

Lymm Life

Magazine

ISSUE 294 | JANUARY 2024
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Editor's Comment



CONGRATULATIONS to Colin Oakley and the team for delivering another fantastic Lymm Dickensian Day Festival, which certainly attracted large crowds to the village centre.

Thankfully, the wind and rain held off for the main parade and the village centre looked very busy.

Hopefully, it provided a boost for local trade – which after all was

the main reason the event was first started back in the last century!!

Talking about the last century, April 2024, will see the 25th anniversary since we launched

Lymm Life as a free community news publication for the village – and in all that time we have only had one price increase in our advertising rates, despite doubling our circulation and delivery to around 5,000 properties in the village.

We are always grateful to those who support us – but with ever increasing costs, new business is always welcome if we are to continue for another 25 years!

Meanwhile, I'd like to wish all our supporters and readers a Happy New Year!

**Deadline for the
February issue of
Lymm Life is January 9**

Registration now open Lymm Runners Beginners' Course 2024

IF you or a loved one have always wanted to learn to run properly, or return to running, with a very friendly group registration is now open for Lymm Runners very popular Beginners' Course.

This New Year the course starts at 7.00pm on Tuesday January 9th at The Victoria Park Running Track in Warrington, lasts nine weeks and is open to runners and would-be runners of all abilities.

There are two sessions a week lasting one hour each: on Tuesdays, a structured coaching session at the running track which is then put into practice on a Thursday evening with confidence-building group run/walks around Lymm. These leave at 7.00pm from Lymm High School are designed to build up pace and distance over the weeks.

Sounds a bit scary? There's no need to worry. Lymm Runners are considered one of the friendliest and

most supportive running clubs in the region, so participants can expect plenty of encouragement as well as skilled coaching by qualified leaders in separate training groups; no one gets left behind.

The Course itself is free but we do ask participants to join Lymm Runners for the start of the Course. Membership costs just £20.00 a year. And if you want a running goal to aim for – just add an entry to the friendly High Legh 10K 2024 on Sunday 17th March 2024.

So, if this sounds idea for you, or someone you know, or if you want to make a New Year's Resolution that you can actually keep, just go to:

<https://lymmrunners.org/running/beginners-course/> or for more information, email beginners@lymmrunners.org.uk

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Local Plan adopted including plans for around 4,400 new homes in the Green Belt

WARRINGTON'S Local Plan – which aims to deliver the homes, jobs, supporting infrastructure and community facilities the borough needs, including around 4,400 new homes in Green Belt – has been formally adopted.

Despite opposition from green belt campaigners outside the Parr Hall and opposition Tories and some other Cllrs, the Local Plan was adopted by Full Council following confirmation from the Independent Planning Inspectors that they deemed the Plan to be 'sound', subject to the Main Modifications they recommended in their October 2023 Report to the Council.

Written in accordance with government planning guidance, and informed by feedback from the public, the Plan sets out the legal planning framework for the Borough's development over the next

two decades.

It aims to:

- deliver a minimum of 14,688 new homes (equating to 816 per year) between 2021/22 and 2038/39 – including around 4,400 in the Green Belt.
- support Warrington's ongoing economic success by ensuring provision is made to meet the need for 168 hectares of employment land between 2021/22 and 2038/39

The Plan's main priority remains to optimise the development potential of the existing urban area, which can accommodate around 10,900

new homes in the Plan period. But it also means Green Belt land needs to be released for the Council to meet its housing requirement.

The total amount of land proposed to be removed from the Green Belt is 390 hectares – equating to 3.4% of the total amount of Green Belt land in the Borough. This is significantly lower than that proposed in previous versions of the Local Plan.

The main employment site has been allocated on brownfield land at Fiddlers Ferry, to provide for a mix of industrial uses.

Warrington's Local Plan will ensure that the infrastructure required for the Borough's growth is appropriately phased with new development.

Warrington Borough Council's Cabinet Member for environment,

housing and public protection, Cllr Hitesh Patel, said: "Our Local Plan will play a hugely important role in shaping Warrington's future. It aims to benefit everyone who lives and works here, driving our growth, guiding development, meeting our housing needs, and supporting jobs – all while protecting the Green Belt as much as possible."

"This plan has been developed and shaped through extensive consultation and engagement with independent planning inspectors and crucially, the Borough's residents and businesses. By working together, I believe we have delivered a plan which is the right fit for Warrington's future. I'm delighted that the plan has now been approved and can be formally adopted."



Council and Unite reach agreement to end bin strike with immediate effect

AFTER more than two months of bin strikes Warrington Borough Council and Unite have met and agreed positive resolutions to a number of local issues.

In addressing these issues, Unite agreed to end its dispute with the council and to call off the current industrial action, with its members returning to work immediately.

The council – led by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Hans Mundry and Chief Executive Professor Steven Broomhead MBE – alongside Unite representatives, reached agreement on a number of local issues, including a commitment from the council to make permanent a number of fixed term roles.

The Council will continue to work positively alongside GMB, UNISON and Unite on a number of areas going forward.

Please visit warrington.gov.uk/your-next-bin-collection-day to find out what bins will be emptied, and on what days.

The council says that they will do all they can to ensure that normal collections begin again as quickly and as seamlessly as possible.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Hans Mundry said: "We are pleased to draw an end to the strike action."

"We know people will want bin collections to get back to normal quickly. Please bear with us as we'll be collecting significant volumes of waste and recycling, while also getting waste services employees back into work."

The council will offer further updates as soon as they can, but their current priority is ensuring that waste services resume as quickly as possible.

Visit warrington.gov.uk/news/industrial-action-update for more information and updates.

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What's On in conjunction with Lymm Parish Council



LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Next meeting Tuesday January 9th, 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
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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 Aug), 7.30pm
Spread Eagle pub, Eagle Brow.
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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.

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Details: www.lymmprobustclub

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Details: www.lymmprobustclub

LYMM DINGLE PROBUS CLUB

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Details: www.lymmdingleprobus.club
Club secretary 01925 759995

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

HEATLEY WI

Meets the second Thursday of each month at Oughtrington Junior School, 7pm
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 January 9th, 7:30pm
See parish council website for details.

Generations enjoy festive singalong



PROVIDING all the festive feels, local lady Helen Elliott and her Smiley Tunes Alley Cats Escape choir dropped into Minerva Place to lead a seasonal singalong at Lymm's innovative multigenerational development.

Members of Helen's local choir joined residents from Minerva Place, the over 55s retirement apartments on Whitbarrow Road, plus residents from Statham Manor care centre and children from Back to the Garden day nursery, for a feel good festive singalong followed by mince pies, refreshments and mingling.

Delighting all ages with their love of singing, the Alley Cats Escape choir performed a number of new songs plus seasonal favourites and ended with some rousing classic Christmas carols.

Accompanied by music, the choir delivered its repertoire in an informal and engaging way which actively encouraged spectator interaction and participation. Residents joined in where they knew the words and the children had a great time moving to the music.

Lifestyle manager at Minerva Place, Helen Murphy, said: "It's great to be able to bring the different age groups together and we have hosted a number of activities with the care home and day nursery since we opened.

"The magic and traditional celebrations of Christmas provide an extra special reason to bring

old and young together and we were delighted to be joined by the Alley Cats for what was a fantastic morning of good cheer. A wonderful time was had by all with everyone taking part in the carols and really getting into the Christmas spirit."

Helen Elliott added: "Carols and singing are the essence of Christmas and a really uplifting way to bring individuals of all ages together. It is our mission to help more people discover the joy and pleasure that singing can bring, and seeing the smiles on everyone's faces as we sang at Minerva Place today was amazing."

Established by Helen Elliott in April 2019, Smiley Tunes is a local singing company that encourages everyone to feel the joy and health benefits of singing. No previous experience is necessary, and the Alley Cats Escape Choir meets every Wednesday during term time in Lymm Village Hall.

Conceived and developed by the McGoff Group, Lymm's innovative intergenerational development features luxury retirement apartments, a state-of-the-art care centre and natural children's day nursery.

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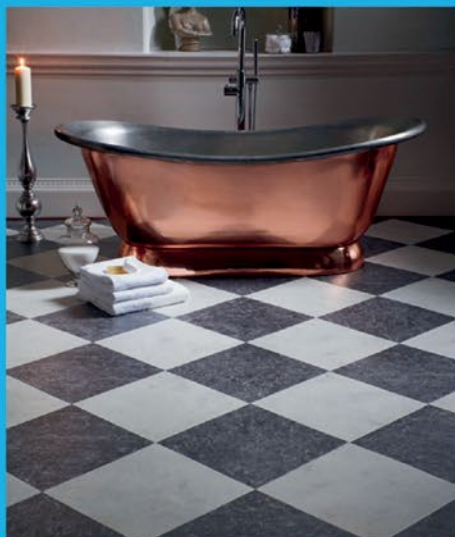
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Christmas Tree Festival success

THE popular Community Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church in Lymm was once again a resounding success with 49 trees on display.

There were lots of fabulous Christmas trees on display each adorned with festive decorations as well as an opportunity for visitors to treat themselves to tea, coffee, and delicious cakes; while exploring a small craft sale featuring unique handmade items.

Pupils from Statham Primary School sang popular Carols while Lymm High School Brass Band also

performed at the weekend long event.

There were also performances by Alley Cats ESCAPE Choir, Susan Gadd, St Mary's Children's Choir and Toska String Quartet. On this Sunday there was also the Family Advent Service, Lymm and District Chorus with Toska String Quartet once again.

Pictures: John Hopkins



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Lymm Poppy Appeal raises over £22,000

ORGANISERS of the annual Lymm Poppy Appeal have thanked all those who have helped raise over £22,000 this year.

In a joint statement, the organisers Linda, June and Neville said: "Thank you so much to everybody in Lymm and High Legh who've supported this year's Poppy Appeal. Together we raised £22,028.45 to enable the Royal British Legion to carry on the amazing work they do for ex-service personnel and their families."

"It's 102 years since the British Legion was formed and it's work is going from strength to strength, reaching out to all those ex-service personnel who find themselves in times of difficulty or hardship or who have suffered injury or mental health issues and who may need rehabilitation and so much more. Sadly, the need never disappears as conflicts and wars continue to happen around the globe. Our thoughts at Remembrance Time are with those who in the past, and currently, have sacrificed so much to defend our freedom and protect our way of life."

The bright red Lamp Post Poppies have decorated the roads around Lymm. Our thanks go to the Parish Council for putting those up for us and to the many people who sponsored them in memory of a loved one. Amongst those people were the family of Joe Griffiths who sadly passed away this year and who will be remembered by so many in our community.

"The centre of the village looked stunning with so very many of the businesses and shops displaying the big Poppy in their windows and on their premises. Lymm really does Remember and Honour those who have given so much."

Your Poppy Appeal Team would like to especially thank first and foremost those of you in Lymm and High Legh whose donations made this year's Appeal so successful. We'd also like to give special thanks to our amazing team of over 45 volunteers as well as the ATC who gave so very generously of their time. In total our volunteer collectors gave up over 300 hours of their time. Our schools, churches, shops, garden centre, pubs, hotels, and restaurants

all contributed handsomely to that wonderful total of £22,028.45. Thanks, too, to the staff at our two Sainsbury's stores, to Janet and Tim at Abbey Leys and to the staff at Lymm Services who, as always, were so very welcoming to our collectors.

Every year we ask you to wear your Poppy with pride and on behalf of the Royal British Legion we thank you all so very much for your wonderful support.



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Thousands enjoy the magi

THOUSANDS enjoyed the magic of the annual Lymm Dickensian Day Festival as villagers took to the streets, many in Victorian costumes.

Around 200 Santas joined them from Lymm Runners, who started proceedings with a Santa Dash through the village, lined with cheering onlookers.

Town crier AJ Powell started proceedings as a parade, comprised of local school children in festive costumes and various

community groups paraded through the village.

Chief organiser Colin Oakley, dressed in period costume, was thankful the wind and rain held off for the main event and thanked sponsors Kids Planet and Lymm Parish Council for their support, ensuring the event could take place.

Pictures: John Hopkins



More pictures and video online at www.warrington-worldwide.co.uk

c of Lymm Dickensian Day



Your pet questions answered

By Dr Rachel Dean,
Burford Lane Vets

Q: "Should I adjust my cat's diet during the winter?"

A: Cold weather alone shouldn't affect your cat's diet. However, if you find they're going out less, then you may need to restrict their diet slightly as they will be burning less calories. If you find they're putting on weight you can visit us at Burford Lane Vets to have them checked. If your cat is less active and losing weight you should get them checked as this could indicate a health condition.

Q: "How much exercise should my dog be getting when it's cold outside?"

A: It is important to keep your dog active over the winter months to ensure they maintain a healthy weight, don't lose muscle, and avoid boredom and destructive behaviour. Try and maintain your usual routine, but if conditions outside prevent this then you should play with your dog inside: playing fetch with soft toys, playing tug games with appropriate toys, general activity and movement throughout the house ensuring your dog is following you. Dogs gain a huge amount of mental stimulation from the sights and smells on their walks so try and ensure you are challenging them in the house to replace this as best as possible, for example by feeding them their meals or treats in puzzle feeders or by teaching them new tricks.

Q: "Should I treat my dogs and cats for fleas over the winter, and if so, what do you recommend?"

A: While it's true that fleas thrive in warm and damp conditions over spring and summer, they are very much still present over the winter. Our warm pets and houses provide the ideal haven for fleas trying to



survive the winter and as each flea can lay over 20 eggs a day, it only takes one or two hitchhikers to create a serious infestation. We believe prevention is better than cure and recommend maintaining your flea treatment as prescribed by your vet. There are a range of treatments with their own unique advantages and we are happy to find the best product for your pet. We always recommend a prescribed product as these have had to undergo extensive testing on safety and effectiveness prior to being made available for distribution, meaning we trust these products over the products offered without prescription from retailers.

Q: "What should I do if my pet is over-exposed during a snowstorm or extreme cold?"

A: In any emergency, the most important thing is to stay calm. Luckily it is very rare for pets with a coat of hair to suffer from cold-related disease such as hypothermia or frost burn as they tend to regulate body temperature well. Early signs of hypothermia include shivering, lethargy, muscle stiffness and shallow breathing. If possible bring them inside, put a coat on them if available or any blankets or thick clothing you can wrap around them. Keep them close to your body if possible. If concerned call us as soon as possible when safe.

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Residential home triumphs at regional Great British Care Awards



SEVERAL staff members from Keate House Residential Home, Lymm attended the prestigious regional Great British Care Awards at The Kimpton Clocktower Hotel in Manchester.

The evening was marked by jubilation as Keate House received not just one, but four nominations, culminating in a remarkable victory for Cameron Rowe in the Ancillary Worker category.

Cameron Rowe's win in the Ancillary Worker award category is a testament to his unwavering dedication and exceptional contributions to Keate House Residential Home. Having joined as a Care Assistant in 2017, Cameron's journey showcases an inspiring trajectory, marked by professional growth and commitment to the well-being of residents. Cameron's accomplishments include completing the AAT Professional Diploma in Accounting and rising to the role of the home's Account Manager. His transition from a frontline caregiver to a managerial role highlights his versatility and commitment to enhancing the overall care experience at Keate House. What sets Cameron apart is not only his professional acumen but also his extraordinary efforts to create a warm and engaging

environment for the residents. Stepping beyond the confines of his office, Cameron has embraced roles ranging from Father Christmas to the Grinch, and even the persona of Keate House's own drag queen, 'Maddy Cation.'

"Cameron's ability to go above and beyond is truly remarkable. His creativity, compassion, and commitment to residents have left an indelible mark on our home," said Diane Clarkson, Registered Care Manager at Keate House Residential Home.

The Ancillary Worker award recognizes individuals who play a vital role in supporting the care team and ensuring the smooth operation of the care home. Cameron's win reflects his exceptional contribution to the holistic well-being of residents and the uplifting atmosphere he creates within the Keate House team.

Keate House Residential Home is immensely proud of Cameron's well-deserved win and all the other nominees who remain committed to maintaining the highest standards in care.

Plan to convert barn into dwelling house refused

A bid to convert an existing brick-built barn on land at New House Farm, Reddish Lane in Lymm has been refused by Warrington planners.

The barn, which is in the Green Belt, was previously in agricultural use where the first floor was a hay loft and the ground floor divided into smaller spaces for animal housing and workshop/agricultural storage and was last used for agricultural purposes in the 1950s/60s.

In addition, it is stated that: "The previous owners had repaired and maintained the barn, including re-roofing a section of the building, but had not put it to any active use".

The application proposed to convert the barn to a residential use and supporting information states that: "The building is structurally sound and retains visually attractive features that the applicant proposes to retain."

The conversion would require works to the building to install windows and doors and the replacement of the roof in order to ensure the creation of a dwelling that is efficient and functions well for the intended purpose."

But planners rejected the application stating it had not been proven that the building and land within its curtilage was part of an agricultural unit. The proposals did not therefore constitute permitted development.

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Your course may be FREE* if you are in receipt of an income-based benefit or in employment and earning less than £20,319 (£31,600.40 if you reside in Liverpool City Region Combined Authority) per year.

There are also several funding options in place which, if eligible, will enable you to study now and pay later, pay in instalments or not have to pay at all! What's more, you may be able to access a wide range of finance and funding support to help you during your time at college from the further education bursary fund.

To find out more about student finance and financial support, please call **01925 494 501** or call in to our Warrington campus.



FREE* Distance Learning

If you don't have time to commit to a full-time college course but want to enhance your skills and gain a new qualification, we offer a wide range of FREE* distance learning courses.

Visit **wvr.ac.uk/distance-learning** to browse our full range of distance learning courses.

Adult Enrolment Evening

Tuesday 9th January, 5.00pm - 8.00pm

Join us to find out more about our range of courses and have all your questions about returning to education as an adult student answered. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the flexibility of our courses, the various funding options available and even enrol on your chosen course.

Learn more and register at: **wvr.ac.uk/enrolmentevening**.

WVR.AC.UK/ADULT

01925 494 494

*Terms & conditions apply.

Business Centre supports local businesses and community organisations

As running costs continue to challenge many organisations, Lymm Life asked Lymm Business Centre how their services have been helping local businesses and groups. Manager, Kirsty James, shared the key reasons why people choose to use the Centre.

AFFORDABILITY

The Centre is part of the Lymm charity Lymm Sanctuary Hub, set up in 2019 to support local people and organisations (and the Library's future). As such, it is less commercial in character, with services being affordable and profits reinvested into the site and local community projects. Hotdesking and meeting rooms are priced from just £12/day, and offices from just £25/day, offering huge savings to those running events and meetings, or simply needing private working space. Definitely cheaper than the heating bill at home or a main office, or the

cost of hot drinks when visiting a hotel or café.

FLEXIBILITY

The Centre offers businesses Pay-As-You-Go usage for room hire, hotdesking, printing, mail-handling, phone lines, admin support, and office hire. This makes it a perfect option if you don't have an office, you want a day out of the house, or for those needing a break from the distraction of, and commute to, an employer's place of work.

EQUIPPED

Besides the warmth offered, the Centre surprises many users by being so modern and well-equipped. Long gone are the days of projectors, screens and fixed furniture. Meeting rooms have smart TVs, modular furniture and whiteboards. The space can even be cleared to accommodate community groups such as sewing, crafting, yoga and hobby groups, and catering can be added to any booking.

LOCATION

Located in the heart of Lymm, the Centre is within the annexe of Lymm Library which sits beside the Bridgewater Canal and the low-cost pay and display car park. A

stone's throw from village centre shops, cafes and restaurants, users can improve their wellbeing by avoiding traffic and bad-weather commutes, and instead enjoy a walk to work or the green space outside the front door.

PROFESSIONALISM

The Centre may be small and a local charitable project BUT it still offers a professional service,

modelled on larger co-working spaces. The recent recruitment of extra staff means that there is a friendly face, telephone voice or email response to support the needs of your organisation.

For details of services and rates, or to arrange a viewing, contact 01925 737950 or admin@lymmbusinesscentre.co.uk



Mum raises thousands for Muscular Dystrophy Charity with Bake a Difference campaign

LYMM mother-of-three Kerry Spink took part in Muscular Dystrophy UK's Bake a Difference campaign raising thousands for the charity.

Kerry cooked up a storm as she organised a coffee morning, selling tea, cakes, raffle tickets and her friend Jackie Gare's hand-crafted goods to support the charity that's close to her heart.

Kerry's identical twin-boys, Oscar and Sebastian, 13, were diagnosed with Facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy (FSHD) aged eight, in July 2019.

Following the event Kerry said: "We were absolutely blown away by the support we received. Thanks to Jackie for hosting the event at her beautiful home and making such beautiful, crafted decorations. The Bake a Difference event was a huge success; the raffle winners were delighted with their prizes, and we all ate tons of cake."

"The best bit though, was raising much needed funds for an incredible charity Muscular Dystrophy UK who provide essential support for families like ours, dealing with muscle wasting and weakening conditions every day. Oscar and Seb loved chatting with the guests about their wheelchairs and the realities of living with a life-limiting condition. They played an essential part in folding up 600 raffle tickets

ready for the prize draw too."

Muscular Dystrophy UK is the leading charity for more than 110,000 children and adults in the UK living with one of over 60 muscle wasting and weakening conditions. All the money raised will help fund groundbreaking research and life changing support.

The Bake a Difference campaign began after supporter Sammy de Laszlo, 15, from Hampshire, who was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy in 2012, organised a bake sale with his family to help raise awareness of his condition.

Susanne Driffield, Regional Development Manager (North England and East Midlands): "We've been blown away by Kerry's efforts. Thank you to her and everyone who took part in this year's Bake a Difference campaign. Whether you're were a star baker or a shop-bought faker, every pound raised from our Bake a Difference campaign will help make a difference for those living with muscle wasting and weakening conditions."

For more information on Muscular Dystrophy UK visit musculardystrophyuk.org or call the free helpline on 0800 652 6352 (open Mon – Thurs 10am – 2pm).



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Police seek driver of light/white car captured on CCTV following fatal collision



POLICE have renewed an appeal for information following a fatal collision at High Legh involving an 85-year-old man who sadly died after being struck by multiple vehicles.

Officers investigating the collision are especially keen to identify the driver of a white/light coloured car which passed the scene around the time of the collision.

At around 8.17pm on Monday 20 November police were called to reports of a collision on the A50 in High Legh, near to the junction of Swineyard Lane.

Officers attended at the scene and on arrival they found that a pedestrian has been hit a number of vehicles, including a red Audi TT Quattro and a red Volkswagen UP.

Sadly, the pedestrian, an 85-year-old local man, was pronounced dead at the scene. His next of kin have been informed and are being supported by specialist officers.

Enquiries in relation to the collision have been ongoing, and as part of the investigation officers are keen to identify the driver of a white/ light coloured car which passed the scene around the time of the collision.

The vehicle was travelling northbound, towards Lymm, and would have passed the Bears Paw

sometime after 8.15pm.

Inspector Steve Griffiths, of the Serious and Complex Collision Investigation Unit at Cheshire Police, said: "This was a collision in which a man has sadly lost his life and our thoughts are with his family and friends at this time."

"Our investigation is ongoing, and we're committed to doing all we can to establish exactly what took place."

"As part of our enquiries we're keen to speak to anyone who witnessed what happened or has any information to aid our investigation."

"We're particularly keen to speak to the driver of a white/light coloured car which was captured on CCTV footage passing the scene immediately before the collision."

"If you think that may have been you, please call us on 101, as we believe you may hold vital information."

To report any information, please visit www.cheshire.police.uk/ tell-us, or call 101, quoting IML-1695711.

Two meetings for Heatley WI

Heatley WI were fortunate to have two meetings in November!

The first one was the AGM and a craft session where members made hearts to put on the Christmas tree which was being displayed in St Marys for their Christmas tree festival weekend.

Hearts were chosen as it was to represent "New Beginnings" and "I close my eyes to old ends and open my heart to new beginnings". This was the brain child of Lisa Bate a new committee member. It was an enjoyable evening.

The second meeting in November was a Christmas social. Members were entertained by a group of fellow members performing "Aladdin", with a quiz and a game of bingo.

The evening finished with mince pies and hot drinks and the singing of carols. Even though it was a cold night there was warmth and fun at the meeting.

In December they were going to Statham Lodge hotel for their annual Christmas lunch.

Next meeting will be on 11 January 2024 at Oughtrington Primary School, Howard Avenue 7 pm. Further information Tel. 75 2014



Divorce Column

By Peter Wilkinson

Divorce Lawyer at Chambers Fletcher Solicitors

Q. My husband and I have been married for 5 years but we lived together for 15 years before we married. He says we've not been married very long so I'm not entitled to very much from him, but this doesn't seem fair when we've spent such a long time together. Where do I stand on this?

A. Whenever the court has to determine a fair financial settlement on divorce there are a number of matters it must take into account and the length of marriage is one such matter. Although pre-marriage cohabitation is before marriage, where the cohabitation has seamlessly transitioned into marriage then typically the court will treat it as on a par with marriage and therefore count it towards the length of marriage. This means that the court would likely treat your case as on a par with a 20 year marriage, which is a long time, and depending on exactly what's in the 'pot' this could make a significant difference to what a fair financial settlement is.

Q. My partner and I are splitting up after being together for 19 years. We never married because he always said he didn't see the point; that we didn't need a piece of paper to prove that we loved each other. We own our house together but nothing else joint. He has a good job with a good income, some savings and quite valuable pension provision, whereas I earn only minimum wage, have no savings to speak of and no pension provision at all. My friends say that we've been together so long that we are common law husband and wife so it doesn't matter that we're not actually married but I've seen somewhere that this might not be correct?

A. Unfortunately your friends have got it wrong. There is no such thing as common law husband and wife; it's a myth. You're either married (or in a civil partnership) or you're not and when you're not and you split up then the law is different. You are entitled to a share of the value of the house because you own it jointly but because you're really just 2 adults living together in a relationship which doesn't actually have any legal status then you are not entitled to any of his savings or to any maintenance from him for yourself and you're not entitled to any share of his pension assets.

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The Warrington Way 40 – Way better than any other ultra

THE weather gods were kind to the competitors who took on this year's Warrington Way 40 Mile Ultra Marathon which started from Lymm before going around the villages, tracks and trails of Warrington.

The heavy rain which had lasted for much of the week meant that the notoriously muddy course managed to exceed expectations.

If you were out and about in Lymm enjoying the sunshine on Saturday 11th and wondered about the green balloons from the Dam to The Cross, they were to welcome home the 300 or so tired and mud splattered finishers who had taken part, either as 40 mile soloists or running as part of a pair or relay team of four.

The race, organised by Lymm Runners and now in its 9th year, has become a much-loved and very popular fixture in the National Ultra Running Calendar with entrants coming from all over the North of England.

Winners this year were Sean Fenwick from Winwick who finished in 5 hours 28 minutes, who commented: 'A good run. I set off fast and wasn't sure I'd be able to maintain it but managed to.'

The first woman home was Kelly Staunton of Wigan and District Harriers AC in 6 hours 7 minutes.

Kelly said 'It was a very good run, very muddy, very tough on the legs and super flat. I do a lot of hilly Ultras, but this was definitely a good challenge.'

In a most touching second place was Leo Loughran, a GB Ultra Ambassador and member of Salford Harriers AC. Leo ran in a specially designed t-shirt to dedicate this run to the memory of his cousin, who had passed away a few weeks before.

And finally Lymm Runners were delighted that their own Georgina Walker was the second woman to

finish.

They were all delighted by their prizes of an engraved tankard and Limited Edition bottle of Warrington Way Ale.

The event, however, would not be so successful or as well organised without the legions of Lymm Runner volunteers who gave up their Saturday to look after everyone's safety, both out at the four checkpoints on the course, with food and drink and also back at the Scout Hut HQ looking after the finishers and providing bowls of hearty home-made chilli.

Kieran Walshe, Co Race Director said: 'Thanks to everyone who volunteered, ran or cheered others on in the Warrington Way today. It is such a testament to who we are as a club – inclusive, welcoming, encouraging and helping people to achieve things they might not have thought they could do. We love the frontrunners for their ability but to be honest I love the grit, determination and willpower of some of the other runners more!'

A great event with wonderful club support.'

Finally, adding extra motivation out of the Course were the traditional Oompa Loompas from Warrington Tri Club who danced, posed for photos and raised over £250.00 on the day for the charity Move Against Cancer.

The eleventh event is now being planned for November 2024, so if you, or any friends and family would like to know more, follow Warrington Way Facebook page or Instagram – or check out the Lymm Runners website at www.lymmrunners.org.uk



Early start. Photo: Brian Tuohy



Winner Sean Fenwick and his Prize. Photo: Carl Smethurst

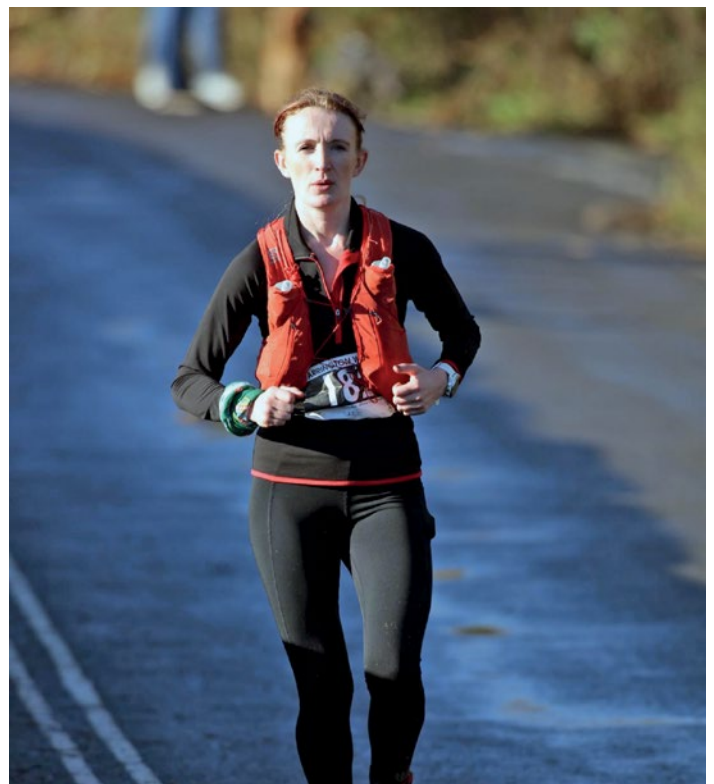


Volunteers ready at Checkpoint 1. Photo: Jason Rowbottom

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Leo Loughran in the shirt dedicated to his late cousin



First Female Kelly Staunton on her way to victory. Photo: Richard Wake

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You will be responsible for supervising the client, preparing meals and helping with some light cleaning. Additional responsibilities will include assisting with activities of daily living, domestic tasks, maximising the client's physical and psychological well-being, and maintaining safety at all times. You will also be asked to walk the family dog. There are 3 cats living at the house, therefore being animal friendly is a must.

We are looking for someone flexible and willing to deal with the day to day needs of the family. Hours will include:

Wednesday: 4pm-8pm - Friday: 10am-4pm

Alternate Saturdays: 12-4pm.

Totalling 12 hours a week per month

An NVQ Level 2 in Health and Social Care or equivalent is desirable.

Post is subject to an DBS Disclosure. Full training in the home will be provided. A full driving licence is essential.

Gender is considered to be a genuine occupational requirement in accordance with paragraph 1 of Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010 for a Female worker to work with this individual

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