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Magazine

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Editor
Gary Skentelbery

Production
James Bryan

Advertising
James Balme
Telephone
01925 631592

Editorial
01925 623633

Email
info@lymmlife.co.uk

Websites
www.lymmlife.co.uk
www.culchethlife.com
www.frodshamlife.co.uk
www.warrington-
worldwide.co.uk

Address
New Media Centre
Old Road Warrington
WA4 1AT

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Editor's Comment



IT was strange seeing the Lymm May Queen event take place in July for the first time, after previously taking place in May and prior to that June!

The move this year was to try and catch drier weather, following previous flooding problems on the May Queen Field.

While there was a threat of rain, it managed to remain warm and dry as villagers turned out in force.

The theme of Backing British Farming appeared to go down

well, and there were certainly plenty of scarecrows on show in the fancy dress.

The event took place just as we were going to press, so we will be displaying photographs from this year's event next month.

But in the meantime you can check out our coverage via our

website or facebook page.

Congratulations to all those involved in showcasing what looked a great event.

It was a great way to round off festival season, following another successful Lymm Festival and Lymm Transport Day.

Century celebrations for local care home resident

Celebrations were in full swing at Brookfield Care Home, as one of its residents reached her centenary in style.

Barbara Bartrum was joined by staff, relatives, friends and other residents as she received a card from the king in recognition of her landmark birthday.

A cheese and wine reception was held at the home and guests enjoyed a special birthday cake brought in by her family.

Barbara was a market researcher in her working life before retiring, coming to Brookfield Care Home later in life where she is enjoying a new chapter of her life.

The birthday girl said she has had a long and interesting life, where she had visited places all over the world.



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Largest truckwash in Europe plans major expansion

LYMM Truckwash – the largest truckwash in Europe – has announced plans to enhance its industry-leading facilities, following the approval of a planning application submitted last year.

Now in its 58th year and proudly family-owned – the truckwash has been granted permission to expand its facility by 50 percent with the addition of two more wash bays. This will increase its capacity to six high-efficiency commercial vehicle washes.

Work on the expansion is scheduled to begin early next year, with the new bays expected to be fully operational by the autumn. The development will also create several new jobs in the local area.

The investment highlights the company's long-term commitment

to the region and will support local suppliers and contractors throughout the build, delivering a further boost to both the regional and national economies.

This milestone will cement the business's position as the market leader in truck washing—not just in the UK, but across Europe. It will enhance service and efficiency for its growing customer base, reducing queuing times and improving support for the UK and European haulage sectors.

With an average of 60,000 trucks washed annually – and over 22,000 vehicles already cleaned by the end of April 2025 – the additional bays will enable Lymm Truckwash to streamline operations while maintaining its dedication to safety, quality, and service.

Managing director Laura Cardwell said: "We're absolutely thrilled to move forward with this development.

"Demand during busy periods has been so high that we needed to improve our service by reducing costly downtime for our customers and enhancing road safety by removing queues from the road. The two new washes and additional queuing space will allow us to do just that.

"This investment is about supporting our customers and drivers, improving road safety and wait times, and creating more local jobs. We're proud to be a family-run business that continues to invest in the future of haulage, as well as in both the local and national economies."

Lymm Festival hailed huge success

THE annual Lymm Festival has again been hailed a huge success by organisers.

The village was packed for the two biggest events - Foodfest on the opening night and Lymm Historic Transport Day.

The sunshine was in full force for the annual FoodFest event, which saw thousands pack the village for what is the traditional start to the Festival.

They enjoyed an evening of music and entertainment along with delicious food and drink from a wide range of local stallholders.

Transport Day saw the village once again full of people from all over the North West, along with hundreds of classic vehicles of all types.

The annual parade through the village, with steam engines, classic cars, bikes, motorbikes, buses and even a snowplough, was followed by a display of the vehicles - and lots of other entertainment - on the May Queen Field.

As usual the 11-day Festival featured a very busy programme - with many sold out events. Some of those were the ones featuring

headline names such as singer Barbara Dickson and comedian Justin Moorhouse, but there were over 50 other events, with something for all the family. The programme covered children's activities in the local library (themed around Teddy Bears Picnic), rock, jazz, folk, choral and classical music, art, photography and bonsai exhibitions, craft workshops, history walks, the regular "open gardens" event and even a wine-tasting quiz!

There was also a programme of events at Lymm Baptist Church to mark the 500th anniversary of the translation of the New Testament into English by William Tyndale. Organisers believe that these were the biggest celebrations of that anniversary in the country and it was a great honour that the organisers chose to run them as part of Lymm Festival.

The dates for next year's Lymm Festival (which will be the 28th!) have already been set, so anyone who plans ahead may want to mark their diaries for 18 to 28 June 2026!



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What's On

LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Next meeting Tuesday August 12th, 7:30pm
Lymm Parish Hall
Check www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk for details.

LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB

Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm
Details: 07708 172015

MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP

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

ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM

Meets at Warburtons Parish Rooms on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month at 8pm
Contact 01925 919053

LOVING HEARTS & HANDS

Knitting for charity at Lymm Methodist Church, 2nd and 4th Thursday each month.
1.30pm - 3pm. Details: 01925 753298

LUNCH AT THE BROW

Eagle Brow Methodist Church
2nd Friday in the month
Light lunches 12 noon till 1.30pm.
All proceeds to The Y Project Room at The Inn

GARDENING CLUB

Meet Third Wednesday of the month
Lymm Baptist Church, Higher Lane. 7.30pm
Visitors welcome. £2 includes tea and cake

LYMM FLORAL ART GROUP

Lymm Village Hall
Third Monday of the month (except August and December) at 7.30pm. Visitors most welcome. Contact: 07876 176501
lymmfloralart.org.uk

LYMM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday (ex Aug), 7.30pm
Spread Eagle pub, Eagle Brow.
See our rolling display in Lymm Library
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 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 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, 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

Head chef Pat retires after 11 years at care home

AFTER almost 11 years of continuous service at Brookfield Care Home, Lymm, much-loved head chef Pat Craig has decided to retire.

Staff and residents at the home sent Pat off in style with flowers and presents to thank her for all her hard work and dedication and a cheese and wine evening was held.

Everyone at the home has very fond memories of Pat and she will be sadly missed.

She said: "Brookfield is like a family to me and though I'm looking forward to retirement, I'm really going to miss everyone here so much!"

General manager Sarah Nolan said: "Pat is one of those people who was born to care for others –

she has such a huge heart and was greatly loved by the individuals living at Brookfield Care Home. She was an inspiration to her colleagues and we will all miss her. We wish her all the best!"

Brookfield Care Home is run by Barchester Healthcare, one of the UK's largest care providers, which is committed to delivering personalised care across its care homes and hospitals. Brookfield provides residential care for 27 residents from respite care to long term stays.





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Police clampdown on off-road anti-social bikers

POLICE carried out a clampdown on off-road anti-social bikers at Lymm and are keen to trace one particular bike causing issues locally.

In response to reports of off-road bikes riding dangerously and in an anti-social manner in Lymm, local officers working with the Police Bike Unit from HQ targeted the area, recently.

A number of bikes were stopped

and tickets were issued for tax and MOT offences.

A Cheshire Police spokesperson said: "We will continue to target and patrol this area, as we are aware of one particular bike causing issues locally, which we are

working to identify and will remove from the roads once located."

Meanwhile, if any residents would like your local police team to be aware of any issues of anti-social activity in your area, then please

visit the link below to complete the Residents Voice Survey.

www.cheshire.police.uk/police-forces/cheshire-constabulary/areas/cheshire/campaigns/warrington/residents-voice/



Last Orders wins Festival Scarecrow trail

WINNERS of the 2025 Lymm Festival Scarecrow Trail was The Wheatsheaf Inn Lymm, with their entry, "Last Orders".

Second place was 52, Lady

Acre Close and third place was Keate House Care Home.

Thanks to all those who entered and to everyone who took the time to vote!



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Best Lymm FoodFest ever?

GLORIOUS sunshine, thousands of visitors, great food and entertainment – organisers are asking if this year's Lymm FoodFest was the best ever?

Post-event organisers of the annual Lymm Festival posted: "Was tonight the best FoodFest we've ever had? We think it might have been! Such an amazing evening in the village – and weather to match!

Thanks to everyone who came along, and to all those wonderful vendors, singers, dancers, musicians, organisers and volunteers who helped to make it run smoothly!

First taking place in 1999, the festival is an opportunity for the residents of Lymm to celebrate their village and enjoy or participate in a variety of days out.

Every year, Lymm FoodFest kicks off the celebrations, and this year was no exception. Popular restaurants and businesses, ranging from Sahib to Sextons to The Wine Kitchen. But more than that, dotted around were stalls talking about more than just food.

For example, Lymm & District Local History Society, formed in 1967, was promoting itself and discussing the rich history of Lymm

to passersby. Going back to the dinosaurs, to the Romans, to more recent history, they host monthly meets to talk on Lymm's rich history.

Vantry, as part of the Lymm Sanctuary Hub, was another stall set up to educate people on the reality of food waste and how it is being combated. By selling discounted food that would have otherwise been thrown away, Vantry can prevent food waste and aid people through the current cost-of-living crisis. They also had a variety of recipes for people to take that gave a new use to what would be considered "food scraps".

As well as fantastic food, there was a variety of performances throughout the evening, all done by talented local groups or performers, including Lymm Adivas Dancing, Alley Cats Escape Choir and Marc Gollins.

Lymm FoodFest is such a fantastic way to see the range of dishes offered around Lymm, as well as a splendid way to spend an evening.

Pictures: John Hopkins additional reporting Will Nox



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Crowds flock to Lymm Historic

RAINY showers failed to deter thousands of people packing into Lymm village for the annual Historic Transport Day event.

Dozens of vintage vehicles, including steam-powered traction engines, paraded through the village followed by a wide variety of other classic cars and vehicles, which were later displayed on the May Queen Field.

A total of 25 car clubs took part, boasting a huge range of classic cars. Including the array of independent vehicles on show, an estimated 400 cars and motorbikes attended the event.

Sadly, a proposed BBMF flypast had to be cancelled for a second

year. In this instance, the Dakota was out of action for the month with a technical fault.

Organisers said: "A massive thank you to all of our volunteers and committee members. Transport Day is 100% volunteer-run, for the community, with all of our profits going to charity. It takes a huge amount of work throughout the year to bring the event together, but many hands make light work."

Pictures: John Hopkins



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Transport Day despite showers



Housebuilder lays foundations with Lymm RFC

Having recently opened two showhomes at Narrowboat View, on Rush Green Road in Lymm, Bellway has started to build relationships within the local community, initially supporting Lymm Rugby Club's Mini and Junior Presentation Day.

More than 400 young players from the club, from Under 5s to Under 16s, along with family members, enjoyed the Presentation Day to celebrate another successful season for Lymm RFC. The day perfectly illustrated the inclusive and fun ethos that results in so many local children playing rugby.

The club relies on the support of hundreds of volunteer parent-coaches to create a unique environment, that is summed up by the club's motto – 'Your Club, Our Community, Their Future'.

Bellway was one of six sponsors of the event. The housebuilder was keen to support the event as one of the recently opened showhomes at Narrowboat View features a rugby-themed bedroom.

Adam Breeze, Mini & Junior Coaching Coordinator at Lymm RFC, says: "Lymm RFC is a registered charity and as such, we rely on the help of the local community to ensure our events are a huge success. Bellway's support is very much appreciated."

"We are widely regarded as one of the best community rugby clubs in the country, and are committed to maintaining that, so events like the Mini and Junior Presentation Day are really important to all involved. It is a fun day for young players and their families, as well as the wider Lymm community."

Grace Yarlett, Sales Director at Bellway, adds: "Being involved in

the communities where we build is incredibly important and it's great to start building relationships in Lymm.

We're thrilled to have supported the Lymm Rugby Club's Mini and Junior Presentation Day."

Situated in the picturesque village of Lymm, surrounded by Cheshire countryside, Narrowboat View is proving to be a very popular

development. Comprising a mix of three and four bedroom homes, both semi-detached and detached, Bellway's homes are 5 star rated and energy efficient.

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Celebrating 20 Years of Natural Healing

This August marks a remarkable milestone for Cheshire Natural Health in Stretton, as the clinic celebrates its 20th anniversary.

What began as a small practice with just six therapists has flourished into a trusted community hub for wellness, now home to 22 professional natural therapists offering a comprehensive range of holistic treatments.

Over the past two decades, founder and Clinic Director Tracey Turton has led the clinic with passion and vision. "Over the past 20 years we have helped over 20,000 clients on their health journey," she reflects. This impressive achievement speaks volumes about the clinic's commitment to personalised, compassionate care.

Cheshire Natural Health offers an extensive range of therapies including Acupuncture, Reflexology, Osteopathy, Counselling, Nutrition, Herbal Medicine, Sports Injury Rehabilitation, and many more. Whether you're seeking support for chronic fatigue, anxiety, IBS, or going through life transitions such as menopause or bereavement, the clinic provides a safe and welcoming space for healing and wellbeing.

What truly sets Cheshire Natural Health apart is its holistic approach, treating the whole person rather than just symptoms. Clients consistently praise the clinic's warm, professional atmosphere, as reflected in its 250+ five-star

Google reviews. Here, people are not just patients—they're part of a community that values wellbeing and natural health.

As it celebrates this 20-year journey, Cheshire Natural Health continues to be a beacon of health and healing in Stretton and beyond. Its success is not just measured in years or numbers, but in the countless lives it has touched and transformed.

Congratulations to the entire team—here's to the next 20 years of health and wellbeing.



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Alice in Wonderland fun day at care home



STAFF, residents and relatives came together at Cheshire Grange Care Home in Lymm to enjoy a fun filled Alice In Wonderland Fun Day.

The Queen of Hearts, aka general manager Dawn Holsgrove-Smith, presided over the event keeping her court in order as The Mad Hatter, White Rabbit, The Cheshire Cat & Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum got everyone in the spirit playing games including croquet on the lawn.

The event was staged to welcome the cyclists taking part in the fundraising Tour De Barchester on the final day of their gruelling 225 mile ride supporting The Barchester Foundation.

The tour stopped to join the Tea Party, enjoying The Mad Hatter's refreshments!

Resident ambassador June Carr said, "I thoroughly enjoyed the day. It was fun dressing up with my son as Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum, it was lovely seeing everyone dressed up and exciting to meet the cyclists. Staff did a great job, not just on the day, but organising the event and getting everyone together."

The Queen of Hearts said: "My subjects at Cheshire Grange are dedicated to making sure that the home is full of joy and welcoming

to everyone, and this event, along with all their hard work, has definitely paid off. It was a resounding success!"

The tour also called in at Westvale House care home in Old Hall, Warrington, where staff and residents offered refreshments with a Hydration Station, and helped raise funds by holding a raffle and competition to win a hamper. You can still donate at <https://www.justgiving.com/page/tour-de-barchester-25>

Natalie Harris, deputy manager at Westvale House said: "We had a great turn out to welcome the amazing cyclists on the last leg of their tour. They all did an incredible job raising money for the Barchester Charitable Foundation. It was lovely to be able to give them some refreshments and a bit of a pit stop before they carried on their way."

Cheshire Grange and Westvale House are run by Barchester Healthcare, one of the UK's largest care providers, which is committed to delivering personalised care across its care homes and hospitals.

Chambers Fletcher Solicitors

Divorce Column

By Peter Wilkinson
Divorce Lawyer at Chambers Fletcher Solicitors

Understanding Pension Sharing on Divorce

When considering the division of assets on divorce, or on the dissolution of a civil partnership, it's important not to overlook the pensions. It's not uncommon for there to be a significant disparity in the value of each party's pensions and this disparity needs somehow to be addressed.

Pension Sharing is one of 3 ways the division of pensions can be addressed. The other 2 options are Pension Offsetting—where one party keeps more of another asset, such as the family home, in exchange for a reduced or no share of the other's pension—and Pension Attachment (or earmarking) which directs a share of one party's pension income to be paid to the other when it becomes payable.

The usually preferred and therefore most common way of dealing with pensions is by way of a Pension Sharing Order (PSO). Under a PSO a percentage of one party's pension is transferred to the other. This is a clean break option providing each party with their own separate pension provision. The percentage amount to be shared is either whatever is agreed in negotiations or if no agreement is reached then decided by the court. The PSO is then incorporated within the overall financial settlement.

The party with the benefit of the PSO (the receiving party) may be able to join the other party's pension scheme or the transferred funds may have to be placed into a pension scheme of their own. Once transferred they can manage and contribute to that pension asset independently. Some types of pension assets are more complex to divide than others and expert actuarial advice may be needed to assess their true value.

The first step in considering the division of pensions is to obtain a Cash Equivalent Value (CEV) for each of the pensions in existence as it is this value which is being shared.

It's important to take expert legal advice when considering pension sharing as getting it wrong can have long-term implications for retirement security.

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Peter Wilkinson



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Piranhas celebrate with championship success

LYMM Piranhas Junior Football Club – founded in 2002 – celebrated the end of its 23rd season with championship success.

The Under 14s Lightning team clinched the division one title in the Warrington Junior Football League – gaining promotion to the premier division.

In addition, the Under 15s Wanderers team won the division six title while the Under 15s Rangers finished runners up in division two.

The Under 13 Spartans, Under 16 Eagles and Under 17 Celtic all finished in the top three in their respective divisions.

It was the end of an era as, after 13 seasons, it was time to say goodbye to the Under 18 Rangers

who played their final match.

The club would like to say a huge well done to all the players and coaches who stayed with the team throughout the years.

Club chairman Anthony Burgess told them: “What a great achievement, the club and the community have been incredibly lucky to have had you all these years.”

Lymm Piranhas run 14 teams, playing in the Warrington Junior Football League, the Warrington Saturday Football League and a number of other leagues.



From electronics to excellent sleep: The M6 Beds journey

BEFORE M6 Beds, a family-run bed retailer, became known for mattresses and sleep expertise, it had humbler—but no less impactful—beginnings as an electronics shop in Holmes Chapel.

In the late 1990s, founder Jeff opened The Exchange, a small second-hand electronics shop tucked away in Holmes Chapel.

Having previously worked as an area manager for American electronics giant Tandy, covering the Manchester–Liverpool corridor, Jeff brought industry know-how and a passion for customer service to his new venture.

The Exchange quickly became more than just a shop—it was a staple of village life. Locals fondly remember browsing shelves stacked with televisions, game consoles, and cables, or trading in well-worn VHS players and PlayStation games. It was a familiar and welcoming place, with a reputation built on honesty, helpfulness, and trust.

While the tech trade eventually tightened and the market shifted, the values established during those early years laid the foundation for something new—something that would soon grow into one of Cheshire's most respected family-run businesses.

What began as a sideline—purchasing and reselling returned mattresses—soon took over. Jeff started delivering mattresses from the back of his car, and demand quickly grew. The tiny Holmes Chapel shop couldn't keep up, so the family relocated the business to a larger unit in Alsager, marking the start of what would become a steady transformation into a

dedicated bed retailer.

Over the years, that one small unit expanded to a showroom now over 8,000 sq ft. In 2023, the business opened its second location in Northwich, aiming to reach more communities across Cheshire. Based in Winnington the second shop celebrated their 1 year anniversary. The Northwich community has really supported the store and recently they took part in the local Pokémon hunt, where businesses displayed stuffed Pokémon toys for the community to find and photograph around town. Louis, Jeff's middle son and Director explained, “It's been fantastic to be involved in the local community—and we loved having Snorlax in our window, the perfect Pokémon for a bed shop!”

Despite growth, the family ethos has remained strong. “My dad's always been about people first,” says Louis, one of Jeff's sons now involved in running the company. “That's shaped the way we work—supportive, not pushy.”

The team at M6 Beds pride themselves on small details that make a difference—whether that's ensuring deliveries are respectful of customers' homes, or offering to remove and recycle old beds at no extra charge. Staff work across multiple roles: from showroom advice to deliveries, repairs, or even staircase inspections. The atmosphere is deliberately relaxed, with no hard sales tactics.

There's a conscious effort to reduce waste. Used mattresses are taken back to a local distribution centre and collected for recycling, and M6 Beds works with manufacturers aiming to reduce

glue use—making recycling easier and cleaner.

With a loyal customer base and a growing footprint, the business continues to adapt—balancing tradition with the needs of a

modern market.

But at its heart, M6 Beds remains what it always was: a local, family-run business that prioritises thoughtful service and community trust.



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Obituary

Elaine Ann Welch

In loving memory of Elaine, who passed away on Monday 9th June at Warrington General Hospital, after a short and sudden decline in health. Beloved wife of Richard, mother of Simon, Anthea, Rachael, Sarah and Michael and Nanny to 11 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

A lady always willing to give her time for others, well thought of by all who met her, Elaine will be sadly missed by many. Goodnight, God bless, 'til we meet again on heavens shore.

The funeral took place on 30th June at Lymm Baptist Church.



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