensure fabulous care is delivered for residents."

Registered manager at Statham Manor, Farai Hanyane, added: "It's wonderful to finally open this home and welcome our first residents and we are thrilled to have the Mayor join us on opening day."

Recruitment is well underway, with Statham Manor expected to create approximately 100 local jobs over the next 12 months across multiple roles including nurses, carers, hospitality, housekeeping,

wellbeing and activities, maintenance and catering.

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 on Statham Manor or to book an appointment to view the home, please contact Farai Hanyane on 01925 596000 or email enquiries@newcarehomes.com. Alternatively, visit www.newcarehomes.com



New top-of-the-range courts scheduled at Lymm Tennis Club



THE existing astroturf courts at Lymm Tennis Club, last laid in 2010, will be replaced in 2023 with Tiger Turf's top-of-the-range Advantage Pro astroturf surface.

This decision was partly informed by negative feedback on the existing astroturf courts in the club survey held over the summer.

This major project will also include the re-laying of the sub-surface and re-installation of a root barrier to protect the courts from the trees behind.

The total cost of the project is expected to be approximately £85,000 and it is planned to carry out the work in late summer after the conclusion of the league season - but before the grass courts are closed for the winter.

The project is expected to take approximately one month, spanning mid-August to mid-September.

Meanwhile with the club seeing a very substantial increase in costs in the current year it is necessary to increase annual subscriptions for the year starting 1st April 2023.

The increase for each package is limited to just under 10% (a motion approved at the AGM).

While the committee don't expect this increase to fully recover the expected increase in annual costs, they felt that raising subscriptions by any more than this level would be excessive at a time when household budgets remain under pressure.

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Rotary hand out more than £8,000 to good causes

THE Rotary Club of Lymm handed out cheques totalling more than £8,000 from their Christmas Float collection to good causes

Those organisations who helped with the collection in return received a share of the proceeds, which totalled £8094.

The club is very grateful to the people of Lymm and Thelwall who

made this year such a success.

Pictured at the presentation night at Grappenhall & Thelwall Royal British Legion were:

Friends of Fairfield, Sainsburys, Lymm Statham PTA, Kabuki

Research CMMC, Lymm High School PTA, Cherry Tree School Association, Warrington Youth Orchestra, Friends of Oughtrington Primary School, Ravenbank Parent Teachers Association, Gendai Martial Arts, 3rd Lymm Scouts, 18th Warrington Scout Group (4th Lymm), Sarcoma UK,

Statham Little Foxes Pre School & Link Club Ltd., Lymm Cancer Research, Lymm Oughtrington Park Cricket Club, Cheshire Agricultural Society Chaplaincy, The Children's Society, St Roccas, Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, The Christie, Lymm Inner Wheel.



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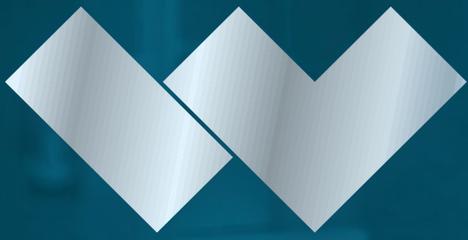


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APPROVED

Double appointment at Statham Manor



NEW Care's latest care centre, Statham Manor in Lymm has appointed Farai Hanyane and Hannah Sparks as registered manager and deputy manager respectively.

Using their many combined years of experience in health and social care, the duo will take responsibility for the day-to-day running of the new home on Statham Avenue, working together to deliver a high standard of person-centred care for residents.

Prior to joining New Care, Farai worked for a large corporate company for more than 14 years, progressing from nurse to operations manager covering homes across England, Scotland and Wales, and thoroughly enjoying the challenges that came with the role.

Hannah started her career at a nursing home before moving to St Roccas Hospice in Warrington where she focussed on providing specialist palliative care, both holistic symptom management and end-of-life care to patients and support to their loved ones.

Both registered general nurses, the pair have extensive additional professional qualifications but agree that elderly care is most definitely a calling for both of them.

Farai said: "After working in the corporate world, I was attracted to New Care as it was a smaller and more intimate company that would allow me to be my own person, connect with my team and deliver a wonderful quality of care to the people living in our home. In addition to being beautifully designed inside and out, Statham Manor is a modern, high tech care facility which is every manager's dream allowing us to access all of the detailed information that we need to care for residents quickly and at the push of a button."

Hannah added: "I'm really looking forward to meeting our new residents and the wider team and it's exciting that we are all starting out on this new venture at the same time as a new family. I have loved learning everything I can about care and developing professionally over the years and

hope to bring so much of this to my new role."

"We are both looking forward to being part of Lymm's wonderful community, building a team that celebrates the wonders of people and provides a quality of care that is delightful, establishing Statham Manor as the local care home of choice and eventually achieving an Outstanding CQC rating," concluded Farai.

Commissioning director at New Care, Dawn Collett, said: "I am delighted to welcome Farai and Hannah to Statham Manor and am confident that they will work together to develop and establish the new home, delivering exceptional care for our residents, getting to know their families and the wider local community."

Both Farai and Hannah are incredibly active outside of work. Farai is a fitness fanatic walking for 10k every morning before work and training five times every week after work. She likes taking part in Crossfit competitions and ran three half marathons last year along with six 10k races.

Hannah has five children, a scruffy Jack Russell plus three cats and a horse that keep her busy. In her spare time, she likes to get out walking, riding the horses, going to the gym or eating great food.

Open now, Statham Manor is an expertly designed, purpose-built 66-bedroom care home featuring fully furnished bedrooms, each with a private en suite wet room, plus a selection of communal lounges and dining rooms. It also has a nail bar, hairdresser, landscaped gardens and outdoor terraces to the first floor.

Part of the McGoff Group, Statham Manor provides exceptional residential, nursing and dementia care services. For further information or to book an appointment to view the new care facility, please email enquiries@newcarehomes.com

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Woman and child left badly shaken after four masked men force entry into home

POLICE were out offering security advice after four masked men forced entry into a residential property at High Legh, while a young woman and a three-year-old child were at the address.

The intruders got away with jewellery from the property on West Lane opposite Pheasants Walk.

Response Police Officers attended at the scene on a 999 call. The incident happened on Tuesday, January 31, at sometime between 7.30 pm and 8.30 pm.

Four masked men forced entry into the property before fleeing the scene with jewellery. A 25-year-old woman and a three-year-old child were at the address at the time.

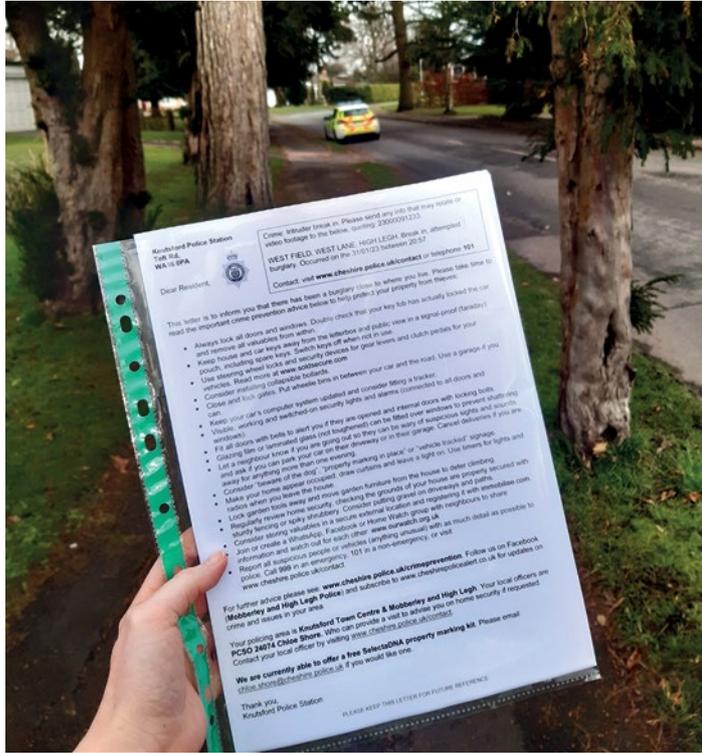
Thankfully neither were harmed, although they were left shaken by

the ordeal.

Cheshire Police would like to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time who may have dash cam footage or anyone who witnessed suspicious activity in the area.

Anyone with information should contact Cheshire Police, on 101 or via the Cheshire Police website quoting IML 1468909.

Alternatively, information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Your pet questions answered

By Dr Diane Wilshaw
Lymm Veterinary Surgery



Q: My dog has a sticky eye with pus visible. I am bathing it with cool boiled water several times a day, but it doesn't seem to be improving.

A: This sounds like it could be bacterial conjunctivitis which will need to be treated by a vet with antibiotic eye drops. Your vet will also check that there are no ulcers or lacerations which have caused this. For any eye issues like this it is better to use an eye safe saline solution rather than boiled water. This can be bought over the counter. Don't be tempted to make salt water at home as it is difficult to get the quantities right which may cause irritation to your dog.

it could also be due to a medical issue. Your vet will be able to rule out any medical problems and provide you with advice.

Q: My puppy has had their vaccination course, which was given two weeks apart when he was 7 and 10 weeks old. My vet has told me that he now requires a third vaccination for Parvo. Is this right?

A: Parvo is part of the puppy vaccination course but the maternal antibodies that can interfere with the vaccination can remain in your pup until they are 16 weeks old. So, the only way to fully vaccinate against parvo is with this third vaccination.

Q: I put a spot-on flea treatment on my cat every month but recently I noticed that she was scratching a lot. Could she still have fleas and does this mean that the fleas have become immune to the spot-on?

A: Firstly, we would need to check that the itching is being caused by fleas and not another issue such as an allergy. Flea products are very effective at killing fleas but if your cat is in a high flea environment, by which we mean regularly coming into contact with fleas via other cats, bedding etc then constant re-infestation is always going to be an issue.

Q: I have a 3 year old, neutered, male cat, who sprays inside the house, I thought neutering may have stopped this.

A: Spraying is a normal behaviour in cats, and neutering doesn't always stop this behaviour – in both male and female cats. Spraying (after neutering) is often the result of certain stresses i.e. other cats, changes in environment etc, but

Q: How often do rabbits moult? I thought it was once a year but my bunny moults more than this. Is he OK? He is a lop and has been neutered.

A: Moulting can occur at any time due to several factors. It can be hormonal or due to temperature, time of year or even diet. As long as he is not itchy and/or the skin is not inflamed it shouldn't be anything to worry about.

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Fine run of form takes Lymm to the top of the table!

A fine run of form has seen Lymm Rugby Club go top of the RFU Regional 1 North West League.

The club's most recent victory was over Cheshire rivals Wirral, who they despatched 51-26 at Crouchley Lane.

Albeit with second-placed Blackburn having a game in hand, Lymm were awarded the RFU's



team of the month at Level 5 for January!

Lymm went top of the RFU Regional 1 North West League after a second-half blitz saw them see off third-placed Sandbach 29-14 at the beginning of February.

It followed some resounding victories including racking up a huge score of 7-95 on the road at Kirkby Lonsdale, as club legend and team captain Olli Higginson crowned his 250th first-team appearance with another fine performance.

That followed on from a 79-21 victory over Kendal to help the club on their way to team of the month for January.



Obituary

Lymm Grey, Irene dies at 100

THE funeral took place at St Peter's Church, Oughttrington, of Irene Lloyd, aged 100, who died in Warrington Hospital on December 9, after a short illness.

Known to her friends as "Rene", she was the widow of the late Ray Lloyd and was a lifelong resident of Lymm, proud to be a "Lymm Grey" as she could trace her ancestry back in the village for more than 200 years.

She enjoyed baking, watching animal programmes on television, keeping up with the news and was

a fantastic embroiderer. She was able to care for herself until she was 97 and spent the last three years at home being looked after by her son, Ian, and many kind carers.

Irene was featured on BBC news and in several newspapers for being one of the first people to receive a 100th birthday card from the new King and Queen.

Her funeral was on what would have been her 71st wedding anniversary and was conducted by Father Michael Burgess.



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