

# Lymm Life

## Magazine

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## Ladies' Day!

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# Editor's Opinion



**I'D like to take this opportunity to wish Parish Priest Father Michael a long and happy retirement - and he will certainly be a hard act to follow.**

Father Michael was already in post when we launched Lymm Life magazine, so it comes as no surprise that it feels like he has been around for a long time!

He was always a great supporter of Lymm Life (we even featured in sermons) - and he also had the honour of featuring on the front cover at least once!

Father Michael was always at the centre of many community events, and no one can question his dedication to his parish and the wider community.

I am sure he will be missed by his many friends in the local community.

Even the COVID-19 pandemic didn't stop his efforts to help build a new church hall which now stands

complete at the corner of Stage Lane and will be a tremendous community asset.

I'm not sure what his retirement plans are, but after serving the community for so long I wouldn't be surprised if I bumped into him again at some community event. After all, he does love a good sing along!

Whatever he chooses to do I hope he has a long and happy retirement - as it is fully deserved after being a community champion for so long.

Meanwhile, as we approach Remembrance Day, I would like to also wish Linda Monk and other members of her organising team a long and happy retirement after a decade of helping run the local Poppy Appeal. I would also like to

wish Jim Meldrum all the best in his new role of organising the annual appeal.

This is a very important time of the year helping support our veterans - please given generously if you can.

**Deadline for December issue is November 4**

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# High school launches 'Hall Together' now

**Lymm High School is 'very excited' to introduce its Hall Together raffle to the Lymm community.**

Launched last month to parents, carers and staff, the school now hopes that the online raffle will be shared far and wide to further raise funds for its Hall transformation project, termed 'Hall Together'.

With the increase in building costs, and the decrease in Government capital funding, Lymm High made the difficult decision to cancel the proposed Performing Arts Centre it had hoped to build on site. Plan B is a standalone drama studio and the refurbishment of its current Main Hall.

The drama studio was completed over the summer holidays. The 100m2 performance space is a

new building based at the rear of the existing Performing Arts block on the school site.

The modernisation of the Hall will occur over a year in phases, dependent largely upon how much is generated from fundraising efforts and school resources.

Stage 1 of the transformation has included a redesigned stage area, floor renovation, painting, new curtains, updated artwork and a new trophy cabinet. As can be seen in the photo, the Main Hall now has a much more modern and fresher look to it.

Stage 2 of the Hall Together project will hopefully encompass

replacement seating, sound access improvements, and professional theatre lights and a rig.

"Our Hall Together raffle is a fun and easy way to raise funds towards upgrading the theatre lights and sound system of our Main Hall", explains the raffle organiser, Simon Marsden, Lymm High's Chief Operating Officer. "Last term, in collaboration with our PTA, we raised more than £60K towards the project; and over the summer holidays, we progressed with a range of improvements that are now being enjoyed by the whole school."

Online raffle tickets can be bought for £2 each, and people can buy as many as they like. Anyone over the age of 18 can take part, and they don't need to be linked to Lymm High School, or indeed Lymm.

The raffle will close at noon

on Friday 12th December 2025. Winners will be announced the same day. The prizes include:

- 1st Prize – £1000
- 2nd Prize – £500
- 3rd Prize – Hot air balloon ride for 2 people
- 4th Prize – DeLonghi bean-to-cup coffee machine
- 5th prize – Andrew Collier lifestyle photography portrait session

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# What's On

## LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Next meeting Tuesday November 11th, 7:30pm  
Lymm Parish Hall  
Check [www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.lymmparishcouncil.gov.uk) for details.

## LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB

Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm  
Details: 07708 172015

## MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP

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

## ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM

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

## LOVING HEARTS & HANDS

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

## LUNCH AT THE BROW

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

## GARDENING CLUB

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

## LYMM FLORAL ART GROUP

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

## LYMM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday (ex 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)

# Extra date for Lymm Panto due to unprecedented demand

**DUE to unprecedented demand, Lymm Rugby Club has announced an additional show performance of 'Jack and His Giant Beanstalk' on Friday 12 December, curtain up at 8pm.**

"We are delighted with ticket sales for the world famous Lymm Panto and demand is so high, we have decided to put on a 9th performance," commented show producer Simon Plumb.

The show will run over two weekends, commencing on Thursday 27 November and will run for 9 performances in total – the first time this has ever happened.

"Rehearsals are going really well and it promises to be yet another showstopper!" concluded Plumb.

If you would like to book tickets for the Lymm Panto at Lymm Rugby Club, at £26.35, including booking fee, please visit: [www.lymmrugby.co.uk](http://www.lymmrugby.co.uk)

co.uk for further details.

This adult Panto is entitled 'Jack and his Giant Beanstalk' and is suitable for an audience of 18+.





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Everyone at the farm would like to congratulate Gary and the team on 25 years of Lymm Life!





# Bridgewater Players present Ladies' Day

**WITH strong Lymm connections tickets are now available for the Bridgewater Players performance of "Ladies' Day" written by Amanda Whittington and directed by the society's chairperson, Kath Buckley.**

The Bridgewater Players Drama Society has been performing plays since 1952, initially formed by six people in 1951 in Lymm. This play will be the Society's 199th performance and they will be celebrating their 200th Anniversary Show in February. The Players moved to Thelwall Parish Hall and have since gone from strength to strength. As theatre going has changed, the society is now bringing in many changes.

"Our heritage is comedies and some classic 'showstoppers' and we are staying with those, but we

are wanting a more interactive element with our audiences, so that they feel they are part of the performance the minute they come through our doors", explains Kath. "We are encouraging the audience to dress for Royal Ascot, non-obligatory of course, with a prize for the best dressed! We are also introducing alcohol for the first time, so the audience can enjoy a pre-show drink, with complimentary tea and coffee during the break. We are introducing collection boxes for our chosen charity, which for this performance is 'Gambling

Harms' supported by 'The Beacon Counselling Trust'. We thank all our existing audiences and welcome new people to come and have a fun night out!"

Ladies' Day is an exuberant comedy about four women from the local fish packing factory on a day trip to the races. Work, love and life are just one long, hard slog for the fish-filleting foursome Pearl, Jan, Shelley and Linda. But their fortunes are set to change when devout Toni Christie fan, Linda finds tickets to

Ladies' Day at Royal Ascot the year it relocated to York.

Show dates are Thursday 13th to Saturday 15th November. Tickets for the show are now available and can be purchased online at [www.bwplayers.co.uk](http://www.bwplayers.co.uk) or using this QR code. Price is £9 plus booking fee online, and £10 on the door. Pre-booking is recommended. Performed at Thelwall Parish Hall, Bell Lane, WA4 2SX. Free parking is available.



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# Lymm foster carer scoops national award

**A LYMM woman has scooped a national award, recognising her inspirational work as a foster carer over the last 14 years, utterly transforming the lives of foster children.**

Janet Linley is a foster carer with Foster with CANW, a not-for-profit independent fostering agency, part of the charity Child Action Northwest (CANW).

She was awarded the prestigious Unsung Hero of the Year Award at the Third Sector Awards, after being nominated by colleagues.

Working 24/7, Janet has transformed the lives of her foster children. These include Katlyn, who first came to live with her, aged nine, with hugely complex medical and social needs, alongside very limited communication skills. Janet learned a vast array of medical skills to enable her to provide all the care Katlyn has required. She advocated for Katlyn when it came to providing support outside the home, and making sure her needs are met at all times. This included sitting with her in school for months until an appropriate Teaching Assistant could be provided, taking and collecting her from college

when suitable transport could not be provided, and much more.

Janet has supported Katlyn through big life changes from childhood to adult life. Katlyn's health and social development improved in leaps and bounds, thanks to Janet's care. She went from being bed-bound to now walking. She has learned Makaton in order to communicate. Her tracheotomy has been removed and she can breathe independently. With support from Janet, she joined Brownies and Guides and now, as a young adult, enjoys social activities with her peers.

Ian Charnock, Fostering service lead at Foster with CANW, who nominated Janet for the award, said "Janet's dedication and support she provides to her foster children is absolutely extraordinary, particularly in the light of personal losses she has suffered. She is a selfless caregiver, who is passionate about

supporting other foster carers. She takes additional time to provide guidance and support to new foster carers and attends support events to help provide other carers with a good support network.

"Janet is an absolute inspiration to everyone involved in fostering children. We offer her our heartfelt thanks for everything she does and our warmest congratulations on

receiving this wonderful award."

Being a foster carer changes lives. Being a foster carer with CANW is a profession like no other. To find out more about becoming part of Child Action Northwest's fostering family, Foster with CANW, a not-for-profit independent fostering agency, please go to <https://canw.org.uk/what-we-do/fostering/> or email [fostering@canw.org.uk](mailto:fostering@canw.org.uk)



## Local author releases much-anticipated debut novel

THE world of contemporary romance has welcomed local author Clare de Larz following the release of her anticipated debut novel, 'Love Me Like She Loves You,' available as a Kindle edition and Paperback.

Set against the lush backdrop of the picturesque village of Lymm, de Larz's novel offers more than meets the eye.

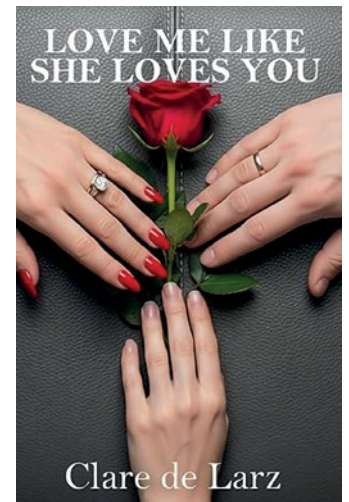
Readers will be swept into the glamorous and hidden world of Baroness Claudia, whose

respected standing in local society belies passionate secrets and forbidden desires that threaten to upend everything she has built.

Inspired by the genteel surroundings and ever watchful pampas grass swaying in anticipation, 'Love Me Like She Loves You' is a tale of love, longing, and scandal that sparkles with Cheshire wit.

With a dazzling mix of drama, sensuality, and sapphic erotica, Clare de Larz brings readers behind closed doors to witness a story of intrigue, privilege, and risky romance.

This is a book for those who believe that real life is never as simple as it seems, and that true love is often found where you least expect it.



## Hunt for vandals who damaged public toilets at Lymm Dam again

AN appeal has been launched to try and help catch vandals who have damaged the public toilets again at Lymm dam during an attempted break-in.

Lymm Parish Council is appealing for help to trace those responsible after the latest incident resulted in expensive lock replacements.

A parish council spokesperson said: "We suspect the incident

happened on Tuesday, 23rd September, between the hours of 6 pm and 8 am the following morning.

"If you think you may have witnessed anything suspicious, please can you report it to the police via 101."

Information can also be given online via the Cheshire police website.





# Packed public meeting to discuss better bus services for Lymm

**RESIDENTS** packed into a public meeting at Lymm Village Hall to discuss ways in which public transport bus services could be improved.

This was a follow-up meeting held earlier in the year and was organised by local Liberal Democrat Councillors Graham Gowland and Ian Marks and attended by transport officers from Warrington Council and Transport for Greater Manchester.

Cllr Gowland said: "The Hall was packed and we were very pleased with the questions raised and the suggestions put forward by bus users. The first part of the meeting was to do with connectivity between Lymm and South Warrington and Altrincham and Manchester. An improved service was introduced on 1 September. Changes were made to the hourly service from Warrington to Sale, which is now renumbered as Service 5A and runs from Warrington via Latchford to Sale Metrolink. It replaces the old Service 5 through Partington and provides connections to Bee Network buses and trams. The new Service 5 reintroduces an hourly service via Broomedge and Little Bollington to Altrincham, offering a faster direct service from Warrington, Stockton Heath and Lymm. A new hourly service, the 280, run by the Bee Network, will run between Altrincham and Lymm via Dunham and Warburton.

"Residents raised several issues about these changes. There was concern about the unreliability of some buses which did not inspire confidence with users. Updated timetables were needed and timings should be tweaked because sometimes buses arrived too close to each other or just miss connections. A Sunday service would be welcome to make it easier for families to visit places like Dunham Massey. If the 280 service could be extended to cover the centre of Lymm, this would be very helpful. The officers said more digital displays were planned and that they would go away and see what other improvements could be made."

Cllr Ian Marks added: "The original bus service through the Statham part of Lymm was withdrawn in 2022 when buses were no longer allowed to go under the Barsbank Aqueduct. After a 600-name petition was submitted to the Council, a revamped 47 service was introduced in 2023. Sadly, it was withdrawn this September along with several other services in Warrington that were not paying their way due to low patronage. Getting to bus stops on the A56 is too dangerous, if not impossible,

for disabled and older people because of the narrow pavement under the Barsbank Aqueduct. The lack of transport to Lymm village centre was always a problem with the 47 service.

"I am pleased that the officers from Warrington agree that alternative options are needed for Statham residents and also for places like Weaste Lane in Thelwall. One immediate fix is to revise the times of the Lymm Shopper service and hopefully expand it from three days a week to five. This will provide a figure of eight service around the

village, taking in the centre, and will be named the 'Lymm Loop'. Officers are talking to Warrington Community Transport about using the Dial-a-ride service for journeys. This is a great idea but it is essential we promote this service by getting information about what is on offer to residents. Thirdly, there are successful schemes in other parts of the country based on car pools and car sharing. We can look at these schemes, but we do need people to come forward to help with coordination, so I welcome any offers."



## SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING



**Thursday 13th  
November 2025**  
5.00pm to 8.00pm

[www.lymmhigh6thform.org.uk](http://www.lymmhigh6thform.org.uk)  
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# Popular Parish Priest Father Michael retires

**After many years' faithful and devoted service in the parish of Oughtrington, Lymm, Reverend Canon Michael Burgess, Fr Michael, retired at the end of September.**

Ordained in 1973, he served as a curate in Beamish, then as a parish priest in two parishes in Cornwall. Between 1980-86 he was director of the South West Ministry Training Course. He became sub-warden at St Deiniol's Library in 1986 and was appointed to St Peter's Oughtrington in 1991. Two years later, a joint benefice with Warburton was formed.

For over 30 years, Fr Michael served as a trustee governor at Lymm high School and was chair

of governors at Oughtrington Primary for many years. He has been assistant chaplain at Chester University and a member of Warrington SACRE. He was also chaplain to the local ATC and from 2002 was diocesan chaplain to the Mothers' Union. In 2010, Fr Michael was made an Honorary Canon of Chester Cathedral.

Fr Michael soon became active in community life, taking part in Dickensian Day, May Queen and "Carols at the Cross" where he led the singing for many years. He was involved with the Lymm Festival from its inception, serving on the committee, giving talks, organising and taking part in concerts and poetry readings. He has steadfastly supported the ecumenical work of Churches Together in Lymm.

Many will remember Fr Michael as an accomplished musician and organist who loves singing!

In recent years, St Peter's church hall project was interrupted by the pandemic and took far longer than anticipated, needing significant fund raising efforts owing to rising costs after Covid. The success of the hall project owes a great deal to Fr Michael's hard work in supporting the entire process. The new church hall stands complete at the corner of Stage Lane and will be a tremendous asset to the local community.

A spokesperson for St Peter's Church said: "Fr Michael is a wonderful priest, always willing to share his many talents for the greater good and work selflessly with great patience to ensure everyone is made welcome. He has conducted hundreds of weddings, baptisms and funerals, touching

the lives of so many people in and around Lymm with his outstanding pastoral care. His kindness, compassion and great sense of fun will be sorely missed by all who knew him and we wish him many happy years of retirement."

His last service at St Peter's was on Sunday, September 28th and was followed by a "Bring and Share" finger buffet.



## New team taking over Poppy Appeal

A NEW team is taking over the organising of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in Lymm this year – led by local resident Jim Meldrum.

They are taking over from the team led by Linda Monk which is taking a well-earned rest after 10 years of stalwart service – including raising more than £20,000 last year alone.

Boxes of poppies will soon be back in village shops, bars, hotels, restaurants, churches, schools and supermarkets.

Thanks to the parish council, big red poppies will also be back on local lamp posts.

Mr Meldrum said: "Remembrance time is a very special time of year. It's a time when we unite across faiths, cultures and background to remember those who have served and are serving their country in the armed forces and those who sadly never returned home to their families and friends.

"We pray for a peaceful world, but there are still so many conflicts raging around the world.

"In 2025, we're asking you once again to wear your Poppy with pride. The Poppy remains the symbol of Remembrance. All those years ago in Flanders field the red Poppies grew, a reminder of the horrors that had gone before but also a symbol of Remembrance, Respect and Hope for

the future."

Last year Royal British Legion welfare teams supported 40,000 cases in a variety of ways. Twenty five per cent of grants went towards providing essentials such as food and clothing to ensure the Armed Forces community never had to go hungry or cold. The Admiral Nurses assisted over 1,000 new families living with dementia. More than 10 per cent of grants went into improving independence through mobility equipment and adaptations which helped to support disabled veterans and family members to live their lives to the fullest. The RBL Care Homes provided support for more than 800 people last year, either as residents or attending for day care. In addition, the RBL supported the work

of several rehabilitation centres as well as The Battle Back Centre where £3000 could provide a veteran with the support they need to regain their independence via a multi-activity recovery course. Those funds raised by the Poppy Appeal also enabled our brave men and women to train and take part in the Invictus Games. The range of support that the Poppy Appeal finances is great and far reaching.

Mr Meldrum urges people to give generously when they see Poppy boxes are the community.

To sponsor a lamp post poppy email [jwmeldrum@btinternet.com](mailto:jwmeldrum@btinternet.com)

For more information about the work of the British Legion visit [www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk)



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# Private GP practice “mygp” celebrates expansion

**myGP Clinic is proud to announce the opening of its brand-new private GP clinic in Antrobus, near Warrington, marking the next phase in the organisation's mission to make personal, accessible healthcare available to more people across Cheshire.**

The new facility has been carefully designed around comfort, care, and privacy, featuring welcoming spaces and advanced consultation rooms to provide patients with a calm and modern environment.

This expansion, following on from the success of the practice at nearby Stretton, adds eight new consulting and treatment suites, significantly increasing capacity to meet the growing demand for high-quality, personalised primary care services.

“Our valued members are part of the reason this expansion has

been possible,” said Dr Stephen Coogan, founder and Medical Director of myGP Clinic. “Every detail of the Antrobus site reflects our belief in providing patients with time, attention, and a truly personal healthcare experience.”

In keeping with the clinic's tradition, each consultation room is named after influential figures in medicine – a gesture that celebrates learning from the past to shape the future of healthcare.

The Antrobus clinic features:

- The Anderson Suite – honouring Dr Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, the first woman to qualify in

medicine in England.

- The Hutchinson Suite – named for Mr Geoff Hutchinson, a distinguished Consultant General Surgeon at Spire Cheshire and mentor to Dr Coogan in private practice.

myGP Clinic is also pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Rebecca Russell as Clinical Director for Antrobus, where she will lead the team and continue the organisation's commitment to outstanding, evidence-based care.



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# Plan for warehouses in green belt on former nursery site rejected by planners

**PLANS to build four new warehouses on a former nursery site on green belt at Lymm have been thrown out by town planners.**

The proposal involved the erection of four new warehouses/storage buildings at the former Broomeedge Nurseries Site, on Burford Lane, Broomeedge, Lymm.

The application relates to an irregularly shaped site comprising approximately 24116m<sup>2</sup> (2.41ha) of land situated in the Green Belt

to the eastern side of Burford Lane in the Broomeedge area of Warrington. The site lies outside the Green Belt settlement village of Broomeedge and was formerly in use as a commercial horticultural Nursery and contains a number of greenhouses which have fallen into disrepair, a number

of workshops plus a steel-framed part-brick building located towards the centre of the site plus areas of hardstanding.

The north part of the site appears to be degraded and is overgrown with rubble mounds towards the northern boundary.

It was proposed to replace three existing Greenhouses with single-storey buildings. Each building would be circa 50m<sup>2</sup> and would have a pitched roof to a maximum height of 5m. The applicant proposes to rent commercial storage space in each of the buildings.

Planners say that once the current building is demolished, which needs to happen to make way for the proposed buildings, there would be no building and therefore the proposed buildings could not be said to be within the curtilage of a building; Furthermore, there is no permission in place to demolish the existing buildings and it has not been demonstrated that such permission is not required.

In support of the application, it was stated that Broomeedge Nurseries was established around 1936/37 for the purpose of growing plants in the glasshouses erected on the site. The site has not been used as a horticultural site for the 20 years following the closing and ceasing of trade of the nursery in early 2003. It was

instead used for storage by renting out the greenhouses, shed and land out for landscaping firms, car storage, gating along with a number of other companies over this time. The yard is currently being used by a scaffold business and the steel and brick buildings by third parties. The previous owner of the site at various stages rented out the site and buildings to a number of different businesses/parties following ceasing of the garden centre on site.

In April 2025, a certificate of existing lawful development was granted which confirmed that the site in question had been in continuous use for B2 and B8 purposes for in excess of 10 years.

But Warrington Borough Council planners rejected the application under delegated powers on the basis of the information submitted, the development described would not meet the criteria, including conditions, for permitted development as set out in Schedule 2, Part 7, Class H of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015(as amended). Furthermore, the application does not demonstrate that planning permission is not required for the demolition of the existing buildings. As such the proposed development would not be lawful.



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# M6 Bed Warehouse wins prestigious award



Louis Mitchell, M6 Bed Warehouse, Vernon Kay BBC, Oliver Mitchell M6 Bed Warehouse, Joe Mitchell M6 Bed Warehouse and Tean Dallaway NBF President.

## THE family-run M6 Bed Warehouse is proud to announce that it has been named the Small NBF Retail Champion 2025.

The award is prestigious recognition from the National Bed Federation (NBF) that celebrates retailers who go the extra mile to deliver outstanding customer experience, staff development, and excellence in a highly competitive marketplace.

This award is a huge milestone for the family-run business, which has grown steadily since opening its second store just two years ago. The accolade reflects the company's strong commitment combining quality products, expert knowledge, and first-class service to deliver genuine value for every customer.

For The M6 Bed Warehouse, the win is about more than recognition within the bedding industry—it's about reinforcing what matters most: supporting local communities, championing trusted NBF brands, and helping customers make confident choices when investing in a good night's sleep.

Louis Mitchell, Director at The M6 Bed Warehouse, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have been recognised as the Small NBF Retail Champion 2025. This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team, and the loyalty of our customers. As a local family business, our values of

quality and service have always been at the heart of what we do, and this recognition reinforces our commitment to those principles. Congratulations also to all of this year's finalists and winners—it's fantastic to see excellence across our industry celebrated."

The award also shines a spotlight on the company's ongoing efforts to provide added value, such as free delivery, free mattress recycling, and expert aftercare advice. By combining trusted NBF-approved products with a personalised, service-driven approach, The M6 Bed Warehouse continues to set itself apart in a competitive market.

Customers can expect to see celebrations in-store and online, including special product launches and promotions developed in partnership with leading NBF suppliers. These initiatives will ensure that the recognition of this award translates directly into added value and choice for customers.

Winning the Small NBF Retail Champion Award not only cements The M6 Bed Warehouse's reputation as a trusted local retailer but also signals its continued growth, built on the same pillars that have defined its journey so far: quality, integrity, and exceptional service.

## Chambers Fletcher Solicitors Divorce Column

By Peter Wilkinson  
Divorce Lawyer at Chambers Fletcher Solicitors

### Moving in together – things to think about

Taking the step to move in together is an exciting milestone for any couple. It often feels like the natural next step in a settled and stable relationship but behind the excitement there are some practical and legal considerations that should not be overlooked.

Perhaps one of the first conversations to be had before deciding to live together should be about expectations. Living together inevitably changes the relationship and the rhythm of daily life so it's important to talk about expectations – from household chores to the payment of bills, from respecting personal space to inviting friends and relatives. Open and frank communication early can prevent misunderstandings and minimise the potential for conflict later.

Finances are another essential topic. Discuss how you'll manage the rent or mortgage and other household bills and day-to-day living expenses. Money is one of the biggest sources of tension in relationships so talk openly about financial arrangements before moving in together so there's no misunderstandings or unhappy surprises afterwards.

Where things can become complicated is around property interests and legal rights. Contrary to popular belief there is no such thing as a 'common law marriage'. Unmarried partners do not automatically acquire rights over property or assets simply by living together. This means that if the relationship ends one partner may have little or no legal entitlement – even after years of cohabitation – and for this reason couples are increasingly choosing to have a cohabitation agreement drawn up. This is a legal document that sets out the rights and responsibilities of unmarried couples who live together. It can cover such things as property ownership, financial arrangements and what happens if the relationship ends. Having a cohabitation agreement in place provides clarity and therefore can reduce the potential for conflict later.

It would also be sensible to think about Wills and inheritance as many people don't realise that unmarried partners have no automatic right to inherit from each other.

If you are considering moving in with your partner and would like clear, friendly and practical advice to help you understand your options and make informed decisions we can help you.

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# Duncan runs for the Third Age Trust

**DUNCAN Forsyth, a keen member of Lymm Runners, is also a member of Lymm and Thelwall University of the Third age (L&Tu3a) – and has been busy in both capacities.**

He has completed the Great North Run for the second time – running as part of the National u3a team to raise money for The Third Age Trust.

The Trust supports around

1,000 u3as across the UK and is the charity's national support and advisory body.

Duncan said: 'I'm now fully retired and have enjoyed being a member of Lymm and Thelwall

u3a for almost three years now. It's a friendly local group with lots to offer.

'I'm involved with walking, cycling and current affairs groups and appreciate the fresh challenges and meeting new friends. I thoroughly recommend it.'

The u3a is non-profit making and open to those no longer in full time employment.

They are raising funds to create awareness and secure their future success and enable the formation of new groups.

Duncan can relate the importance of charitable organisations with a first-hand insight from his medical career., as a consultant geriatrician at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, where he did

pioneering work in developing the Parkinson's service and a delirium ward.

Also, through his long-standing interest in the mental health problems of older people, he saw the relevance and positive impact that charities like the u3a have on people's lives.

Lymm and Thelwall u3a have more than 30 interest groups, social activities and a variety of events and outings throughout the year. Every third Thursday of the month, they meet at 10am in Thelwall Parish Hall with an invited speaker. Prospective members are welcome to try out before committing to joining.

To find out more see the webpage <https://lymm-thelwall.u3asite.uk>

## Lymm's junior cricketers celebrate cup victory

LYMM Oughtrington Park Cricket Club's Under 11s have won the North Cheshire Junior League Cup for the first time since 2013.

On a rain threatened afternoon they defeated Kingsley by 20 runs in the final.

Winning the toss and choosing to bowl first, they fielded well on a wet outfield and then turned in a strong batting performance.

Coaches and parents praised the whole team for their skills, their commitment to the spirit of cricket and support for one another.



The national u3a team, with Duncan on the right.

## "Old man in lycra" raises nearly £12,000 for Lymm Rugby Club

DUBBED the "Old man in lycra" by his club mates, former rugby player Paul Foulkes completed his marathon bike ride to Cornwall raising almost £12,000 help fund Lymm Rugby Club's travel costs.

To mark his 75th birthday, Paul set off from Lymm Rugby Club on his bike to cycle 360 miles to Redruth Rugby Club for the teams' first ever fixture in Cornwall.

This was to raise funds for the registered charity Lymm RFC, for travelling this huge distance, and for other fixtures against teams in Devon and Cornwall, as designed

by the RFU.

The amateur club estimate away travel alone this season will cost circa £50,000.

It took 5 days and involved two sore knees (and other parts) but he was determined to get there!

Paul has been a member, and latterly a Vice President and Lymm Panto performer, of Lymm RFC, a registered charity, for over 58 years.

The RFU removed Lymm RFC, an amateur club that does not pay players, from National 2 North, when they played teams from the

North West and Yorkshire, and finished third, their highest position ever.

The team has been moved sideways into the league entitled National 2 West, involving trips to far-flung clubs such as Exeter in Devon, and Camborne and Redruth in Cornwall.

In protest and as part of his 75th birthday celebrations, Paul volunteered to do the cycling challenge.

Donations can still be made via [www.justgiving.com/charity/lymmrugby](http://www.justgiving.com/charity/lymmrugby)

His ride showed not only great physical effort but great mental strength as some of the hills he encountered a car struggled to climb!

The ride generated great interest for both Lymm and Redruth members, with the South West Radio interviewing him. In addition, his supporting staff in the back-up van, Don Brow and Simon Pumb, helped him on his way.

What could possibly go wrong with those 2! Well done to everyone.





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While Obituary notices are published free of charge, due to pressures on space, we can never guarantee they will be used and there can also be a delay of several months.

If you would like to guarantee a notice to appear in the next available issue, these can be purchased for £75 plus VAT which helps towards the running costs of your free community magazine.

To place an obituary notice or any other public/family notice please email **info@lymmilife.co.uk**

## Obituary

## Frank O'Gorman

The funeral has taken place of Frank O'Gorman, who passed away peacefully aged 84 while on holiday in Austria celebrating his diamond wedding anniversary with his whole family.

Frank lived in Lymm for the past 60 years and he was an active member of the community,

including at Lymm Lawn Tennis Club and the Labour Party.

He was also a governor at Chaigeley School for 18 years.

Frank is survived by his wife Elsa and children Annelise and Adam. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

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