

Rushbearing Festival keeps tradition alive



Lymm Women's Institute



Taking part in the Lymm Rushbearing Procession from left, Neville Woodyatt, Cllr. Sheila Woodyatt, Deputy Mayor of Warrington Cllr Brian Axell and Deputy Mayoress Irene Axell.



First Lymm Brownies left, Zoe Hodi aged 8 and Molly Paterson aged 9 with their Olympics garland.



Lymm Jubilee WI



Lymm Morris Dancers

LYMM Rushbearing Festival proved a big hit with local residents as hundreds turned out to take part in the annual event, keeping alive an ancient tradition.

Members of the parish council, Women's Institute, Brownies and Morris dancers took part in the festival and procession through the village centre to St Mary's Parish Church.

The festival, which originates from medieval times when carts of rushes made their way to the church for use as floor covering, is still proving a huge local attraction. Bullrushes and garlands were paraded through the village as part of the festival. Lymm town crier Peter Powell started the proceedings. Rushbearing symbolised a procedure of changing rushes used



Lymm Town Crier Peter Powell announces the start of the Lymm Rushbearing Procession.

on the church floors just before harvest to symbolise a healthy crop.

At one time, Rushbearing Day was virtually a Bank Holiday in Lymm, with shops and offices closing.

But in more recent years it has been held on a Sunday.



Derek Britch from Lymm Morris



Eileen Mundy of the Lymm Local History Society with her Rushbearing Garland.