

**Lymm**

# Life

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August 2011  
Issue: 149

  
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Council as the official  
magazine for Lymm

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# Editor's Comment



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**THE summer festival season is now behind us and Dickensian Day is heading towards us at a rapid rate of knots!**

I know first hand the amount of time that has to go into planning events and I salute all those who volunteer to help out with Lymm Festival and Lymm May Queen events.

I have no doubt that as one event ends, planning starts for the following year - it is a bit like the never ending job of painting the Forth Bridge - and you often find it is nearly always the same characters who are involved!

Up step our community Town Crier and local parish councillor Peter

Powell - who has now taken on the role of Chairman for the Lymm Dickensian Day.

Peter is an excellent ambassador for our village, isn't afraid of making himself heard and has a long history of working alongside our various community events.

It is also refreshing to have someone on the parish council, alongside local historian Joe Griffiths, who is beyond the control of political parties.

I wish Peter every success in his new role and have complete faith in his ability to deliver a Dickensian Day we can all be proud of.

I would urge every community

minded person to give their full support to Peter and indeed all those fantastic volunteers we are prepared to roll up their sleeves and ensure we continue to have events which give Lymm its unique character.



*Keep  
up the  
good  
work!*

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## Residents win planning battle

RESIDENTS have won a long-running planning battle with a recycling firm which wanted to extend its operating hours.

Borough planning chiefs put off making a decision on several occasions before rejecting an application by ADS Recycling, of Camsley Lane, Lymm.

The company was seeking a lawful development certificate to allow longer working hours on the grounds that planning conditions had been breached continuously for more than 10 years and were, therefore, unenforceable.

Earlier this year the company made a similar application and produced signed witness statements to support their application.

But a statement signed by 35 nearby residents disputed the claim, and councillors decided to support the residents.

They said the onus of proof lay with the company and, on the balance of probabilities, the application should be refused because the residents' statements carried as much weight as those of the applicant.

## Crime update

PCSO Mike Lockett told members of the parish council that during May 2011 in Lymm there had been one theft from a motor vehicle, two thefts of motor vehicles, three house break-ins, two break-ins at Oughtrington Cricket Club, 14 anti-social behaviour incidents and a robbery at the Co-op shop on Cherry Lane.

# New Festival director appointed

**LYMM Festival has appointed a new director to take over from Honor Giles who is standing down after ten years in the role.**

Jacquie Davies, who lives in Lymm and has been on the festival committee for several years, starts her role on September 1. She has 20 years of experience in project management and is currently Head of Wardrobe for the Everyman and Playhouse theatres in Liverpool. The

Everyman is about to undergo a major refurbishment, which will allow Jacquie the time to devote to the Festival.

She said, "I am delighted to be appointed Director of the Lymm Festival. I look forward to building on the great events and reputation that the Festival has achieved through the guidance of Honor Giles and the Festival Committee."

Committee Chairman Ian Marks added, "We are very fortunate that Jacquie is in a position to take over. Honor will be a hard act to follow and she has just completed a wonderful event this year. But we know that we have found the right person to take the Festival forward and build on our successes. Jacquie has a wide range of contacts and skills which will be extremely valuable to us."



## New leader needed

THE 6th Lymm Brownies urgently need a new leader to save the group from closure.

The group is seeking an adult woman, aged 18-60 to help them each Wednesday evening in term time.

They currently have one leader, but with 24 Brownies they need at least one more regular leader, or helper, to be able to continue next term.

For more details phone Sue Mathews 01925 752006.

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September 6

**LYMM PARISH COUNCIL**  
NO MEETING IN AUGUST

**LYMM LIONS GROUP**

Meet: Bridgewater Club, Lymm  
1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. 8pm  
Contact: 0845 833 5729

**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**

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

**LOVING HANDS**

Knitting for charity at Lymm Methodist Church,  
2nd and 4th Thursday each month.  
1.30pm - 3pm. Details: 01925 823614.

**MARKET LUNCHESES**

Eagle Brow Methodist Church  
3rd Thursday in the month  
Light lunches 12 noon till 2pm. All proceeds to  
Age UK 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

**LYMM BAPTIST CHURCH DROP-LUNCH**

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**LYMM JUBILEE 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 Rushbearing Festival

THE annual Lymm Rushbearing parade organised by local barrister Chris Limb will take place on August 14 leaving Pepper Street car park at 4 pm with a service at St Mary's Church at 4.30 pm.

The event involves local community groups and civic representatives parading bullrushes through the village to St Mary's Church.

Town crier Peter Powell will lead the parade which is a tradition that dates back to medieval times and at one time was a public holiday in the village before being moved to a Sunday slot.

## Soccer training kicks-off

TRAINING for the coming soccer season has started at Lymm AFC - the former Lymm Old Boys.

The club will again be fielding three teams in the Lancashire Amateur League, including a veterans' team and they are keen to sign new talent from the age of 16 upwards. Training takes place at the Sandy Lane playing fields on Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm.

Anyone interested in joining is asked to contact first team coach Steve Decruz on 0794 953 1933 or visit the website [www.lymmafc.com](http://www.lymmafc.com)

## WI celebrates 75 years

MEMBERS of Lymm WI attended a party at the village hall to celebrate their 75th anniversary.

They enjoyed a buffet and were entertained by Lucy Bradshaw with lively songs from the 40s.

Ten members went on a canal boat trip from Stockton Heath to Norton Priory where they spent a day before returning by boat.

The rambling group enjoyed a walk around Rostherne which included lunch at the Swan Hotel. Members also attended the Cheshire Show at Tabley, entering several classes including flower arranging, preserves and water colour painting.

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**LYMM PARISH COUNCIL**

Lymm Parish  
Council meeting  
NO MEETING IN AUGUST

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# Parental Rights..... Do you know yours?

With an increasingly higher number of parents separating, it appears many parents are unsure of the correct answer often resulting in conflict between the parents and distress to the children involved.

Caroline Payne of BPS says "I have had a number of clients who have been misled over who has parental responsibility for their children. It is common place that many parents misunderstand the legalities surrounding parental responsibility and their position" There are a number of factors that have a role in this belief, the media being one of them. "Media coverage of high profile cases often portrays one parent having more rights over the other. The media often gives the impression that one parent would automatically have more responsibility than the other as a matter of course."

Caroline Payne at Betesh Partnership Solicitors, BPS, has expertise in handling difficult and complex

children matters with specialist knowledge of children law and your parental rights. BPS has a number of international children cases resolving disputes regarding where the child lives and contact. BPS are happy to talk to you and discuss any concerns you may have and the options available to you. BPS offers a free legal clinic each Wednesday after 5pm where you can discuss with our solicitors a full range of family issues.



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# Twinning visit is huge success

**MORE than 60 visitors from Lymm's Twin Town, Meung-sur-Loire, visited the area for a four day stay.**

The visit started with a reception at the Town Hall in Warrington where the guests and their Lymm hosts were welcomed by the Mayor, Cllr Mike Biggin.

They learned a little of the history of the building and something about the traditions associated with a Mayor.

Two full coaches travelled up to the



Picture shows Lymm hosts and their visitors with the Mayor at the Town Hall Reception.

Lake District for a boat trip on Ullswater and a visit to Rheged, the Cumbrian Discovery Centre. An evening a dinner was held at the Mere Club where the guests of honour were the Chairman of Lymm Parish Council, Cllr David Openshaw

and his wife. The toast to Meung was given by Lymm Twin Town Chairman, Peter Birchall and the toast to Lymm by Meung's President, Jean-Claude Vivet.

Lymm is twinned with Meung which is a small town in the Loire Valley of France about ten miles from Orleans. This year marked the 43rd anniversary of the relationship. This year it was the turn of the French to visit England and next year it will be the turn of the English to again visit France.

Peter said, "The visit was a huge success which was helped by the wonderful weather. It was particularly pleasing that many young families with children were involved which is giving fresh impetus to the twinning relationship. If anyone is interested in finding out more please ring me on 01928 579164 or email me on pannb@uwclub.net"

# Get your weekends back

OVEN valeting specialist Paul Clark is offering his professional oven cleaning solution to hard working professionals who want their weekends back.

Paul is the Ovenu franchisee for Warrington and is providing oven cleaning services to those who are looking to save their leisure time during the summer.

Paul says: "The working days are so much longer with many people not returning home from work 12 hours after leaving the house.

I understand most people want to spend quality time with family and friends at the weekend and not worry about how long it will take to clean and tidy the house.

"Oven cleaning is a dirty, time-consuming job and not the way to spend a sunny Sunday."

Paul is also reminding local residents of the health and safety issues of leaving an oven dirty for too long.

"If grease and grime is left to fester for months it can potentially result in an oven fire which can lead to serious injury or even death. Giving your oven a thorough clean can eliminate the risk of a potential fire and your oven will also run more efficiently.

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**1 Longcroft Place, Lymm**  
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**Mersey View Farm, Rixton**  
A spacious, fully modernised farm house in a semi-rural location. This well presented property briefly comprises of lounge, dining room, playroom, conservatory and fully fitted kitchen, five bedrooms and family bathroom. The property benefits from both front & rear gardens, single garage and driveway. Viewing Recommended.  
**£399,950**



**29 Bollin Drive, Lymm**  
A spacious extended semi-detached property in a popular residential area briefly comprising of an entrance hall, lounge, dining room, study, good sized breakfast kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower above bath, gardens to front, side and rear. Single garage and off road parking.  
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**7 Whitefield Close, Lymm**  
A well presented semi detached property in a popular residential area. Comprising of an entrance hall, lounge, dining room, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with separate shower cubical, garage and gardens. Cul-de-sac location. Viewing recommended.  
**£249,950**



**3 Laburnum Court, Lymm**  
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**£219,995**



**19 Massey Avenue, Lymm**  
A newly refurbished semi detached in cul-de-sac location, lounge, kitchen/diner, 2 double beds, new bathroom, gardens and off road parking, beautifully presented.  
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# Developer seeks name for new development

RETIREMENT developer McCarthy & Stone has teamed up with Lymm Life to invite the people of Lymm to come up with the name for its new development of Retirement Living apartments on Booths Hill Road.

As well as making their mark on local history, the person with the winning name, as selected by McCarthy & Stone, will be awarded £200.

Fiona Brooks, Regional Sales and

Marketing Director for McCarthy & Stone, said: "As a developer we always try to get involved with the communities where we are building. We'd like people in Lymm to come up with a name that has a connection to local history or the local area. The only restriction is the name should end in the word 'Court'."

The new development will comprise 38 one and two bedroom retirement apartments designed exclusively for the over 60s. Each apartment will include an open plan lounge and dining room, adjoining kitchen, one or two double bedrooms and a bathroom.

Fiona added: "To make the most of your retirement years you want peace of mind, comfort and independence. Our new development will offer just this and more. The apartments will be low maintenance in design and will benefit from modern fittings, good security and will have a number of specialist features."

Features will include 24 hour emergency call points, electrical sockets at a raised height to reduce bending, illuminated light switches, a security entry system, easy grip lever taps in the bathroom and kitchen and energy efficient heating.

The development will also benefit from landscaped grounds, a residents' lounge and a guest suite.

To be in with a chance of naming McCarthy & Stone's exciting new development and winning £200, all you have to do is complete the form (above left) and post it to Deborah Bond, Marketing Department, McCarthy & Stone, Hartington House, Hartington Road, Broadheath, Altrincham, WA14 5LX.



## Vandals attack 'Mr Toad'

MINDLESS vandals tried to spoil the fun of the annual Lymm Festival by attacking one of the characters on the popular scarecrow trail.

An exhibit depicting "Mr Toad" created by local firm PW Comms, was wrecked by hooligans late at night.

PW Comms laid the blame on Mr Toad's arch-enemies, the Weasels, but the culprits seem more likely to have been drunken vandals making their way home.

Mr Toad had braved wind and rain for a week, riding his scooter, until the attack.

But local residents came to his rescue and before long the 6ft character was back on his scooter, waving to passers-by.

Scarecrows appeared outside houses and businesses all over Lymm, all adopting the theme of "children's television."

It is not the first time vandals have tried to spoil the fun of the scarecrow trail. Most years, some of the entries are stolen or vandalised.



A cheerful Mr Toad before the attack and (top) a less happy fellow spreadeagled on the ground after the vandals had struck.

Your Name .....

Address.....

.....

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Daytime contact number .....

would like to name the new development

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Please note the name you choose must end in 'Court'.

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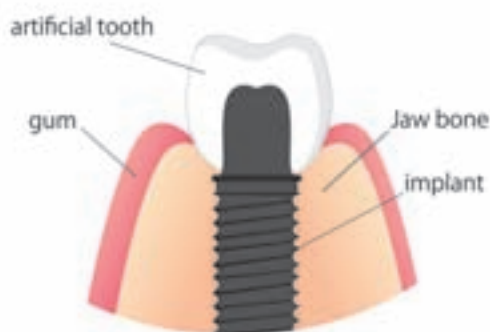
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# Carole smiles again - for the first time in 50 years

**FEAR of the dentist due to a bad childhood experience meant Carole Hardy would avoid visits to the surgery at all costs.**

Like one in four patients in the UK, she was frightened of sitting in the dentist's chair.

She postponed appointments, ignored reminders - and her dental health slowly deteriorated as she ignored missing teeth and jaw bone.

Now she is smiling again after undergoing a transformation known as "Same Day Smiles" - a surgical procedure of dental implants practised by a national network of highly qualified dentists, including Richard Brookshaw.

He replaced her missing teeth with a system known as "All-on-four" which cuts down the amount of invasive surgery required to replace a set of missing teeth by using only four dental implants instead of the usual six to ten.

Carole, aged 67, described her fear of the dentist and why she

decided to confront her worst nightmare.

She said: "I must have been nine or ten when I went to the dentist to have a tooth extracted and I remember kicking my legs as they tried to hold me down to give me gas. It was terrifying."

"I didn't go back to the dentist for years and when I did I had an injection for a filling. The needle slipped as it went into my mouth and hit my jaw area. It was really painful."

"Unfortunately it's these two experiences that have shaped my view of dentists. I've avoided check-ups over the years and as a result of this, and smoking, my teeth have suffered."

"I gave up smoking eight years ago, but had completely lost my confidence and hadn't smiled

properly since I was in my teens."

Carole lost her husband Derek earlier this year, but he had always encouraged her to treat herself to a new set of teeth.

"I couldn't justify the expense of it - with three daughters and six grandchildren, there was always something else we needed to buy."

"When we lost Derek in January I decided to sell his boat and classic car because I won't use them without him. I used the money to do what he has always suggested - to get my teeth done!"

Richard carried out the procedure from his surgery in Henry Street, Lymm, using the latest Nobel Biocare prosthetics. Carole was out of the

surgery within a few hours with a complete set of healthy and attractive teeth.

Mr Brookshaw said: "There is no doubt this has been life-changing for Carole. In one day, she looks and feels completely different, and is able to enjoy the foods she loves."

"Like many of my patients, Carole wasn't aware this technology existed. But the Same Day Smiles network of dentists is used to treating patients with severe phobias and we do everything we can to ensure that patients like Carole are totally calm and relaxed."

Carole added: "I am thrilled to bits I can smile properly again."



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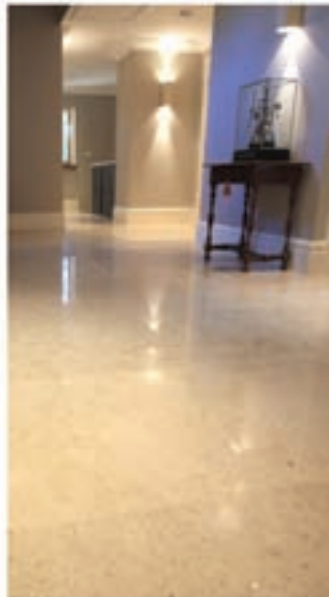
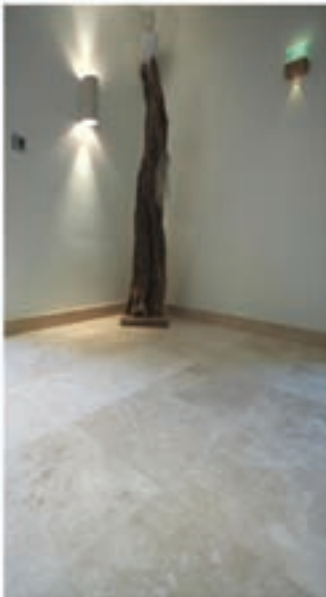
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# Labour of love transform

**LYMM couple Mike and Sue Musson decided to 'live the dream' when they took the plunge and bought one of the village's most historic properties for £425,000 thirteen years ago.**

With just five owners in its near 150 year history, Grade II Listed Brookfield House on Church Road, once hosted Prime Minister Winston Churchill who visited injured troops when the building was used as a temporary hospital at the end of the Second World War.

Now following more than £1 million worth of reonovations the 36 room property is on the market for £3.5 million.

It has been a labour of love for Mike and Sue, who had to move out of the property for more than a year with their two teenage children Harry, 18 and Annabel, 13, while major works were taking place.

Now the project has been completed Mike says he is extremely proud of what has been achieved.

"I feel like we are custodians of the property, not just home owners," he

said.

The property was built in 1864 by local solicitor Thomas Grundy and for many years was in the Grundy Family Trust.

In 1954 the property was sold for £3,000 and in 1973 for £13,000 before being sold to the Musson family in 1998 for £425,000.

"The property was hidden from the road and was extremely dark so we had all the under growth cut back. Some people thought a new house had been built on the site," added Mike.

"It has been completely modernised throughout and been brought into the 21st century. It has been a huge undertaking and one which was started with youthful enthusiasm. We are extremely proud of what we have achieved as the property has been lovingly restored."

The renovations have involved eleven planning consents over seven years.

"We have worked very closely with the planners who have been fantastic," added Mike.

"It has been a fantastic experience but we are now ready to move on

and are looking to down size to a normal modern family home - one which doesn't need much work doing on it!

While he believes the property would make an excellent family home he feels it could also suit being a boutique hotel.



Mike and Sue outside the property.



The spacious living room.

“ It has been a fantastic experience ... ”



The attic (above) and transformed (right).



# s historic mansion



The property pictured in the 1930s.

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# Charlotte's world-class bronze

**SCHOOLGIRL Charlotte Newton competed in the world powerboat championships for the first time - and picked up a bronze medal.**

Charlotte, aged just 13, is a member of the Top Cat Racing team sponsored by Cheshire IT company Comcare Technology Ltd, of Lymm.

She competed in the UIM World GT15 Championships at Stewartby Water Sports Club, Bedford.

A pupil at Culcheth High School, Charlotte has been involved in the adrenalin charged world of powerboat racing at junior level for four years.

She was introduced to the sport by her father, Andrew, who has been involved in powerboat racing for 30 years as a rescue diver, travelling the world with the Osprey Rescue Team.

He now concentrates on Charlotte's racing and they are both members of Lancashire Powerboat Racing Club at St Helens.

Charlotte also competes in the RYA British National Championships at venues all over the country.

Since 2008 she has achieved considerable success, winning seven club races and several second and third places at national level.

Her bronze medal success was achieved very much against the odds.

Top Cat team manager Mark Andrews took delivery of a new

Tohatsu GT15 engine just 48 hours before the event and it was only with help from fellow UK teams BRM Racing and Jelf Racing that he and Charlotte's dad managed to get her boat up and running in time.

Then the competition was held up for several hours due to dreadful weather conditions, strong winds and torrential rain.

When racing started, Charlotte, competing against drivers from the UK, Sweden, Norway and Estonia, started fourth on the grid after the qualifying heat.

She got a great start in the first heat and finished second behind UK driver Ben Jelf.

Unfortunately she was washed out

at the start of the second heat and finished fourth.

With only three of the four heats to count, all was not lost and she went into the third heat with confidence and determination. She finished second again - making her level on points for second place with Estonian Reio Kasnapuu.

Everything was to play for in the fourth and final heat but weather conditions changed and favoured the Estonian boat. Despite great efforts, Charlotte could not pass him and finished third overall.

All three heats were won convincingly by fellow UK driver 11-year-old Ben Jelf.

Charlotte's bronze medal was



presented by UIM Commissioner Pelle Larson - a very proud moment indeed.

Lois Andrews, of Comcare, said: "We are all very proud of Charlotte. She showed great determination, courage and maturity for one so young and was not at all fazed by the grandeur of the occasion. Comcare are very proud to be associated with Top Cat Racing as are all the other sponsors.



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# Ticket sales doubled as festival hailed great success

**THE annual Lymm Festival has been hailed a great success by organisers as the event was mostly blessed with sunshine as ticket sales doubled thanks to a new online booking service.**

Kicking off with the annual Food Fest in the village centre, community spirit was evident throughout the Festival with new friendships being forged as people worked together organising or attending events.

The introduction of the Online Box Office helped boost ticket sales significantly this year, with many events being sold out. Ticket sales doubled from the previous year and brought in visitors from outside the area including Knutsford, Hale, Barnsley and Bradford-on-Avon!

The quality and variety of the events were very high and represented a broad spectrum of local talent while artists from further afield with national and international reputations; Ian McMillan & Tony

Husband had the audience laughing from start to finish with their 'A Cartoon History of Here', and Stephen Hough was described as "brilliant".

Local community groups and charities benefited as Art Garden raised around £1,200 on teas alone for the local pre-school, Friends of the Earth, Amnesty and St Roccas.

### Privilege

Commenting on her last festival as organiser Honor Giles said: "The weather was with us for most of the 10 days, and on a personal note, the organisation of the Dancing the Trail event by Lymm dance artist Jan Halloran, and the participation by 18 local community groups of all ages,



Su Williams - Art in the Garden.

was a prime example of why it has been such a privilege and wonderful experience to be the Festival's director for the last 10 years."

The Lymm Festival team would like to thank their sponsors, friends, volunteers, supporters and in particular Honor for her hard work during her time as Festival Director and wish her the very best as she takes on a new role as a grandmother. Work is already starting on the 2012 Festival, if you would like to get involved please register your interest by email to [chair@lymmfestival.org.uk](mailto:chair@lymmfestival.org.uk)

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# Celebrating 25 years of Beaver success

## LOCAL beaver colony, 1st Oughtrington, celebrated their 25th anniversary at their annual general meeting.

The Beaver colony was established by local residents Rita Gibson and Edna Smith in St Peter's church hall, Lymm back in 1986, when the beaver uniform consisted of a grey track suit and turquoise necker.

The AGM was attended by Beaver leaders past and present, as well as the first ever member of the Beaver colony, James Fox. James cut the celebratory cake and gave a speech about his experience and memories of being a beaver.

Rita Gibson comments, "The AGM will mark a significant milestone for the group - we can't quite believe that 25 years has past and we are still going strong! We couldn't have reached this point without all the

volunteers who give up their time so readily, the parents who continue to support us and of course the Beavers who get some much out of their time with us. We look forward to many more happy years ahead and welcome new members."

To find out more about the group please contact Paul Gibson on Tel: 01924 754751 or Email: rita.gibson47@yahoo.co.uk

Picture shows: Leaders at the back - Debbie Phillips, James Fox (1st Beaver), Claire Gibson and Jean Baile with beavers (L-R) - Bradley-Ellis Gibson, Oliver Smith, Hal Bircham, Steven Turner, Oliver Carragher and Ben Burgess.



## Young and old entertain veterans

WHILE the nation's eyes were on Armed Forces Day celebrations across the country, a Lymm family were busy entertaining service veterans in Salford.

Three members of the Davidson family, of School Drive, Lymm were playing with the Greater Manchester Army Cadet Force Pipes and Drums Band at Broughton House Care Home for Ex-Servicemen.

Becky and Connor Davidson are both cadet members of the band and their granddad, Ken Reid, is a piping instructor in the band.

A spokesman for the band said: "Becky and Connor have been members of the band for only nine months, and both of them are already valuable members."

"Not only do they receive tuition at the twice weekly band practices, they also get plenty of tips from their Granddad, who is a veteran Piper."

Youngsters aged 12-14 who wish to join the Pipes and Drums should contact Major Tom Cornwell on 0161-237-3739 or email ceo@manchesterarmycadets.com

No fee is involved - only dedication and enthusiasm.



## Martin pens another murder mystery

LYMM author Martin Edwards has written a new Lake District Mystery.

Hanging Wood is the fifth in the series and is published by Allison & Busby.

Martin says the inspiration for The Hanging Wood came from his increasing fascination with sibling relationships.

"As an only child, I've often thought the ways in which brothers and sisters interact together to be slightly mysterious. In the past, I never found it easy to imagine what that kind of relationship would be like - but of course, one of the joys of being a novelist is that it gives you the chance to stretch your imagination in fresh directions.

"A question I asked myself was what it would be like if your brother or sister disappeared, and was never found again. What if the commonly held view was that a relative had murdered the missing child - but you didn't accept that was true? What if you clung to the belief that your sibling was still alive?"

In the story, Orla Payne has never been able to come to terms with the idea that her older brother Callum was murdered by their uncle, who then committed suicide. The body was never found. She meets Daniel Kind, the historian, and when she confides in him, he urges her to talk to DCI Hannah Scarlett. But then a shocking tragedy occurs.

The book is set in the Keswick area of the Lake District, one of the most beautiful places in Europe. Much of the action takes place in a tightly-knit



community surrounding old Mockbeggar Hall - there is a farm, owned by Orla's father, a caravan park where her mother used to live, a residential library, where she has been working, and the Hanging Wood of the title. The library, by the way, was inspired by a real-life library in North Wales - St Deiniol's Residential Library, also known as Gladstone's Library, a magical place built by a Victorian Prime Minister and full of atmosphere; it was also the setting for the launch of his last Lakes book, The Serpent Pool.

Martin added: "I enjoyed writing 'The Hanging Wood' enormously and I hope that enjoyment is very evident to the people who matter most - the readers."

## 'Greatest Show' lives up to its name!

SIMON Plumb's summer production, 'The Greatest Show on Earth-ish!' performed in Lymm Rugby Club's huge marquee in June, lived up to its billing and attracted one of the largest audiences of the Lymm Festival events.

Simon, famous for his hit show 'Mam, I'm 'Ere!' and the Lymm Rugby Panto was delighted with his latest production's success.

"It is great when so much effort goes into producing a show that the audience turns up in large numbers and have such a great time," commented Simon.

"We had literally bus loads from Wrexham, Chester and Antrobus. The response has been so overwhelmingly good we are considering a theatre run in June 2012."

The show, which featured Mick Karno, a self-deluded, failing impresario and circus ring master, contained many aspects of music hall variety and proved a big hit.

"The cast really threw themselves into it. I am lucky to have so many talented performers in the troupe and the laughter was non-stop all night!" he added.

"Keep your eyes open for 'The Greatest Show' next year. We will be back and don't miss it!" concluded Plumb.

## Rugby legend joins Lymm

RUGBY legend Steve Rule has been appointed director of rugby at Lymm RFC.

Steve, a long time friend of Lymm RFC, is a former rugby union and professional rugby league footballer of the 1970s and '80s and rugby union coach, who at representative level has played rugby union (RU) for English Universities Rugby Union and Cheshire Rugby Football Union. He played at club level for Loughborough Students RUFC and Sale, playing at Fly-half.

He has also played rugby league for Wales and at club level for Salford and St. Helens, playing at Fullback.

At representative level he has coached rugby union for Cheshire Rugby Football Union and at club level for Sale, Lymm RFC, New Brighton, and Macclesfield RUFC.

On his appointment, Steve said: "Whether you see yourself as an 'elite player' or just want quality competitive social rugby, the aim is to make the rugby experience at Lymm second to none."



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*(The Observer 17 / 5 / 2009)*

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## Motoring

# Sold out before it's available!

**THE days of being able to walk into a car showroom and buy a new car of a particular model and colour without having to wait some considerable time for delivery appear to have gone.**

Even so, the news that the first year's output of the Evoque - the new baby Range Rover - had sold out before the first one rolled off the Halewood production lines, is pretty startling.

Apparently, some 18,000 orders had already been placed for the stylish new SUV.

Land Rover have invested £2 billion in the vehicle and 1,500 new workers have been taken on to build it so the Evoque has provided a major boost to the economy.

Prices start at £27,995 for the two-wheel drive version, with a diesel engine and a manual gearbox which

delivers more than 50mpg.

But there are five engine and transmission combinations available, three trim levels and two body styles - 5-door and coupe.

A top of the range model will cost £44,320.

Who got the first one? Well it was a white, five-door model with Dynamic trim and it went to the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon, in Warwickshire.

The Evoque is expected to appear in showrooms in September but would-be purchasers can expect to join a queue.



## Fuel sales plummet

FILLING stations sold one billion litres less petrol and diesel in the first three months of this year compared to the same period in pre-credit crunch 2008, according to the AA.

Milder weather, including the ninth warmest February on record, means that snow disruption was barely a factor so soaring prices at the pumps and elsewhere get the blame.

Retail sales of petrol from January to March were 835.654 million litres lower than during the same period in 2008. For diesel, retail sales

dropped by 246.994 million litres over the same period.

This 15.2 per cent collapse in petrol sales and 6.0 per cent fall in diesel sales is largely explained by record prices which saw petrol rise 7.94p a litre and diesel 10.51p during the first three months.

Comparing this year to last, UK petrol retail sales from January to March this year were down 3.7 per cent on the same period last year. Diesel sales on forecourts were up 0.5 per cent. The AA say motorists

cut back on car use and other spending to compensate for the higher fuel costs.

For the Government, the fall in fuel sales has deprived the Treasury of £637.8 million in tax.

Supermarkets appear to have suffered less than non-supermarket rivals. Government figures show that, year on year, supermarket petrol sales fell by 1.2 per cent from January to March this year while their competitors lost 5.3 per cent.

Petrol and diesel prices continued to set new records up until the second week of May, adding a further 4.3p a litre of petrol and 3.3p to diesel.

But oil prices have been falling, so the next quarter's figures should be interesting.

AA president Edmund King said: "The full impact of higher VAT, unbridled stock market speculation and a weaker pound on fuel prices and drivers' ability to afford them have been laid bare."

"The first three months of this year saw the equivalent of 13.5 days of UK petrol sales wiped out - good for the environment but appalling for families, business, rural communities and the Treasury."

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SAVINGS THAT REALLY ADD UP!



## Top manager award for Nick

THE Spread Eagles' new manager Nick Harris has been presented with manager of the Quarter after a great start from taking over the position.

He has been promoted within J.W.Lees Brewery from his role as assistant manager of the London Bridge, Stockton Heath.

After a very successful first year in which he helped breath new life in to the pub, with great standards and service, he was also presented with the Newcomer of the Year at

the J.W.Lees Annual Awards evening in June at the Alderley Edge Hotel.

Just to top it off his dedicated assistant Claire Singleton was awarded Employee of the Month for her help creating all the fantastic theme nights that take place every month.



# Sarah's 'dream' England call-up

A LYMM woman has a message to all young people: "Never give up on your dreams."

Sarah Impey has been playing hockey for 34 years and has finally achieved her ambition of representing her country at the sport.

She has played twice, against Wales and Scotland in a home countries tournament and is hoping to be selected again to play in Germany at the end of August.

Sarah - whose 12-year-old daughter Jess plays hockey at Lymm High School and Lymm Hockey Club - was selected for the England Over 45s team. Normally, she plays for Timperley 2nd team in the Cheshire Women's League and in her younger days played for Warrington 1st team.

Sarah is a forward and although she did not score in either of her internationals, she did have a shot saved on the line by the opposing goalkeeper.

"We beat Wales 4-0 but lost 2-1



Sarah, in her England strip, with daughter Jess.

to Scotland," she said. "But for me it was playing for England that was the big thing."

"I had been trying to get into one of the England Veterans teams for three

years. That's why I want to send a message to all youngsters that they should never give up on their dreams."

## Cross country walk for charity

TWO Lymm teenagers wanted to do something useful during their school summer holidays - so decided to trek across the country for charity.

Tom Fitzpatrick and his friend Jesse Hope are walking across the country between Liverpool and Hull for the charity Wateraid.

The boys are both 17 and in year 12 at Lymm High School where they are studying A Levels. They aim to complete the challenge during the first two weeks of August.

Serena Chester, Tom's mum, said: "They both felt they should do something useful with their summer holiday this year' hence the idea of a charity walk across the country utilising the Tran Pennine trail for most of the journey as it passes through Lymm."

"So that's one night's kip sorted!"

They will be keeping a video diary of their adventure at [www.justgiving.com/tomandjesse](http://www.justgiving.com/tomandjesse).



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# Reader's Letter

Please send your correspondence to:  
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## Carbuncle building

Clr Pam Hunter, Lymm

SET in the middle of our picturesque village, we have a carbuncle of a building - or what's left of it - called The Ironing Bored.

It is in Bridgewater Street, close to the old post office and it is a danger and a disgrace.

Let's get it demolished as soon as possible. Or perhaps we should turn it into a tourist attraction? The Hammer House of Horrors!

**COPY DEADLINE FOR  
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 IS AUGUST 2nd**

## Obituary

### Joseph Morgan Thompson

THE funeral has taken place of Mr Joseph Morgan Thompson, known as "Little Joe," who died on May 19 aged 73.

Mr Thompson, of Meadow View, Statham, died of pneumonia at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital, Broad Green.

He was born in West Hyde and lived in Lymm most of his life. For more than 30 years, Mr Thompson worked at Kearns Richards,

Altrincham.

He enjoyed holidays in the UK and abroad with friends and was a regular at The Star and The Bull, where he played darts. He also enjoyed fishing, football, gardening and feeding the birds in his garden.

The funeral was at Walton Lea Crematorium.

Funeral arrangements were by John Burrows and Sons of Lymm.

## Internationals at Lymm High School

LYMM High School is proud to have produced two Rugby Union internationals, James Mitchell and Ross Harrison.

James represented England at U16 level this year, in games against Italy at Macclesfield and against Wales at Fylde. He is attached on an academy contract with Sale Sharks, while continuing to attend Lymm High School.

Ross represented England at U18 level. He played against Ireland in Dublin. He has now been offered a two year contract with Sale Sharks, who beat off offers from Leeds and the mighty Leicester Tigers to get his signature. Ross did have a place at university pending but decided the lure of a professional contract was too much.



Lymm High School is yet again very proud to have been represented at international level, however this is the first time they have two internationals in rugby during the same year.

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