

Lymm Life Magazine

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Editor's Comment



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At time of writing assurances were still being sought over the re-opening of the Oughtrington Luncheon Club which controversially closed earlier this year following a fallout between Trustees and volunteer organisers.

My comments last month attracted a response from Chair of Trustees Paul Gibson and following an amicable conversation I received assurances that the luncheon club would re-open.

Further reassurances were also sought by local MP Andy Carter and local Councillor Ian Marks who again met with Mr Gibson, to seek assurances around the governance of the community facility, which is owned by local people and run for the benefit of the Oughtrington community by a board of volunteer Trustees.

This sorry state of affairs started in January and as we head towards May, the luncheon club had still not

re-opened at time of writing, leaving members upset and frustrated.

Since the closure, more than 130 local people came forward requesting membership of the Oughtrington Community Centre Trust and an EGM has been called with a view to re-establishing the twice weekly lunchtime event. Lymm Parish Council also recently exercised its right to appoint a Trustee. Mr Gibson also confirmed that he was planning for the Oughtrington Luncheon Club to resume on Tuesday 18th April and gave assurances that local residents would be given more details so that they can make arrangements to come along. At time of writing this did not look likely, although I do hope that

by next month I can bring some good news about the luncheon club being back open!

Meanwhile volunteers Derek Ridpath and his sister Phyllis decided the best way forward was to both step down from their volunteer positions as joint organisers of the Luncheon Club, after the trustees sent an email on February 19, stating they were re-branding the luncheon club with new management and team.

It is sad that two people who dedicated much time and effort to running the luncheon club felt the need to give up something they clearly love doing. They have been completely transparent and responsive to questions and emails – unfortunately the same can not be said of Mr Gibson despite my very best attempts.



Tracey Turton

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Keate House Care Home Lymm receive national award



KEATE House Residential Home in Lymm has achieved the Highly Commended Award for Care Home Employer of the year at the National Great British Care Awards.

Keate House are proud to have lots of long-standing staff within the home and love to welcome new staff.

More recently they have been working closely with a local S.E.N.D college and school welcoming students within the home.

Judges commented: "The placements and work that Keate House has been doing with a local S.E.N.D college has not only brought an abundance of value to the team and residents alike but also shows their commitment to diverse and inclusive recruitment, highlighting the benefits it can bring to an existing workforce and those they support."

Diane Clarkson, care home

manager said: "Receiving the Highly Commended Award and being recognized nationally means everything to Keate House and reflects all the hard work that we consistently put into our service with such an amazing team of employees. To remain a leading care provider and to have supporting recognition that is reflective of our services means the world to long-standing members of staff which have grown to become an integral part of the service. Despite this, we will continue to develop and grow our services to meet new demands and exciting opportunities with a constant focus on the quality of care and employability in equal measure."

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What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



LYMM PARISH COUNCIL
Tuesday May 9th, 7:30pm
Lymm Parish Hall
Check www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk for details.

LYMM MAY QUEEN
Saturday 13th May

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 fill 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@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 759955

FRIENDS OF LYMM LIBRARY CRAFT GROUP
Lymm Sanctuary Hub
Fridays 1.30-3.00pm
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 May 9th, 7:30pm
See parish council website for details.

Easter fun at Cheshire Grange Care Home



STAFF and residents at Barchester's Cheshire Grange care home, in Lymm celebrated Easter with a whole host of different activities including an Easter Egg Hunt in the gardens and of course a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Residents at Cheshire Grange enjoyed an eggs-tensive range of Easter activities, from decorating Easter cookies to reflecting on the Easter story and what it means to them, residents enjoyed some fun Easter games too, the Rabbit Hoopla was especially popular. Residents also tucked into delicious Easter treats at mealtimes, including a chocolate hot cross bun pudding, a roast turkey lunch, and a delicious buffet spread, prepared by the home's head chef Mandy.

General Manager, Dawn Holsgrove-Smith said "As always, we've all been looking forward to Easter. It's such a lovely time of year - the residents love all the colourful Easter eggs and the visit from The Easter Bunny, whose identity intrigues them, we are also mindful of residents' individual spiritual and cultural beliefs of Easter and recognise that element

too. It's really been an eggs-cellent few days!"

The Easter Bunny thanked everyone for making the visit to Cheshire Grange so much fun and they enjoyed meeting all the lovely residents and their families and especially enjoyed the Whats App call with resident Margrith's three year old grandson.

A varied life enrichment programme keeps residents active and provides a daily choice of engaging physical, mental and spiritual activities tailored to residents' interests and abilities.

Cheshire Grange is run by Barchester Healthcare, one of the UK's largest care providers, which is committed to delivering high-quality care across its care homes and hospitals. Cheshire Grange provides nursing care, residential care, respite care.

New councillor co-opted to Lymm Parish Council

COLIN Oakley is the latest resident to join Lymm Parish Council following co-option at February's full council meeting.

Colin, who helped organise last year's Lymm Dickensian Festival, said: "I have lived in Lymm for almost 40 years and I feel very fortunate that I live in an area that still has so much community involvement. As a councillor, I hope to build on the work I have done in recent years as a volunteer and I feel incredibly grateful for this opportunity to represent the village."

He joins the other eleven councillors to work towards improving Lymm for those that visit, live and work in the village.

Contact details for Councillor Oakley can be found on the Parish Council website www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk



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Council sets out next steps for Conservation area refurbishment

THANKING nearly 250 residents for helping to shape plans for the refurbishment of the stone setts on Pepper Street Conservation area in Lymm, Warrington Borough Council has laid out the next steps.

Pepper Street, which sits within a conservation area in Lymm village centre, contains a sett paved area, which is in poor condition.

In addition, the existing inspection chamber covers and gully gratings on the street are of an older style and unsuitable for modern traffic.

Almost 250 people took part in a consultation last autumn, aimed at getting local views on the best refurbishment options for the stone setts.

The majority of respondents said they would like to see the road reconstructed with reclaimed setts.

The council is now moving forward to the detailed planning stage for the refurbishment project. This will take some months, as the reclaimed setts – of the right type and size – will need to be sourced.

As part of this planning stage, the council must also liaise with utilities

companies to ensure disruption is minimised as much as possible when the work is carried out, and utilities will need time to undertake any essential works before the refurbishment project begins.

Other considerations for the council are maintaining access to the car park, ensuring important community on-street activities – such as Lymm Transport Day – can go ahead as usual, and planning for as much of the heavy work as possible to take place during school holidays.

Cabinet member for transportation, highways and public realm, Cllr Hans Mundry, said: "We'd like to thank everyone who shared their views on the refurbishment of the stone setts on Pepper Street.

"Residents made it clear that their preferred option is for the look and feel of the surface to be retained with reclaimed setts, and it's this option

we'll be moving forward with.

"We are keen to carry out the refurbishment works as soon as we can, to prevent further deterioration and ensure the longevity of the surface. However, this section of Pepper Street is an important part of Lymm's conservation area, and it's vital we take the time to get it right.

"We thank everyone for their patience while we proceed to the detailed planning stage for the project which, once complete, will bring big long term benefits for

the area, providing a high quality surface for many years to come."

Local Councillor Graham Gowland was pleased with the results. He commented: "There's a real mix of local views over which surface to go with. There have been quite a few people who wanted a smooth tarmac surface, but those preferring the heritage surface of setts were in the majority. I like the look of them, and am impressed at the degree of consultation we've had in Lymm for this project."



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For more information, or to make an appointment to view Statham Manor contact Farai on 01925 596000 or email enquiries @newcarehomes.com.



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Objectors lose battle to block Green Belt development

OBJECTORS have lost a battle to block a development of 108 homes and a medical centre on Green Belt at Lymm.

Members of Warrington Borough Council's development management committee approved the scheme off Rushgreen Road despite objections from 90 nearby residents, Lymm Parish Council and local borough councillors Ian Marks and Graham Gowland.

Planning officers recommended the scheme should be approved because including a medical centre – currently an outline proposal – represented a very special reason for the development in the Green Belt.

The proposal involves the demolition of a property in Rushgreen Road to make way for the medical centre.

Objections from residents and others included road safety issues arising from increased traffic on

Rushgreen Road. There were also objections to the siting of three-storey homes adjacent to the Bridgewater Canal which, it is claimed, will have a major impact on the openness of the Green Belt.

The proposals are for detached, semi-detached and terraced houses and a three-storey apartment block.



A total of 32 "affordable homes" are proposed in the development.

Objectors said although the inclusion of a medical centre in the scheme is welcome, it will itself be an additional cause of increased traffic using the narrow Rushgreen Road.

They also argued that the main access route to the development, Woodyatt Way, is too narrow for the amount of traffic the development will attract.

Plan to modernise historic Methodist church

IMAGINATIVE proposals for modernising the historic Methodist Church, in Eagle Brow, Lymm have been submitted to Warrington planning chiefs.

The proposals involve a modern, glazed, structure linking the original church, which dates from 1850 with the Sunday School building which was built in 1865, but will respect the heritage of the two feature buildings.

It will replace a number of alterations and extensions, added

over the years, resulting in a collection of difficult-to-access spaces over five levels.

The church, which also hosts the Life Church, is used by around 400 people every week, as well as visits by groups of around 180 pupils from local schools.

The proposals will also enable the development of the church's already strong community café facility, which is seen as a key part of the church's future outreach programme.

Planning chiefs are now considering the proposals, which are said to have been widely welcomed by the local Methodist community.



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Troublesome teens apologise after scaring retirement home residents



A group of teenagers who scared residents of a Lymm retirement home with their anti-social behaviour have written letters of apology following proactive policing in the community.

The youngsters were captured on CCTV following reports of anti-social behaviour at the Raven Court premises in the village run by Warrington Housing Association.

After the reports of anti-social behaviour, local PCSO Daren Dennis quickly gathered CCTV images and liaised with Lymm High School to identify those responsible.

Warrington Housing Association took to social media to thank PCSO Dennis for his proactive policing stating: "Recently some teens have been making a nuisance of themselves at night in one of our retirement schemes."

"A local PCSO found the youths, persuaded them of the error of their ways, and now they have all written apology letters to our residents."

"Everyone deserves a second chance. And thank you, PCSO Dennis!"

PCSO Dennis said: "A great example of Partnership working and taking positive action in relation to Anti-social Behaviour in Lymm."

"The youths involved were then visited at home with their parents present and formally spoken to about their behaviour. Letters of apology have been written and delivered to staff and residents at the Care Home and the youths were remorseful for their actions."

"Alongside this referrals have been made to the Community Safety Partnership Team and letters will be sent home to the parents of the youths involved."

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Historic Transport Day seeks volunteers



ORGANISERS of the Lymm Historic Transport Day on June 25 are on the lookout for more volunteers to help with the event.

Volunteers are an essential part of what makes this event one of the very best in the Lymm calendar.

If you are able to spare just a short amount of time on the day then please visit <https://www.lymmtransport.org.uk/bookin> and register via the online form. All volunteers receive free entry to enjoy the rest of what will be a brilliant day for the village.

The event opens at 11 am and runs until 5 pm. The main hub is Lymm's May Queen Field but there are also supplementary locations at Maple Lodge, the Village Hall, Henry Street Car Park and the

canal – which comes alive with old working boats for the weekend.

The event attracts thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds, showing everything from classic cars to military vehicles, vintage bicycles to Harley Davidsons, steam traction engines and historic working boats to horse-drawn carriages. Alongside these exhibits, there are dozens of stalls selling all manner of food, clothing, toys, and local produce, etc. There will be live music, rides, a climbing wall, model railways, and lots and lots of lego! In short, there's something for everyone!

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Quacking weather for ducks at Lymm Duck Race

IT was quacking weather for ducks at the annual Lymm Duck Race as villagers and visitors flocked to the annual event despite the rain!

Hundreds of people packed in the village centre, for the annual charity fundraising event organised by members of Lymm Roundtable.

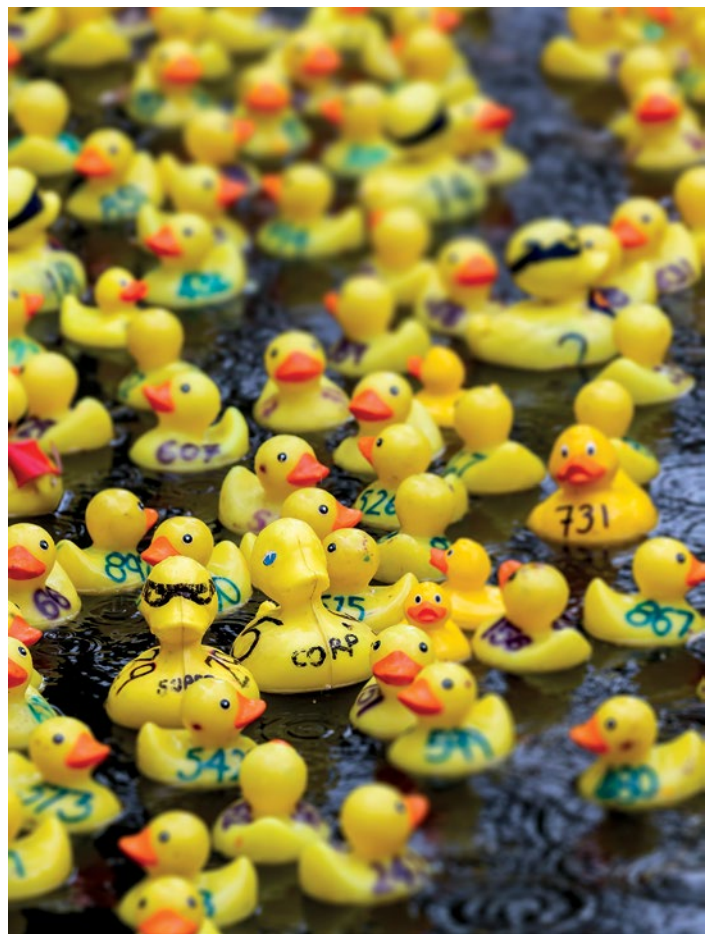
Despite being let down at the last minute by the fairground attraction, there was still plenty of activity to

keep people busy in the village centre, with food and craft stalls.

Congratulations to the winners! 1st 329, 2nd 664, 3rd 304.

Super Duck was Declan James! Corporate Duck was CLK Art Gallery!

Pictures: John Hopkins



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Bath and sink waste traps repaired/replaced	£70 +vat	Bath taps replaced	£90 +vat	Taps Parts and Fittings charged at trade prices or supply your own.	
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Kids Planet raise over £700 for National Autistic Society



TEAMS from across the Kids Planet nurseries and head office have raised £760 for the National Autistic Society.

World Autism Week ran from 27th March to 2nd April and the theme this year was colour. Staff at Kids Planet decided to take part in fundraising and raising awareness with lots of colour-filled events.

From rainbow cake sales and spectrum parties with face painting, to guessing the number of sweets, colouring competitions and lots more, teams asked families to join us in supporting the 700,000 autistic people in the UK.

Every penny helps the charity deliver ambitious plans to transform our society into one that truly works for autistic people.

Becky Eckersley, SEND Support Team Lead at Kids Planet Day Nurseries, said: "The SEND Team would like to say a massive thank you to all the settings that got involved and showed amazing engagement

in carrying out activities for World Autism Acceptance week, as well as managing to raise over £700 for the National Autistic Society!

This will go towards supporting their work with families and children with autism to transform lives and change attitudes to help create a society that works for autistic people, which is incredibly important to us."

The National Autistic Society couldn't do what they do without fundraisers. Every £500 raised could help 12 families receive support from the Education Rights Helpline. The Helpline provides general information about educational rights and entitlements, as well as advice on specific topics such as getting extra help in school, assessments, education plans, reviews and school transport.

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SCAN ME



Gladys celebrates her 101st birthday volunteering at St Rocco's charity shop



REMARKABLE Gladys Taylor from Lymm, celebrated her 101st birthday – by volunteering at St Rocco's Hospice's charity shop in the village.

Born in 1922, Mrs Taylor arrived in the village 80 years ago and has been part of the Oughtrington community ever since.

She celebrated a day early with colleagues and friends on her usual working day, a Tuesday.

For many years she ran a popular hairdressing business in Mill Lane. She then became a volunteer worker at the St Rocco's charity shop in Lymm – where she

still amazes customers with her youthful appearance and lively personality.

She is a member of Lymm Methodist Church in Eagle Brow and when asked for advice on a long and healthy life she recommends a sensible diet, daily walk with gentle exercise and an outlook that says "don't worry about things you can't change."



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 needs to 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 further irritation to your dog.

Q: We are trying to stop our cat sleeping on our bed and have bought her a cat bed which we have put on the floor in our bedroom, but she still prefers our bed. How can we get her to use her own?

A: Oh, the joys of cat ownership! Sadly, if your cat doesn't want to use her new bed there isn't a lot you can do about it. Your bed will be comfy and familiar to her and have your familiar, comforting smells. You could try putting some clothing that you have worn in her bed or possibly some treats to tempt her in but at the end of the day she will make her own mind up about which bed she prefers.

Q: Our rabbit has fleas. I have two questions – can she have caught them from a cat and if so, can I use the same flea treatment I use for my cat for my rabbit?

A: Rabbits can catch fleas from both cats and dogs, and show the same symptoms. Flea treatments for

cats and dogs can cause adverse reactions and even death in rabbits so talk to your vets about specific rabbit flea treatments.

Q: How long after vaccinations do I have to wait before I can take my puppy on a walk or he can mix with other dogs?

A: In general, we would advise that you wait until a week after the second vaccination but recommend that you ask your vet who will give you the specific manufacturers guidelines for the vaccine they have used. Your puppy's immunity will start to build up after the first vaccination and be boosted by the second and this will give your pup immunity for a year.

Q: My cat keeps squatting as if to have a pee and just stares ahead, but nothing happens. Can you tell me what it might be please?

A: The increase in frequency of urination or trying to urinate is most likely caused by a disease called FLUTD (feline lower urinary tract disease). This can be caused by a variety of causes including infections, bladder stones, inflammation and even stress!

Your cat will need to be seen by a vet to check it out. It is particularly important if you have a male cat with these symptoms that you seek advice quickly as some male cats can develop a blockage in the urethra which means they cannot pass any urine at all and this can be fatal if left untreated.

Most cases do respond well to treatment once a specific cause had been identified.

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High Legh 14th anniversary 10k race blessed with sunshine

PRAYERS were finally answered as the sun decided to make an appearance at the High Legh Robert Moffat Memorial 14th Anniversary 10k race.

Some 480 runners from all over the local area arrived to run the 10K route, supported, as ever, by a super-efficient organising team, friendly marshals on the course and local High Legh residents, who came out to cheer everyone on.

The male and female winners were Chris Stanford of Warrington AC who completed the course in 32 minutes and 42 seconds and Nicola Reece of Wilmslow Running Club in 38 minutes and 39 seconds both narrowly missing out on course records. Winners of the First Male and Female High Legh residents home were Cathal McCosker in 38 minutes and 1 second and Corrie Gerrard in 49 minutes and 22 seconds.

Race Director, James Hurrell commented "I'd like to congratulate to Chris, Nicola, Cathal and Corrie and also give a mention the other 'winners': namely those that battled injury and doubt to get to the start line, those who ran for a charity or those who simply completed their first 10K run, including the Cherry Tree Running Group and the recent graduates from the Lymm Runners Beginners Course – we salute you!"

And one of these 'other' winners from Warrington commented 'I did the High Legh 10K and wasn't feeling too good.....I loved that lots of the runners and marshals made sure I was OK. Amazing People, Thank you.'

The race, of course, isn't just a fun morning out, it also benefits

the local community as proceeds go towards High Legh projects, the High Legh Primary PTA, local school sports initiatives and as a first for this year, they also donated funds to Warrington Foodbank which included money raised from selling excess T-shirts which added a further £150 to the Foodbank total. Many runners also took advantage of the opportunity to give money to Tees for Trees instead of having a T shirt in their goody bag, resulting in a donation of over £650.00 for the charity.

Nick Gerrard, Race Team Chair commented, "Lymm Runners and the High Legh Community Association would like to thank all the volunteers without whom this friendly and popular event would not be possible: this includes the organising committee, the goody bag and registrations teams and also the ever-cheerful Marshals who always have such a positive impact on the runners, and not forgetting those who helped to clear up. It's a fabulous team to work with on a great community event"

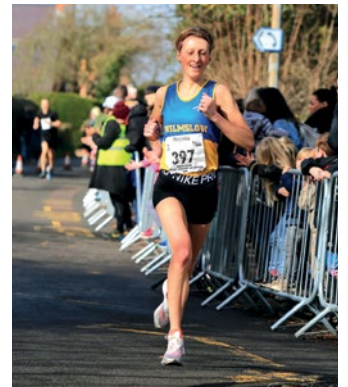
"We have had more sponsors than ever this year and they have been, as ever, very generous. We would like to thank them for their donations of cheques, vouchers or in kind, including plants, water, fruit and other prizes."

The race will be back again in 2024, after everyone has had a well-earned rest!

Pictures: Brian Tuohy



Male winner Chris Stanford.



Female winner Nicola Reece.

Lymm Lawn Tennis Club serving up awards

LYMM Lawn Tennis Club won a total of two awards recently at the Cheshire LTA Annual Awards evening.

Head Coach Allan Morton was presented with Development Coach of the Year, whilst Head of House David Kitching won The Unsung Hero Award.

Allan has been head coach at Lymm for the last four years and has breathed new life into the club's coaching, especially focusing on junior development.

Allan said, "When I joined Lymm I made it clear that junior tennis would be my focus. This approach has paid off, as the club is flourishing. I have complete support from the club's committee, which has enabled me to grow the coaching programme the best way I know how."

David Kitching, the club's Head of House, has been serving on the club's committee for the past 15 years. His service to the club is unquestionable, as he has overseen the renovation of the club's floodlights along with many other projects. Club Chairman, Gary Bolton, says of David, "Every time I'm at the club David seems to be here working on something. Whether he's fixing a loose door or setting up the TV in the bar, he takes every job on board, always with a smile on his face."

To find out more about Lymm Lawn Tennis Club, there is an Open Day on Sunday May 7th from Noon. All are welcome to come and try their hand at tennis. There will be entertainment for the kids,

food available, a variety of tennis-related activities, such as a fast serve competition. The day is free to attend and open to all.

For more information please contact Ollie Danby at ollie@bluedotproductions.co.uk or 07503 433 628.



Head Coach, Allan Morton and Head of House, David Kitching.

New tennis courts will be ready to play on this summer

THE four new, floodlit, all-weather courts at Lymm Rugby Club's walled garden, the new home for Manor Road Tennis Club, are currently under construction and will be ready to play on this summer!

It is expected they will be ready to play by June this year, during the current summer season. A temporary clubhouse, subject to planning permission, will also be constructed within the walled garden adjacent to the arch entrance. This will consist of changing rooms, toilets, kitchen,

seating area and storage.

In the meantime, tennis will commence at Manor Road Tennis Club, 150 yards down the road, where working parties have ensured that the courts are now ready.

There will be a full programme of activities at Manor Road and this will include social tennis on Monday evenings and Saturday afternoons, ladies and men's League tennis and a range of coaching including cardio-tennis session, adult and children's coaching.

All members of Lymm's rugby, hockey and squash sections are encouraged to join the new tennis section and a special deal is in place, until the end of June, offering last year's rates, to play through to the end of September, regardless of when the new courts are available.

Junior girls and boys are also being encouraged to sign up and take advantage of coaching on the existing courts in Manor Road.

Details of how to join are available on www.lymmrugby.co.uk

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