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# Life

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**September 2014**

**Issue: 186**



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**Editor**  
Gary Skentelbery

**Production**  
Paul Walker

**Advertising**  
James Balme  
Nick White  
Freephone  
0800 955 5247

**Editorial**  
01925 623633

**Email**  
info@lymmmlife.co.uk

**Websites**  
www.lymmmlife.co.uk  
www.culchethlife.com  
www.frodshamlife.co.uk  
www.warrington-  
worldwide.co.uk  
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**Address**  
New Media Centre  
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# Editor's Comment



**I recently attended the village traders meeting organised by Lymm Parish Council to explore ways of boosting trade in the area - and the first thing evident was the lack of traders at the meeting!**

There was less than half the number of people who attended the original meeting, which is a little disappointing.

No doubt those who didn't attend will have their reasons and for those who did the main concerns raised included ongoing car parking issues, which some traders say have been made worse by the new double yellow lines on Brookfield Road - and the ongoing issue of Lymm Market and how to improve it.

Regarding the parking issues I visit the village centre on a regular basis and usually can find somewhere to park, especially if I am prepared to spend five minutes walking into the

village centre.

I personally find the current pay and display system of an hour free or 50p for up to two hours something I can live with - and all day parking for £2 is hardly unreasonable.

Considering the overall lack of parking spaces for the village the system currently in place seems to work quite well but I am sure there will be plenty of readers who disagree.

But Lymm has always had parking issues and will continue to do so.

Personally I don't think car parking is the only issue when it comes to attracting trade to the village as a number of businesses tell

me they are doing well - and there is hardly a shortage of people when there is a big event - which has been well publicised - like May Queen, Dickensian Day, Food Fest, Historic Transport Day.

All these events always attract large numbers of people into the village - and why? Because they have been well publicised and advertised.

The secret to any business success is 1. Having something people want 2. People knowing you have got it at the right price and 3. Customer service.

There is so much competition out there no one can sit back and take it for granted that customers will come through your door.

Any business out there wanting some free advice on promoting themselves let me know!

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# Parents shocked by high school revelations

**PARENTS of children at Lymm High School have been rocked by a series of revelations following the departure of former head teacher Angela Walsh and her deputy Jamie Sheils.**

First came the news that a question mark hangs over the future of "Super Head" Tarun Kapur (pictured below) – the executive head brought in by the governors to turn the school round – whose contract is due to expire at Christmas.

Then came the disclosure that an audit of the financial affairs at the school, following the suspension of the former principal and her deputy, highlighted various concerns including cash and credit

card expenditure on alcohol, flowers and hospitality.

Third came the news – which stunned some Lymm parents – that Angela Walsh (pictured right) and Jamie Sheils had, since leaving the school, set up a recruitment and training agency for teachers.

The doubts about Mr Kapur's future at Lymm High arose from the governors signalling an intention to appoint a permanent head teacher "in due course."

Mr Kapur has been widely credited with the improvements that have taken place at the school since the former head was suspended and many parents expressed concern that the improvements may not continue if Mr Kapur and the Dean Trust – of which he is chief executive – left.

Kieran Walsh, chairman of the Lymm governors said there was no change in the arrangement for senior leadership support from the Dean Trust and that Mr Kapur remained executive principal at Lymm.

He said: "Both the school and the Dean Trust are committed to ensuring that the progress made this year is sustained and improved next year."

But he added: "The governors

will, of course, need to appoint a permanent head teacher in due course, and more information will be made available at that time."

The governing body welcomed the findings of the audit of the school's financial affairs, carried out by the Education Funding Agency.

This had identified various weaknesses and issues in relation to financial management and governance, including missing personnel files – including those of the two senior members of staff who had been suspended.

One of the findings was that the individual employed in the principal finance role may not have been appropriately qualified nor experienced, although this could not be substantiated as the individual's personnel file could not be located.

The third surprise for local residents – the setting up of a recruitment and training agency for teachers – came with claims that it was run by an Ofsted rated "outstanding" principal and vice principal.

The agency's website stated: "We are the only agency in the North West with this level of experience and we know better than anyone the needs of a teacher, the needs of support staff and the needs of a school."

The site claimed the agency



urgently requires staff for school placements in September.

The agency claims a 100 per cent employment success rate for its "dynamic, hands-on training programmes."

All three developments were reported by the online edition of Lymm Life and can still be read at [www.lymmmlife.co.uk](http://www.lymmmlife.co.uk)



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



### September 8

#### LYMM HISTORY SOCIETY

The Sinking of the RMS Tayleur - Gill Hoffs  
Lymm Village Hall, 8pm  
Visitors always welcome  
More info Lynne Smith 01925 756776

### September 9

#### LYMM PARISH COUNCIL

Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

#### LYMM THURSDAY EVENING BRIDGE CLUB

Lymm Village Hall every Thursday 7pm

#### MAPLE LODGE ART GROUP

Meet each Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm  
Maple Lodge Guide HQ, Pepper St, Lymm  
Details: 01925 755126

#### ROTARY CLUB OF LYMM

Every Wednesday at Statham Lodge Hotel  
7.15pm for 7.30pm  
Contact the secretary 01925 650189

#### LOVING HEARTS & HANDS

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

#### MARKET LUNCHES

Eagle Brow Methodist Church  
3rd Thursday in the month  
Light lunches 12 noon till 2pm. All proceeds to  
Youth For Christ and YMCA Room at The Inn

#### LYMM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

St Mary's Church Hall  
Second and fourth Fridays (Sept - May)  
7.30pm. Details: 753853

#### 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)  
at 7.30pm

#### LYMM ORNITHOLOGY GROUP

Lymm Village Hall, 7.45pm for 8pm,  
Last Friday in the month (ex June & July).  
Guest speaker, Slide Show, Refreshments.  
Visitors welcome. First visit FREE.  
Also field trips. Details: lymmog.co.uk

#### LYMM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday  
(ex July & Aug), 7.30pm

Spread Eagle pub, Eagle Brow.  
Details: www.lymmphotosoc.org.uk

#### LYMM WINE AND BEER CIRCLE

Every 2nd Thursday, 8pm  
The Boat Stage (Royal British Legion)  
Details: 01925 604400

#### LYMM CONCERT BAND

Rehearsals every Thursday evening  
United Reformed Church, 8pm.  
Details: 01925 752934

#### THE VENUE, LYMM

Chess Club every Monday from 6pm,  
Open Mic Night every Tuesday from 9pm,  
free chinese meal and 2-1 cocktails  
every Wednesday, Live Music every  
Thursday and Saturday

#### LYMM WI

Every second Wednesday, 2-4pm at Lymm  
Youth and Community Centre. Visitors  
welcome.

#### LYMM BOOK CLUB

Last Thursday of the month 7.30pm, Spread  
Eagle, Eagle Brow. Details 01925 752371

#### LOW CARBON LYMM

Every second Monday of the month. 7.30pm,  
Spread Eagle. 07786 074741 all welcome

**To feature your  
event on this page  
please call our  
team on  
01925 631592**



**LYMM  
PARISH  
COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 15  
Lymm Parish Hall 7.30pm

# Lymm Lions become 4Lymm

LYMM Lions Club which has been an institution in Lymm for over 40 years has disbanded - but members are continuing their good work under a new name - 4Lymm.

The membership fees of Lions International are now deemed too high - and members believe they can carry on their good work under the new brand.

This means they will continue serving the best mulled wine at Dickensian, running quiz nights at the Bridgewater Club and much more, including the annual 'tinning', the collection and distribution of food for those in need each Christmas.

This year they donated over £4,500 to local charities and good causes.

Therefore 4Lymm will be a local fundraising charity aimed fairly and squarely at raising money for local good causes.

Though they have all left Lymm Lions, which has now been disbanded, all of its members have joined 4Lymm and are working to make the change as seamless as possible. All that will change is the name.

They are holding an inaugural meeting of 4Lymm in the Boot Room (downstairs bar) at the Golden Fleece on Monday September 15 from 7.30pm and they would really like to use this opportunity to get



more people involved.

If you have any time to spare and want to do something 4 Lymm, please come along some time in the evening for a chat. They would really like to hear from people with good ideas and people who can give a little of their time. If there's anyone out there with both of these attributes they will be over the moon!

For more information before the meeting please contact Chris Tyler on 07713 065159 or chris@familytyler.co.uk

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## Meet your MP David Mowat

David Mowat, MP for Warrington South, holds regular surgeries throughout the constituency. If you would like to arrange an appointment to discuss an issue of concern to you please

e-mail him at [david.mowat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.mowat.mp@parliament.uk)  
or telephone 01925 231267.



**David Mowat**

Member of Parliament for Warrington South

[www.davidmowat.org](http://www.davidmowat.org)

Produced by David Mowat MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

# New Scout and Guide HQ set to open

AFTER 25 long years of constant fund raising, Maple Lodge, Lymm's new joint Scout and Guide HQ, will be completed by mid-August.

It is an exciting time for all members of Scouts and Guides as they look forward to occupying the new premises.

The building will also provide much needed accommodation to community groups who are looking for somewhere to hold daytime, evening or weekend activities.

Any such community group should contact Mary on bookings. [maplelodge@gmail.com](mailto:maplelodge@gmail.com) or visit their website for further information <http://sites.google.com/site/lymmmaplelodge/gallery>

The £310,000 project has been funded by grants from Lymm Parish Council, Lymm Round Table, WREN and Veolia, but most of all by the residents of Lymm and the project's Steering Group, who would like to wish to thank everyone who has given their generous support over the years.

Details of an open day for parents of potentially interested Scouts and Guides will be published on the website.



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## Advertisers' announcement

# Education – all change again

MICHAEL Gove's departure from the DfE has again put the spotlight on what is happening in our schools says Paul Thompson (pictured right), Deputy Head at Manchester Grammar School.

For decades education has been a priority for successive governments seeking to raise standards and participation.

These aims are laudable – there can be few things more important to parents or the future of our country.

Initiatives have included Free Schools, Academies, the Pupil Premium, changes to inspection and exam reform. In recent years both A-levels and GCSEs have become modular in structure, with more coursework and more frequent exams.

These changes have enabled more children to achieve, but critics argue that they have led to a lowering of standards, a re-sits culture, pressure on teachers to teach to the test and too much time spent on assessing rather than learning. Crucially, do modular courses provide sufficient challenge for all children? Some headteachers think not, and have switched to linear qualifications (with end-of course exams only) such as International GCSEs and, at Sixth Form, International A-levels,



Pre-Us and the International Baccalaureate.

Government reforms aim to make UK-based GCSEs and A-levels linear once again, with greater academic challenge; critics fear that the new approach will leave behind the less academically able. This all underlines the weakness of a 'one size fits all' approach. Meanwhile, the future is uncertain: an election looms, the reform process is incomplete and changes will take years to bed in. What is certain is that education will remain on the agenda, whatever the government.

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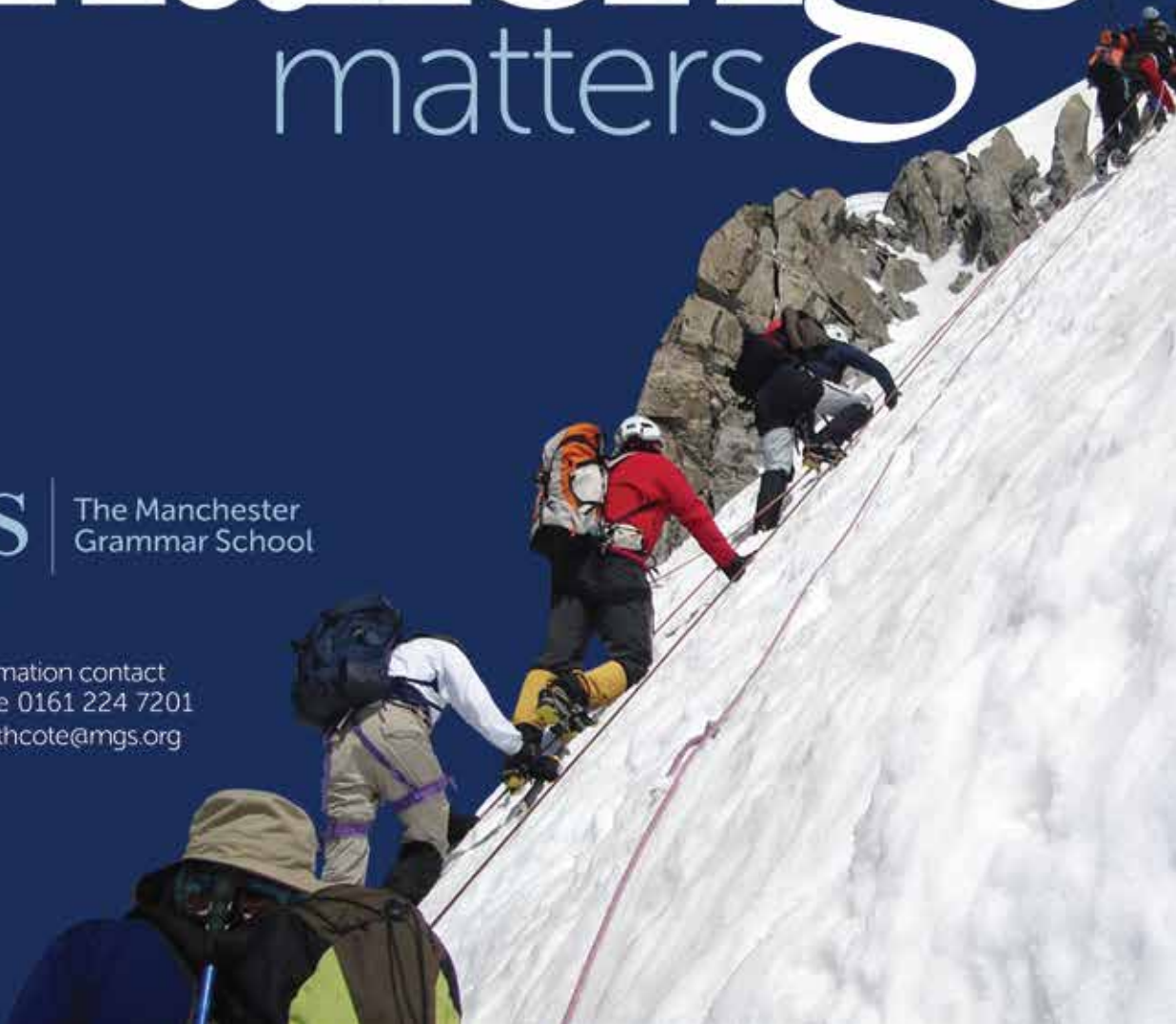
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[MGS.org](http://MGS.org)



## ISA reforms encourage saving

Four in 10 people who are aware of the ISA changes say they will help them to save more, according to consumer research group Which. The survey of over 2,000 people revealed that 54% say the new rules will encourage them to shop around for the best ISA deals. The research found that many ISA-holders had never switched their accounts before the reforms. More than half (55%) of those with instant-access cash ISAs and 42% of people with notice cash ISAs had never searched for a better deal before.

Separate research found that:

- half of people admit they could save more
- 12% of people plan to save more in the next year
- 36% of people still haven't heard about the new ISA rules.

Which group is calling on providers to stop limiting transfers into new savings accounts. Earlier in the year the consumer group revealed that 72% of instant-access cash ISAs allowed transfers in, dropping from 88% in 2012.

From 1 July 2014, ISAs were reformed into the New ISA with a £15,000 annual limit for cash and stocks and shares. You can now also transfer a stocks & shares ISA from a previous tax year to cash, something not permissible in the past. Please remember however, a cash ISA is not an investment. It is a bank account, that's all. What the rules do mean however, is that if you have saved for your child's education or wedding in a stocks and shares ISA and you have done well out of it, at a time you think right, you can transfer the proceeds to a cash ISA for safety. And as long as you use it for these kinds of reasons I think that is fine.



### World Cup fever over again for another 4 years

Generally I have enjoyed the world cup. I think it was great to see the emerging countries like Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, and the USA playing such attractive football. I think somebody should tell Roy Hodgson to possibly watch them. But an article in the Financial Times recently said that on average a football player is only in possession of the ball for around one minute every game. And it is statistics like that as well as the huge wages of players that continues to alienate most of us - and me for certain!

Don Wernham, Financial Planner



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# Britain's first integrated fertility hospital is officially open

**THE Reproductive Health Group were delighted to welcome Graham Evans, MP for Weaver Vale, to formally open Britain's first integrated fertility hospital, the Centre for Reproductive Health (CRH) at Daresbury Park.**

Mr Evans commented: "I am pleased to visit The Centre for Reproductive Health to learn more about how they are supporting couples seeking fertility treatments. Couples struggling to build their own families need both emotional and medical support during their journey. I am very proud that we have such an innovative facility here in Weaver Vale which will support couples across the North West."

Other principal guests included the Mayor of Halton, Councillor Shaun Osborne, alongside representatives from other local businesses, including Lymm Life Editor Gary Skentelbery.

Mr Luciano Nardo, Consultant in Reproductive Medicine and Clinical Director at the Centre for Reproductive Health said: "The Centre, which is one of only a few of its kind in Europe and the only one in the North West of England, offers patients the very latest technologies and the highest quality individualised, integrated care to ensure the best possible outcomes. I am delighted to work with such

a highly skilled and strongly committed multidisciplinary team that make a real difference to each patient's story."

Managing Director Simon Shepherd added: "Because the clinic was designed by consultants and embryologists, and because we offer much more than just IVF, we can carry out all the investigative procedures that may be required by infertile couples. Our team are gynaecologists first, and fertility doctors second – working very much with the interests of what is

important for the patient in mind."

CRH is the only clinic to offer comprehensive gynaecology, urology and fertility care. The Centre also boasts a fully-equipped operating facility in which to carry out day case surgical procedures.

To learn more about the Centre for Reproductive Health, or the Reproductive Health Group, please call 0845 600 9997, email info@reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk or see [www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk](http://www.reproductivehealthgroup.co.uk)



Picture shows (L-R) Simon Shepherd, Graham Evans and Gary Skentelbery



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# Cancer patient gears up for 100-mile cycling challenge

**CANCER patient Chris Wakefield, 71, is gearing up for a 100-mile cycling challenge to say thank you to The Christie, the specialist cancer centre where he was treated.**

The grandfather of four from Lymm, underwent a successful autologous stem cell transplant in 2012 and is taking on the Manchester 100 bike ride at the end of August as part of a team to celebrate his health.

A retired chemical engineer, Chris has always been a keen cyclist having completed John O'Groats to Lands End in just nine days in 2010.

He was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in April 2012 after suffering severe back pain on holiday in Italy.

Chris, who is married to Joan, said: "I underwent my chemotherapy first at Wythenshawe Hospital and was then referred to The Christie. My stem cells were harvested and I was then admitted as an inpatient in November 2012 for a high dose of chemotherapy and stem cell transplant."

He underwent an autologous stem cell transplant which uses the patient's own stem cells in the transfusion as opposed to having to

find a donor match.

Patients are given a higher dose of chemotherapy which also kills the stem cells. Following the chemotherapy, the harvested stem cells are put back, which can then make normal blood cells again.

Chris added: "The team on the haematology and transplant unit at The Christie were absolutely brilliant. All the nurses were super and very understanding. After 17 days I was deemed well enough to go home as my blood count was going in the right direction."

Chris was readmitted to The Christie on Christmas Day morning in 2012 after suffering with an infection. Following treatment he was well enough to go home the same day and enjoy Christmas dinner with his family.

He said: "Christmas morning in The Christie will stay with me forever – I even got a present. The care given when you're at your lowest is outstanding, nothing is too much trouble and every single person is like that. Doctors and nurses go the extra mile and all the arrangements and planning were second to none."

"My myeloma became apparent when I crushed several vertebrae and one of my fears was not being able to get back to a physically

active life again.

"The staff were great at encouraging me and giving me confidence to become active again. When I was recovering at home, the availability of a specialist nurse at the end of a phone was invaluable for answering all the questions I hadn't thought of at the time."

"Almost exactly a year after beginning treatment, I began cycling again. The bike ride will be a challenge but not insurmountable I hope."

"It was my daughter Tamsin's idea, who is doing the ride along with her husband for The Christie. They're not especially keen cyclists and I hadn't dreamt of doing this, but afterwards I thought why not and signed up."

Chris, who still has blood checks every month, has been busy training and completed 35 miles in two and a half hours recently, so is confident of going the distance on the day.

The Christie is once again the official charity for the Manchester 100 Bike Ride which takes place on Sunday August 31.

This stunning 100km or 100mile bike ride starts and finishes at Wythenshawe Park leaving Manchester to take in the stunning Cheshire Countryside of Northwich, Middlewich and Delamere Forest.

To donate to Chris' fund please visit: [www.justgiving.com/Christopher-Wakefield](http://www.justgiving.com/Christopher-Wakefield)



**1**

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# Swanning around on the A56

YOU'VE heard of a Zebra Crossing – and even a Pelican Crossing. But how about a Swan Crossing?

This was the scene on the A56 in Lymm as two swans and their cygnets crossed the road near Lymm Dam.

Traffic was held up – but there was no road rage. Everyone wanted to see the swan family safely across the road.



The picture was taken by reader Jon Valentine on his way to work from his home in Thelwall.

Later, the swans, having apparently acquired another offspring and relishing the attention they were getting, set off in single-file in the other direction – possibly intending a visit to the Church Green pub.

They were also photographed by another reader, Matt Precious.



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# WWI remembered at High Legh Garden Centre

**HIGH Legh Garden Centre in association With Lymm History Society is presenting a unique exhibition to Commemorate The Beginning Of World War I.**

The displays include recently researched material and images on Lymm Military Hospital and on Lymm and High Legh Villages during the War.

Original artefacts from the period included Garden Centre Manager Neil Phelps' grandfather's medals and trench items.

High Legh Primary School also kindly loaned WWI project work undertaken by the children this year.

Garden Centre Events Organiser Jane Weir said: "The displays are on for a month and it is hoped visitors will enjoy learning about the War and local history."

*Looking at part of the exhibit from left, Jane Weir centre events organiser with Lynn Smith and Sue Brookes of Lymm History Society.*



## Pupils praised for their road safety work

PRIMARY school pupils in Little Bollington, near Lymm have been praised for their unique help with road safety in the village.

Cheshire's Assistant Chief Fire Officer Richard Ost presented the children with a certificate in recognition of their work.

Fire and police officers have held driver engagement days across the county for many years in a joint road safety initiative.

Under the scheme drivers who break the law by using mobile phones, speeding or they and/or their passengers are not wearing seatbelts, are stopped by police and given the option of a fine and licence points, or attendance at an on-the-spot restorative justice road safety educational presentation.

This is delivered by firefighters and community safety advocates.

In Little Bollington the initiative is taken a step further. Along with attending the presentation, drivers are put in front of a jury of primary school pupils from years five and six, and subjected to some harrowing questions relating to their actions potentially resulting in the injury or death of a child.

Fire Service personnel and Cllr Bill Livesley, a member of the Fire Authority, visited the school to surprise pupils who were being given a road safety presentation by Fire Service advocates.

In a double celebration, the school was presented with a bronze firefighter statue and a framed certificate in recognition of

the school's support for road safety.

Presenting the awards Mr Ost said: "By working with young people we are not only educating

the road users of tomorrow but also showing the road users of today what the implications of their actions might be."



*Fire Service chiefs with head teacher Caroline Johnstone and pupils of Little Bollington Primary School.*



## Round Table count on the cubs for duck audit

We've all heard the expression about not counting your chickens, but how about...ducks?

Well, the 3rd Lymm Cubs Pack have done just that by helping Lymm and District Round Table with their annual audit following another successful Easter Monday duck race.

Chris Gorman, chairman of the Round Table which is in its 50th

year, said: "No matter how hard we try, it's inevitable that each year a few of our racing ducks get lost along the way, so it's essential we do a count to ensure we have a full quote for the following year."

"It's a fairly arduous task so we're very thankful for the young lads' help - we now know we re 37 ducks lights which isn't bad out of a total of 1000!"



# Lymm Adivas hit the big stage

**MEMBERS of the Lymm Adivas dance troupe hit the big stage at the Bridgewater Hall "Chance to dance" performance, which proved to be a fantastic event for the girls to take part.**

The girls had their own dressing room and got to meet Cartel from this years Britain's Got Talent.

All the Adivas team would like to congratulate all the girls for their hard work and dedication over the



past few months.

The girls have taken part in all the local events in Lymm - not forgetting the winning float at Lymm May Queen 2014 with their flight of remembrance!

Anyone wanting to join lymm Adivas is very welcome. No previous experience is required just come along and see what it's all about! They practice every Wednesday at Lymm youth club 5.30-6.30 ages 4-9 and 6.30-7.30 ages 9-16.

Subs are £3.50 each week which goes towards dance costumes and transport costs. No profit is made within the group and it's all run by volunteers.

The first week is free so why not come along?



## New 'trainee' was our MP!

A NEW "trainee" turned up at the monthly meeting of Heartstart Lymm - and as a result the streets of South Warrington and the corridors of Westminster are both a little safer!

The trainee was MP David Mowat who wanted to find out more about the work of Heartstart Lymm and ended up completing an essential first aid course.

Mr Mowat said: "It's a fun way to learn essential skills like CPR. It's easy to learn and saves lives."

Heartstart Lymm meet on the first Thursday of each month - next session September 4 - at Lymm Baptist Church and hold a free,

two hour session that teaches how to deal with serious bleeding, heart attack, choking and other life threatening conditions.

There are places on the course each month and anyone can book by calling or texting 07960 625236, emailing heartstart@lymmroundtable.co.uk or booking at [www.facebook.com/HeartstartLymm](http://www.facebook.com/HeartstartLymm).

Trainer Graham Gowland said: "We are training people in the 'Chain of Survival' that plugs the gap before the ambulance gets to you. The steps we train can genuinely make the difference

between a casualty living or dying, and we want as many people as possible to train with us.

"It was great that David Mowat trained with us - he recently met with us to find out more about our project, and it was great of him to come along to the course".

The group recently received a gold "Cardiac Smart Award" in recognition of their work in Lymm, and are actively setting up a "Community First Responders Scheme" to support the ambulance service in the area.



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## Reader's letters

**Send your correspondence to: The Editor, Lymm Life, New Media Centre, Old Road, Warrington WA4 1AT  
or email: [info@lymm.life.co.uk](mailto:info@lymm.life.co.uk)**



Andie Deane, of Lymm

## Observations of a May Queen Dog Walker

MAYBE this isn't that important but it's a point which affects a lot of May Queen Field leisure users in Lymm...especially families with small children or dog walkers.

Every day since the weather has been nice, I have been picking up bags of litter from the May Queen Field, morning and night.

Teenagers are now having bbq's and picnics and when they have finished, they simply stand up and walk away. When challenged, they shrug their shoulders or become intimidating.

There was an incident of teenage boys smashing a bottle close to the entrance to the field, which could

have caused damage to paws and little feet.

Also, there are some dog walkers who do not pick up their pet's poo. Us responsible ones always do... but fines should be imposed on those who don't.

We should all strive to keep Lymm

the beautiful village it is. When I was younger, I wouldn't have dreamed of leaving my rubbish in such a disrespectful manner. Is this a reflection of the kids of today? If so, we should all instil the basics to promote a more caring and less selfish way of teenage behaviour.

Get our village back to  
how it used to be

*Bessie Vale, Booths Hill Close, Lymm*

I HAVE lived in Lymm for 70 years and each day I walk around the block, the roads, avenues, etc., get dirtier.

The roads in Cherry Lane are never swept, mainly because of cars parking.

People living around where I live do not cut hedges, making it difficult to walk on footpaths, especially near Cherry Tree School, Highfield Road, Elm Tree Road, etc.

So where are our councils to try and get people to help each other and get our village back to how it used to be? People – cut your hedges so children can walk on footpaths.

I have written to and telephoned Warrington Borough Council environmental people for six years to no avail. I phone the council offices at least twice a week and promises are made but do not get done.

Please try to help us who live in Booths Hill Close!



## Pre school's surprise for long-serving Sandra

PARENTS, staff and children at St Mary's Pre School, Lymm gave their longest serving member of staff a surprise to mark her 20 years' service.

Sandra Prue has looked after hundreds of children over the past two decades, starting at St Mary's in 1994 after her own children, Lisa and Matthew, moved on to primary school.

The current pre school class surprised Sandra at a family BBQ event by presenting her with a special picture they had made.

She also received gifts from parents and staff including an ornamental planter and a celebration cake.

Sandra said: "I love all the

children I've looked after over the years and wouldn't want to do any other job – it's my world".

Valerie Dyas, chairman of the pre school committee, said: "Sandra is a massive part of the St Mary's family and we couldn't imagine Pre school without her. She is a brilliant asset to our team and we hope she's here for many, many more years to come."

St Mary's preschool is based on Crouchley Lane, next to Lymm Dam car park, and caters for children aged from 2 until they are ready to start school. It is a registered charity and has been providing childcare to Lymm families for over 25 years.



*Sandra Prue with children from the current St Mary's Pre school class.*

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# Junior soccer team seeks players

**LYMM Piranhas Football Club is looking for boys and girls to play in their Under 11s team this winter.**

Youngsters coming to the end of Year 5 – born between September 1 2003 and August 31, 2004 – are needed to enable the club to turn out an Under 11s side.

Lymm Piranhas were founded in 2002 and have about 250 playing members, from Under 5s to Under 18s and playing on various grounds across the South Warrington area.

The Under 11s train on Monday evenings at playing fields at Thelwall.

Anyone interested in playing should contact coach Andrew Butterworth on 07563 789993 or by emailing [Andrew.Butterworth@talktalk.net](mailto:Andrew.Butterworth@talktalk.net)



## Cricket Club to host open day

LYMM and Oughtlington Cricket Club is throwing open its doors for the first time in a spectacular fun day this September – and it's open to everyone.

The fun starts at 11 am on Sunday September 7 and will feature cricket across all ages, sex and ability, kicking off with a Dads and Lads match and culminating in a special T20 Blast game involving the first XI.

There will be stalls, a reverse raffle and a family barbeque plus a chance for anybody looking for a cricket club to try out the state of the art nets with the club's fully qualified coaches.

Organiser Bob Sabberton said: "We are a truly family club in a beautiful location and we welcome anyone who wants to play or watch the game. We run serious weekend teams and a fun Midweek XI as well junior teams and a ladies side. One of our players has gone onto represent England in the National Learning Difficulties Squad. All this demonstrates that whatever your ability or level of commitment there's a great cricket opportunity for you at Lymm. We look forward to welcoming everyone on the day."

The day is sponsored by the England and Wales Cricket Board and national team sponsors Waitrose.

For more information please contact Bob on 07989 927744.

## Ales galore at the Lymm Beer Festival

THE Lymm Beer Festival is back for its fourth year and organisers Lymm and District Round Table are promising more ales than ever before.

This year's charity event has been kindly sponsored by Urban Building Projects Ltd of Warrington, specialists in domestic and commercial building, and will take place on Friday 5th (6pm-11pm) and Saturday 6th (noon-11pm) September in Lymm Village Hall. Over 25 cask ales will be on offer plus a selection of ciders, perrys and wine.

There will also be live music throughout both days, food and free soft drinks for non-drinkers. The entry fee is £5 (£3 Saturday afternoon and discounts for CAMRA members) which includes a pint glass created specifically for the event. All cask ales and ciders are at one great price of £2.50 a pint.

The Round Table is also seeking organisations to be the main sponsor and also sponsor a cask for £80 for which their names will appear in the programme, at the event and on the festival's Twitter and Facebook feeds. Sponsors will also receive four tickets and £20 of beer tokens.

Lymm and District Round Table member and beer festival organiser Duncan Selkirk said: "The beer festival is now one of our most popular events and, as such, we will be having more beers on tap than we have had in previous years. We are keeping our fingers crossed for the weather again as there's nothing better than sipping a tasty ale in the late summer sun."

For more information about this year's beer festival find it on Facebook or Twitter, or, if you're interested in sponsoring a cask call Duncan on 07804 796902.



## Obituaries

### John Alan Roberts

THE funeral has taken place of John Alan Roberts, aged 84, of Wet Gate Lane Farm, Heatley, Lymm, who died on May 25.

Alan moved to the farm in Lymm 51 years ago and while running the farm continue with his milk round business.

He was a member of Winmarleigh Masonic Lodge for more than 50 years and also a member of Grappenhall Ex-Servicemen's Club.

He leaves a wife, Betty, three daughters, a son, eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Donations in his memory were for the British Heart Foundation.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.



### Mary Holt

THE funeral has taken place of Mary Holt, nee Adams, aged 84, formerly of Adey Road, Lymm, who died on June 15.

Mary Holt was the wife of the late Harry Holt and is survived by two daughters, Theresa and Denise, two grandchildren, Adam and Katie, two brothers, Terry and Alan and sister Wyn.

The funeral service was at St Mary's Church, Lymm, with committal at Altrincham Crematorium. The Rev Canon Michael Burgess officiated.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.



### Sylvia Chorlton

THE funeral has taken place of Sylvia Chorlton, nee Stuart, aged 82, of Fairfield Road, Lymm, who died at home on May 25.

Sylvia was a member of the Inner Wheel Club at Lymm and spent many hours working for the Cancer Research UK committee.

She is survived by two daughters, a son, son-in-law, two grandchildren, two brothers and many nephews and nieces.

The funeral service took place at St Peter's Church, Oughtrington.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.



### Colin Messer

THE funeral has taken place of Colin Arthur Messer, aged 85, of Higher Lane, Lymm, who died in Warrington Hospital on June 16.

The funeral was on June 24 at Altrincham Crematorium. The Rev

Canon Michael Burgess, Rector of St Peter's Church, Oughtrington, officiated.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.



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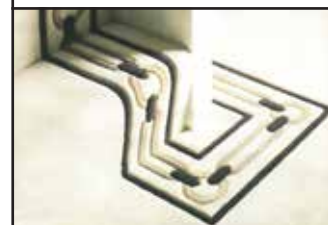
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