

# Lymm Life

**Magazine**

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ISSUE 315 | OCTOBER 2025  
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## Pub company celebrates!

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# Editor's Opinion



**ELSEWHERE** in this edition you will read a report on the dedicated 38 years continuous loyal service of Ian Bunday at the Rotary Club of Lymm.

I had the pleasure of getting to know Ian as a fellow member of the organisation many years ago - and would like to add to those congratulating him on his loyal service.

Ian epitomises everything about the Rotary movement's motto "service above self" and I am sure he will be missed by his former colleagues following his recent retirement.

He served as President three times during his 38 years, secretary for five years and was club Treasurer for an astonishing 13 years!

Ian will be a hard act to follow - if indeed he can be followed as many organisations like Rotary are finding

it harder to find community-minded volunteers who can dedicate the time to help others.

In our fast-changing world people are finding it tougher to find spare time to help with community organisations.

As a former member of Rotary, I was one of those who found it difficult to commit my time to voluntary activities while running my own business.

We often run appeals in Lymm Life on behalf of the many community-minded organisations in our village, for volunteers to come forward, whether it be Lymm Festival, Lymm Transport Day, or Lymm Dickensian Day.

It is proving increasingly difficult to stage these events due to the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

So, if you are reading this and think you have got what it takes to help replace the likes of Ian Bunday in our community, please reach out to Rotary - I am sure they will be able to keep you busy and meet a whole circle of new friends and like-minded people.

If you can help, please contact Rotarian Mike Hall on mikehall13@icloud.com

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is October 7**

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# Pub company celebrates long-serving general manager

**INDEPENDENT** brewer and pub company Hydes is celebrating a long serving and dedicated team member, Iain Craig, general manager of The Bull's Head in Lymm.

Iain, who has managed the popular village pub for the past four years, has been with the company for 23 years.

Earlier this summer, The Bull's Head underwent a £160,000

refurbishment as part of Hydes' multi-million pound investment programme across its estate. The transformation has revitalised the pub's interior, creating a contemporary yet traditional space



that reflects its community roots, with Iain at the helm to ensure guests enjoy the very best in hospitality.

Over his two decades with Hydes, Iain has worked at and managed a number of pubs across the North West, earning a reputation for his hands-on leadership, commitment to quality and deep understanding of the communities he serves. At The Bull's Head, he has introduced popular weekly events including live music, live sports screenings, team games and a Wednesday curry night in partnership with local favourite Naz's Spice Lounge.

He said: "Hydes has been a huge part of my life for more than 20 years, and I'm incredibly proud to still be doing what I love.

The Bull's Head is a fantastic pub with a brilliant community, and the investment Hydes has made means we can continue to offer the warm, friendly and memorable experience that our customers expect. I've seen the pub industry change a lot over the years, but the heart of it has always been people, and that's what keeps me passionate about this role."

Adam Mayers, managing director of Hydes, added: "Iain is an outstanding general manager. Twenty three years of service in this industry is an exceptional achievement and testament to his skill, professionalism and commitment to his customers. The Bull's Head is in great hands with Iain leading the team."

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# What's On

## LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Next meeting Tuesday October 14th, 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, 1st 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 Aug), 7.30pm  
Spread Eagle pub, Eagle Brow.  
See our rolling display in Lymm Library  
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.  
[cah@cstones.co.uk](mailto:cah@cstones.co.uk)

## PROBUS CLUB OF LYMM

A small, friendly social club for retired men and women.  
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, 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](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/lymm-thelwall/home)  
Contact: [enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@lymmthelwallu3a.org.uk)

# Residents journey back in time – thanks to a “Memory Box”

## RESIDENTS at Cheshire Grange Care Home in Lymm journeyed back in time to rediscover fashion from earlier times.

They made the journey thanks to a “Memory Box” from the Marks & Spencer Archive.

These Memory Boxes contain original clothing and accessories dating from the 1940s to the 1970s and can be used as memory and conversation prompts.

The residents enjoyed reminiscing about the clothing, remembering having worn similar styles.

Members of the activities team had great fun modelling some of the items.

Dawn Holsgrove-Smith, general manager of Cheshire Grange said “We aim to provide a wide range

of activities and entertainment as part of the lifestyle enrichment programme for residents, as well as being a marvellous reminiscence event this particular activity was lots of fun too”.

Many of the residents commented that the clothing wouldn't look out of place today but were very glad that under garments had moved forward in style and comfort!

Cheshire Grange is run by Barchester Healthcare, one of the UK's largest care providers residential care, nursing care and dementia care for 50 residents from respite care to long term stays.



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# Warburton Toll Bridge charges set to resume

**ALMOST a year after major upgrade works were announced, normal operations are due to resume on Warburton Toll Bridge, with tolls expected to come into effect again on Thursday, 25 September.**

Major improvements have been carried out over the last few months to modernise the bridge and ensure seamless connectivity between Trafford and Warrington.

The former 12p toll rate, which was one of the lowest in England and set by an Act of Parliament in 1863 has increased to £1, although a 50% concessions will be available in the local area.

Upgrades include full road resurfacing, steel reinforcement, deck waterproofing, vegetation clearance, signage and the installation of new technology to facilitate digital payments.

The bridge toll – which has also been suspended for all users since

works began in October last year – will now apply again.

The cost is £1 per passage for all applicable vehicles and will be capped at a maximum of £2 per day.

The new toll will cover future maintenance and repair work required to ensure the bridge remains safe and operational.

A discount scheme has also been introduced for local residents, with Risley (WA3 6), Lymm (WA13 9) and Partington (M31 4) postcodes entitled to a 50% discount.

The works took place following approval from the Department for Transport to upgrade the bridge and update the toll rate, the outcome of an inquiry held by the Department

into the matter in 2022.

A spokesperson for the Manchester Ship Canal Company said: "The works carried out on the Warburton Toll Bridge will significantly reduce congestion in the area, improve traffic flows and provide a more efficient crossing system."

"Road users in Warrington and Trafford have long demanded a

modern crossing that meets their needs, and that is what has been delivered. We remain grateful to residents and road users for their patience while we carried out this essential upgrade, which will vastly improve the service."

More information is available from [www.warburtontollbridge.co.uk](http://www.warburtontollbridge.co.uk) with an option to register for email updates.



## Summer fete brings community together

STAFF, residents, relatives and the local community came together at Brookfield Care Home in Lymm to enjoy a Summer Fete that was held in the home's grounds recently.

Brookfield Care Home hosted a variety of activities throughout the day, including a cake stall which had a chocolate fudge cake, carrot cake and triple Victoria sandwich cakes. We also had an Arts and crafts stall with hand made cards and novelty Christmas pens made by residents. A Tomdola stall with lots of lovely prizes which were enjoyed by everyone

who came to the event.


Staff at Brookfield care home made everyone feel welcome and were delighted to see different generations having fun together. Visitors enjoyed plenty of refreshments, such as Tea. Coffee and a selection of cold drinks, Cakes, biscuits and sandwiches made by their home chef Pat and the catering team, who were hard at work making sure that a great time was had by all – it really was a team effort!


Resident, Marjorie Sutton, said, "I thoroughly enjoyed it. I was

surrounded by lots of great people, and the refreshments kept flowing and the weather didn't stop us. Staff did a great job, not just on the day, but organising the event and getting everyone together."


Sarah Nolan, General Manager at the home, said: "Staff at Brookfield Care Home are dedicated to making sure that the home is a hub of the local community, and this event, along with all their hard work, has definitely paid off. It was a resounding success!"








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# More exam success for Lymm High A-Level students

## STUDENTS and staff have been celebrating another excellent set of A-Level results at Lymm High School.

School opened early so that the nervous wait could be over as soon as possible!

Mrs N Neesam, Head of Sixth Form, said: "I'm so pleased for the students and am feeling very proud of them. It's been my first year as Head of Sixth Form here and I've been so impressed by them ever since I arrived; as well as having great attitudes towards their studies, they are such a lovely group of people and I've really enjoyed working with them. They deserve all the success that has come their way this morning."

Mr Gwyn Williams, Headteacher, added: "Amidst all the smiles and celebrations on results day, it's easy to forget how much work sits behind the success students have had. Post-16 qualifications these days are really challenging and require a great deal of sustained hard work

and commitment, not to mention perseverance and determination. This cohort of students has certainly shown all of these qualities over the past couple of years and we are immensely proud of them. As ever, I am also grateful to work with such a talented and committed group of staff who have been on hand throughout to support these amazing young people."

Amongst the many highlights this year, Laam Chow secured an incredible four straight A\* grades, closely followed by Sofia Ottiwell, Jamie Lo, Novi Ma and Charlotte Masters, all of whom picked up three A\* grades or equivalent.

The following students also impressed with at least three A\* or A grades: Nora Abbassi-Stewart, Kailika Vyas, Ben Somerfield, Katie Allen, Hannah You, Lars Williams, Christopher Storey, Ryan Rushton,

Lucie Reynolds, Marth Parkinson, Beth Parkinson, Henry Millachip, Lara McDonald, Novi Ma, Samuel Jackson, Abigail Freaney, Gemma Dutton, Alex Currie, Reuben Compton and Imogen Aspinall.

There are so many other students who have also done exceptionally well, including some who have had to overcome some really tough personal challenges along the way. We are delighted for all of them.

Following their academic

success, it's no surprise that just about everyone has already secured a destination of their choice, including many students now heading off to top universities around the country and others who are beginning some really exciting apprenticeship options.

Whatever their next steps are individually, the team at Lymm High School wishes everyone the very best and congratulates them once again on doing so well.



## Lymm High School students celebrate fantastic GCSE results

STUDENTS at Lymm High School are celebrating some fantastic GCSE results after another really strong set of A Level results.

87% of Lymm High School students managed to secure grade 4 and above in both English and Maths, with 69% securing grade 5 or above in both key subjects. Fully 33% scored grade 7 or above in both. Overall, well over 40% of all GCSE grades came in at grade 7 or higher.

Lymm High School Headteacher, Mr Gwyn Williams, said: "We are delighted with our GCSE performance again this year. The Year 11 cohort has been wonderful throughout their time at the school and we are so pleased that these

results will set them up so well for whatever steps they are taking next. All the smiles we've seen this morning on the faces of the students are thoroughly well-deserved – as indeed are the smiles on the faces of all the parents and carers. Success is always a team effort and congratulations must go, not just to the students themselves, but all the family, friends and staff in school who have supported them over the past few years.

Although we've become quite used to seeing such strong results over the past few years, we try very hard to avoid any complacency. It's therefore really pleasing to see the success continuing and to know that these results will keep us right

at the top in terms of performance across the North West.

What is especially positive again is the consistency of the results. The headlines are certainly very impressive, but we are even more pleased with what sits behind them. All the bigger subjects have performed exceptionally well, as have students from all groups and different academic starting points. This kind of profile of results only comes about as a result of sustained hard work and I thank and congratulate everyone involved."

At the very top of the tree this year, Daisy Nurse scored a scarcely believable ten straight grade 9s. Daisy was closely followed by

James Leung, Ben Liput and Frankie Littlewood with nine grade 9s and the following students all picked up at least eight grade 8 or 9s: Louis Johnson, Alex Sparkman, Toby Williams, Rebecca Bering, Heidi Dodd, Alisha Pemberton, Dana Williams, Briac Coxon, Scarlett Kelly, Joshua Prescott, Freya Sanderson, Alex Ferrie, Nat Higginbottom, Lily Norton, Tilly Bettridge, Amelia Cullen, Alfie Gardiner-Johnson, Theo Gyepi-Garbrah, Felix Horner, Ava Brooks, Brody Matthews, Anja Shackcloth, Eliana Wan, Oliver Dulson and Joseph Woodward, Elizabeth Hankinson.







LYMM  
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## LYMM HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENING



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[www.lymmhigh6thform.org.uk](http://www.lymmhigh6thform.org.uk)

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# Local home care provider hosts dementia-friendly Big Green Picnic

**Right at Home Lymm and Warrington South, a local home care provider, brought together clients, carers, their families, and members of the wider community to celebrate a dementia-friendly Big Green Picnic in Lymm.**

The event took place at Oughtrington Community Centre and formed part of a nationwide initiative led by Dementia Adventure. It was designed to provide an inclusive, supportive outdoor environment for people living with dementia, their carers, and loved ones to connect, relax, and enjoy nature.

Right at Home invited their clients

and carers alongside families and community members to take part in the day's activities. The event featured a variety of dementia-friendly, nature-inspired experiences carefully selected to encourage creativity, wellbeing, and social connection. Activities included:

- Rock painting, with participants' creations later hidden around Lymm
- Bird feeder making to support local wildlife
- Nature palettes crafted from leaves, petals, and other natural materials
- Sensory trays and baskets designed to engage touch and smell
- A colouring station offering prizes for completed artwork
- Large lawn games for children, promoting active outdoor play

The activities supported the company's commitment to enhancing quality of life for clients living with dementia through meaningful engagement and community inclusion.

Right at Home Lymm and Warrington South and their carers provided sandwiches and cakes for attendees, helping to create a welcoming and enjoyable experience for everyone. Additionally, several local businesses supported the event by contributing generously, including donating prizes to help raise funds for Dementia Adventure. Special thanks go to:

- Oughtrington Community Centre, who kindly donated their beautiful outdoor space and community hall for the event
- The Card Gallery, Stockton Heath, for a River Walk jigsaw puzzle
- E. Smith & Co., Lymm, for a bird feeder and bird bath set
- Pure, Stockton Heath, for a £25 gift voucher
- Tesco, Grappenhall, for donating a bottle of Jameson's Irish Whiskey
- And to the many other kind supporters who chose to give anonymously

The event was further enriched by a live musical performance from

Tony Crotty, a classically trained guitarist with over 30 years of experience performing across the UK and Europe and featured on BBC Radio Merseyside. Tony generously volunteered his time to perform, creating a calming and uplifting atmosphere for all guests.

"This event was all about bringing people together and creating a space where everyone felt welcome – especially those living with dementia and their loved ones," said Clare Coke, Care Director at Right at Home Lymm and Warrington South. "We're proud to support our clients not just through our day-to-day care, but by offering moments like this where they can connect, relax, and simply enjoy life."

The Big Green Picnic in Lymm was one of many events held across the UK during National Picnic Week and

Care Home Open Week (16–22 June 2025). Due to business needs, the Right at Home Lymm and Warrington South office organised their event later in the year. All Right at Home offices nationwide partnered with Dementia Adventure to provide similar inclusive experiences designed to promote connection and wellbeing in local communities.

Gordon Malcolm, Dementia Training and Partnerships Lead at Dementia Adventure, said: "The Big Green Picnic is all about helping people reconnect with nature, their memories, and their communities. Time outdoors has proven benefits for mood, motivation and brain activity – especially for those living with dementia. These events are a chance to enjoy a stimulating, multi-sensory environment, without pressure – just a brilliant day out in good company."



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# YEAR 11 OPEN EVENINGS



Warrington Campus, 5.00pm - 8.00pm

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Wednesday  
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17<sup>th</sup> November

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# Your pet questions answered

By Dr Rachel Dean,  
Burford Lane Vets

## How can I keep my pet safe during Halloween festivities?

Halloween can be a fun time for the whole family, but it can also present certain risks for pets.

Chocolate and other sweets can be toxic to pets. Make sure all Halloween treats are stored securely and well out of reach of curious noses. If you suspect your pet has ingested something harmful, contact us immediately.

If you plan to dress your pet in a costume, ensure it fits well and doesn't restrict movement, breathing or vision. Some pets may find costumes stressful, so if your pet seems uncomfortable, it's best to skip this altogether.

With the doorbell ringing and strangers in costumes, Halloween can be overwhelming for pets. Create a safe, quiet space for your pet to retreat to if they become anxious. If your pet suffers severely with anxiety, please contact us to discuss how we can help manage this.

## What should I consider when walking my dog in the dark?

As the days get shorter in October, many pet owners find themselves walking their dogs in the dark.

Equip your dog with a reflective collar, lead or harness. You can also use LED collars or attach small lights to your dog's gear to make them more visible to motorists and other pedestrians.

Stick to familiar routes that are well lit to avoid any hazards that may be difficult to see in the dark, such as uneven pavements or debris.

October is a time when many wild animals, like deer, are more active, especially at dawn and dusk. Keep your dog on a lead to prevent them from chasing wildlife and getting lost or injured.



## How can I help my pet transition as temperatures drop?

As the weather cools, it's important to help your pet adjust to the changing temperatures.

Make sure your pet has a warm, comfortable place to sleep, especially if they usually sleep on the floor. Consider adding extra blankets or investing in a pet bed that retains heat.

If your pet's bed is near a door or window, check for draughts and consider moving their bed to a warmer, more insulated area of the house.

If you have outdoor pets like rabbits or guinea pigs, ensure their housing is well-insulated and protected from the wind and rain. Consider bringing them inside on particularly cold nights.

## Are there any specific health concerns for pets in October?

Just like humans, pets can suffer from seasonal allergies. If you notice your pet scratching more than usual or experiencing watery eyes or a runny nose, it might be due to autumn allergens.

Cooler weather can exacerbate joint pain, particularly in older pets or those with arthritis. If your pet seems stiff or has difficulty moving, speak to us about possible supplements or medications to ease their discomfort.

While ticks are often associated with the summer months, they can remain active well into autumn. Continue using tick prevention products and check your pet regularly, especially after walks in wooded or grassy areas.

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# Team effort restores vital bus links for local residents



## VITAL bus links for Lymm residents are soon to be restored thanks to a team effort following a public meeting in the village last February.

Local residents travelling between Warrington, Sale and Altrincham will soon see big improvements to their bus services, thanks to a team effort bringing together Warrington Borough Council, Transport for Greater Manchester, and local councillors.

Concerns had been raised when the Bee Network was introduced in Greater Manchester, as long-standing cross-boundary routes were affected. Lymm councillor Graham Gowland – also a director of Warrington's municipal bus company – called a public meeting where residents explained the impact these changes were having. Parish and ward councillors from the affected areas also attended, alongside officers from both councils.

As a result, services have now been improved, with better connections between Altrincham, Warrington and Sale, and the reinstatement of the full 280 route, which had previously been cut short because of a low bridge in Dunham.

Cllr Graham Gowland said: "This shows what can happen when we listen to local people and pull together to find solutions. It's been a real team effort involving residents, councillors and officers, and it's fantastic to see a practical outcome that makes a real difference to daily lives."

A follow-up meeting will be held

on Tuesday 30th September at Lymm Parish Hall, where residents can give further feedback and suggest improvements. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Full details can be found here:

- Date: Tuesday 30th September
- Time: 7:00 PM – 8:45 PM
- Location: Lymm Village Hall, Pepper Street, Lymm
- Accessible via: 5, 5b, 5C, and 280 bus services

Join us for a public meeting to share your experiences and feedback on the newly launched 5, 5A, 5B services between Warrington and Sale/Altrincham, and the 280 service from Lymm.

Representatives from Warrington Borough Council and TfGM Bee Network will be present to:

Provide updates on the services  
Hear your feedback after one month of operation

Discuss potential tweaks and improvements

- Please note: we're unable to extend the service to the airport.
- Open to all – no registration required
- We'll aim to broadcast the meeting via Facebook Live for those who can't attend in person.
- Please be aware: we may not be able to see or respond to questions from viewers online during the session.
- Your voice matters – come and be heard!





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# Truckwash plans further growth after significant increase in turnover

**LYMM Truckwash – Europe's largest truck washing site - has reported a significant increase in its turnover since 2020 and plans further growth following recently granted planning permission to expand its facility by two more bays in early 2026.**

Founded in 1967 by former F2 race car driver John Cardwell and his wife Anne, Lymm Truckwash cleans an average of 60,000 trucks annually and services trucks from across Europe.

The business is now operated by John's daughter, Laura Cardwell, who bought John and Anne out in 2018.

Laura relocated the business the following year to Poplar Park, opposite its previous leased site. And the move has enabled the business to increase its turnover by 60 per cent to £1.6m from 2020 - 2025. It has also serviced 38 per cent more trucks than it did in 2020 and is on course to surpass that figure in 2026 when it opens two new cleaning bays.

Lymm Truckwash has been supported throughout its growth journey by its long-standing advisers, JS, who have worked closely with the family business for nearly 30 years. The company's success has been guided by Diane Brennan, partner, and James Wood, accounts partner, whose strategic insight have played an instrumental role in driving Lymm Truckwash's continued progress.

Lymm Truckwash managing director Laura Cardwell said: "Through the fantastic work of everyone, we have achieved consistent year-on-year growth, and are now on course to be busier than

ever. Demand has been surging, and we are excited to build on our success and progress the opening of our larger site, especially with the help of James and the team at JS. The haulage industry is the lifeblood of the economy, and we are passionate about continuing to expand and play an even greater role in keeping trucks clean and safe throughout their journeys."

James Wood, accounts partner

at JS, said: "Laura and the team have been brilliant in making sure the business has been growing consistently, and having worked closer with her in recent times, our historic partnership has helped us keep the business healthy and successful. This latest growth milestone is a testament to that work and, with more bays announced for next year, it is only up from here for Lymm Truckwash."



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## Open Events

**Wed 8 Oct**  
**Thu 9 Oct**

**NEW DATE ADDED...**

**Due to demand we have added a fourth date**

**Thu 6 Nov**  
**Sat 22 Nov**

**For times - and to book your place - scan the QR code**





# Glorious sunshine greets Lymm Rushbearing



**THE medieval tradition of Lymm Rushbearing took place in glorious sunshine as a good number of people both walked in the procession carrying rushes and watched.**

The procession was led by both the May queen and the Rose queen with Esther McVey MP and Ben Selwood vice-chairman of the parish council. Both Lymm Morris and Bollin Morris provided colour as well music and dancing. After walking up the Dingle from the Lower Dam the procession arrived at St Mary's car park for morris dancing. After a short service at St Mary's there was further dancing.

Rushbearing has its origins in the Middle Ages when the earthen floor of the church was covered in rushes or reeds and the community

came together to replace them with fresh rushes or reeds. It developed into a village festival with a procession through the village carrying the rushes accompanied by music and dancing. It appears to have died out around the time of the first world war and was revived in 1972. Lymm is one of only a small number of places to maintain the tradition.

The event will take place next year on Sunday 9th August. Any queries are welcome to c.1203@hotmail.co.uk



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## Chambers Fletcher Solicitors Divorce Column

By Peter Wilkinson  
Divorce Lawyer at Chambers Fletcher Solicitors

### Divorce - Stepping into the Unknown

Divorce is often said to be one of the most significant and life-changing experiences a person can go through. Even when separation is the right choice it represents a step into the unknown, bringing with it uncertainty, emotional upheaval and practical challenges. For many the end of a marriage involves a turbulent surge of various feelings such as sadness, anger and anxiety making it difficult to think clearly or act rationally. It marks the close of a familiar chapter and the daunting beginning of a new, uncharted journey.

The impact of divorce should not be underestimated. The process can feel overwhelming, particularly when children and finances are involved as is most often the case. The shared habits, routines and identity established during marriage suddenly change, leaving individuals to have to adapt and redefine themselves and create a vision of how they want their future to look.

Practical considerations add further complexity. Decisions around property, financial settlements and co-parenting arrangements can be difficult to navigate, especially when emotions are running high. Legal advice and guidance is crucial in seeking to establish a fair and workable outcome and without such professional support it is easy to soon feel lost in the process.

At the same time divorce can present an opportunity for personal growth and renewal. It allows individuals to step away from relationships that are no longer healthy or fulfilling and to create space for new beginnings. It can be a chance to reconnect with and pursue personal goals, establish a more independent identity and foster self-discovery.

Ultimately, divorce is a step into the unknown. But it does not have to be a step into darkness. With the right support, advice and guidance there can be light at the end of the tunnel, representing the start of a new and brighter chapter where independence and self-worth take centre stage.

For expert advice and assistance regarding divorce and related matters please get in touch - we have a great deal of experience advising, guiding and supporting clients in all aspects of family law.

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# Double success for Lymm Manor Road Tennis Club

**LYMM Manor Road Tennis Club has had a double success in the WDLTA Summer leagues.**

The Ladies 1st Team are champions of division 4 and the Mixed 1st Team are champions of division 4.

The club has just celebrated their second year at their new surroundings which is based in the walled garden at Lymm Rugby Club.

In the last year they have

appointed a head coach, Oli Jones, and along with coach Mik Underwood, playing standards have greatly improved in both adults and juniors.

Anyone who would like to know more about the club should call in Saturday afternoons (1-4pm) or contact [lmrtc.comms@gmail.com](mailto:lmrtc.comms@gmail.com)



## Rotary serve up creams teas for 125 local residents

MEMBERS of The Rotary Club of Lymm were delighted to deliver 125 teas to local residents thanks to Primrose Hill Nursery who put together a delicious afternoon tea in a box for each recipient.

It was lovely to see so many happy, smiling faces as each guest received their afternoon treat.

Along with some of their Honorary Members and recently retired club stalwart Ian Bunday, the team of club members met at Warburton Parish Rooms to organise sending out the teas.

The club was very pleased Ian was able to join them for the event. He joined the club back in 1987 but has very recently retired after 38 years of continuous service.

During that time Ian has served as President three times, undertaken

the role of Secretary for 5 years and also the position of Club Treasurer for an amazing 13 years.

A club spokesperson said: "We wish Ian all the very best and thank him for his tremendous service and loyalty to Lymm Rotary Club and the community. Our club will certainly miss him."

Members also recently enjoyed a BBQ and evening of entertainment at Buile Hill and also went along to a wonderful concert given by the Second Rossendale Scout Band in Stockton Heath. Other Socials are in the process of being planned, as well as a fun quiz night this Autumn.

If you'd like to find out more about Lymm Rotary please do contact Mike Hall on [mikehall13@icloud.com](mailto:mikehall13@icloud.com)



## Enjoyable year so far for Lymm Twin Town Society members

MEMBERS of Lymm Twin Town Society have all enjoyed the society's events in 2025 so far.

Members had a very interesting talk by Philip Morey in February – "Manchester vu par les voyageurs francais" – about past French visitors recorded visits to and impressions of Manchester.

In April they had a gourmet experience – a "Cordon Bleu" evening with food prepared by the society chair and treasurer. No food poisoning and a fun evening! They had their Boules afternoon in May – playing happily at a consistent standard compared with previous years (ie poor all round!). June had the highlight of the year with the visit of their friends from Meung sur Loire. Both they and members had a really enjoyable and interesting long weekend – reception drinks at Irlam Station with its heritage railway pictures and artefacts; canal boat trip with lunch on the Manchester Ship Canal from Castlefield to Salford Quays as well as most members including trips to the Science and Industry Museum or the Lowry 360 exhibition; and the dinner and entertainment at Statham Lodge on Sunday evening. July was hectic with the annual barbecue and fund-raising High Legh teas on consecutive weekends.

They have more events arranged for later this year.

Sunday evening 5 October film evening (Les Visiteurs, in French with English subtitles).

Friday evening 21 November

Wine Tasting – including Nouveau Beaujolais but with several other French wines.

Friday evening 9 December – AGM with a second half of light-hearted entertainment.

2026 exchange 28 May -1 June.

2027 exchange 17 June – 21 June

The twinning with Meung sur Loire (an attractive town on the Loire river, approximately half-way between Orleans and Blois) started in 1968 and has had exchanges every year apart from the covid

years.

Many members also visit or have activities with friends from Meung on an individual basis. Anyone interested is very welcome to contact the group via [lymmtowntown@gmail.com](mailto:lymmtowntown@gmail.com). A bientot!





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## Obituary

## Tony Elbra

The funeral has taken place of Tony Elbra, who passed away aged 79 at Statham Manor Care Home on August 20.

Tony was a well-loved Lymm resident, having lived in the village for over 50 years. Along with his late wife, Kath Elbra, he raised three children and was very active in local groups, including Probud and U3A.

He was a voracious quizzer, a member of the Warrington Quiz League, and he was also a former University Challenge Champion. Beyond his intellect, Tony was known for his great sense of

humour.

He was a good friend and a great dad, and he will be deeply missed by his children and grandchildren.



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