

# Lymm Life

Magazine

ISSUE 288 | JULY 2023

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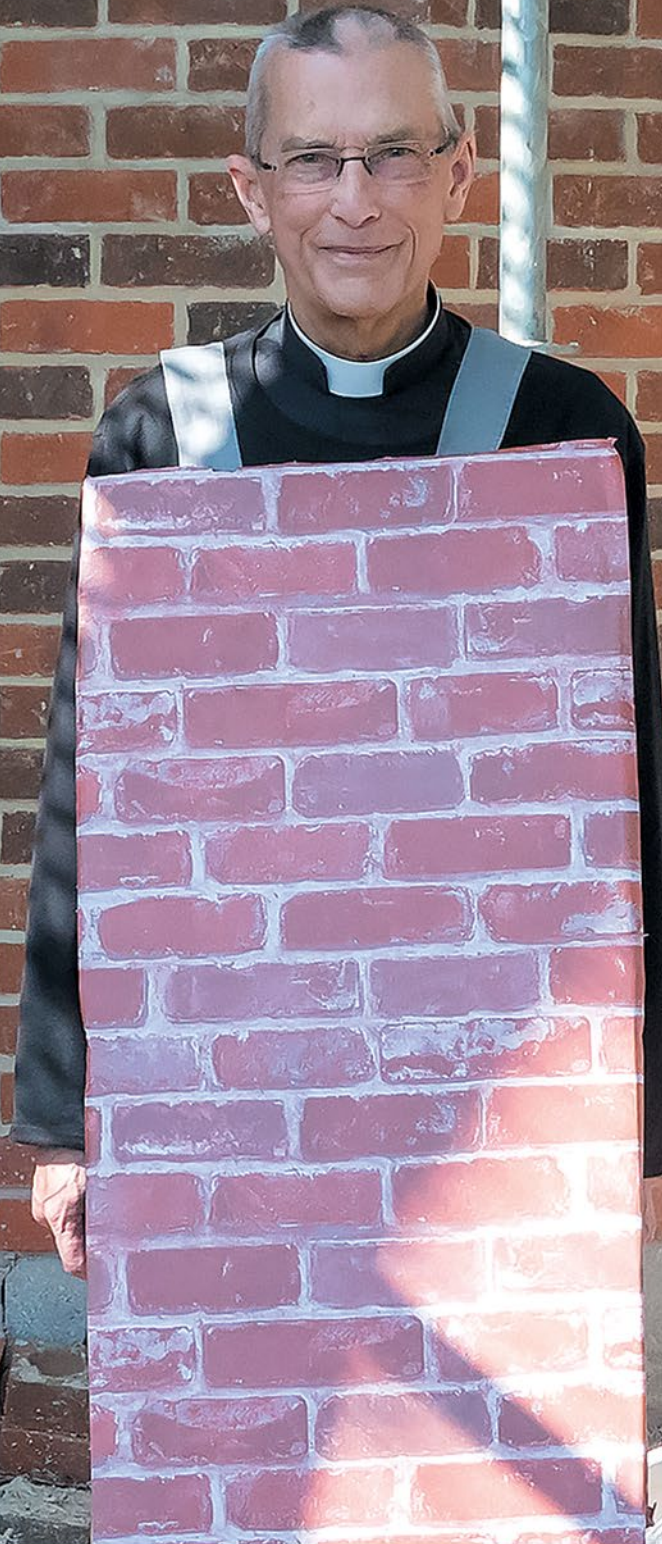
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# Editor's Comment



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## THEY say a week is a long time in politics - well now 24 hours is a long time in politics!

Shortly after our local MP for Warrington South Andy Carter announced he was not seeking re-election, three of his colleagues, including former Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced they were quitting the Government with immediate effect, sparking by-elections.

While I'm sure Mr Carter's decision not to seek re-election had nothing to do with the decision taken by his colleagues, it does reflect the state of Government at the moment which does little to steady the ship in such uncertain times.

Putting politics aside and having worked with many MPs representing both the Conservatives and Labour over the past four

decades, I know Andy has been a hard working constituency MP, who is highly thought of by many in the community and while the next General Election is not expected until later next year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish him well for the future - where ever and whatever that may involve.

The decision by the boundary commission to move Lymm out of Warrington South into Tatton clearly played a big part in Andy's decision making process - as it wiped out a huge chunk of his majority - and with the Government's current ratings, almost zero success of holding the seat at the next General Election - although like I said at the opening of this piece - 24 hours is a long time in politics - so

the political landscape could be completely different this time next year- although I very much doubt it!

Meanwhile, the actual decision to place Lymm in Tatton, while retaining services from Warrington Borough Council, appears to be completely ludicrous. It means we will have an MP from Tatton, who has no working relationship with our elected Warrington Borough Councillors.

When people want to escalate local issues they will have to deal with local Borough councillors and an MP down the road in Tatton.

I see absolutely no logic in it whatsoever and would love to hear from anybody who can highlight the benefits to me?

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## DAD WEEK 2023

Disability Awareness Day

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July**

**Disability Confident 10.30am-1pm Walton Gardens**  
 Event for employers. Recruitment & retention, reasonable adjustments & funding. For more info contact J.Balshaw@disabilitypartnership.org.uk or telephone 01925 240064.

**One Time Only 7pm-9.30pm: Arts Marquee, Walton Gardens.**  
 Creating Adventures present a variety show with a difference: Live band, Choir, Singing and more. Licensed bar. Tickets £5 available on DAD website.

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July**

**Ignite your Life 10.30am-3.30pm: Arts Marquee, Walton Gardens**  
 Merseycare NHS Foundation Trust, mental health and wellbeing event. Workshops, talks, activities, information stands Free refreshment available, including buffet lunch. For more info contact dennis.dewar@merseycare.nhs.uk or telephone 01925 664850.

**Ella Summertime Special 7pm-9.30pm: Arts Marquee, Walton Gardens**  
 Top entertainment from the teams at the amazing Ella Performance Group. An evening of dance, singing and much, more. Licensed bar. Tickets £5 available on DAD website.

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July**

**Customer Vulnerability Summit 10am-3pm: Arts Marquee, Walton Gardens**  
 United Utilities present an event highlighting support services available to vulnerable customers, including Priority Services and much more. Open to staff working in welfare rights, advice services, social prescribing, etc. Contact Amanda.Phillips@uuplc.co.uk.

**Carers Wellbeing Festival 10am - 2pm: Marquee 8, Walton Gardens**  
 Warrington Carers Hub presents an event to thank carers with health and wellbeing activities including massage, mindfulness, music, crafts, dance and lunch. Contact deborah.fitzsimon@warringtoncarershub.org.uk or telephone 07734 872412.

**Party in the Park 6pm-9.30pm: Arts Marquee, Walton Gardens**  
 A collaboration between Warrington Disability Partnership, Warrington Youth Zone, Warrington Wolves Foundation, and Warrington Carers Hub. A fun-filled evening of sports, arts, dance, chat and chill out, crafts, karaoke, music, silent disco and fun areas. Free refreshments and free admission. Contact Kate on 01925 240064.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

**Bjorn to be ABBA 7.30pm-11.30pm: Arts Marquee, Walton Gardens.**  
 Top tribute band perform a range of Abba's most loved hits. Dance the night away to great music! Licensed bar. Tickets £10 available on DAD website or Contact Ellen on 01925 240064.

**The big event - Disability Awareness Day**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July @ Walton Gardens - 10am - 4:30pm**

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[www.disabilityawarenessday.org.uk](http://www.disabilityawarenessday.org.uk)  
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# Keate House – one of the top 20 care homes in the North West

**A Lymm care home has been recognised as one of the top 20 care homes in the North West.**

Staff at Keate House, in Brookfield Road, Lymm are celebrating after winning the award.

Administrative manager Rachel Entwistle said: "We are so honoured to have to be recognised in this way.

To win this award is a testament to the dedication and love that our staff and volunteers bring to the home and to our residents every day.

"It is difficult to do justice to how hard the entirety of our home works, as we understand that so many individuals across all departments are responsible for this award. From award-winning activity provision, our fabulous

catering team, our dedicated domestic and maintenance teams, to the care department which makes our residents feel safe and loved around the clock.

"We never see Keate House as a finished product; we are always eager to develop and grow our services, to introduce new ideas and opportunities which helps us to be the best that we can be for our residents.

"We are excited to see how our services will continue to evolve and the difference we will continue to make. This award establishes that difference, and we're all over the moon to be recognised for our hard work."



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



**LYMM PARISH COUNCIL**  
Tuesday July 11th, 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  
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](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 AND DISTRICT MIXED VOICE CHOIR**  
Every Wednesday 7.30 Lymm Methodist Church. Contact 01925 601664.  
[cath@cstones.co.uk](mailto: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](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

**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](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/lymm-thelwall/home)  
Contact: [enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk)



**LYMM PARISH COUNCIL**

Tuesday July 11th, 7:30pm  
See parish council website for details.

# Andy Carter MP not seeking re-election at next General Election



**WARRINGTON South MP Andy Carter has announced that he does not intend to seek re-appointment as the Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for the Conservative Party in Warrington South at the next General Election.**

He has also dismissed rumours that he will be seeking election for the Tory safe seat of Tatton, which is set to encompass Lymm, where he currently lives, stating that he plans to "pursue new opportunities."

Confirming his decision Mr Carter said: "I've thought long and hard about this decision, it is a tremendous honour to be able to represent all Warrington South residents in Parliament and I love being able to help constituents. However, having discussed with my family I plan to pursue new opportunities, so now is the right time to be open with constituents and my local party."

In the meantime, Mr Carter says he will continue to serve in his current role until the time of the next General Election and remains fully committed to championing local priorities in Parliament such as prioritising the redevelopment of brownfield land at Fiddlers Ferry, improving public transport locally as a result of £42m Government funding to secure a new fleet of zero emission buses, and working with the Conservative Councillors on Warrington Borough Council holding the Labour administration to account.

While in Parliament Andy has championed education opportunities, securing £6million for a re-build of Penketh High School, holding an annual Apprentice and Training Fair in Warrington attended by more than 2,000 young people and the launch of two training academies

in Warrington, funded by the UK Government's Town Deal to address skills shortages in social care and construction techniques. He has served on a number of Bill Committees including the Post 16 Education Act and Professional Qualifications Act as well as being a respected member of the powerful Select Committee on Privileges and Standards for the last three and a half years.

President of Warrington Conservatives Wendy Maisey said: "Andy is an outstanding Member of Parliament for Warrington South. The investment he's secured for our town will be his ultimate legacy and I'd personally like to thank him for the commitment he's shown and for the diligence and attention to detail throughout his term. Having an MP that is invested in our town, living locally, bringing his family up here makes a massive difference to outcomes. I know Andy will continue to work hard right up to the next general election for the constituents of Warrington South."

Andy has been the Member of Parliament for Warrington South since the General Election in 2019, following a career in the media, having previously worked as the Managing Director of one of the UK's largest radio groups.

By the time of the next General Election Lymm is set to be removed from the Warrington South constituency to Tatton, removing a large chunk of the Tory majority secured at the last General Election.

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# New Zebra crossing due to safety concerns over infirm pedestrians

**HIGHWAY planners have given notice of a new pedestrian crossing on a busy stretch of road at Lymm – due to concerns over the number of infirm pedestrians attempting to cross the road.**

Rush Green Road near Sainsbury's has been highlighted as a location where the volume of vehicles and the pedestrians using the route are sufficient that pedestrians are experience difficulties with finding suitable gaps in the traffic flows to cross safely.

This is of particular concern due to the volume of pedestrians that are of infirm nature requiring additional time to cross the road. Warrington Borough Council highway planners say the implementation of a pedestrian crossing at this location will create a safe place for pedestrians to cross the road.

For this reason it is required to provide notice for the provision of the crossing to support the scheme:

Schedule 1 – Zebra Crossing on Rush Green Road, located approximately 6m West of the junction with Reddish Crescent

The Council proposes to exercise its powers conferred by Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended and of all other enabling powers, by the installation of a Zebra Crossing facility on the road as specified in the schedule to this Notice.

Deposited documents may be viewed on-line at <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/permanent-traffic-regulation-orders> or Contact Warrington, 1 Time Square, Warrington, WA1 2NT between 9am & 5pm, Monday to Friday.



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# Plan to convert Indian restaurant into Domino's Pizza takeaway

**PLANNERS have been asked to approve proposals to convert an Indian restaurant in Lymm village centre into a Domino's Pizza takeaway.**

The application by DPSK Ltd seeks planning permission for the change of use of the ground floor unit, together with facilitating works to provide extract and ventilation equipment and a replacement shopfront.

A planning impact statement produced by The Pegasus Group says the proposal involves the existing ground floor unit being converted to a hot food takeaway, to be occupied by Domino's once all necessary consents are in place.

The proposed takeaway will operate between 11.00 and 23.00 daily and will generate a number of full-time and part-time employment opportunities. Employees will be sourced locally.

The conversion will provide 91.5 m<sup>2</sup> takeaway floorspace with the customer service area and a kitchen/service area at the front of the unit, storage and office area in a central position, and cold room, wash up and staff welfare facilities at the rear of the unit.

The ground floor residential access will remain unaffected by the proposals.

A space for refuse storage will be provided within the rear yard where there is existing refuse storage associated with the current use and easy access via the car park to Rectory Road where bins can

be taken to the relevant kerbside for collection in accordance with a schedule to be arranged by the occupant.

In order to facilitate the operation of the unit as a hot food takeaway, it is proposed to install extract and ventilation equipment.

The extract will run from the hood above the oven to exit via the rear elevation using the existing extract duct. A new roof hood will be installed at the termination point above the flat roof. Fine filtration will be included within the cooker hood and an ozone odour neutralising system installed within the duct.

An air handling unit will be installed internally, and the intake point will be via a louvred vent on the rear elevation.

Air conditioning and cold room plant will be within a covered storage area in the rear yard which is open at the sides to allow air flow. The units will be wall-mounted using antivibration mounts.

The application site is in an existing town centre use (Class E restaurant) and no additional floorspace is proposed that would introduce a new commercial use in an edge-of-centre location. Furthermore, the site is currently operating as a restaurant with ancillary takeaway, so the change of use would not result in a

significant change to the operations at the site, or to the level of trade that would be received at the unit.

The applicants say the statement has demonstrated that the proposed takeaway is appropriate at the site, replacing a similar operation and retaining the existing ratio of food and drink uses in Lymm. The use can be accommodated without causing harm to the vitality or viability of the centre, and there will be no impacts on amenity as a result of the change of use.

It has also been demonstrated that there will be no unacceptable impacts on highway safety arising from the takeaway use, and the external alterations will not have an unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

Warrington Borough Council planners will make a decision on the application.



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# Lymm Festival appetiser a great success

**THE 25th anniversary Lymm Festival kicks off with the traditional Foodfest on June 22 and continues for eleven days until Sunday, July 2 with a warm up appetiser hailed a great success.**

Organisers put on a musical event at Lymm Tennis Club recently and while normally called a 'Winter Warmer' that was not really an appropriate name since it was already a warm and sunny evening!

The event acted as an appetiser of what is to come. The performers were a trio called Uptown Monotones, all the way from Austria who played some great and unusual music which got people up dancing on the grass in the glorious sunshine.

On-line ticket sales have now started. The forty-eight page 'Event Guide' is being delivered to every home in Lymm, High Legh and Warburton. Copies will also be available for picking up in pubs, restaurants, businesses, clubs, community buildings and libraries too. Full details are available on the website [www.lymmfestival.org.uk](http://www.lymmfestival.org.uk)

As usual, the programme is a mixture of old and new, including music, comedy, food, heritage, and a range of events for all the family. They have two headline speakers. One is Gerald Dickens who is the

great, great grandson of Charles Dickens. He'll be performing a one-man show based on "Great Expectations" – one of the works of his ancestor. The other is Alfie Moore star of the Radio 4 comedy hit 'It's a Fair Cop', who is bringing

his touring comedy show to Lymm for the Festival.

Tickets are already selling fast online and many events will sell out quickly, so don't leave your purchases to the last minute!



*Longstanding Committee members Ann Johnstone, Ian Marks and Chris Hamlin with the 25 year Festival banner and the Uptown Monotones playing on the veranda at Lymm Tennis Club.*



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# 20's Plenty founder accuses "Loophole" lawyer of "talking rubbish" over calls to restrict 20 mph zones

**LYMM-based 20's Plenty founder and campaigner Rod King has hit back at calls from high-profile lawyer Nick "Loophole" Freeman to restrict 20 mph zones to high-risk areas.**

The prominent, lawyer known for getting high-profile clients off motoring offences, including speeding, has called for 20 mph zones to be restricted to high-risk areas such as roads outside schools, rather than becoming the norm in towns.

But his comments have come under fire from Mr King, who founded the 20's Plenty campaign to improve road safety and save lives, accusing Mr Freeman of "talking rubbish" with "no evidence" to support his comments.

He hit back after Mr Freeman spoke out against 20mph zones, telling GB News: "To me, it's counterintuitive, it's generally too slow, because what happens is you're so obsessed with trying to keep it to 20 miles an hour, that you're looking at the speedometer all the time.

"As drivers, what we need to be doing is concentrating on our speed but other things as well, what other cars are doing, who's around us, except there's a whole combination of things that we need to be looking at.

"I drove on Edgware Road

last night, having come off the motorway, and the car kept going up to 21 and 22 and I had to keep putting my foot on the brake to keep under 20, obviously cognizant of the fact that if you go more than 10% plus one you're going to be prosecuted. And that's what's happening."

In a discussion with Arlene Foster, he said: "I'm not suggesting we should never have 20-mile-an-hour speed limits, I think there's a time and a place for them. The time is obviously school run and school time and certain places.

"But by and large, it's too slow. In London, they've got 50 miles at the moment which are subject to 20-mile-an-hour speed limits, they want in 2024 for that to be 137 miles. And you have to ask yourself, what is it achieving?"

"The statistics actually show that it has very little impact on safety. And my view is when some proper research is done, obviously, you're not going to hurt someone as much as 20 miles an hour, but you're probably going to have more accidents because you're not concentrating on what you should

be concentrating on."

He added: "I'd like to see it being targeted, be selective at the right times, but not just a blanket let everyone go 20 miles an hour, because it's counterintuitive and it causes anger for drivers, drivers who are sitting on empty roads in the early hours of the morning being restricted to 20 miles an hour.

"It's incredibly frustrating. The majority, over 40%, say we break it because we don't understand it. It doesn't make sense. So surely we need to collaborate.

"Most motorists, the majority are sensible, they are law-abiding, we just need to have something that works for all of us."

But in response, Mr King, who received the MBE in 2013 for his services to road safety, said: "He is talking rubbish. It takes no longer to check your speedo at 20mph than it does at 30mph. And for any competent driver they would acclimatise themselves as to what 20mph "feels like" so they don't have to continuously check their speedo.

"It is just driver exceptionalism. All a driver has to do to keep to 20mph is to occasionally check their speedo taking perhaps half a second. A pedestrian (including



children, disabled, and elderly) who wishes to cross the road needs to look right, check for cars, judge their distance, judge their speed, look left, check for cars, judge their distance, judge their speed, compute time to cross road, check right again and then cross the road if all is OK.

"The increase in drivers going to court for speeding is nothing to do with increased 20mph limits. There is no evidence for this. In fact, police forces with the highest increase in court speeding appearances were Gloucestershire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. None are known for regular 20mph enforcement and in none of these have they had increased 20mph roll-outs in the period chosen. So, no causation or even correlation.

"In short the article is just lazy journalism looking to push an "anti-motorist" scare story," added Mr King.

## Innovative intergenerational £15m development completed

BUILD complete and now fully operational, the McGoff Group is celebrating the completion of its innovative intergenerational £15m development at Lymm.

The first of its kind in the North West, the development features a state-of-the-art 66-bed care centre, a natural children's day nursery and 45 individually designed retirement apartments resulting in a thriving new hyperlocal community on the site of the former Lymm Hotel at the junction of Whitbarrow Road and Statham Avenue close to the centre of Lymm village.

Highlighting the new sense of community, residents from Minerva Place retirement apartments and Statham Manor Care Centre joined children from Back to the Garden Childcare, senior representatives from the McGoff Group and members of the McGoff family to celebrate the completion of the two-year project and plant a beautiful red robin tree for all to enjoy for years to come.

Designed by the McGoff Group and delivered by principal contractor McGoff Construction in partnership with related Group companies including Panacea Building Systems and McGoff Group Facilities Services, the Lymm development has been an incredible success story.

Bringing together the best in care for the youngest and oldest members of the community, it is a new concept in multi-generational living that enables young and old to spend time in each other's company

and enjoy proven health, social and wellbeing benefits; something that is already working well in Lymm where the new community has come together to share stories for World Book Day, plant a communal flower and vegetable garden and celebrate the recent coronation of King Charles III.

Chairman of McGoff Group Projects, Dave McGoff, commented: "It's fantastic to be able to stand here with the new residents of this development and celebrate its completion. Lymm has been a special project for us. Not only was it the realisation of a concept that we believe so

passionately in, but also because it has brought together so many parts of our business model. It is incredibly exciting to see it finally come to life and we hope it can set a blueprint for similar schemes in the future."

All aspects of the development are being operated by McGoff Group companies. Offering exceptional residential, 24-hour nursing, respite and dementia care services, Statham Manor is being operated by the Group's award-winning care home provider New Care while the nursery is being operated by Back to the Garden Childcare, the Group's natural

child-led nursery concept focussing on active learning and outdoor play in a garden setting. The Group's residential brand Villafont is running the apartments under its sub-brand Villafont Concierge, which offers an enhanced lifestyle package for those looking for a luxury property with the option to ask for elements of domestic support as and when to enable continued independent living.

For further information on the Lymm development, please visit [www.newcarehomes.com](http://www.newcarehomes.com), [www.villafont.com](http://www.villafont.com) and [www.backtothegardenchildcare.com](http://www.backtothegardenchildcare.com)



Minerva Place residents Pat and John Hirst, McGoff Construction construction director Gary Wilson (back), McGoff Group marketing director Sarah Sanderson (kneeling front), group managing director McGoff Construction Services Dean Johnston (with spade), chairman of McGoff Group Projects Dave McGoff (holding Rowan Limb from Back to the Garden), chairman McGoff Construction Services Declan McGoff, manager at Back to the Garden Childcare in Lymm Alison O'Connor Limb (holding Rory Limb), chairman of New Care Dominic Kay, resident at Statham Manor Joyce Hamilton (front, blue cardigan), registered manager at Statham Manor Farai Hanyane (orange shirt), chief operating officer at New Care Cath Fairhurst (pink jacket). Two children from Back to the Garden hold the tree, Margot (left) and Teddy (right).



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# New Statham Manor Care Centre rated "Good" in all areas



**THE recently opened Statham Manor Care Centre at Lymm, has been rated a "good" in all areas following an inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).**

The newly built care home on the site of the former Lymm Hotel, provides residential and nursing care to people, some of whom lived with dementia. At the time of the inspection there were 20 people living in the home.

During the inspection, inspectors found systems were in place to monitor the quality and safety of the service. A schedule of audits had been implemented but these could be further developed to improve the effectiveness of the checks. People and their relatives stated the home was well managed and they could raise any complaints or concerns they had with the knowledge they would be listened to, and action would be taken to address the issues.

Systems were in place to manage medicines safely, but they could be improved further and inspectors made a recommendation about this. Staff had undertaken medication training and had their competency assessed and medicines were stored securely. However, records to guide staff when to administer medicines prescribed as and when needed, required further detail.

Most risks had been assessed and were reflected within people's plans of care. People said they felt safe living in the home. They were supported by trained staff who had been safely recruited and there were enough staff available to support people when they needed it.

Effective systems were in place to maintain the safety of the building and help minimise the spread of infections within the home. Staff were aware of their safeguarding responsibilities and how to raise any concerns.

People were supported to have

maximum choice and control of their lives and staff supported them in the least restrictive way possible and in their best interests; the policies and systems in the service supported this practice. However, inspectors made a recommendation regarding the use of mental capacity assessments as they could be completed more robustly. Records showed that people's nutritional needs and preferences were assessed, and people said they enjoyed the meals available.

Feedback regarding the care and support people received was positive. People said they were well cared for, and that staff were kind, caring and worked in ways that protected their privacy.

Staff encouraged people's independence where possible and systems in place supported people to be involved in decisions regarding their care. Most care plans were detailed and reflected people's needs and preferences.

Staff were trained to support people at the end of their lives and support provided to people at those times was complimented by relatives. A range of activities were available for people to participate in, and people were supported to maintain relationships that were important to them.

The inspection was prompted in part due to concerns received about the care and support provided to people. A decision was made to inspect and examine those risks. Inspectors found no evidence during this inspection that people were at risk of harm from this concern.

For more details, the full report is on the CQC website at [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk)

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# Buy a brick for St Peter's new church hall

**A Buy a Brick campaign has been launched for a new hall at St Peter's Church at Oughtrington, Lymm, due to rising costs caused by the COVID pandemic.**

The church hall project was made possible by a generous donation in 2020 from the sale of Cotebrook. The new hall will replace the current hall which was built in 1965.

As the years have passed, the building has continually needed repairs and renovation. The church council commissioned Grated Apple Ltd to draw up plans for the new hall and planning permission was granted. All of the planning happened during lockdown, and that meant delays and rising costs. To complete the whole project another £100,000 is now needed.

Church members are excited about the new building and know that it will be a great asset to both church and community.

The hall will be fully accessible. The fund-raising committee is working hard applying for grants and has just launched a Buy A Brick campaign. Each brick will cost £25, and there will be a commemorative book thanking all donors.

If you would like to take part in this campaign, please visit the church website for full details [www.oughtringtonchurch.co.uk](http://www.oughtringtonchurch.co.uk)

oughtringtonchurch.co.uk  
St Peter's Facebook page will be regularly updated with news.



# Your pet questions answered

By Dr Diane Wilshaw  
Lymm Veterinary Surgery



**Q: I think my dog needs to be referred to a specialist, can I self-refer him, or do I need to go through my vet?**

**A:** Sadly, you can't currently self-refer your pet to a specialist, because the specialist will need to know all the case details from your current vet to properly diagnose your dog. However, you can find a veterinary specialist you'd like your dog to see and ask your vet to refer your pet to them on your behalf.

**Q: I am planning on moving to Australia for a year or so, and plan on taking my cat with me. How do I go about organising everything? Can I take her on the plane with me?**

**A:** How exciting for you both! When moving a cat over to Australia, there are set steps that need to be followed, including eligibility requirements, microchipping, vaccinations, parasite treatments and clinical examinations. You will also need to apply for an import permit and get a Veterinary Health Certificate. Once your cat has arrived in Australia, she will also need to complete a 10-day quarantine in a special facility too. You can find out more about the steps involved online. All the best with your new adventure!

**Q: I have just got my son a pet rabbit, and I was told by the person I got her from that I will need to get her vaccinated. Is this necessary even if she never leaves my property?**

**A:** The short answer is yes! Some of the diseases that rabbits are vaccinated against aren't just spread from bunny to bunny, they can be carried by flies, fleas and mosquitos. We have a Pet Health Plan for rabbits that includes 2 check ups with

a vet each year, 25% off Flystrike preventative treatment, and their essential annual vaccines too. If you are interested, you can find out more on our website.

**Q: What is the best age to get the best possible hip score from my dog?**

**A:** The consensus among canine orthopaedic specialists is that the best possible score can be achieved after your dog reaches the age of 1. If a dog has got excellent hips, then the timing of this x-ray will won't make much difference. However, if their hips are average or worse than average then the score may be a few points higher months later.

**Q: I have a young dwarf Dutch rabbit. He keeps moving his head from side to side, his eyes seem different, and he seems unable to balance. He is also very subdued and off his food. What is wrong with him?**

**A:** It sounds very much like your bunny has got an inner ear infection which has irritated the nerves that affect balance. He will need to be prescribed antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory medication and this should clear it up within 2 - 4 weeks. The infection could be caused by either a parasite or bacterial infection. It is best to get this checked by a vet so you can begin treating it as soon as possible.

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# Stalwart volunteer enjoys “money can’t buy experience” at Twickenham

**LYMM Rugby Club volunteer Andy Jackson, enjoyed a “money can’t buy experience” at Twickenham as one of just 12 people to receive a RFU Club Volunteer Recognition Award.**

Andy was nominated by his colleagues at Lymm Rugby Club who appreciate their many volunteers, who willingly give their time and expertise in the running of the Club.

It is a great testament to the culture and DNA of this village, amateur promotion winning club, developed and sustained since its formation in 1960, which generates so many helpers.

Each year the RFU requests nominations from clubs for their Honda sponsored Volunteer Recognition Programme. This year, Lymm secretly nominated Andy Jackson, a member of their dedicated Grounds Maintenance Team. Andy also travels home and away each week with the 1st XV, setting up their match video camera and for home matches organises car parking and managing the scoreboard. He’s ever present at the Club throughout the week, available to help wherever he can.

Andy was one of 12 club volunteers throughout England to receive the RFU award.

Andy describes his experience saying: “At the beginning of April I received an email out of the blue advising me that I had been selected to attend a “money can’t buy experience” at Twickenham Stadium on 4th May 2023.

“My first thoughts were, “oh, scam email, better just delete it”. However it did look very authentic and genuine and after a couple of checks, the background to what was a genuine invite emerged.

“Unbeknown to myself, I had been nominated by the Club to the RFU, as part of their Honda Volunteer Recognition Programme. This I found rather humbling, and I must confess, totally unexpected as like all of the grounds team in equal measure, we do what we do at Lymm Rugby Club for the

enjoyment and love of the Club and the game, with the aim of providing the best surfaces and presentation of our grounds and pitches for all our members and visitors.

“This unique experience was for just twelve grounds volunteers from across the country to enjoy a behind the scenes day at Twickenham Stadium to include: – a stadium tour, walk the pitch, personal talk and presentation from RFU Head Groundsman Jim Buttar and for a chance in a lifetime opportunity for any groundsman, the opportunity to actually mow the “Hallowed Turf” of Twickers.

“The day was indeed special and ten dedicated grounds volunteers attended on the day representing their clubs from the north to the south of England from all playing levels.

“The highlight, at least for myself was the opportunity to actually be allowed to mow the pristine Twickenham pitch, as part of its

preparation for a series of games being hosted on the coming weekend.

“A great privilege indeed and on reflection I would think that there have surely been more people

allowed to play on the pitch over its lifetime than to actually have been allowed to mow it.

“My thanks to my Club and to the RFU for the honour and the privilege to attend this event.”



## History Society pay tribute to Lymm historian Joe Griffiths

LYMM History Society has paid tribute to local historian Joe Griffiths who has sadly died.

A popular character in the village, Joe had been made a Freeman of the village alongside his good friend, Town Crier Peter Powell, who also died earlier this year.

In a statement Lymm History

Society said said: “We are deeply saddened to hear of the sad passing of our friend and fellow committee member Joe Griffiths. He was the librarian for Lymm History Society for many years and gave numerous talks on ‘Old Lymm’ to various local groups and schools, frequently donating his fee to Cancer Research.

His love, enthusiasm, service and commitment to Lymm village and community goes without saying and was affectionately known as Mr Lymm to many.

“Joe was an active member of many local groups and societies. He was Secretary of Lymm Festivities Group, a member of the May Queen working committee, Chairman of the Parish Council and a member of the Plans Sub-Committee, also on the Village Hall Sub-Committee, Allotment Gardens Sub-Committee and a member of the Lymm Environment and Heritage Group. Joe was a committee

member of the Lymm Youth and Community Association and was actively involved in trying to keep the premises in Bridgewater Street for use by the whole of the Local Community.

“Joe also did voluntary work for the Royal National Institute for the Blind for over 20 years, repairing Talking Book machines

and adapting and maintaining computers for the visually impaired.

“He was a much loved character, known by many and will be dearly missed.

“We pass on our deepest condolences to his wife Tina, children, grandchildren, family and friends at this very sad time.”



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