

## Team Blows Away Local Rivals 61-12

After several weeks of waiting we finally got back on court to pick up where we left off at the end of last year with a conclusive victory against Lymm High School. This game was important because up until last Wednesday, Lymm were the only Warrington team our school has not beaten since the Ball Hall opened and it was time to put the record straight.

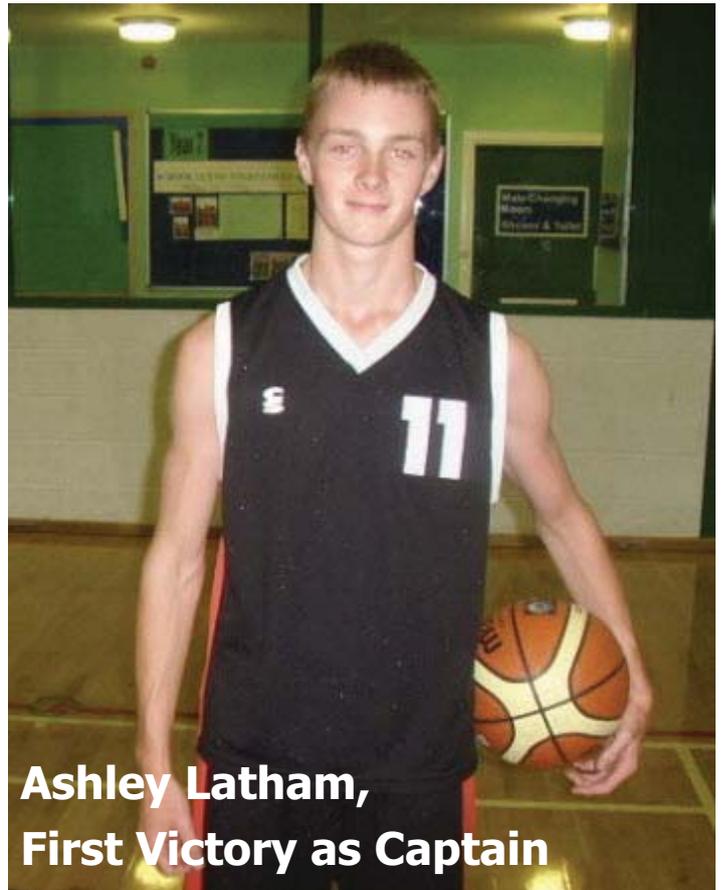
Lymm is a big school with more than twice as many pupils as ours. They had one or two useful players but

lacked the speed and power of the Boteler team, who were stronger and more determined to win the ball at both ends of the court and in every position in the team.

We started slowly and were actually behind 6-8 after the first 10 minutes. However, moving to a zone defence and pressurising the Lymm guards began to create chances for fast breaks and although several layup chances were missed, a gap opened up as half time approached.

The Boteler team not only has a number of individual match winners but also great strength in depth which allows us to alternate between two sets of five players. Other teams have to play their best five to keep up with both these combinations and by the second half their better players begin to tire, which leaves their defence wide open when they lose the ball on offence or miss a shot.

We decided before the game to look for a fast transition from defence to offence but it was a while before we got this right. Ash,



**Ashley Latham,  
First Victory as Captain**

Rocky, Mikey, TJ and Ryan consistently stole the ball on the top of the zone. They were all simply faster and tougher than the Lymm players. Connor's speed made him an ideal target for a fast break. Ash Latham, passionately captaining the side again to good effect, took every defensive rebound whilst Tom and Dec had a field day in offence and led the scoring, although both would admit they could have finished better.

We broke down their zone through screening, quick passing and dribbling by Rocky and David but still need to work on short range jump shooting to increase our success rate. We have games coming up against Penketh, Great Sankey and Beamont which will all be tight.

The team is now back to full strength with the return of Rocky Turner. We now have better balance and in his third year of playing for the school Rocky's experience and tactical awareness will help drive the team forward to further success and a possible share of the league title.

### **Mr H Chambers**

**Rocky Turner,  
back from injury**

